

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

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For Immediate Release

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## Government Signs Guarantee in respect of WASA's TT\$1.3 Billion Bond

*Port of Spain* – Acting Minister of Finance, Senator the Honourable Vasant Bharath on behalf of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, signed a Government Guarantee in respect of the TT\$1.3 billion dollar bond, issued by the Water and Sewage Authority (WASA) on Monday 28 March, 2011. The Bond issuance, which takes advantage of the local capital market, is being underwritten by Citicorp Merchant Bank Limited.

The proceeds of the bond will be utilized to fund the WASA component of the One-Year Action Agenda of the Ministry of Public Utilities which includes infrastructural development water projects. The Minister of Public Utilities, Senator the Honorable Emmanuel George, who welcomed the signing of the Guarantee at this time, indicated that it will assist the Ministry in achieving its goal of providing water, at least 2 times per week, to homes that currently do not receive pipe-born water.

Along with representing attorneys, other signatories included Mr. Denis Evans, Managing Director of Citi Group, the Trustee - Ms. Sharon Christopher, Deputy Chief Executive Officer of First Citizens and the Paying Agent and Registrar – Ms. Aliyah Jaggassar of RBTT Trust Limited.

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From left: Aliyah Jaggassar -RBTT Trust Limited, Minister Emmanuel George - Minister of Public Utilities, Ms. Sharon Christopher- First Citizens, Mrs. Alison Lewis-Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Minister Vasant Bharath- Ag. Minister of Finance and Minister of Food Production, Land and Marine Resources, Mr. Dennis Evans- Managing Director and Country Corporate Officer of Citibank (T&T) Ltd, Mr. Ganga Singh - CEO WASA, Mrs. Karen Darbassie - Director, Citicorp Merchant Bank.

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