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## **REPORT ON ACTIVITIES FOR PERIOD DECEMBER 2017 – OCTOBER 2018**

(Prepared for the 19th AGM to be held on the 08th November, 2018)

### **1. Introduction**

This report summaries the activities of Trinidad and Tobago Transparency Institute (TTTI), the national chapter of Transparency International (TI), between its Eighteenth and Nineteenth Annual General Meetings. During the period reported TTTI's Board of Directors updated the Strategic Plan 2017 - 2020 titled "**Mandate of Hope**". Some of the activities have been completed while others are in progress and in accordance with the direction set by TI greater focus is being placed on Gender. The Strategic Plan is based on three pillars: **People & Partners, Prevention, Enforcement & Justice** and **Strong Movement**. All of which are designed to contribute to our Mission: *To stop corruption and promote transparency, accountability and integrity at all levels and across all sectors of our society.*

### **2. People and Partners**

TTTI seeks to adopt systemic and sustainable approaches in its activities. This includes building a reliable and active web of people and partners. In order to achieve this, the Institute performed activities to demand accountability and worked closely with partners, deepening existing alliances and forming new ones. In the course of the last year, TTTI has continued to partner with government, business and civil society in different projects.

#### **2.1 Civil Society Strengthening**

TTTI aspires to lead Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) of Trinidad and Tobago in the fight against corruption. Thus, the Institute considers other CSOs as partners and has a keen interest in strengthening them.

### **2.1.2 Collaboration with other CSOs**

Since the 18<sup>th</sup> AGM, TTTI has continued to deepen existing collaborations with other CSOs as well as to build new partnerships. TTTI continued to partner with other CSOs to host town hall meetings in various communities throughout Trinidad and Tobago. TTTI invited other CSOs to be part of a panel discussion on matters of public concern. Attendees were invited to air their views and concerns in the question and answer segment that followed the panel discussion. The aim of the meetings was to engage citizens in a debate about matters related to corruption.

### **2.1.3 Town Hall Meeting in Tobago**

TTTI in partnership with other Civil Society Organizations hosted a Town Hall Meeting at the Works Division Conference Room, Shaw Park, Tobago on Thursday, January 18. Presentations were delivered by Winford James, Political Analyst; Alana Wheeler, Counter Trafficking Unit; and Susan Sandiford, Tobago Institute of Literacy.

### **2.2.4 Ethics in the Workplace**

TTTI has now established a partnership with the OJT Office and was invited to deliver a series of presentations on *Unethical Behaviour in the Workplace* to over six hundred (600) of their trainees. Following the training, these trainees will be disbursed in several companies, Ministries and businesses throughout the country. TTTI Director, Ariane Moonsie presented on February 19, and TTTI Vice - Chair Martin Farrell presented on March 19.

### **2.1.5 TT CSO for Business: Building Capacity in Civil Society Organisations in Trinidad and Tobago**

TTTI currently participates in a capacity building programme hosted by the Arthur Lok Jack Global School of Business, Trinidad and Tobago Manufacturers Association and the Energy Chamber of Trinidad and Tobago. Funded by the European Union, the project has a six – eight month duration. The project which focuses on three areas (Leadership, Corporate Governance and Advocacy and Internationalization), aims to strengthen the capacity of national CSOs and improve their effectiveness to participate in the decision making and implementation of the



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national policies related to business and the economy. Vice – Chair, Martin Farrell and Programme Officer, Kernika Charles will represent TTTI during the training period.

## **2.2 Transparency and the Youth**

TTTI has continued to develop youth integrity in Trinidad and Tobago, which is based on the belief that outreach is crucial for creating a corruption free society for the nation’s youth.

### **2.2.2 Launch of the School Integrity Club Project**

Trinidad and Tobago Transparency Institute (TTTI) in collaboration with the Integrity Commission of Trinidad and Tobago and the National Parent Teacher Association (NPTA) launched integrity clubs in the six secondary schools and conducted a series of trainings and meetings with the principals, teachers and students. Two training sessions with the Integrity Ambassadors, one with the Integrity Champion teachers as well as a breakfast meeting with principals were held. The students received training on interview techniques, strategies for implementing Integrity Clubs, understanding integrity and corruption, public speaking, communication skills as well as an understanding of the global picture of corruption and its impact on the nation.

