E - News Brief

Trinidad and Tobago Transparency Institute

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What We Have Been Doing

Launch of Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2016

On January 25, 2017, TTTI launched the CPI at the Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School of Business, Mt Hope. Nigel Romano, CEO and Managing Director of JMMB delivered an

outstanding keynote address entitled: Changing the with Transparency Perception begins us. International's Managing Director, Lucas Olo Fernandes joined via webcast and presented on the CPI Methodology while Dion Abdool presented the CPI Results which was followed by a lively and interactive panel discussion moderated by TTTI Director, Kamla Mungal. The theme "Changing the Perception" was discussed by the panel which comprised of the British High Commissioner, His Excellency Tim Stew; Marla Dukharan, Group Economist, Royal Bank of Canada;



Winston Rudder, former Permanent Secretary and former TTTI Chair, Dion Abdool presenting the CPI Results mer TTTI Director; and Dion Abdool, TTTI Chair. <u>Click here</u> to view newspaper articles from



L – R moderator Kamla Mungal, Dion Abdool, Winston Rudder, Marla Dukharan, and His Excellency Tim Stew



the CPI.



L – R: Martin Farrell, TTTl Vice-Chair; ElTl Nigel Chairman, Victor Hart and Reynold Cooper, Former Head of the Public Service

Nigel Romano, CEO and Managing Director of JMMB



Lucas Olo Fernandes, Tl's Internal Managing Director



Breakfast Workshop on Ethics in the Public Sector

TTTI in association with the Integrity Commission (IC) hosted a breakfast workshop for Permanent Secretaries and Heads of Departments on the issue of 'Transparency in Public Service Management' on January 26, 2017 at the International Waterfront Centre. Canadian High Commissioner, Her Excellency Carla Hogan Rufelds delivered the key note

address entitled 'The Role of Transparency in the Delivery of Public Services in Canada'.

This workshop formed part of TTTI's IMPACT initiative which seeks to chart a way forward for improving Trinidad and Tobago's public audit capabilities.

working sessions, In two successive participants were given an opportunity to discuss the broader question of ethics in the discuss the broader question of ethics in the delivery of public services as well as



General; Catherine Laban, Comptroller of Accounts, Dion Abdool, TTTI Chair.

examine in greater detail, ways to implement an ethics-based approach in the daily running of their respective organizations in order to effectively address some of the reporting and compliance problems identified by the Auditor General's 2015 report.



Working session one facilitated by Dr. Bishnu Ragoonath, Head of the Political Science Department at the UWI and former TTTI Director



Working session two facilitated by Rajiv Persad, Deputy Chairman of the IC

The discussions were facilitated by Rajiv Persad, Deputy Chairman of the IC and former TTTI Director Dr. Bishnu Ragoonath, Head of the Political Science Department at the UWI; both of whom provided guidance for the session with their in-depth knowledge of the subject matter.

Trinidad and Tobago a corrupt state?

Following the launch of the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI), TTTI was invited by Rennie Bishop, Programme Director of 107.7 FM to be interviewed on a segment entitled "Trinidad and Tobago a corrupt state?"

Susan Gordon, Secretary, TTTI and Victor Hart, Chair, Trinidad and Tobago Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (TTEITI) participated in the programme. Click here to view the interview which was held on Sunday January 29, 2017.



<u>Town Hall Meeting: Accountability, Inclusion and Domestic Violence</u>

TTTI in partnership with other CSOs hosted a Town Hall Meeting at Gulf View Community Centre, La Romaine on January 31. Presenters included Dr. Beverly Beckles, National Centre for Persons with Disabilities (NCPD); Natalie O'Brady, Trinidad and Tobago Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CADV); and Kendell Vincent, Trinidad and Tobago Youth Ambassadors.

This meeting, the second in the series, was one of the most successful Town Hall meetings to date. There were stimulating discussions, exceptional presentations and an excellent attendance. Video presentations will be shared with members shortly. The next Town Hall meeting will be held in Tobago.

Redesign of TTTI's Website

In December 2016, TTTI contracted a consultant to redesign and update our website. The new design will be user friendly, directing online traffic including sponsors/funders, members and the general public to a more comprehensive and informative website. The new design will feature current activities of the Institute as well as pertinent past information with the intention of reaching a wider audience. The website is expected to be completed by mid-February. Members are invited to view and share <u>TTTI's website</u>.

<u>Role of Parliament in Curbing Corruption</u>

On December 5, 2016. TTTI Chair, Dion Abdool met with Professor Fredrick Stapenhurst and Mr. Anthony Staddon, researchers from the McGill University's Faculty of Management, Laval University's Faculty of Political Science and the University of Westminster who received a grant from the British Academy to examine the role of Parliament in reducing corruption in the Caribbean as the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago was selected as one of the case studies. Researchers attached to the study entitled: *Role of Parliaments in Curbing Corruption* met with key stakeholders; including TTTI. Suggestions to the researchers included: training/orientation of MPs on their roles and responsibilities; improving the level and strength of Parliamentary oversight on existing Anti corruption institutions and the establishment of a single anti-corruption body reporting to Parliament.

Anti-Corruption Day 2016

On December 9, 2016, TTTI with the assistance of our youth membership (Transparency Youth), hosted an evening of performances in observance of United Nations Anti-Corruption Day. Sunity Maharaj, Managing Director of the Lloyd Best Institute of the West Indies delivered a keynote address entitled: *Moral Courage and Accountability.* Ms. Maharaj noted that it is always the young people in whom we entrust for change. It is the Youth who keeps the hope of change alive. She challenged persons to our force institutions to become accountable; while noting that change must start in the home which is the first institution.

TTTI is pleased to share the links to Sunity Maharaj's keynote address (<u>Click here</u>); the performance by Cecilia Salazar in the role of Gene Miles, the whistle-blower who denounced the gas station racket in the 1960s (<u>Click here</u>), remarks by Amílcar Sanatan (<u>Click here</u>) and ACD <u>Photos</u>.

Also following Anti-Corruption Day commemoration, on January 24, TTTI published an advertorial in the Express Newspaper on the Evening of Performances. <u>Click here</u> to view the article.