

Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Communications Unit

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For Immediate Release

Finance Minister Dookeran to Chair Small States Forum at G-24, International Monetary Fund (I.M.F) and World Bank Group in USA

Port of Spain: Finance Minister the Honourable Winston Dookeran will Chair the Small States Forum on October 9th. The Theme for this year's forum is **2015 and Beyond: Prospects and Challenges for Small States.**

High on the agenda for discussions at the Forum will be global issues such as climate change and food and energy security which continue to have important and long-lasting bearings on economic development prospects.

The Small States Forum will bring together representatives of the 48 small states that are members of the World Bank, thirty nine (39) of which are developing countries that broadly share a set of common vulnerabilities, including:

- Remoteness and insularity;
- Susceptibility to natural disasters and climate change;
- Limited institutional capacity;
- Open economies vulnerable to exogenous shocks and unable to diversify; and
- Difficulty accessing external capital.

It is intended to raise the profile of small state issues and provide a regular opportunity for small states to bring their concerns and views to the attention of the international community.

THE END

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