

Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs

CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

For Immediate Release

July 12th 2024

Asset Recovery and Management Workshop, July 8th to 12th 2024

The Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs in collaboration with the British High Commission to Trinidad and Tobago and Gentium UK led by Mr. Alex Ferguson and Mr. Andy Tennant embarked upon a five-day workshop during the period July 8th to 12th 2024. This Workshop concentrated on Asset Recovery and Management under the legal framework primarily the Proceeds of Crime Act, Chapter 11:27 and the Civil Asset Recovery and Management and Unexplained Wealth Act, No. 8 of 2019.

Key note addresses were delivered by Her Excellency Harriet Cross, High Commissioner for the United Kingdom to Great Britain and Northern Ireland to Trinidad and Tobago and the Honourable Stuart R. Young S.C. M.P., Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs (Ag.), Minister of Energy and Energy Industries, and Minister in the Office of the Prime Minister.

The Workshop was aimed at ensuring training on asset recovery and management, training on how Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Asset Recovery and Management will be applied in practice and utilization of case scenarios from the inception of intelligence to applying for an asset recovery order to demonstrate how the law and procedure will work in tandem.

The Workshop was attended by key Stakeholders with representatives who are involved in the seizure, management and forfeiture of property and assets as follows -

• Ministry of Finance - the Financial Intelligence Unit of Trinidad and Tobago, Treasury's Solicitor's Department, and the Customs and Excise Division;

• Office of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs - Anti-Terrorism Unit, Criminal Justice Unit, Central Authority Unit, Solicitor General's Department, Chief State Solicitor's Department, and the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions;

• Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard, Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force, Ministry of National Security;

• Trinidad and Tobago Police Service - Financial Investigations Branch, Special Investigations Unit, Fraud Squad, Stolen Vehicles Unit, and Special Branch Unit; and

• The Police Complaints Authority.

The Government of Trinidad and Tobago acknowledges that targeting the proceeds of crime is an

AGLA Tower, Level 22, Government Plaza, Corner of London and Richmond Streets, Port of Spain Tel: 223-AGLA (2452) Email: communication@ag.gov.tt effective tool in the fight against serious and organised crime and corruption. The global reach of organised crime presents a threat to our society and throughout the world and for this reason, the international community has reacted by focusing attention on the confiscation of the proceeds of crime. The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) has set standards for jurisdictions to have in place legal and institutional frameworks to allow for the investigation, prosecution, and recovery of the proceeds of crime. This Workshop serves to ensure that Trinidad and Tobago is required to achieve high levels of effectiveness in putting asset recovery legislation and procedures into practice and to be seen to be recovering the proceeds of crime.



Pictured above (front row, left to right, third and fourth respectively): Her Excellency Harriet Cross, British High Commissioner and the Honourable Stuart R. Young S.C., M.P., acting Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, Minister of Energy and Energy Industries and Minister in the Office of the Prime Minister, stand among both the facilitators and attendees of the workshop.

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