



## **MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

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*Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago*

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

**PORT OF SPAIN: 2<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY, 2012**

### **MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS ATTENDS THE II CARICOM-CHILE JOINT COMMISSION**

***3<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY – 4<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2012 – SANTIAGO, CHILE***

Dr. the Honourable Surujrattan Rambachan, Minister of Foreign Affairs, is representing Trinidad and Tobago at the II CARICOM-CHILE Joint Commission, which will be held from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2012 in Santiago, Chile.

This is the second Joint Commission to be held since the formalisation of relations between the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the Republic of Chile in May of 1996 through the establishment of the Standing Joint Commission on Consultation, Cooperation and Coordination, and the signing of an Agreement on scientific and Technical Cooperation.

In the years following the establishment of this relationship, the Republic of Chile has provided the Region with technical assistance in a variety of areas crucial to the development and survival of the region, ranging from Spanish Language training to trade negotiations and the fight against HIV/AIDS.

The proposed areas of technical cooperation for discussion are inter alia:

- Renewable Energy (with an emphasis on biomass, wind and solar);
- Agriculture and Fisheries (with emphasis on sanitary and phyto-sanitary measures);
- Education and Training (including linkages between universities, academic exchanges, technical seminars, scholarships for training at Chilean universities);
- Health;

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**- 2 -**

- Science, Technology and Innovation;
- Small and Medium-size Enterprises (with emphasis on small and micro-business development and investment promotion and facilitation);
- Youth;
- Security (including training);
- Trade (with emphasis on customs workshops on rules of origin, customs procedures, sanitary and phyto-sanitary issues, services and government procurement); and
- Language training.

In the absence of Minister Rambachan, Dr. the Honourable Roodal Moonilal will act in the position of Minister of Foreign Affairs and Communications.

**Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Communications**