



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND FOREIGN TRADE

2 Port Royal Street, Kingston

MEDIA RELEASE

September 23, 2025

Jamaican National repatriated from Eswatini

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, Senator the Honourable Kamina Johnson Smith has confirmed the return of Jamaican national Orville Etoria, who was yesterday (September 22) repatriated to the island from the Kingdom of Eswatini, with support from the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

In welcoming Etoria's return, the Foreign Minister said the arrangements for repatriation were finalised after sustained engagement among the Ministry's Headquarters, the Government of Eswatini and the Jamaican High Commission in Pretoria, which has diplomatic accreditation for Eswatini, and provided consular assistance to the Jamaican national.

“We are pleased to welcome home Mr Etoria and we trust the Jamaican public understands and joins the Government in respecting his desire for a quiet return. We reaffirm that the wellbeing of Jamaicans overseas is a constant priority for the Government of Jamaica and note that this case is another example of the importance of international cooperation and the role of our diplomatic network in protecting the rights of Jamaicans overseas. We are grateful to the Government of Eswatini for its cooperation in this matter and for the duty of care it has exercised. We also thank the International Organization for Migration for its direct support, and commend our High Commission in Pretoria for their hands-on engagement. Together, our combined efforts ensured Mr Etoria's safe return”, said Foreign Minister Johnson Smith.

Representatives of the Ministry of National Security, which has been managing the return of Jamaican nationals to the country, were on hand to receive Mr Etoria, accompanied by Foreign Ministry personnel.

Etoria was among a group of persons deported from the United States and later transferred to Eswatini in July. Following reports of his detention, the Ministry remained in contact with him and his family to facilitate his welfare and eventual repatriation.

The Ministry is reminding Jamaican nationals that if they encounter distress or require consular assistance while travelling abroad, they should contact the nearest Jamaican consulate or embassy, or via email at consular@mfaft.gov.jm.

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