



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Ministry of National Security
CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

June 24, 2024

For Immediate Release

MINISTER OF NATIONAL SECURITY MEETS WITH PRESIDENT AND CHAIRMAN OF THE UNITED STATES EXIM BANK


Port-of-Spain [June 24, 2024]: On Tuesday June 18, 2024, Minister of National Security, the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P., was paid a courtesy call by the President and Chairman of the United States (US) Export Import Bank (EXIM), Ms. Reta Jo Lewis. Ms. Lewis was accompanied by the Ambassador of the United States of America in Trinidad and Tobago, Her Excellency Candace Bond, and a team from the US EXIM Bank.

During discussions, Ambassador Bond highlighted that the US EXIM Bank provided a unique opportunity for Trinidad and Tobago and the United States to strengthen their bilateral relations and form a new partnership for the benefit of the people of Trinidad and Tobago.

This set the tone for the meeting, which focused on exploring the potential opportunities for collaboration between the Ministry of the National Security and the US EXIM Bank, for the acquisition of assets and equipment to aid the Ministry's fight against crime. In particular, the meeting addressed the need for equipment to treat with border security challenges, and to amplify this country's national cyber-security capacity.

Minister Hinds articulated that border security and cyber-security are two priority areas for the Ministry of National Security, and that it is critical to acquire and upgrade the necessary equipment for law enforcement agencies under the Ministry, to effectively achieve its mandates.



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Ms. Lewis expressed gratitude for the opportunity to meet with the Ministry of National Security to better understand the country's security priorities, and to begin identifying the best ways for the US EXIM Bank to connect the MNS to US suppliers. She assured the Minister that EXIM Bank can be an invaluable partner for achieving its security goals.

Also representing the EXIM Bank Delegation were, Ms. Tamara Maxwell, Acting Senior Vice President, Office of Small Business, US EXIM Bank; Ms. Elizabeth Lewis, Senior Vice President, Office of Communications and Mr. Christopher Organ, Assistant to Chair of EXIM Bank.

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Photo and Caption: (From Left to Right) President and Chairman of the United States (US) Export Import Bank (EXIM), Ms. Reta Jo Lewis; Her Excellency Candace Bond, Ambassador of the United States of America to Trinidad and Tobago; Minister of National Security, the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P; and Permanent Secretary, Ministry of National Security, Ms. Natasha Barrow during a meeting between officials of EXIM bank and the Ministry of National Security on Tuesday June 18, 2024.