

B/N Patterson, Peraval

Bush sends congrats to Patterson

UNITED States President George W Bush is the latest world leader to send congratulatory greetings to Prime Minister P J Patterson on his recent re-election to office.

In a letter to the prime minister, Bush said the devotion of the people of Jamaica to the democratic process was welcomed by the United States.

He also expressed confidence that the friendship and close ties that exist between both countries would grow stronger, due to the shared commitment to democracy, prosperity for all citizens and security in the region, according to Jamaica House.

Other world leaders who have congratulated Patterson on his historic victory include Prime Minister Tony Blair

of Britain; President Jacques Chirac of France; Chief Olusegun Obasanjo of Nigeria; President Ricardo Lagos Escobar of Chile and Premier Zhu Rongji of the People's Republic of China.

In addition, several local, regional and international organisations have offered their congratulations to Patterson, whose People's National Party won a historic fourth term in the October 16 general elections.

Congratulatory messages have been received from Arnold Foote, dean of the Consular Corps of Jamaica; Compton Bourne, president of the Caribbean Development Bank and Satya Nandan, secretary-general of the International Seabed Authority.

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