

Prime Minister, the Most Hon. Portia Simpson Miller, has reiterated the call for an end to the trade and economic embargo against Cuba, pointing out that the longstanding ban has had severe negative effects on the country's growth and development.

Mrs. Simpson Miller was addressing the 67th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York on September 27.

"Jamaica reiterates its call for an end to the embargo against Cuba and the extra-territorial measures aimed at extending its reach to include third countries," she stated.

The Prime Minister, in her presentation, also pointed to the need for increased support for Haiti. She noted that even after more than two years since the devastating earthquake, "Haiti's plight remains deeply troubling".

"We are concerned that only a fraction of the pledges have been disbursed and yet, the humanitarian situation in Haiti is perilous," she stated.

"As a close friend and neighbour of Haiti, with strong historical ties, I encourage members of the international community to make good on their commitments. The Haitian people need our continued support," she stated.

Additionally, Mrs. Simpson Miller noted that Jamaica continues to work with its partners to erect a memorial at the United Nations to honour the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade.

"We are grateful for the generous contributions received to date to erect the permanent memorial and reiterate the call for continued financial support," she added.

The Prime Minister returns to the island today.