



**National Statement, delivered by Mr. Afaq Ahmad, Counsellor, during the 3<sup>rd</sup>UPR  
Review of Trinidad and Tobago**

**39<sup>th</sup> UPR Session**

**09 November 2021**

**Madam President,**

We thank the delegation of Trinidad and Tobago for presenting its 3<sup>rd</sup> UPR report and commend its cooperation with the UPR mechanism.

Acknowledging the gravity of COVID related socio-economic challenges, we applaud Trinidad and Tobago's efforts to strengthen social protection system and protecting the most vulnerable segment of the society.

We welcome the National Development Strategy and look forward to effective implementation of key identified priority areas including related to environment, health, education, housing, rural development, youth and social sector.

Strengthening of legislative framework to improve justice system, combating domestic violence and the adoption of Policy on Gender and Development are positive developments.

We recommend Trinidad and Tobago to:

1. Sustain efforts to further strengthen the social protection network
2. Continue with efforts to promote gender parity and enhance women participation in political, economic and social spheres.

I thank you.