



**GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND ENERGY AFFAIRS**

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MEDIA RELEASE

T&T to help Guyana find Oil and Gas after signing Energy Cooperation MOU

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO'S MINISTER OF ENERGY AND ENERGY AFFAIRS, SENATOR THE HONOURABLE KEVIN C. RAMNARINE, AND GUYANA'S MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT, THE HONOURABLE ROBERT PERSAUD, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding between both countries that seeks to promote greater cooperation in energy and energy related matters.

Both ministers took the opportunity on Friday 01 March, to deepen and strengthen energy ties between both countries by signing the Memorandum document.

"We are very happy that Minister Ramnarine and his team moved so quickly to make this Agreement happen," notes Minister Persaud, following the signing. "We especially look forward to receiving technical expertise and assistance from Trinidad and Tobago in energy related matters."

In January 2013, the first draft of a Memorandum of Cooperation between Trinidad and Tobago and Guyana was prepared. Following negotiations over the past few weeks, the

title of the Agreement was adjusted to reflect a wider range of areas of cooperation to be explored.

"We were able to make all of this happen within roughly a month," Minister Ramnarine reports.

The Memorandum of Understanding between the Governments of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and the Cooperative Republic of Guyana concerning Cooperation in Energy and Energy Related Matters will be in force for a period of two years. Both parties will meet annually (or sooner, as mutually agreed) to review the status of the cooperation executed under the MOU, including:

- Support for off-shore exploration activities, and sourcing of equipment for the development of energy and energy-related projects
- Coordinating and implementing projects and activities related to renewable energy which may include hydro-electric power, solar, wind, tidal, wave, geothermal and biomass energy and biofuels
- Strengthening of public sector institutions involved in energy and energy-related projects, and organising joint conferences, seminars, workshops, meetings, training sessions and other educational programmes

Minister Ramnarine also remarked that MOUs already have been signed with Grenada and Panama within the last two years, which speak to the spirit of renewed cooperation in all energy matters in the region.

This latest MOU is particularly important as Guyana is now in the process of strengthening their Exploration and Production facilities in the oil and gas industry, as well as fast-tracking the development of a large Hydro Electric power facility from the Amalia Falls project. When completed, the facility will have the potential to supply the majority of Guyana's electric power needs.

Both countries also stand to gain from sharing institutional knowledge and strengthening capacity in both the oil and gas sectors and in renewable energy.

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