MEDIA RELEASE (For Immediate Release)

Trinidad and Tobago Securities and Exchange Commission Levels 22-23 Tower D International Waterfront Centre 1 Wrightson Road Port of Spain Trinidad W.I.



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Women Urged to Present With Confidence in celebration of International Women's Day

Trinidad and Tobago Securities and Exchange Commission ("TTSEC") joined the global community in paying tribute to its women employees in celebration of International Women's Day ("IWD") under the theme '*Accelerate Action*."

At a special ceremony at its Wrightson Road offices, on March 11, 2025, the women of the TTSEC were recognised for their valuable contributions to the achievement of the goals of the Commission and by extension the growth and development of local securities industry.

In his remarks, Mr. Kester Guy, Chief Executive Officer, noted that *Accelerating Action* calls for increased momentum and urgency in addressing the systemic barriers and biases that women face, particularly in the workplace. He encouraged the women of the TTSEC to continue to be bold and accelerate towards their goals and journey of success.

The UN Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/15 calls on governments, political parties, trade unions, and professional and other representative groups to adopt a 30% minimum proportion of women in leadership positions. At the TTSEC, women comprise 62% of the Management and 44% at the level of the Board. This high representation of women in leadership positions at the TTSEC, was hailed by guest speaker, **Dr. Ingrid Lashley**, a renowned Corporate Governance Specialist.

Dr. Lashley, who retired as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the then Trinidad and Tobago Mortgage Finance Company Limited, in her capacity as Chairman of the National Enterprises Limited and NEL Power Holdings Limited, sits on the Board of the Investee Companies among other directorships in several small entrepreneurial companies.

Delivering '*The Talk on Taking Bold Steps*,' Dr Lashley shared her experiences as one of the few women, in Trinidad and Tobago, who has broken the proverbial glass ceiling in the corporate world and which she observed is very much in existence. She shared insights on how women can accelerate action, despite the systematic barriers that exist and urged women to always present themselves with confidence, so that their interactions will be impactful and memorable.

Dr. Lashley emphasised that to break systematic barriers to women holding leadership positions, it is important for women to craft a personal and professional plan which must include mentoring, nurturing and leadership in action, and work collaboratively to achieve their plans.

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About the TTSEC: The TTSEC is governed by the Securities Act Chapter 83:02 and is responsible for overseeing the securities market and ensuring that fairness, equity and transparency remain common values in the marketplace. Our vision is to be an innovative regulator of a thriving securities market, enabling economic development for the benefit of all.

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