

Draft

**United Nations Country Team (UNCT) Statement on the Adoption of
Universal Periodic Review (UPR) outcome for Trinidad and Tobago
21 September 2016**

Mr. President,

The United Nations Country Team of Trinidad and Tobago welcomes the report of the working group on the Universal Periodic Review and its recommendations related to human rights initiatives.

The UNCT commends the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the programmes and initiatives to promote and protect the rights of children including strengthening the capacity of the Children's Authority and civil society organizations. The UNCT urges the Government to sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and to submit periodic reports. We further urge the Government to raise the minimum age of marriage in line with its obligations under the Convention of the Rights of the Child.

The UNCT acknowledges the achievements made by the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago through the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and notes that there are further required amendments to the legislative framework. We encourage the creation and expansion of opportunities for persons with disabilities. The UNCT encourages the Government to adopt and strengthen legislation aimed at the elimination of gender based violence.

Mr. President,

The UNCT takes this opportunity to encourage the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago to continue to strengthen and expand policies, protection and programmes that affect the human rights of its citizens. The UNCT is fully committed to continuing to provide technical support towards this endeavor.

Thank you.