

**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF
THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW OF GUATEMALA**

Wednesday 24th October 2012, 14.30-18.00

Madame President, Trinidad and Tobago is pleased to extend a warm welcome to the delegation of Guatemala, led by the Honourable Minister and we add our voice to other delegations in expressing appreciation for the informative report presented by the Honourable Minister.

We take due note of the Government's stated efforts to improve living standards and to commit to promoting and protecting the human rights of its citizens through the formulation of three major national pacts: the Zero Hunger Pact, the Security, Justice and Peace Pact and the Fiscal Pact.

We observe also the efforts to ensure an all-inclusive, consultative process was used in the preparation of the National Report, and the accession by Guatemala to, *inter alia*, the Rome Statute, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Convention on Cluster Munitions. The establishment of new national agencies to address specific issues also bodes well for human rights protection.

Trinidad and Tobago recommends that Guatemala continue assiduously in this vein, redoubling efforts to:

1. Enhance the promotion and protection of women's rights, including treating with violence against women and femicide;
2. Intensify efforts to improve the delivery of health services;
3. Focus on addressing discrimination against persons with disabilities;
4. Maintain actions and policies that address the situation of its indigenous peoples.

Madame President, I thank you.