

THE OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT REGULATION  
STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION WORKSHOPS, 2018  
TOBAGO

WELCOME REMARKS FOR CHAIR

**SALUTATIONS**

Good morning Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thank you Tamara, our moderator for today's proceedings.

- Valued Stakeholders
- Members of the Procurement Board
- Staff of the Office of Procurement Regulation
- 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.

The OPR would have already held six consultation sessions in Trinidad, 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, we hope, prepared to discuss, deliberate, query and comment upon, for the OPR to consider in completing 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.

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Today...together...towards fully engaging and consulting with you, you will be presented with some of the findings and recommendations from the previous workshops. 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.

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!

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