



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
MINISTRY OF FINANCE

For immediate release

Friday 19th February, 2021

MEDIA RELEASE

**GUARDIAN MEDIA PUBLISHES ERRONEOUS ARTICLE ON PETROTRIN
REFINERY SALE**

The Minister of Finance, Honourable Colm Imbert M.P. is forced to yet again correct a media inaccuracy from the *Trinidad Guardian*.

In today's (19th February, 2021) article entitled "Cabinet rejects Patriotic's offer again", senior, veteran journalist Gail Alexander misquotes the Minister in her article when she wrote, "*In each of the two instances Government was required to finance options in the sum of US\$5 billion in the first option and US\$6 billion in the second.*"

The Minister was careful to say that the proposal by Patriotic would cost the Government **TT\$5 billion** for Option 1 and **TT\$6 billion** for Option 2, and NOT US\$5 billion or US\$6 billion.

Further, the Minister carefully stated the relevant US dollar figures first (e.g. US\$750 million) and then converted these figures into TT dollars.

The Minister remains nonplussed that a live press conference with recordings available for replay could be so grossly misquoted. Media needs to continue to strive for excellence and accuracy in reporting.

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