

Anti-Corruption Summit - London 2016

Trinidad and Tobago's Country Statement

1. Expose corruption

Trinidad and Tobago is committed to the fight against the scourge of corruption and to pursuing those that have engaged in acts of corruption with a goal of successful prosecution and recovering as many assets that are the fruits of corrupt act for the benefit of the Citizens of Trinidad and Tobago.

Trinidad and Tobago is willing to participate in legitimate global initiatives that are focused on simplifying the gathering and collating of evidence and the building of successful cases leading to the prosecution of those who engage in corrupt acts. Trinidad and Tobago is open and committed to assisting its international partners in the fight against corruption.

Trinidad and Tobago will work towards the establishing of a registry of company beneficial ownership information. Trinidad and Tobago commits to ensuring that law enforcement agencies have full and effective access to beneficial ownership information for companies and other legal entities registered within its jurisdiction.

Trinidad and Tobago is open to implementing bilateral arrangements that will ensure law enforcement in Trinidad and Tobago have full and effective access to the beneficial ownership information of companies incorporated in other countries who are willing to share such information with us. Trinidad and Tobago is prepared to provide full and effective access to the beneficial ownership information of companies incorporated in Trinidad and Tobago to other partner countries.

Trinidad and Tobago's commitment to the fight against corruption includes the following specific legislation:

- We are in the process of passing in Parliament amendments to our Public Procurement legislation. When the amendments are passed we will ensure the proclamation of the act which contains provisions related to, inter alia, the sharing of data, the standardisation of the procurement processes, the sharing of data, e-procurement, black listing of corrupt contractors. We are committed to debarring corrupt contractors from participating in our public procurement tenders;
- We have laid in our Parliament a Whistle Blower Bill that is currently before a Joint Select Committee of the Parliament;
- We are about to commence the consultation process aimed at the reform of Campaign Finance legislation; and
- We are working on the improvement of our Civil Asset Forfeiture legislation.

Trinidad and Tobago is also considering specific legislation to deal with:

- Bribery;
- Bid rigging and other corrupt acts in the procurement and award of public contracts; and
- Unexplained wealth.

Trinidad and Tobago is committed to the prosecution of those who have participated in corrupt acts, particularly acts that offend, and were directed at, the public purse.

Trinidad and Tobago is willing to cooperate with partner countries to simplify the sharing of information between respective public-private partnerships and to create an environment that ensures the most effective response to international money laundering.

2. Punish the corrupt and support those who have suffered from corruption

Trinidad and Tobago is committed to exploring ways of sharing information on those who have engaged in corruption across borders.

Trinidad and Tobago will work together with our international partners to enforce confiscation orders across borders. We support global and regional asset recovery networks being developed to obtain legal and investigative assistance in tracing and freezing the proceeds of corruption.

Trinidad and Tobago supports sending clear signals to the corrupt that they will face consequences internationally and we encourage making it harder for them to travel and do business in other countries, including, but not limited to, the purchase of assets in other countries.

3. Drive out the culture of corruption, wherever it exists

Trinidad and Tobago will work alongside with international networks of professional in public and private sector to encourage long-term institutional partnership that promotes integrity via, for example, south-south cooperation.

Trinidad and Tobago welcomes the proposal of an International Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Coordination Centre.

Trinidad and Tobago encourages good governance within national and international sports organisations.

Trinidad and Tobago welcomes and encourages the creation of the Anti-Corruption Innovation Hub.