



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
TO THE OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, GENEVA**

**Statement at the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the Republic of Honduras,
Palais des Nations, Geneva, 8th May 2015**

Thank you Mr. President.

Trinidad and Tobago welcomes the Delegation of the Republic of Honduras on this second cycle of their Universal Periodic Review.

Mr. President,

Honduras, like most States within the Latin American and the Caribbean region, face the challenges of disquieting murder rates and an increase in organised crime and drug trafficking. Despite this, my delegation is pleased to note that the murder rate in Honduras has fallen, the first time in almost a decade, during the period 2012-2014. My delegation acknowledges and commends the noteworthy initiatives regarding: the passing of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act (2012), the establishment of mobile magistrates' courts, the re-distribution of State land to the benefit of indigenous and Afro-Hondurans and the enshrinement of the right to water and sanitation as a constitutional right.

My delegation wishes to recommend that Honduras take steps to:

1. Ratify the Arms Trade Treaty thereby providing the potential for reducing the proliferation of small arms and light weapons, the illegal drug trade and high levels of violence.
2. Implement measures to reduce poverty and instances of social exclusion among indigenous people and Afro-Honduran communities; and
3. Reduce violence against women and increase the number of shelters for battered women.

Thank you Mr. President.

Ambassador John Sandy