

STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW OF THE REPUBLIC OF GUINEA Tuesday 20th January 2015

Thank you Mr. President

Mr President, Trinidad and Tobago is pleased to be the first to welcome the delegation of Guinea, led by the Minister of Human Rights and Civil Liberties, the Honourable Kalifa-Gassama **DIABY**.

My delegation thanks the Minister for his comprehensive report. The report demonstrates to the international community that in spite of the many challenges it has faced, not least among them, a period of political instability and more recently, the deadly Ebola epidemic, the Government of Guinea remains resolved to address the issue of human rights in a holistic manner; such an approach is no doubt guided by a recognition of the interconnectedness of human rights and sustainable development.

Trinidad and Tobago commends Guinea for the progress it has made in the promotion and protection of human rights since its first UPR in May 2010. Worthy of special mention are:

- (1) the establishment of the Ministry of Human Rights and Civil Liberties tasked with defining, implementing and monitoring Government policy on human rights and civil liberties;
- (2) initiatives aimed at strengthening education and training in human rights, in particular, for the judiciary, in law enforcement and in the military; and,
- (3) the introduction and implementation of a range of measures, including social programmes, addressing health, education and employment, particularly initiatives aimed at improving the lives of women and girls;

Trinidad and Tobago recommends that Guinea

(1) redoubles its efforts to strengthen protection measures to combat all forms of abuse and neglect against children, including all forms of child labour

In conclusion, my delegation wishes Guinea all the best in its Universal Periodic Review.

I thank you Mr. President