



**FIRST
GLOBAL** 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“For the first time since 2019, high school students, mentors, volunteers, and supporters from more than 180 countries will come together face-to-face in the spirit of global purpose, unity, and collaboration” announced FIRST Global organization earlier this year.

The 2022 **FIRST** Global Challenge will take place in Geneva, Switzerland from 13-16 October 2022. The Geneva event will mark the sixth year for **FIRST** Global, and its first European event.

At this time next week, Team Jamaica Robotics 2022, a delegation of 14 - high school students, and adults from Jamaica and the Northeast United States - will be on their way to their respective airports for their flights to Geneva, Switzerland.

The coaches, Gavin Samuels and Paul Pounall, believe that this team is ready to display their prowess as they have trained since late June to master this year’s game “Carbon Capture.” Drawn on the 14 Grand Challenges of Engineering identified by National Academies of Engineering in the USA, the UK, and China, the task at hand challenges high school students from across the globe to reimagine the future of the Earth’s climate, a very timely and relevant global matter.

Since FGC’s inception in 2017, Team Jamaica Robotics has had the full support and sponsorship of the Union of Jamaican Alumni Associations (USA), Inc. (UJAA) and its 61 member alumni associations in the Diaspora. The cost and undertaking have increased as the competition travels around the world. Donations are always welcomed towards registration, air travel, visas, meals, accommodations, and team outfits. Visit www.ujaausa.org.

The Embassy in Geneva has been assisting in several areas to support the team and the Jamaica Tourist Board has also offered their assistance with “things” Jamaican.

It has always been UJAA’s contention that, despite being high school students, the expertise and exposure is a once in a lifetime personal experience that not only allows them to compete on a global platform, but combines their accomplishment with encouragement and pride as true ambassadors of Jamaica for Jamaicans globally.

UJAA’s Immediate Past President, Lesleyann Samuel, herself an engineer, maintains that “the challenge encourages our young people to not only meet the technical challenge but to do so with a spirit of cooperation. This combination of skills is what our children need to help us solve global problems. This competition provides life changing experiences!”

High schools representing Jamaica are Convent of Mercy Academy “Alpha,” Calabar, Immaculate Conception, Glenmuir, Jamaica College, St. Andrew Technical, and American International School of Kingston.

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