**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**

**Panama,**

**36th Session of the UPR Working Group**

**3 November 2020**

**Check Against Delivery**

Thank you Madam President.

Trinidad and Tobago wishes to express its appreciation to Panama for the presentation of its third cycle report.

Trinidad and Tobago notes the importance which Panama attaches to meeting its human rights obligations and commends Panama for the work done since its last Review. We wish to highlight Panama’s adoption of its Multidimensional Poverty Index and the economic assistance provided to households living in poverty and extreme poverty in the country’s most vulnerable regions. The implementation of the Beehive Plan is a laudable strategy for combatting inequality and extreme poverty.

Trinidad and Tobago acknowledges the work done by Panama with respect to indigenous peoples and peoples of African descent and recommends that Panama continue to strive towards further progress aimed at achieving full inclusion for these groups.

Panama must be applauded for adapting its laws to address new environmental challenges and providing the framework for updating its policies on climate change, biodiversity and water resource management.

Madam President, through you, Trinidad and Tobago wishes Panama a successful Review.

I thank you.

Permanent Mission of Trinidad and Tobago, Geneva

26 October 2020