



Public Hearing Summary

Wednesday June 14, 2017

Inquiry Subject:

Discussion with the Auditor General on the Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Public Accounts of Trinidad and Tobago for the financial year ended 30th September, 2016

Committee Members:

The following Committee Members were present for the meeting:

- Dr. Bhoendradatt Tewarie - Chairman
- Mr. Rodger Samuel - Vice- Chairman
- Mrs. Ayanna Webster-Roy - Member
- Dr. Lester Henry - Member

Witnesses who appeared:

Auditor General's Department (AGD)

- Mr. Majeed Ali - Auditor General
- Ms. Lorelly Pujadas - Deputy Auditor General
- Mr. Gary Peters - Assistant Auditor General
- Ms. Nicole Cockburn - Legal Officer
- Ms. Gale Serville - Audit Executive II
- Mr. Brian Caesar - Audit Executive II (Ag.)
- Ms. Rajkoomari Mohammed - Audit Executive II (Ag.)
- Ms. Nela Dwarika-Ali - Audit Director

Key Issues Discussed

1. The pervasive issues identified across Ministries and Departments;
2. The reasons for the persistence of the pervasive issues;
3. The recommendations to improve the non-submission of lease agreements;
4. The status of the AGD's access to revenue information from the Board of Inland Revenue (BIR);
5. The weaknesses in the internal control system across Ministries and departments;
6. The pervasive issue of weak internal audit function throughout the public service;
7. The recommendations to improve the internal audit function across Ministries and Departments;

8. The recommendations to improve the revenue control problem at the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries;
9. The improvements identified by the AGD in the processing of pension and leave claims throughout Ministries and Departments;
10. The reasons for the delays in the processing of pension and leave claims;
11. The efficiency of Accounting Officers in performing their duties, roles and functions;
12. The status of overpayments across the Ministries and Departments;
13. The status of the implementation of the Integrated Financial Management Information System (IFMIS) by the Ministry of Finance;
14. The implementation and integration of the Integrated Human Resource Information System (IHRIS);
15. The status of rental payments for unoccupied property at Barataria;
16. The reoccurrence of outstanding commitments at the Customs and Excise Division;
17. The legality of the operations of one hundred and three quarries in the country;
18. The reasons for only seven (7) quarries having operation licenses;
19. The deficiencies in the Information Technology Governance across the Ministries and Departments;
20. The lack of physical checks at the Chemistry Food and Drug Division;
21. The status of the process for auditing the AGD;
22. The AGD's involvement in the Procurement Law and Procurement Practices; and
23. The resource and capacity limitations experienced by the AGD.

View the Hearing:

The hearing can be viewed on our YouTube page via the following link:

<https://www.youtu.be/yv9o0G2WGnA>

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Wednesday June 28, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. At this meeting, the Committee intends to examine the issues raised in the Report of the Auditor General on the Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the financial years 2016 with specific reference to the Ministry of Finance.

**PAC Secretariat
June 14, 2017**