All these activities led to the official launch the School Integrity Club Project which was held on September 28, 2018 at the Yara Auditorium, Arthur Lok Jack Global School of Business, Mt. Hope. In delivering the keynote address, the Honourable Anthony Garcia, Minister of Education noted that the launch of the Integrity Clubs in schools not only puts another dimension to the Ministry’s offerings of inclusion, quality and access to our education system but also to the essential ingredients of integrity, honour and how we interact with each other.

In congratulating the teachers and students of the six schools as well as those with the vision and foresight to establish Integrity Clubs in schools, the Minister emphasized the need “to have foremost in everyone’s mind issues of integrity...be the exemplars, be the drivers of change by inculcating values of integrity among parents, teachers and friends.” Minister Garcia also stated that the Ministry of Education fully endorses and supports the School Integrity Club Project.

Mr. Nikoli Edwards, member of the Procurement Board of Trinidad and Tobago also delivered an outstanding and motivating address and explained that through the Integrity Clubs project,



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Trinidad and Tobago is provided with an opportunity to change the national landscape. Also addressing the launch was Trinidad and Tobago Transparency Institute's (TTTI) Chair, Mr. Dion Abdool; the Chairman of the Integrity Commission Justice Melville Baird (Ret); and the President of the National Parent Teacher-Association, Mrs. Raffiena Ali-Boodoosingh.

Mr. Abdool highlighted that TTTI understood that if we are to influence cultural change, change in behaviour, change in what is accepted as a norm we must start with our young and impressionable. Justice Baird stated that "when these values have been thoroughly ingrained in the mind of young students; when they grow up with these values uppermost in their mind; when 'integrity' becomes a word freighted with positive meaning and significance; when the word 'corruption' conjures up in their mind revulsion, disgust and contempt, then we would be well on our way to establishing that elusive society that is free from corruption and rich in morals and ethics."

Mrs. Ali-Boodoosingh in her address expressed hope that in the very near future Integrity Clubs will be implemented in all schools throughout Trinidad and Tobago. TTTI acknowledges that all these activities would not have been possible without our sponsors Dr. Marchelle Farrell-Watkinson, First Citizens and United Way Trinidad and Tobago.

### **2.3 Collaboration with Government Agencies and Courtesy Calls**

As TTTI understands corruption can touch all areas of society, the Institute has continued to collaborate and partner not only with other CSOs but also with government and business representatives.

#### **2.3.2 Meeting with US Embassy**

Following a request from the US Embassy, on January 19, TTTI Chair Dion Abdool met with the Embassy's Political/Economic Chief, Kyle Fonay to discuss matters pertaining to TTTI's work.

#### **2.3.3 Courtesy Call to the Canadian High Commissioner**

On August 6, 2018 Chair, Dion Abdool and Transparency International – Consultant, Ms. Alessandra Fontana paid a courtesy call to the Canadian High Commissioner, Her Excellency Carla Hogan Rufelds. At the meeting they discussed the IMPACT grant which is funded by

Global Canada Affairs, the work of TTTI and the collaboration between the Canadian High Commission and TTTI.

#### **2.3.4 Legal, Fiscal and Funding Framework**

TTTI Chair, Dion Abdool was invited to join the Legal, Fiscal and Funding Framework Working Group, which is led by United Way Trinidad and Tobago. The Working Group is responsible for taking forward three main recommendations:

1. The development of new legislation to govern the non -profit sector
2. Engagement of key stakeholder groups and the public at critical points in the drafting of the new legislation
3. Work with the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the evaluation of key Government programmes currently in place to support funding for CSOs.

### **3. Prevention, Enforcement and Justice**

Prevention, Enforcement and Justice is the second pillar of TTTI's Strategic Plan 2017-2020. It aims at the strengthening of anti-corruption laws, standards, policies, etc. and at pushing for public and private institutions to implement the highest transparency, accountability and integrity standards to promote good governance. TTTI's approach to this pillar is twofold: It promotes prevention of corruption and enforcement of anti-corruption standards and demands justice to end impunity.

#### **3.1 Attain full operationalization of Public Procurement and Disposal of Property Act**

Through the medium of the Public Sector and Civil Society Group (PSCSG), of which TTTI is a founding and active member, the Institute continues to strive to ensure Integrity, Accountability and Transparency in the public procurement process.



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The Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Property Act 2015, was assented to on January 14, 2015. It aims to provide for public procurement and for the retention and disposal of public property in accordance with the principles of good governance, namely; accountability, integrity, transparency, and value for money and to promote local industry development, sustainable procurement and sustainable development. It was partially proclaimed by way of Legal Notice 150 of 2015 to enable the establishment of the Office of Procurement Regulation (OPR), the appointment of Members of the Board, the performance of certain key functions of the OPR, and the drafting of Regulations.

On 12 January 2018, pursuant to Section 10 of the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Property Act 2015, President Anthony Carmona appointed the Procurement Regulator and Chairman of the Procurement Board and ten members as follows:

Moonilal Lalchan - Procurement Regulator and Chairman

James Chang-Kit - Deputy Chairman

David Charlerie - Member

Frederick Bowen - Member

Dr Anthony Lamb - Member

Robin Otway - Member

Herdis Lee Chee - Member

Lara Quentrall-Thomas - Member

Sandra Sammy - Member

Nadine Bushell - Member

Nikoli Edwards - Member

The PSCSG has met with the Regulator and the Board twice, on 25 July 2018 and on 25 October 2018.

In discussions at the first meeting the PSCSG identified what it considered to be the major steps to be taken for full proclamation of the Act including the development of the Regulations to go to

Parliament, the establishment of a consultative process before their submission to Parliament, development of guidelines and handbooks for State Owned Enterprises and preparations for the repeal of the Central Tenders Board Act Section 64. Also discussed were the role of the extractive industries in the procurement process, the use of the Committees to be established by the OPR, it being suggested that one should deal exclusively with the extractive industries, training of the public and the establishment of programmes at the University.

At the second meeting the Chair of the PSCSG shared concerns regarding the terms of reference of the consultant funded and sourced by the IADB to prepare the Regulations and identified certain provisions which needed to be further developed and others which needed to be included in the draft Procurement Regulations.

As part of the process of drafting the procurement regulations the OPR hosted a series of Stakeholder Engagement and Consultation Workshops from 26 to 28 September 2018 to bring together a wide cross section of stakeholders to review the Draft Handbook and Guidelines and the development of the Regulations to support the Act. Ms. Pastora Brown, Team Lead Procurement Policy Development provided a brief review of the Draft Handbook, Ms. Natika Prince, Team Lead, Procurement Capacity Development, presented the Draft Guidelines and the Consultant Mr. Peter Trepte spoke on the Harmonization of the Act/Regulations.

TTTI will continue to work within the PSCSG to ensure effective implementation of the Act.

### **3.2 Trinidad and Tobago Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (TTEITI)**

Trinidad and Tobago joined the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) on 1 March 2011 and gained Compliant Country status, the highest level of membership, on 23 January 2015. T&T became one of 31 of the 51 natural resource rich EITI member-countries to have achieved Compliant Country status. EITI implementation in Trinidad and Tobago is overseen by a Cabinet appointed Multi-Stakeholder Group Steering Committee (MSGSC) launched on 8 December 2010 comprising six government members, six extractive companies



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members, six civil society members and an independent chair-person. The Trinidad and Tobago Transparency Institute (TTTI) was among the first civil society members appointed and has since been playing a key role on the MSGSC.

In the period under review TTTI, through its membership of the MSGSC, continued its effective support of TTEITI's oversight role in EITI implementation nationally. TTTI's representatives on the MSGSC have been Chair Dion Abdool with Deputy Chair Martin Farrell, as his Alternate. On 11 May 2018, Trinidad and Tobago's fifth EITI Report covering fiscal year 2016 was published ([www.tteiti.org.tt](http://www.tteiti.org.tt)). Work has begun on the preparation of EITI Report 2017 for publication in early 2019.

The audited data in the five EITI Reports published to date has shown minimum discrepancies between revenues paid by companies to government and government's declared receipts. Therefore, TTEITI MSGSC and TTTI have begun partnering on initiatives that go beyond revenue transparency to embrace other aspects of transparency and accountability in the extractive sectors with funding from the British High Commission's Port of Spain Office. These initiatives will support the public commitment made on 12 May 2016 by Prime Minister Keith Rowley to establish a national Beneficial Ownership Registry in Trinidad and Tobago. In order to guide government policy on implementing mandatory national beneficial ownership disclosure, a Beneficial Ownership Study has been completed and a second study on options for the setting up of the Beneficial Ownership Registry is nearing completion. These results should lead to the establishment in the near future of a national registry to disclose ownership details of the companies and politically exposed persons involved in the extraction of the country's oil, gas and mining natural resources.

The current TTEITI MSGSC and TTTI change in direction of initiatives is aimed at expanding transparency and accountability in the extractive sectors so as to reduce corruption and tax avoidance and to increase the public's awareness of who is behind the exploitation of the country's natural resources. An expected outcome is increased revenue collection by the State.

### **3.3 Advocacy and Legal Advice Centre (ALAC)**

The Advocacy and Legal Advice Centre (ALAC) provides an avenue for victims and witnesses of corruption (“clients”) to obtain redress by providing free legal advice and assistance. This is accomplished through partnerships with the Hugh Wooding Law School (HWLS) and various anti-corruption agencies and institutions. Through its partnership with HWLS, TTTI has established a specialist legal aid clinic whereby legal interns can gain experience in identifying issues, solutions and legal weaknesses related to corruption. ALAC gathers analytical data on corruption which will assist in future legal reform. Since the milestone achievement of launching the ALAC in December 2013, TTTI has continued to fortify the operations of this institution.

During the last year, TTTI welcomed Ms. Athea Jones, Ms. Tamika Rogers, Ms. Crystal De Four and Mr. Martie Garnes, who are all from the Hugh Wooding Law School. TTTI also contracted Ms. Bernadine Henry as Legal Officer. ALAC is currently addressing over eighty (80) files, twelve percent (12%) of the matters are related to the misuse of public position; twenty percent (20%) involves lack of transparency; while eleven percent (11%) involves fraud/false accounting.

### **3.4 Advocacy and Legal Advice Centre (ALAC) Meeting in Guatemala**

TTTI Chair, Dion Abdool attended an ALAC meeting in Guatemala from May 15 – 17. The intense workshop highlighted some differences and similarities in the legal, political systems of Latin America and the Caribbean while attendees reviewed case studies on strategic litigation. An important take from the sessions was Guatemala’s implementation of “social audits” by communities to hold their regional administrations accountable. This is an important initiative and one which TTTI will explore in the near future. While in Guatemala, Mr. Abdool also attended two Town Hall meetings, one of which featured Guatemala’s Public Minister and the other TI’s Regional Advisor. The work of ALACs, CSO, social media etc. and the need for accountability of municipal and federal government to improve citizen’s lives were also highlighted.

### **3.4 Impact Public Sector Steering Committee**

At this time, TTTI is seeking to begin phase two of the Public Sector Transparency Project which focuses on assisting government Ministries in implementing the recommendations of the Auditor General's report 2015. The aim of this project is to increase accountability, transparency and integrity in the public sector. Funded by Global Affairs Canada, this project is part of a TI initiative entitled IMPACT (Integrity, Mobilisation, Participation, Accountability and Transparency).

Accordingly, TTTI wrote to The Honourable Bridgid Annisette-George, Speaker of the House requesting information on the five agencies which have been selected. We await the Honourable Annisette-George's feedback to commence work in the ministries.

### **3.5 Business Integrity Country Agenda (BICA)**

Since the launch of the Business Integrity Country Agenda (BICA) project on September 11th 2017, TTTI contracted the Arthur Lok Jack Global School of Business to lead the research team and recruited three (3) Research Assistants to support the execution of the Project. The successful candidates were Karina Wharton, Gina Marajh and Renee Trumpet.

TTTI also appointed a National Advisory Group (NAG) to support and guide the research team. Members of the NAG includes: Dr. Kamla Mungal, Chair; Ms. Angelique Parisot-Potter – Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce (TTCIC) and Massy Group; Ms. Tenille Harriott-Lewis - Aegis Business Solutions Limited; Ms. Terry Dale Ince - Organizational Development Consultant ; Mr. Jason Stedman - The Buzz Limited; Mr. Deryck Murray - Governance Consultant; Mr. Behzad Hassanali - Trinidad and Tobago Energy Chamber; Mr. Ramlogan Roopnarinesingh - Trinidad and Tobago Contractors Association; Ms. Jacqueline Burgess - NGO Consultant and Ms. Lindi Ballah-Tull - First Citizens.

The research team conducted a series of interviews and desk research to complete the draft BICA report which was critically examined by the National Advisory Group (NAG) via a Workshop held on 11 September, 2018 at the Arthur Lok Jack Global School of Business. Additionally, based on guidelines from Transparency International (TI), TTTI appointed an External Reviewer who reviewed the final draft of the BICA Assessment Report. The BICA report was completed and is being reviewed by Transparency International and will be published soon.

TTTI envisages that the BICA Assessment Report will become an important reference point for fighting corruption in business practices in Trinidad and Tobago by assessing the status of key thematic areas which enable the business sector to act with integrity.

In a country with depleting resources, it is important for Trinidad and Tobago to improve the way in which business is conducted. Thus the overall goal of BICA is to reduce corruption through improved transparency, integrity and accountability in business practices.

### **3.6 Investigative Journalism Award**

As TTTI aims to establish an Investigative Journalism Award, we contacted Transparency International's Bangladesh chapter who are successful in executing an investigative journalism award for several years. Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) provided a framework for local awards and expressed willingness to assist TTTI as we develop our own award. In the coming weeks, we will be meeting with the Media Association of Trinidad and Tobago (MATT), who we will work in conjunction with to establish the award.

### **3.7 FCB IPO and CLICO Investigation**

In September, TTTI wrote to the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) for a status on these two long outstanding matters. Due to the lack of feedback from the office of the DPP the Board has decided to issue a public statement on these matters.

#### **4. Strong Movement**

In order to have an impact TTTI needs to take the lead and create a Strong Movement. Thus, it is committed to building expertise and tenacity within the anti-corruption movement in Trinidad and Tobago and the wider region. That entails knowledge sharing and leading by example as well as enhancing the Institute's strategic presence so as to ensure the relevance of the movement in strategic locations and situations.

##### **4.1 Safety Focal Point Training Co-creation Workshop**

TTTI Director, Kamla Mungal participated in a five day training workshop on safety and security from March 5 – 9 in Maputo, Mozambique. The objective of the workshop was to train a network of Safety Focal Points/persons (SFP) in local TI Chapters who can be a reference point and a resource for colleagues on issue related to safety and security.

##### **4.2 Safety Focal Point Training**

On May 2 - 4, Transparency International (TI) invited TTTI to participate in a Safety Focal Point training. The aim of the training was to assess the safety and security needs of TI chapters in Latin America, the Caribbean and Sub-Saharan Africa. At the intense three day training, chapter representatives spent time developing a systematic and collective approach to Chapter security, drafting security policies, crafting incident reporting logs, and practiced effective tools to deal with threats and intimidation. TI's main purpose for the training was to assist chapters in maintaining a secure environment for anti-corruption activities. Programme Officer, Kernika Charles represented TTTI at this training which was held in Berlin.

##### **4.3 Ethics Committee**

An Ethics committee comprised of TTTI foundation members Messrs. Reginald Dumas (Chair) and Frank Clarke (Member) has been established with the mandate of ensuring that TTTI conducts its activities according to high ethical standards. Members are invited to bring any concerns they might have in that regard to the Committee.

#### **4.4 UN Anti-Corruption Day**

TTTI has continued to observe International Anti-Corruption Day, December 9 as an opportunity to attract public attention to issues of corruption.

#### **4.5 Anti-Corruption Conference 2019 (ACC 2019)**

To celebrate TTTI's 20th year anniversary, the Institute will host an Anti-Corruption Conference (ACC) and Cocktail Reception in early 2019 at the Hilton Trinidad and Conference Centre. The Conference, with a theme Crackdown on Corruption – Facing the Reality, will feature dynamic international and regional speakers as well as honour TTTI's former Chairs.

#### **4.6 Launch of TI's Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2017 – February 22, 2018**

The 2017 Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) was launched on February 22. An outstanding keynote address was delivered by Mrs. Helen Drayton. Following the presentations, Dr. Thackwray Driver; Mr. Nikoli Edwards; His Excellency Tim Stew and Mr. Dion Abdool participated in a panel discussion entitled 'Solving the corruption dilemma! The address of Mrs. Drayton and His Excellency Tim Stew can be found on TTTI's YouTube channel.

#### **4.7 Special General Meeting – Transparency and Accountability in the Energy Sector**

On March 22, TTTI hosted its Special General Meeting. Mr. Victor Hart, former Chair of TTTI and current Chairman of the Steering Committee of the Trinidad and Tobago Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (TTEITI) and Director, EITI International Board, delivered the feature address entitled: Transparency and Accountability in the Energy Sector. A copy of Mr. Hart's presentation can be found on TTTI's website.

#### **4.8 Application for Charitable Status**

Pursuant to the matter of TTTI obtaining Charitable Status for tax purposes, TTTI Chair, Dion Abdool, Vice Chair - Martin Farrell and Treasurer - Melissa Cobham met with officials from the Board of Inland Revenue (BIR) office.

In response to clarification sought by the BIR as to whether TTTI is *associated* with the Government of Trinidad and Tobago or whether it *works* with the Government for policy review and institutional reform, a Special General Meeting (SGM) was convened on 7 June 2018 to amend Article 3.2 of the Bye-Laws. TTTI members approved the amendment and Article 3.2 now reads:

3.2 For the attainment of its purpose the Company shall inter-alia work with Transparency International organs, other national chapters, government, the public sector, business, labour and civil society organisations to seek to achieve institutional reform and heightened public awareness, to provide general information relating to the nature and consequences of corruption in international and local business transactions and to formulate strategies to combat corruption and to promote transparency.

TTTI formerly notified the Board of Inland Revenue that the members approved amendment and Article 3.2. The Board of Inland Revenue then advised by letter dated 29 May 2018, received on 26 June 2018, that in order to be granted full charitable status the Articles of Incorporation of TTTI must include a provision for a Dissolution Clause in accordance with section 316 (2) of the Companies Act Ch. 81:01. This clause should state as follows:

“Upon dissolution, the company shall, after satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, give or transfer any remaining property to such other non-profit company enjoying a similar exemption, as the members may, with the approval of the Board of Inland Revenue, determine.”

It was accordingly proposed at another Special General Meeting, Thursday 2 August 2018 to amend the Articles of Incorporation by the insertion of a new Article 7 to read as follows:

#### 7. DISSOLUTION CLAUSE

Upon dissolution, the company shall, after satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, give or transfer any remaining property to such other non-profit company enjoying a similar exemption, as the members may, with the approval of the Board of Inland Revenue, determine.

The previous Article 7 Other provisions, if any, e.g. will become Article 8.

These amendments were approved by TTTI members at the SGM. The Resolution and supporting documents were filed and TTTI is presently awaiting feedback from the office of the BIR.

#### **4.8 Annual Membership Meetings**

##### **4.8.1 Annual Membership Meeting (AMM) and International Anti-Corruption Conference (IACC) 2018**

The AMM for 2018 was held in Copenhagen, Denmark from October 19 - 21. TTTI's Chair, Dion Abdool represented TTTI at the AMM and was joined by Director, Jason Stedman at the International Anti-Corruption Conference (IACC) which was also held in Copenhagen from October 22 – 24.

##### **4.9 Visit from Transparency International**

From August 4 – 7, Transparency International – Consultant, Ms. Alessandra Fontana, visited TTTI to conduct the midterm evaluation on the “IMPACT” grant. The purpose of the evaluation was to provide an external and independent review that assesses the performance and achievements of the grant; identify weaknesses and strengths of the grant; generate lessons learned and good practices from the grant's work; provide an objective assessment of the achievements as well as provide clear and forward-looking recommendations.

In order to respond to these objectives, Ms. Fontana had a series of lengthy interviews with TTTI Directors and staff, ALAC clients and NGO partners.

##### **4.10 Caribbean Outreach**

Transparency International (TI) Caribbean chapters, participated in a regional meeting from June 27 - 28 in Jamaica. At the meeting concrete objectives, activities and a short and mid-term

plan were formulated. Caribbean chapters will continue to work towards encouraging an anti-corruption culture by strengthening legislation and enforcement, advocacy and public awareness through a collaborative network. Director Ariane Moonsie represented TTTI at this meeting.

