



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

Ministry of Finance and the Economy

Communications Unit

Media Release

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To All Editors

For Immediate Release

**Financing of the Digital Public Safety Communications System
for the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service**

On Friday November 9 2012 a commercial financing facility in the sum of US\$4.647 million was executed between Republic Bank Limited (RBL) and the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (GORTT) representing 15.0 per cent of the financing for the Digital Communication System for the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS). Previously, on October 26 2012 a US Ex-Im Bank direct loan facility in the sum of US\$27.2013 million, representing 85.0 per cent of the financing was executed between the US Ex-Im Bank and the GORTT. HSBC Bank was the lead arranger for the transaction. As a result of the financing being in place, the construction of the digital communication system would commence shortly.

On Friday March 16 2012 a contract was executed with HARRIS Corporation RF Communications Division - a firm based in the United States and the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago which would seek to ensure that the Ministry of National Security and the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) remain current and take full advantage of the latest digital communications technology in service of the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago.

The contract would provide a Digital Public Safety Communication System to advance the mission of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service to deliver effective and efficient services to the people of Trinidad and Tobago. This first class public safety technology would position the police service for absolute success and will result in the enhancement of the capability of the police service to provide comprehensive communications in the country. The technology is

state-of-the-art and will support all policing Initiatives now being implemented by the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service.

The technology-driven modernization programme would allow the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service communication system to migrate from an analog-based to a digital-based system, to become fully compatible and interoperable with the communications and IT configurations adopted for use by the Government in all protective services and to allow for the existing equipment, components and infrastructure to be used to the maximum extent possible. Most importantly, the system would only require incremental increases in maintenance costs over time.

The digital communications system would comprise a number of sub-systems including an interface with the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service records management system and a computer-aided dispatch system. This would allow for the monitoring, tracking and logging of selected vehicles, the provision of nearest vehicle to incident information allowing for more effective dispatching. Significant upgrades will improve substantially radio communications in Tobago.

In summary, the technology would permit greater flexibility for the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service as it seeks to interface and interconnect with other protective services systems in place thereby ensuring an optimal response from all first responders to public safety issues. The entire system will be in place in eighteen months, that is, June 2014.



Signing Time: Finance and the Economy Minister Larry Howai sign the agreement while Anthony Jordon, Regional Corporate Manager at Republic Bank Limited and Mrs. Jennifer Boucaud- Blake, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of National Security looks on; also present at the signing was Mr. Mervyn Richardson, Deputy Commissioner of Police.

End

Regards,

Dominic Hinds
Communications Specialist
Ministry of Finance and the Economy