

**PERMANENT MISSION OF MONTENEGRO TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

**Trinidad and Tobago - 2<sup>nd</sup> UPR Cycle**

**May 10, 2016**

**Statement by H.E. Ambassador Nebojša Kaluđerović**

Montenegro warmly welcomes distinguished delegation of Trinidad and Tobago.

We commend the progress of Trinidad and Tobago in fulfilling its international human rights obligations between two UPR cycles. In particular, we welcome strengthening legal framework for the safety and security of children as well as the Government-led campaigns to improve the legal and operation framework for child protection including provisions for tougher penalties for child abuse. We are also pleased to note that, in cooperation with UNESCO, Trinidad and Tobago has achieved the aim of providing universal primary and secondary education.

We have noted the concerns of the CESCR Committee about the lack of specific and comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation in Trinidad and Tobago. In this regard, we have also noted that there was no definition of discrimination against women incorporated in the domestic legislation. My delegation would appreciate if the delegation could elaborate on its possible intention to amend the Equal Opportunity Act 2000 with a view to afford protection to individuals on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity. Could the delegation also brief on whether a definition of discrimination against women has been incorporated in the Draft National Gender Policy?

Montenegro would like to offer the following recommendations to the delegation of Trinidad and Tobago:

1. To ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR aiming at the abolition of the death penalty;
2. To decriminalize same sex relations including in the Sexual Offences Act.