

OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT REGULATION  
STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION WORKSHOPS, 2018  
TRINIDAD

WELCOME REMARKS FOR CHAIRMAN/PROCUREMENT REGULATOR

**SALUTATIONS**

Good morning/Good afternoon Ladies and Gentlemen, Thank you Tamara, our moderator for today's proceedings.

- Valued Stakeholders
- Fellow Members of the Procurement Board of Trinidad and Tobago
- Mr. Peter Trepte, International Procurement Consultant
- Specially invited IADB and UNDP Observers
- Members of the Procurement Review Board Professor Winston Suite and Mrs. Joanna Lequay
- Members of Staff of TSTT and igovTT
- Staff of the OPR Team
- Ladies and gentlemen

A warm welcome to all and thank you, for partnering with us to make procurement best practice, based upon the principles of good governance, namely; accountability, transparency, integrity, and value for money, a reality in Trinidad and Tobago. Just for being here today...I applaud you! It means that all of us here, in this room, are committed in one way or another, to being CHANGE AGENTS, who are **not** satisfied with the status quo, and who **do not** want to be SAME AGENTS. For that, I say CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Many of you may be aware, that the Procurement Regulator and the Procurement Board, were appointed on January 12, 2018 pursuant to section 10 of the partially proclaimed Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Property Act, 2015, as amended.

The main aim of establishing the Office of Procurement Regulation was to hire its staff, implement key processes and procedures and to draft the handbook, guidelines and Regulations to support the Act, towards which, full proclamation, is the mainstay of this Stakeholder Engagement and Consultation Workshop, 2018.

This session, is only one of six, which takes place over a three-day period, from the 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> September. Many other key stakeholders, like you, have been invited, to contribute to the process of finalising the handbook and guidelines, which most, if not all of you would have accessed on

our website and would have come here today, prepared to discuss, deliberate, query and comment upon, for the OPR to consider in finalising these very integral components of the process, towards full proclamation of the Act. Additionally, we will be looking at some areas for possible harmonising of certain pieces of legislation that may be in conflict with the Act and also the areas to be covered under proposed Regulations.

Today...together...towards fully engaging and consulting with you, you will hear from the Procurement Consultant, Peter Trepte as he presents his findings and recommendations, while OPR's Procurement Policy and Capacity Building Team Leads will review the draft handbook and guidelines. You will also be given the opportunity to provide feedback, which we promise to value and consider carefully.

Also sharing this forum with us are members of the Procurement Review Board, as well as specially invited UNDP and IADB observers; our much valued friends.

I also welcome TSTT and igovtt, who are here to promote the role of technology in procurement, as part of best practice. I take this opportunity to encourage other e-procurement solutions providers to get onboard. The opportunities are endless.

To all present, the OPR appreciates that you have literally carved out time, to be here, from your busy schedules. We are honored to have you...welcome!