



Joint Select Committee on State Enterprises

Public Hearing Summary

Tuesday February 7, 2017 at 10:21a.m.

Topic:

Inquiry into the operations and administration of the Vehicle Management Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago [VMCOTT] (with specific focus on the repair and acquisition of vehicles for State Bodies.)

Committee Members:

The following Committee Members were present at the meeting:

- Mr. David Small – Chairman
- Dr. Lester Henry – Vice Chairman
- Mr. Fazal Karim – Member
- Mr. Wade Mark – Member

WITNESSES WHO APPEARED:

- **Officials from the Vehicle Management Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago (VMCOTT)**
 - Lt. Col. Neil Bennett (Ret). Chairman
 - Mr. Ramesh Lackhan Chief Executive Officer
 - Ms. Natasha Prince Operations Manager
 - Mr. Terence Sammy Ag. Finance Manager
 - Mr. Learie Cummings Internal Auditor

KEY ISSUES DISCUSSED WITH VMCOTT

1. Transparency and Accountability

- VMCOTT's strategic plan;
- The Corporation's Business plan;
- The need to submit all outstanding Annual Administrative Reports and Audited Financial Statements;
- VMCOTT's accumulated losses for the past 5 years;
- VMCOTT's profitability since 2014;
- The Corporation's weak internal controls.

2. Viability of VMCOTT as an entity

- The insolvency of VMCOTT;

- VMCOTT's strategy for the collection of outstanding receivables in the sum of \$28 million;
- The need for VMCOTT to diversify services offered, as well as expand its client base;
- The certification of garages to outsource VMCOTT services;
- VMCOTT's plan to expand its automated car wash service;
- VMCOTT's projected self-sufficiency by 2020;
- The competitive strengths of VMCOTT;
- The credit worthiness of VMCOTT.

3. Servicing of Vehicles

- The 73% decline in the number of vehicles serviced by VMCOTT over the last 6 years;
- The poor brand reputation of VMCOTT;
- How cash flow limitations due to outstanding receivables constrains VMCOTT's ability to adequately meet the demands to service vehicles;
- The intention to partner with the Trinidad and Tobago National Petroleum Marketing Company Limited (NP) to increase market share.

4. CNG Conversion

- The delay in receiving a license for CNG conversion from the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries;
- CNG Conversion should commence within 30 days of receipt of license.

5. Machinery

- The underutilisation of VMCOTT's capacity.

6. Human Resource Capacity

- NESC certification of VMCOTT trainers;
- Preparation of staff for implementation of Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Property Act, 2015;
- The current staff complement with a breakdown of technical and administrative staff.

View the Hearing:

The hearing can be viewed on our YouTube page via the following link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Aqfu72ACSW4>

Contact Information:

You may contact the Committee's Secretariat at jscse@tparliament.org or 624-7275 Ext. 2309/2283.

*Committees Unit
 February 7th, 2017*