**Statement by the Delegation of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the occasion of the Third Cycle of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of**

**Saint Lucia,**

**37th Session of the UPR Working Group**

**20 January 2021**

**Check Against Delivery**

Thank you Madam President.

Trinidad and Tobago wishes to congratulate its sister Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Member State Saint Lucia on the presentation of its third cycle report. It is evident that Saint Lucia remains committed to strengthening the human rights protection of its citizens and those within its borders.

Trinidad and Tobago recognises that Saint Lucia faces a multiplicity of challenges in its efforts to ensure the full realisation of human rights nationally. The current global pandemic, no doubt places an additional burden on the country in the allocation of scarce resources. Nevertheless, the accomplishments since the last review are commendable.

Trinidad and Tobago is pleased to see the progress of Saint Lucia in relation to its prioritisation of the rights of persons with disabilities. Additionally, Saint Lucia is to be congratulated on its recent strategies aimed at preventing violence against women and girls.

Saint Lucia like other small island developing states has rightly put the topic of climate change at the top of its national agenda. The Government has sought to develop both regional and national responses to the inevitable threats that climate change poses.

In a fraternal spirit, Trinidad and Tobago encourages Saint Lucia to intensify its dialogue with external partners aimed at achieving the technical assistance that it deems necessary for it to further advance in the area of safeguarding human rights.

Madam President, Trinidad and Tobago extends its best wishes to Saint Lucia for a successful review.

Thank you.

Permanent Mission of Trinidad and Tobago, Geneva