

**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 3rd 2024

## The Non-Profit Organisations Terrorist Financing Risk Assessment Report Findings and Workshop Sessions on Financial Inclusion, July 1st-3rd 2024

The Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs in collaboration with the European Union (EU) Anti-Money Laundering/ Countering the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) Global Facility and the Financial Intelligence Unit of Trinidad and Tobago embarked upon a three-day workshop during the period July 1-3, 2024. This Workshop involving key national entities and private sector stakeholders is timely as Trinidad and Tobago advances towards the completion of its Second (2nd) National Risk Assessment (NRA) comprising of thirteen (13) Modules, with a stand-alone Module on Non-Profit Organisations.

Key note addresses were delivered by His Excellency Peter Cavendish, Ambassador of the European Union Delegation to Trinidad and Tobago and Mrs. Vyana Sharma, Director, Anti-Terrorism Unit and Chairman of the National Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Financing of Terrorism Committee (NAMLC).

The Workshop was aimed at facilitating a review of the findings on the potential threat of abuse of the Non-Profit Organisations Sector of Trinidad and Tobago for Terrorist Financing (TF) and the development and implementation of a National Action Plan for combatting the identified threats. Mr. Mamuka Jgenti, EU Global Facility, Mr. Ben Evans, Co-Founder and Senior Associate of Greenacre Associates and Ms. Sangeeta Goswami, Policy Advocacy Adviser, Human Security Collective (HSC) held working sessions with invited NPOs, Financial Institutions and State Agencies. Additionally, Mr. Evans and Ms. Goswami provided guidance and clarification to participants on the revised requirements of FATF Recommendation 8 as well as the respective changes to the FATF Methodology concerning NPOs.

The Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (GoRTT) remains committed towards the implementation of the FATF standards and the fight against money laundering and the financing of terrorism and proliferation in order to protect the international, regional and domestic financial system from money laundering and financing of terrorism risks. In alignment with the FATF Standards, which prescribe that Member States mitigate the unintended consequences resulting from the incorrect implementation of the FATF Recommendations, including de-risking, financial exclusion, and undue targeting of NPOs, these sessions proved to be very enlightening

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and beneficial to all attendees. These efforts are intended to assist Trinidad and Tobago in its preparation for the 5th Round of Mutual Evaluation peer review assessment process which commences in mid-2025 via the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF).



**Pictured above (L-R, middle row, centre):** Mr. Nigel Stoddard, Director of the Financial Intelligence Unit of Trinidad and Tobago, His Excellency Peter Cavendish, Ambassador of the European Union Delegation to Trinidad and Tobago and Mrs. Vyana Sharma, Director, Anti-Terrorism Unit and Chairman of the National Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Financing of Terrorism Committee (NAMLC).

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