

**The Jamaica Coalition for a  
Healthy Society**  
*Ministry ■ Advocacy ■ Education*



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April 6, 2023

The Most Honorable Andrew Holness, ON, MP  
Prime Minister  
Office of the Prime Minister  
1 Devon Road  
Kingston 10

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

**Re: Zero draft of the WHO CA+, “Pandemic Treaty”**

The JCHS notes a new attempt to create a worldwide response to future pandemics by way of the captioned document. Further to our letter of May 16, 2022, we wish to bring to your attention once again our concerns regarding,

- (1) ceding our sovereignty to an international organisation, namely, the World Health Organisation (WHO) and,
- (2) our lack of confidence in the WHO.

The draft under consideration (as at 1 February 2023) by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body places the WHO as central to this activity as in Chapter 2, Article 4.17 which ascribes a central role to the WHO in “*directing and coordinating authority on global health and the leader of multi-lateral corporations in global health governance*”.

Furthermore, we refer to Chapter 2, Article 4.3 of the document which states, “States have, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, the sovereign right to determine and manage their approach to public health, notably pandemic prevention, preparedness, response and recovery of health systems, pursuant to their own policies and legislation, provided that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to their peoples and other countries. Sovereignty also covers the rights of States over their biological resources.”

This Article appears to recognize the sovereignty of nation states but nevertheless makes it subject to the considerations of an external agency. This is a contradiction in terms.

We also note again that the WHO is central to the execution of the response to a pandemic. This is concerning for the following reasons:

1. The WHO has not shown itself to be trustworthy in the COVID-19 pandemic. There is no evidence that countries that followed the WHO's advice did better than those that did not.
2. The inordinate influence that major financial contributors to the WHO appear to have in its policy making. We refer specifically to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

We are aware that this document is a work in progress but given the seriousness of the possible outcomes, our concerns require that we bring these issues to your attention.

We urge the Jamaican Government not to cede its sovereignty in relation to these matters to an unelected and foreign body, the WHO.

Yours faithfully,  
*(original signed)*  
Dr. Wayne West  
Chairman,  
Jamaica Coalition for a Healthy Society

Cc: Mr. Mark Golding, MP, Leader of the Opposition  
Dr. the Hon. Christopher Tufton, Minister of Health and Wellness  
Mr. Morais Guy, MP. Opposition Spokesperson on Health