

## MINISTRY OF HEALTH

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ANY REPLY OR SUBSEQUENT REFERENCE SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE <u>PERMANENT SECRETARY</u> AND THE FOLLOWING REFERENCE QUOTED:

March 18, 2019

Ms Krystal Lawrence Technical Coordinator Office of the Permanent Secretary Ministry of Justice

Dear Ms Lawrence:

In light of the upcoming Inter-American Commission on Human Rights Sessions to be held in Jamaica from May 2-10, 2019, the Ministry of Health would like to take this opportunity to reiterate the importance of travellers from countries at risk for Yellow Fever transmission, being vaccinated against Yellow Fever.

The yellow fever vaccine is safe and affordable and provides effective immunity against the disease in the range of 80 to 100% of those vaccinated after 10 days and 99% immunity after 30 days. A single dose is sufficient to confer immunity and protection for life, without the need for booster doses. Severe side effects are extremely rare.

A travel requirement is in place for Jamaica. Persons entering Jamaica from countries at risk for Yellow Fever transmission or who have transited through such a country's airport for greater than twelve hours are required to provide proof of vaccination.

The following countries are listed as having risk of yellow fever transmission:

**AFRICA**: Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, South Sudan, Togo and Uganda.

**AMERICAS**: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, French Guyana, Guyana, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Nicole Dawkins-Wright Director, Emergency, Disaster Management and Special Services Branch Ministry of Health, Jamaica