



To: All News Editors

Friday March 23, 2018

## **NWC CELEBRATED WORLD WATER DAY**

The National Water Commission (NWC) yesterday (Thursday March 22, 2018), joined with the local and global water community in commemorating the United Nation’s World Water Day under the theme “Nature for Water: Exploring Nature Based Solutions to the Water Challenges we face in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century”.

As Jamaica’s premier water service provider producing more than 180 million gallons of potable water each day, the NWC was very involved as a major sponsor, booth exhibitor and Speakers’ Forum presenter at the public exhibition event hosted by the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation (MEGJC) at the Girls Guide Headquarters from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. to mark the day.

The event involved more than 20 public and private sector entities involved with water, exhibiting various aspects of their operation relevant to the “Nature for Water” theme. More than 300 persons attended the event which was also broadcast on some media outlets and live streamed online.

A number of informative short presentations were also conducted on the increasing access to potable water; nature-based solutions to improving water quality and availability in Jamaica; integrated watershed management; small scale irrigation systems; financing water adaptation in Jamaica; and climate change and its impact on water availability by various subject-matter experts.

The day was also used to present a range of prizes for the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation (MEGJC) Poster Competition and the NWC's Photo and Essay Competitions.

Guided educational tours of selected NWC water and wastewater facilities were offered to the Constant Spring Water Treatment Plant, the Mona Reservoir Complex, the Hope Filter Plant and the Elletson Flats Wastewater Treatment Plant in Kingston as well as several other major facilities islandwide.

The NWC fully supported the commemoration of World Water Day as it focuses attention on the importance and value of water. This year's theme for World Water Day 2018 ('**Nature for Water**' – exploring nature-based solutions to the water challenges we face in the 21<sup>st</sup> century) is particularly relevant and coincides with many of the major priorities now being undertaken by the NWC.

The major public exhibition event was addressed by Dr. Horace Chang, Minister without portfolio in the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation (MEGJC) and Permanent Secretary Mrs. Audrey Sewell; and was attended by a number of Chairmen and Heads of Agencies as well as members of the Diplomatic Corps.