

HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL
25TH SESSION OF THE WORKING GROUP OF THE UPR
REVIEW OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
10TH MAY, 2016

STATEMENT BY NIGERIA

Mr. President,

Nigeria welcomes the delegation of Trinidad and Tobago and commends her UPR presentation, albeit, her recognition as the first Commonwealth State to submit such a report.

2. My delegation notes the effort and energy deployed by Trinidad and Tobago including her broad consultations, which cover her national institutions and a whole gamut of NGOs and civil society organizations, in compiling the report of her universal periodic review.

Mr. President,

3. The score card for Trinidad and Tobago is very pleasing as it has implemented a great deal if not all the recommendations it accepted since her last review. We commend her for the significant advancement to the human rights protection landscape including legislative, institutional and infrastructural changes. T&T has put in place the Trafficking in Persons Act by proclamation in 2013 with a Counter Trafficking Unit which has become operational; it received a commendation from UNODC for initial review under UNCAC in 2013 for focus on criminalization and enforcement; It has scored high with CEDAW for an outstanding report; and it has also ratified the Convention on people with disabilities and set up a committee for it implementation including legislation.

4. Trinidad and Tobago has also reviewed its Administration of Justice Act, as well as established a Juvenile Court. The Country has not only enthroned access to justice but has also enforced fundamental rights through appropriate mechanisms to life, housing, freedom of the press, work, education and so on.

Mr. President,

5. With other achievements, priorities, initiatives, and commitments, we would like to recommend that:

- I) Trinidad and Tobago speed up the review of the draft Immigration policy; and
- II) Enact the bill on the Covenant on Civil and political Rights, which lapsed in Parliament.

I thank you.