#### **4.11 Guyana Transparency Institute**

TTTI Chair Dion Abdool, was invited by Guyana Transparency Institute (TI Guyana) to deliver the key note address at their Annual Fund Raising Dinner of March 16, 2018.

#### **4.12 Caribbean Regional Network**

Caribbean chapters have been working with Transparency International's Secretariat (TI-S) and Regional Coordinators to develop a concept note for the formal establishment of the Caribbean Regional Network. The official approval of TI is expected shortly. TI has also completed a survey of Anti-Corruption legislation in the Caribbean and the results of this survey will be presented at our Anti-Corruption Conference in December.

#### **4.13 TTTI's membership**

TTTI currently has one hundred and eighty-nine (189) Individual members and thirty-one (30) Corporate members.

### **5. Increase TTTI's influence as the leading anti-corruption CSO**

#### **5.1 Online presence**

TTTI continues to engage Aisha Williams to update our website. The new design which was completed in early 2017 features current activities of the Institute as well as pertinent past information with the intention of reaching a wider audience.



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## **5.2**    Media

Events organized and hosted by TTTI have regularly been covered by all major news outlets in Trinidad and Tobago. Additionally, representatives of the Institute have been invited to appear on various radio and television programmes to talk about issues related to corruption and anti-corruption work on several occasions.

TTTI's Town Hall Meetings and various project launches have also been reported by several media outlets. TTTI also continued to engage the public by treating with issues relating to corruption, transparency, ethics and integrity in the local media.

## **6. Secretariat**

### **6.1**    Grants and Donations

TTTI has to rely on support from all sectors of society in order to be able to conduct its work. Apart from moral support and volunteer work, material and monetary contributions to TTTI's projects are critical for its success. Thus, the continued support by businesses from Trinidad and Tobago is important for TTTI to achieve its mission.

In October 2017, TTTI received the final instalment of the three year sponsorship from First Citizens. In December 2017, TTTI, by partnering with the TTEITI, received funding from the British High Commission which aided in our overall activities and overheads.

The TI IMPACT grant continues to be our main source of funding which enables us to continue our work in the Public Sector, the Business Integrity Country Agenda (BICA), community outreach Town hall meetings and the Advocacy and Legal Advice Centre (ALAC).

TTTI wishes to thank all sponsors for their contributions which ensure the fight for good governance and the elimination of corruption.

## **6.2**    Staffing

Bernadine Henry was contracted as Legal Officer while Karina Wharton, Gina Marajh and Renee Trumpet were recruited as Research Assistants for the Business Integrity Country Agenda (BICA) Project. Ms. Tabea Pottiez who joined TTTI to work on the Pan Caribbean Transparency Initiative internship which was funded by Carlo Schmid Programme ended in February 2018.

Cindy Paul-Seecharan, Administrative Officer and Kernika Charles, Programme Officer continue to serve the Institute.

## **6.3**    Board of Directors

Following the Eighteenth Annual General Meeting the Board of Directors remains as follows:

Dion Abdool - Chair

Martin Farrell - Vice Chair

Susan Gordon - Secretary

Melissa Cobham - Treasurer

Fern Narcis-Scope - Director

Ariane Moonsie - Director

Kamla Mungal - Director

Jason Stedman - Director

The Board of Directors who were elected at the Seventeenth Annual General Meeting on 15 September 2016, will hold office until the close of the Twentieth Annual General Meeting in 2019.

## **7.**    Conclusion

This year TTTI celebrates its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary as the leading Anti-corruption organization in Trinidad and Tobago. Formed by citizens concerned about the impact of corruption on our



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country, TTTI continues to lobby for a society free of corruption. After almost two decades the Institute remains true to its roots.

Despite challenges, we continue to make a significant contribution by developing positions, programmes and initiatives pertinent to combatting corruption forces and trends in Trinidad and Tobago. TTTI continues to enjoy the respect of a wide cross section of the national community which looks forward with great interest to our contribution on various issues. Moving forward, we will continue to enhance our capacity to better pursue our aims and objectives of reducing corruption in Trinidad and Tobago through the promotion of good governance in both the public and private sectors. We encourage greater involvement (especially through active participation) from members in the development of programmes pertinent to the issues confronting our society. With such support, we are confident that TTTI will continue to represent a force for positive change in Trinidad and Tobago.