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### **Plans afoot to improve reception areas of police stations**

Plans are afoot to improve the reception areas of at least 16 police stations across the island. The announcement was made by Minister of National Security, Hon. Dr. Horace Chang. He was speaking at the 75th Annual Joint Central Conference for the Jamaica Police Federation being held at the Moon Palace, Jamaica Grande in St. Ann.

Minister Chang stated, *“Creating an environment more conducive to service will result in improved efficiencies. We have identified several Police Stations that will be refurbished. We are working to improve the working environment for you our hardworking officers.”*

The Minister used the opportunity to highlight a number of initiatives that were underway to improve the working conditions of the members of the Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF). The move forms a part of a broader repair and maintenance programme to be implemented within the JCF, as part of security strengthening efforts.

Minister Chang spoke on the Ministry’s move towards a policy on providing *‘fit for purpose’* vehicles. He said, *“For too long we have not paid keen attention to the Police Force. Police vehicles must be*

*equipped with the latest gadgets and communication tools to facilitate effective policing.”*

Amidst these plans, Minister Chang called on the members present to continue to restore public order, apprehend killers and dismantle gangs. This will be supported by policy and legislative changes to support the work of the JCF. *“This Ministry will provide the enabling legislative framework as we seek to update the Anti-Gang Legislation, Proceeds of Crime Act and the Jamaica Constabulary Act that will transform the Police Force into a Police Service. I am committed to providing the framework in which the JCF will succeed,”* he said.