



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

**MINISTRY OF FINANCE**  
**Communications Unit**

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**Media Release**

**For Immediate Release**

**IDB \$8.2 billion Financing Window for Trinidad and Tobago**

**Port of Spain:** Acting Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Winston Dookeran announced that the Inter American Development Bank (IDB) has made a commitment to provide a window of financing for Trinidad and Tobago's development needs of US\$1.3 billion (TT\$8.2 billion) over the next three to five years. This financing will be released in tranches with the first tranche of US\$140 million (TT\$882 million) in December 2010 to assist in financing the Public Sector Investment programme. In 2011, additional financing amounting to US\$430 million (TT\$2.7 billion) could be accessed for additional projects and the remainder over the period to 2015. Both the US\$140 million and US\$430 million loan are subject to approval of the IDB board on December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010.

Minister Dookeran said "the terms of the financing as of now in respect to the US\$140 million in December and the 2011 loan of US\$430 million in 2011 is that we are borrowing the money for a 25 year repayment at an interest rate of 1.2 percent." Robert Vellutini IDB Vice President for Countries gave a breakdown of how the US\$430 million loan is allocated: water treatment – US\$26 million (TT163 million), energy/climate change programme –US\$70 million (TT\$441 million), Transport –US\$300 million (\$1.8 billion) and social protection –US30 million (TT\$189 million).

The transportation project will deal with the rehabilitation and expansion of the main roads network which Vellutini said would " have a direct impact on the construction business and therefore have a direct impact on employment and income generation" The money for social protection will make the social protection programmes more targeted and cost effective.

The IDB indicated its willingness to provide this financing was based on the sound macroeconomic management of Trinidad and Tobago and the policies for good governance proposed by the government.

**The End**