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**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Contractor General to Attend New Scotland Yard London Anti-Corruption Conference on International Asset Recovery**

**Kingston; January 23, 2012** – Contractor General, Greg Christie has accepted a special invitation to attend an International Anti-Corruption Conference on ‘**Overcoming Barriers to International Asset Recovery**’, which will be held at New Scotland Yard in London on January 30 and 31, 2012. He will leave the island over the week-end for London.

The conference, which is being hosted by the London Metropolitan Police Service’s Proceeds of Corruption Unit, in its ongoing efforts to tackle the scourge of ‘Grand Corruption’, is aimed at fostering improved relations between the Unit and foreign Anti-Corruption Commissions, such as the Office of the Contractor General (OCG) of Jamaica.

The Proceeds of Corruption Unit, which is funded by the United Kingdom (UK) Government’s Department for International Development (DfiD), is a specialist unit that investigates the activities of corrupt foreign public officials and politicians who seek to launder stolen assets from their own country in the UK.

The conference will share, among other things, best practice and investigative techniques that have been developed during a number of successful Asset Recovery cases in the UK. Additionally, eminent conference speakers are expected to elaborate on the jurisdictional issues that are related to Mutual Legal Assistance, Asset Confiscation and Civil and Criminal Remedies.

The OCG is an Independent Anti-Corruption Commission of the Parliament of Jamaica which is vested with the exclusive statutory authority to monitor and to investigate the award and termination of all Government of Jamaica contracts and licenses.

In monetary terms, the award of Government contracts and licences, and the divestment of State-owned assets, are recognized as constituting the single largest corruption enabling conduit that exists today in any country in the world.

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