

#### **MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY**

GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

# WHAT'S HAPPENING

### September 29, 2023

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#### **MINISTER OF NATIONAL SECURITY MEETS WITH FRENCH OFFICIALS**



On Wednesday September 27, 2023, Minister of National Security, the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P., met with His Excellency Didier Chabert, Ambassador of France and Lieutenant Colonel Gregory Charvieux, Non-Resident Defence Attaché of the French Armed Forces in the Caribbean.

Discussions were held on the Draft Technical Arrangement between the Minister of National Security of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and the Minister of Defence of the French Republic. This arrangement will give effect to the participation of Trinidad and Tobago in Joint Military Cooperation Activities in the Territory of the French Republic with the French Armed Forces in the Caribbean.

Also in attendance at the meeting were Mr. Ghislain Commergnat, Deputy Head of Mission; Mr. Gary Joseph, Permanent Secretary (Ag.), Ministry of National Security; Brigadier General Dexter Francis, Vice Chief of Defence Staff; Major (Ret'd) Richard Lynch, Director, International Affairs and Mrs. Shani Valdez-Forrester, International Affairs Officer.

### September 29, 2023

#### TTPS CARAVAN TRAINS OVER 2000 STUDENTS AND TEACHERS IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION



The Trinidad and Tobago Police Service recently hosted a Conflict Resolution Caravan (CRC), which brought noticeable improvement in classroom dynamics to ten (10) secondary schools across Trinidad.

This was the feedback from scores of principals, teachers, students and participants, who were trained in promoting peaceful coexistence and effective communication during the CRC.

The CRC programme which ran from September 11th to 19th, 2023, engaged 2526 teachers and students. Its aim was to foster collaboration with local educational authorities, community leaders, and relevant stakeholders to broaden the reach and effectiveness of future conflict resolution initiatives.

### September 29, 2023



According to the Coordinator of the CRC and Head of the St Joseph Police Youth Club (SJPYC), WPC Ms. Sascha Williams-Goddard, the response from students was overwhelmingly positive, reflecting their eagerness to acquire and apply conflict resolution skills to a host of situations encountered in the classroom and school campuses.

The TTPS plans to administer subsequent cycles of conflict resolution training, by way of the CRC, so as to continue to build on the momentum already achieved. The intent is to keep strengthening community relationships and reaching more teachers and students in schools across Trinidad and Tobago

### September 29, 2023

#### STRENGTHENING PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR COORDINATION IN DISASTER PREPAREDNESS





On Thursday 21st September, 2023, the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management (ODPM), in collaboration with the American Chamber of Commerce of T&T (AMCHAM) and the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), hosted a workshop on Strengthening Public and Private Sector Coordination for Disaster Management in Trinidad and Tobago.

The main focus of the workshop was to provide a mechanism for closer coordination and collaboration between the ODPM, the Disaster Management Units (DMUs), the Tobago Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) and the Private Sector.

September 29, 2023



The ODPM and UNICEF have been working together in the development of this partnership, as better coordination between the public and private sectors in disaster preparedness, presents avenues for further solutions in tracking resources.

Delivering remarks at the workshop were the CEO of the ODPM, Major General (Retired) Rodney Smart, CEO of AMCHAM, Mr. Nirad Tewarie, and Ms. Jennie Trow, Emergency Specialist at UNICEF. Also in attendance were various representatives of the Public and Private Sectors, and Civil Society Organisations.

