



MEDIA RELEASE

March 29th, 2020

-START -

FOLLOW THE STAY- AT- HOME ORDER

The Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry & Commerce strongly supports the initiatives of the government to restrict all unnecessary movement at this time. We ask our businesses and the national community to stay at home unless absolutely necessary.

The list of essential services was done to ensure the safety security and comfort of our citizens. We must act responsibly and cooperate in an effort to flatten the curve. As a small country the risk can be detrimental if we do not adhere to the Stay-At-Home order.

The heart-rending images and stories from other parts of the world that have not taken the appropriate action early enough is perhaps our greatest lesson. We do not want our nation to face these repercussions.

In an effort to reduce the movement of people the T&T Chamber has also been in ongoing discussions with the government to persuade them to waive port rent charges and demurrage as we continue to address the issues that affect the business community.

Today, the Port of Port of Spain has agreed to waive all port rent charges for the period 12:01 a.m. Monday 30th March to Wednesday 15th April,

charges prior to Monday 30th March, remain applicable. We await feedback from The Port of Point Lisas.

The issue of demurrage still remains a crucial point of discussion and we ask the government to use their office to persuade the shipping companies to follow suit and waive demurrage for all non-essential companies during this period of restricted movement under these force majeure circumstances. The financial implications are significant if these waivers are not granted.

It is a time for us to be prudent, heed the instructions of the government and work together to bring the situation under control.

-END-

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FROM THE MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT