Established March 14, 1879
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
CHAMBER
OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE
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The Chamber means **BUSINESS**

TRADE FACILITATION

A NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE
Trinidad and Tobago

A Presentation by the
Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce
A member of CARICHAM

OBJECTIVES

- To provide a national perspective on the challenges facing local companies
- Discuss some of the measures that have been implemented at the border by Customs and Excise and other border agencies to facilitate imports and exports and to expedite clearance procedures
- Measures yet to be implemented to improve doing business

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CURRENT SCENARIO – TRINIDAD AND TOBGO

- TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO RATIFIED THE WTO TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT IN 2015

- CUSTOMS ACT of 1938

As such the following challenges still exist:

- ✓ Lack of transparency and predictability
- ✓ Lack of cooperation and coordination
- ✓ Insufficient use of automated processes and data driven decision making
- ✓ High administrative costs

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CURRENT SCENARIO – TRINIDAD AND TOBGO

Doing Business Report 2019

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	
Trading across borders (rank)	130
Score for trading across borders (0–100)	62.60
Time to export	
Documentary compliance (hours)	32
Border compliance (hours)	60
Cost to export	
Documentary compliance (US$)	250
Border compliance (US$)	499
Time to import	
Documentary compliance (hours)	44
Border compliance (hours)	78
Cost to import	
Documentary compliance (US$)	250
Border compliance (US$)	635

SINGAPORE	
Trading across borders (rank)	45
Score for trading across borders (0–100)	89.57
Time to export	
Documentary compliance (hours)	2
Border compliance (hours)	10
Cost to export	
Documentary compliance (US$)	37
Border compliance (US$)	335
Time to import	
Documentary compliance (hours)	3
Border compliance (hours)	33
Cost to import	
Documentary compliance (US$)	40
Border compliance (US$)	220

Rank out of 190 countries

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CURRENT SCENARIO – TRINIDAD AND TOBGO

CHANGES DUE TO COVID-19

- TTBizLink – Certificates of Origin issued by T&T Chamber
  - Eliminated printing and physical collection
  - Digital stamps and signatures
- Electronic Payments
- Ports of Port of Spain and Point Lisas
  - Waived port rent during the “Stay at home for non essential workers” period
  - Offered delivery and receipt of containers on Saturday and Sunday free of overtime charges
- Customs & Excise
  - Made a number of changes to the method of releasing shipments.
  - Changes were implemented without consultation and adequate communication with principal users
  - Unfortunately there has been an increase wait times & an impact on the cost of doing business.

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THE FUTURE

- Modernise our Customs and Excise System
  - Trinidad and Tobago revenue authority

- Privatise the Operations of the Port of Port of Spain
  - National Budget 2021

- Maximise the benefits of the existing online platforms
  - Integrate ASYCUDA with SEW

Thank You

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