GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
MINISTRY OF FINANCE

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MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES SIGN LANDMARK MULTILATERAL MOU TO COMBAT CROSS-BORDER ILLICIT FINANCIAL FLOWS PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO





Left to Right: Mr Nigel Stoddard, Director, Financial Intelligence Unit of Trinidad and Tobago (FIUTT), Mr Allister Guevarro, Commissioner of Police, Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS), Mr Riad Juman, Comptroller, Customs and Excise Division (CED), Mr Gewan Harricoo, Chief Immigration Officer (Ag.), Immigration Division

Port of Spain: On October 16th 2026, key financial intelligence, border control and law enforcement authorities officially signed a revised Multilateral Memorandum of Understanding (MMOU) to strengthen national co-operation and co-ordination in detecting, interdicting, and investigating illicit cross-border movements of cash and Bearer Negotiable Instruments (BNIs).

The agreement was executed at the Police Administration Building in Port of Spain by representatives of all four participating state entities:

- **Mr Nigel Stoddard**, Director, Financial Intelligence Unit of Trinidad and Tobago (FIUTT)
- **Mr Allister Guevarro**, Commissioner of Police, Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS)
- **Mr Riad Juman,** Comptroller, Customs and Excise Division (CED)
- **Mr Gewan Harricoo**, Chief Immigration Officer (Ag.), Immigration Division

This multilateral agreement repeals and replaces the previous 2017 Multilateral Memorandum of Understanding to align national Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Financing of Terrorism financial crime operations with an updated legal framework, including the Counter-Proliferation Financing Act, 2025 and international standards. The arrangement specifically reinforces Trinidad and Tobago's compliance with Recommendation 32 of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), which calls for adequate multi-agency coordination to stop criminals and terrorists from financing illicit activities via physical cross-border currency transportation.

The MMOU establishes operational protocols targeting "Cross-Border Threshold BNI and Cash" entering, exiting, or transiting through Trinidad and Tobago. Under the framework, interdictions may occur based on reasonable suspicion of money laundering, terrorism financing, or proliferation financing, regardless of whether the funds were declared to Customs officials.

Key operational components of the MMOU include:

1. **Joint Pre-Interdiction Risk Assessment:** Monthly collaborative evaluations analysing travel routes, modes of transport, passenger data (PNRs/ARSs), high-risk jurisdictions, and declaration trends.
2. **Red Flag Indicators & Intelligence Sharing:** Application of standard red flags across passengers, mail, cargo, and transport modes alongside the sharing of typologies and case studies.
3. **Post-Interdiction Support:** Continuous investigative and operational cooperation through asset forfeiture, civil/administrative proceedings, and criminal prosecutions under the Customs Act, Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA), Anti-Terrorism Act (ATA), and Counter-Proliferation Financing Act (CPFA).

While strengthening enforcement capability against criminal networks, the participating Competent Authorities noted that measures under the MMOU will be applied so as to avoid unnecessary disruption or restriction to legitimate international commercial trade, capital flows, and payment transactions.

Prepared by
Financial Intelligence Unit of Trinidad and Tobago