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Central Bank Engages AMCHAM TT in Continued Stakeholder Conversations

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad. August 4, 2025—The Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago hosted a meeting with representatives of the American Chamber of Commerce of Trinidad and Tobago (AMCHAM T&T) today August 4, 2025, as part of a series of key stakeholder engagements that began one month following Governor Larry Howai's appointment in June 2025.

Governor Howai, accompanied by members of the Bank's management team, indicated that the purpose of the meeting is to discuss the circumstances facing the economy and to proactively collaborate on solutions to address the challenges facing us at this time. The Governor acknowledged that AMCHAM T&T plays a key role in enhancing business competitiveness, safeguarding investor confidence and promoting sustainable development and as such, they are a major stakeholder with potential to influence positive change.

The key areas of discussion included the management of and access to foreign exchange, repatriation earnings, the implications of VAT returns, expanding export led growth, public/private partnerships, diversification, and the expansion of fintechs especially as it relates to improving the ease of doing business.

AMCHAM T&T expressed appreciation for the strong signal of collaboration through this forum, which provided them with an opportunity for direct communication with the Governor and the Central Bank in a setting that allowed for transparent and candid dialogue on matters affecting a wide spectrum of businesses operating in a volatile trade market. They specifically engaged the Governor on his views as to what they can do to assist in addressing the existing challenges and "in turning things around". The Governor urged AMCHAM T&T to engage their membership on the challenges being faced to ensure that there was an understanding by them of the issues involved, and the need for them to identify specific export driven initiatives to assist with the diversification of the economy.

"The Central Bank will continue to deepen its relationship with AMCHAM T&T with a view to finding creative solutions to make ourselves globally competitive." Governor Howai expressed "confidence in the ability and talent of our people and proven track record in overcoming obstacles noting that strategic engagements such as this one can only redound to the benefit of our country and its citizens".

Representing AMCHAM T&T were Anna Henderson (President), Nirad Tewarie, Giselle Thompson, James McLetchie, Stuart Franco, Frances Bain-Cumberbatch, Anderson Basdeo.

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Photos: Central Bank Governor and members of Management in discussion with representatives of AMCHAM T&T at a meeting held on August 4, 2025.

Photo 1 Photo 2