The Path to Digital Transformation:

THE EXPERIENCE OF THE JAMAICAN PARLIAMENT
Virtual Meetings/Remote Participation

COVID-19 Pandemic

- Senate amended Standing Orders to allow Senate Committees to hold virtual/hybrid meetings (2020)
- Senate amended Standing Orders to allow remote participation by Senators in plenary (2021)
  - restrictions
- House of Representatives allows for House Committees to hold virtual/hybrid meetings on an *ad hoc* basis
Virtual House Sittings Should Be Embraced And Developed – Tavares-Finson

Written by: Charnele Henry

PHOTO: COLLEEN DAWKINS
Senate President, Senator the Hon. Thomas Tavares-Finson, addresses a recent JIS Think Tank.
Parliamentary Meetings on Digital Platforms

- Public Broadcasting Corporation of Jamaica (PBCJ) serves as host broadcaster
  - Broadcast on local television streamed on digital platforms
  - Allows for meetings to be covered remotely by press corps
  - Meetings followed remotely by civil society

- Virtual meetings media practitioners allowed observer status
Sitting of the House of Representatives - September 14, 2022

2,775 views  Streamed live 19 hours ago  AGENDA

Public Business: ...more
Soliciting Public Participation via Digital Platforms

- Virtual town hall meetings
- Committee Notices via Parliament’s social media accounts
- Responses via platforms or via e-mail
TO DO LIST

- Excercise
- Drop kids at Summer School
- Finish report
- Portmore Virtual Town Hall

Join the discussion on the proposal to make Portmore a parish. Register on the Parliament's website, www.japarliament.com
Digitization of Documents

- Circulate tabled documents electronically
  - Exceptions: Primary and subsidiary legislation (statutory restrictions)

- Speech to text transcription software

- Digitization of administrative and procedural records
Challenges & Recommendations
THANK YOU!