

Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago MINISTRY OF FINANCE Communications Unit

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For Immediate Release

MEDIA RELEASE

Dookeran to chair COFAP Inter-ministerial meeting on Friday

Port of Spain – The Minister of Finance, the Honourable Winston Dookeran will chair the Meeting of the Inter-Sessional Committee of the Council for Finance and Planning (COFAP) of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), on Friday 21 January at the Hilton Trinidad and Conference Centre.

Ministers of Finance from Antigua and Barbuda, and Suriname are among 35 participants expected to attend. Additionally, representatives of the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Caribbean Court of Justice Trust Fund, the Caribbean Regional Technical Assistance Centre (CARTAC) and the CARICOM Secretariat will also attend.

High on the agenda is funding for the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ), which is critical to the success of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME) as it interprets and applies the Treaty to ensure the proper functioning of the CSME.

Another matter on the table for discussion is the governance of CARTAC, which was established in 2001 to provide technical assistance and training in core areas of economic and financial management to CARICOM Member States.

The meeting will also provide an update on the CARICOM Development Fund (CDF) and its investment strategy.

COFAP is one of the key organs of CARCIOM that assists the Conference of Heads of Government and the Community Council of CARICOM, and has primary responsibility for economic policy co-ordination and financial and monetary integration of Member States.

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