



MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY
GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

WHAT'S HAPPENING

June 30, 2023

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YOUTH IN FOCUS – 'LIMING WITH A PURPOSE' PROJECT LAUNCHED

On Monday June 26, 2023, Minister of National Security, the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. joined with the National Drug Council of Trinidad and Tobago (NDC), for the launch of *'Liming with a Purpose' – Engaging to be informed, Educate and Empower on the issues of drug control*. The project



is a community youth networking initiative, developed in collaboration with youth representatives of the NDC Planning Committee and was unveiled in recognition of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime's (UNODC) International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, observed annually on June 26.

Delivering the feature address at the Launch, Minister Hinds stated that treating with violent crime, drug abuse and drug trafficking, especially among the young population, continues to be a priority for Trinidad and Tobago. He noted that it is only through collective efforts, that stakeholders can mitigate drug abuse and drug trafficking among the youth.

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June 30, 2023

YOUTH IN FOCUS – 'LIMING WITH A PURPOSE' PROJECT LAUNCHED (*Con'd*)



'Liming with a purpose' is designed to: better understand the key pull and push factors that are engaging the youth population in drug control matters, with a view to addressing the issue; provide options to assist youth in decision making; and to create a network of young people in communities, to partake in robust, solution driven youth-led conversations. It is envisioned that these efforts will culminate with the development of drug-free initiatives, for sharing with Government Ministries, for implementation.

The project will run from July 2023 to May 2024 in five (5) communities: Chaguanas, St. Joseph, Sangre Grande, Laventille and Bethel Tobago.

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June 30, 2023

TT DEFENCE FORCE PARTICIPATES IN REGIONAL MILITARY EXERCISE



A contingent from the Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force (TTDF) participated in a military exercise consisting of a skills competition between military and police Special Operations teams from the Western Hemisphere. The exercise, Fuerzas Comando 2023, organized by the U.S. Southern Command, was hosted in the Dominican Republic from June 12-22, 2023. Teams from twenty (20) countries, took part in the initiative, aimed at promoting military-to-military relationships, increasing training knowledge and improving regional security. Activities also included a Senior Leadership Seminar.

On June 21, 2023, Chief of Defence Staff, Air Vice Marshal Darryl Daniel and TTDF Force Command Senior Enlisted Advisor Warrant Officer Class 1 Rian Dillon paid a visit to the TTDF contingent and met with senior military officials present.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

June 30, 2023

INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE PLANNING UNDERWAY

Preparations for the hosting of the 2023 Independence Day Military Parade are in train following the first planning meeting held on Wednesday June 28, 2023.

Stakeholders including Divisions of the Defence and Protective Services, Ministry of National Security's General Administration Division, Partner Ministries of Government, State Agencies, as well as civil society organisations, met at the Queen's Park Savannah to discuss details for the traditional Military Parade being hosted in honour of Trinidad and Tobago's 61st Anniversary as an independent nation.

Independence Day will be celebrated on Thursday August 31, 2023 with the customary Military Parade, comprising members the Defence and Protective Services and civil society organizations, at the Queen's Park Savannah in Port of Spain, Trinidad and also in Tobago.



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June 30, 2023

FIRE SERVICE ENGAGES THE YOUTH

Members of the Trinidad and Tobago Fire Service (TTFS) participated in the Penal Quinam Government ECCE Career Day entitled *"My Dream Job"* on Friday June 23, 2023.

The preschool pupils were eager to learn about the job of a firefighter and engaged in fun activities, including hands on demonstrations using TTFS equipment.

The highly interactive discussions led by Fire Sub Station Officer (Ag.) Samuel, along with firefighters Charles and Mohammed, all attached to the Siparia Fire Station, focused on fire safety and fire prevention tips for children.



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June 30, 2023

FOCUS ON DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

This week, the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management (ODPM) and representatives of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) facilitated a special training workshop on Communication and Disaster Reporting for journalists and Government communicators.

The key objectives of this initiative were to enhance local understanding of effective disaster risk communication, provide participants with relevant strategies for informing on hazard impacts/disasters and improving approaches to coverage.





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