



Public Hearing Summary

Wednesday June 8, 2016

Inquiry Subject:

A discussion with the Auditor General on the Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Public Accounts of Trinidad and Tobago for the financial year ended 30th September, 2015.

Committee Members:

The following Committee Members were present for the meeting:

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| • Dr. Bhoendradatt Tewarie | - | Chairman |
| • Mr. Rodger Samuel | - | Vice-Chairman |
| • Dr. Dhanayshar Mahabir | - | Member |
| • Ms. Marlene Mc Donald | - | Member |
| • Mr. Randall Mitchell | - | Member |
| • Mrs. Paula Gopee-Scoon | - | Member |
| • Mrs. Ayanna Webster-Roy | - | Member |

Witnesses who appeared:

Auditor General's Department (AGD)

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| • Mr. Majeed Ali | - | Auditor General |
| • Ms. Gaitrie Maharaj | - | Assistant Auditor General |
| • Ms. Gale Serville | - | Audit Executive II |
| • Ms. Kumari Rampaul | - | Audit Senior (Ag.) |
| • Ms. Nicole Cockburn | - | Legal Officer |
| • Mr. Brian Caesar | - | Audit Executive II (Ag.) |

Key Issues Discussed:

- The initiatives to strengthen the internal audit function across Ministries and Department;
- The AGD being prohibited from accessing revenue documents from the Inland Revenue Division and the amendment of Section 4 of the Income Tax Act;
- The recommendations put forward by the AGD with regard to the access to revenue documents from the Inland Revenue Division;
- The recommendations for the timely submission of documents to the AGD and the Office of the Parliament;
- The penalties for the non-submission of documents;
- The training of staff at Ministries and Departments in financial regulations, succession planning and accounting;
- The lack of staff within the AGD;
- The recommendations for the Public Accounts Committee to assist the AGD in performing its duties and functions;
- The status of the Integrated Financial Management Information System (IFMIS);
- The Status of the overdraft on the Exchequer Account;
- The explanation of the term “incorrect classification of expenditure”;
- The non-adherence to management letters sent by the AGD;
- The recommendations for the non-submission of lease agreements;
- The status of the arrears for taxes on income and profit;
- The status of overpayments at Ministries and Departments and the mechanisms in place for the recovery of overpayments;
- The recommendations for the submission of pension and leave records for auditing in a timely manner;
- The process for the auditing of Overseas Missions;

View the Hearing:

The hearing can be viewed on our YouTube page via the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=83s9PAL9aCo>

Next Meeting:

The next Public Hearing of the Committee will be held on Wednesday June 22, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. At that meeting the Committee intends to examine the issues raised in the Report of the Auditor General on the Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the Financial Year 2015 with regard to the Ministry of Finance.

PAC Secretariat
June 08, 2016