

SPEAKING NOTES

HON. R. DANNY WILLIAMS OJ
CHAIRMAN, JAMAICA ANTI-DOPING COMMISSION
JUNIOR ATHLETES ANTI-DOPING EDUCATION WORKSHOP
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2014
JAMAICA CONFERENCE CENTRE, KINGSTON, JAMAICA.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES, SPENCER DARLINGTON

HON. NATALIE NEITA HEADLEY, MINISTER WITHOUT
PORTFOLIO, SPORT

MR RADLEY REID, SENIOR ADVISOR REPRESENTING THE
REVEREND HONOURABLE RONALD THWAITES, MINISTER OF
EDUCATION

DR. WARREN BLAKE, PRESIDENT, JAMAICA ATHLETICS
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSOCIATION

SPECIALLY INVITED GUESTS

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

YOUNG MEN AND YOUNG LADIES

MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA

A PLEASANT GOOD MORNING TO YOU ALL.

I WOULD LIKE TO BEGIN BY THANKING EACH AND EVERYONE THAT TOOK TIME OUT OF THEIR BUSY SCHEDULE TO BE HERE TODAY. YOUR PRESENCE HERE IS TESTIMONY THAT YOU ARE COMMITTED TO THE FIGHT AGAINST DOPING IN SPORT. I MUST SAY TO HON. NATALIE NEITA HEADLEY, MR RADLEY REID, AND DR. WARREN BLAKE, THAT WE ARE VERY HONOURED TO HAVE YOU WITH US THIS MORNING

WE WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND PUBLICLY THANK THE JAMAICA ATHLETICS ADMINISTRATIVE ASSOCIATION (JAAA) FOR COLLABORATING WITH US TO MAKE THIS WORKSHOP A REALITY. WE APPRECIATE YOUR

COOPERATION AND LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING THIS PARTNERSHIP.

THIS WORKSHOP IS JUST ONE IN A SERIES OF MANY, THAT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED THROUGHOUT THE ISLAND. TODAY WE ARE BEGINNING THE DIALOGUE AND ESTABLISHING CONNECTIONS THAT WILL EQUIP OUR STAKEHOLDERS WITH THE TOOLS TO TACKLE THE CHALLENGES WE FACE WITH DOPING IN SPORT.

I AM HAPPY TO SEE SO MANY STUDENTS HERE TODAY. ALL OF YOU HAVE AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY, AS YOU TAKE THE RELEVANT STEPS TO ACHIEVE YOUR GOALS AND CHART YOUR COURSE IN YOUR ATHLETIC CAREERS. EVENTUALLY SOME OF YOU WILL BECOME ELITE ATHLETES, WHILE OTHERS WILL BECOME COACHES, SUPPORT PERSONNEL, OR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS OF ASPIRING ATHLETES; AND SO THE KNOWLEDGE GAINED HERE TODAY WILL EMPOWER YOU TO MAKE THE RIGHT DECISIONS THUS MAINTAINING JAMAICA'S PROUD SPORTING TRADITION.

STUDENTS ATHLETES. I ASK YOU, HOW MANY OF YOU ARE FAMILIAR WITH THE STRICT LIABILITY RULE? NOT MANY I SUSPECT. THIS RULE STIPULATES THAT YOU, NOT YOUR COACHES, NOT YOUR PARENTS OR YOUR DOCTOR WILL BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY PROHIBITED SUBSTANCE FOUND IN YOUR BODY. THEREFORE, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOURSELVES AND ASK QUESTIONS BEFORE INGESTING ANYTHING INTO YOUR BODY. WHEN ALL IS SAID AND DONE YOU ARE THE ONE WHO WILL BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE! SO PROTECT YOURSELVES!

COACHES, TEACHERS, I DON'T REALLY HAVE TO ADD THAT YOUR SUPPORT IS INTEGRAL TO THE SUCCESS OF THESE ATHLETES. YOU PLAY SUCH A CRUCIAL ROLE IN PROVIDING THEM WITH GUIDANCE. IF YOU GET IT WRONG, IT MEANS THEY WILL GET IT WRONG. IT IS THEREFORE IMPORTANT FOR YOU TO KEEP YOURSELVES UP TO DATE WITH THE LATEST INFORMATION, SO THAT YOU CAN PASS ON THE RIGHT ADVICE TO THOSE STUDENTS WHO YOU INFLUENCE.

AS YOU KNOW WE HAVE A TIGHT SCHEDULE SO IN THE INTEREST OF TIME I WILL CONCLUDE BY ONCE AGAIN THANKING YOU ALL FOR COMING OUT TODAY. A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF INFORMATION WILL BE

DISSEMINATED, SO LISTEN CAREFULLY, ASK QUESTIONS IF YOU ARE NOT CLEAR ABOUT WHAT WAS SAID. WHEN YOU LEAVE HERE TODAY, DON'T KEEP WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNT TO YOURSELF, SHARE IT WITH OTHERS SO THAT FRIENDS AND FAMILY CAN HAVE A GREATER APPRECIATION FOR THE WORLD OF ANTI-DOPING..

YOUNG PEOPLE, CONTINUE TO TRAIN AND WORK HARD, EAT WELL AND REMEMBER YOU DON'T NEED DOPE TO COPE!

THANK YOU.