



**Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago**

**Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries**

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**MEDIA RELEASE**

**MINISTRY OF ENERGY HOSTS TRADE DISCUSSIONS WITH CUBAN  
AMBASSADOR AND CUPET EXECUTIVES**

Over the period January 22<sup>nd</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017, Phoenix Park Gas Processors Limited hosted a delegation of Executives from Union Cuba Petroleo (CUPET). On January 25<sup>th</sup> 2017, the delegation, accompanied by His Excellency Sr. Guillermo Vasquez Moreno Ambassador of the Republic of Cuba to Trinidad and Tobago, met with senior officials of the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries (MEEI). One of the main topics of discussion at this meeting was the strengthening of energy relations between the two countries.

The CUPET Executives accepted an invitation from PPGPL for a reciprocal visit to Trinidad following the attendance of a Ministerial-led delegation by Minister Paula Gopee-Scoon, Minister of Trade and Industry from Trinidad and Tobago at the Havana International Fair (FIHAV) 2016. Among the delegation were various energy sector interests (MEEI, the NGC Group, PPGPL, National Energy, PETROTRIN and NPMC). The mandate was to pursue cooperation in the key areas of trade and energy and to outline mechanisms for increased collaboration between both countries. The attendance of the Ministerial delegation also allowed for discussions on strengthening the existing infrastructure to facilitate increased trade.

Trinidad and Tobago's attendance at FIHAV 2016 was arranged following a meeting between Dr. the Honourable Keith Rowley, Prime Minister of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and His Excellency Raul Castro, President of the Republic of Cuba during the VII Summit of Heads of State of the Association of Caribbean States in June 2016 in Havana, Cuba.

The CUPET Executives had a very satisfactory and productive visit and were able to attend the first two days of the Energy Conference which was held at the Hyatt Regency Trinidad on January 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017.



**(from Left – Right) Mr. Jude Carasquero- ExporTT Trade Facilitation Office in Havana, Cuba, Mr. Pedro Arturo Sorzan Urquiza- CUPET General Manager, His Excellency Sr. Guillermo Vasquez Moreno- Cuban Ambassador to Trinidad and Tobago, Ms. Heidi Wong- Ag. Permanent Secretary, Mr. Selwyn Lashley- Permanent Secretary, Mr. Nestor Perez Franco- CUPET Director of Operations and Logistics, Mr. Alvin Dookie- Vice President of Business Development at PPGPL**

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