



REMARKS TO BE DELIVERED BY
CATHERINE KUMAR, CEO, TRINIDAD
AND TOBAGO CHAMBER OF
INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE

On the Occasion of
**THE VISIT OF H.E. DR. NEIL PARSAN,
AMBASSADOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD
AND TOBAGO TO THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA AND MEXICO AND PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE TO THE ORGANISATION OF
AMERICAN STATES**

Thursday 28th February, 2013
Trinidad & Tobago Chamber of Commerce,
Westmoorings

FINAL: RP 27.02.13

- YOUR EXCELLENCY DR. NEIL PARSAN-
AMBASSADOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD
AND TOBAGO TO THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA AND MEXICO AND PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
TO THE ORGANISATION OF AMERICAN STATES

- MR. THOMAS SMITHAM, CHARGÉ D’AFFAIRES,
EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- MR. MOONILAL LALCHAN – VICE PRESIDENT,
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CHAMBER

- MEMBERS OF THE CHAMBER

- MEMBERS OF TTMA

- OTHER PRIVATE SECTOR REPRESENTATIVES

- STAKEHOLDERS

Good Morning.

Your Excellency, on behalf of our Board of Directors and on my own behalf I warmly welcome you to the Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce and thank you for approaching the Chamber to host today's meeting with the private sector. I am sure I speak on behalf of all my colleagues when I say that we truly appreciate this collaborative approach especially since you have been attending the Heads of Mission Conference this week being hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The United States remains our largest trading partner of Trinidad and Tobago and while I am sure we will be privy to the business opportunities, we welcome additional information on the current developments taking place on the ground with

respect to the legislative and regulatory environment and how these will impact business relations with the USA. This will be an interactive and open session with His Excellency so Members, please take the opportunity to pose your questions.

Of particular interest to our members are current developments in the area of food and drug regulations and the Foreign Assets Tax Compliance Act. Your Excellency, I would like to add that our Trade Bulletin e-newsletter published by the Trade and Business Development Unit featured China, India, Russia and South Africa in the last four issues, Our next issues will cover Brazil and the United Kingdom. Be on the lookout for an email from our Unit as we will be featuring the work of our

Washington-based Embassy in the not too distant future.

We look forward to further collaboration with you. It is now my pleasure to welcome His Excellency Dr. Neil Parsan, Ambassador of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago to the United States of America and Mexico and Permanent Representative to the Organisation of American States, a position he assumed in February 2011.