



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **University Lecture - Education and Healthcare: The Equitable Imperative for Jamaica**

**New York, NY** (January 18, 2017) –The American Friends of Jamaica, Inc. (AFJ)/Cobb Family Foundation (CFF) Lecture Series will examine policies and actions that impact hidden biases and disparities in education and healthcare. The lecture to be presented by Her Excellency, The Honorable Aloun Assamba, JP, is entitled, “Education and Healthcare: The Equitable Imperative for Jamaica.”

Ambassador Sue Cobb, Former United States Ambassador to Jamaica and President of CFF comments, “The need for access to quality education, safe, effective and affordable healthcare is an opportunity for innovative minds to find practicable solutions. Ambassador Aloun Assamba will address and summarize decades of her findings”.

Her Excellency, The Honorable Aloun Ndombet Assamba is a lawyer, politician and diplomat. She was formerly Member of Parliament for St. Ann South Eastern and served as Jamaica’s Minister of Tourism, Entertainment and Culture. She served as High Commissioner for Jamaica in London from 2012 to 2016. Ambassador Assamba is currently Chief Executive Officer, COK Sodality Credit Union.

The Lecture Series is made possible by an endowment from the Cobb Family Foundation in partnership with The American Friends of Jamaica, Inc. The purpose of the Lecture Series is to showcase leading experts who illustrate and stimulate debate across a range of thought-provoking issues. The Lecture is part of the UWI Research Week and is presented in collaboration with the UWI, The Jamaica Fulbright-Humphrey Alumni Association and US Embassy Kingston. It will be held at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 2, 2017 at the Assembly Hall, UWI, Mona Campus. All are invited to attend. Admission is Free.

### **About the American Friends of Jamaica, Inc.**

Since its inception in 1982, the American Friends of Jamaica, Inc. has donated millions to Jamaican charities focused in the areas of education, healthcare and economic development. In 2016, J\$30M in AFJ grants were awarded to organizations such as Alpha Boys School, Genesis Academy, Rose Town Foundation, ISSA Trust Foundation, St. Mary’s Prep and Tennis Jamaica. In addition to fundraising through annual gala events, the AFJ has a comprehensive strategy involving individual giving and partnerships with corporations and foundations such as the LASCO, Continental Baking Company Ltd. (National) iHeartMedia Inc., Golden Krust Caribbean Bakery, JetBlue Airways, Quality Auto Mall Ford, Grace Foods and the Jamaica Tourist Board.

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### **Contact:**

Caron S. Chung  
Executive Director  
The American Friends of Jamaica, Inc.  
1697 Broadway, Suite 502  
New York, NY 10019  
T 212-265-2550 F 917-591-6552 [www.theafj.org](http://www.theafj.org)