



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago  
Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government

**For Immediate Release**

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Minister Kazim Hosein mandates Local Government Officials to Account for Poor Management and Low Productivity**

*17<sup>th</sup> March 2021, Kent House, Maraval* – Earlier today, the Minister of Rural Development and Local Government, Senator the Honourable Kazim Hosein hosted a historic meeting with all Mayors/Chairmen and Chief Executive Officers of the 14 Municipal Corporations together with personnel from our state agencies to address concerns relating to management and productivity.

Minister Hosein reminded local government personnel in attendance, “Once you have proper management, you will see productivity. It cannot be business as usual. For years I have been listening to the cries of citizens on the inefficient service delivery from the Corporations. It is clear that there is a management problem within the fourteen corporations and we are here today to start the process of finding solutions to these problems. While I understand the financial circumstances, we have a duty to engage members of the public and give timely feedback as we are accountable to them.”

Today’s meeting was geared towards upgrading and standardizing the current procedures in order to improve the systems at the local government level. Recommendations were invited from the Mayors/Chairmen and CEOs on possible avenues that can be implemented to improve productivity and encourage efficient management across the 14 Municipal Corporations, state agencies – Rural Development Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (RDC) and the CEPEP Company Limited, as well as at the Ministry.

Minister Kazim Hosein informed “I have asked the Permanent Secretary to consult with the relevant Heads of Department to formulate a schedule to visit each Corporation in an effort to address the concerns that are being brought forward this morning.” He further added that this arrangement will auger well with our plans for local government reform and improve the standard across the Municipal Corporations. Senator Hosein added, “We can resolve these issues with the intervention of proper management and a mind-set geared towards improving the systems, resulting in better service being provided to citizens.”

The meeting concluded with the Minister of Rural Development and Local Government, Senator the Honourable Kazim Hosein urging the Mayors/Chairmen and Chief Executive Officers to work together to improve the standard of operations, “We are all a Team, whether you sit on the political or the administrative arm; we all have a job to do that will directly impact the output of our organizations. Let us put aside our differences for the sake of service to the people and by extension our country, so that we can achieve the most as local government practitioners.”

**-END-**

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#### **Communications Unit**

Kent House, Long Circular Road, Maraval, Trinidad and Tobago

Tel: (868) 622 – 1669 ext. 3355 Fax: (868) 628 – 0432

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IMAGE 1 (ABOVE): Mayors/Chairmen, CEOs, along with key personnel from the Ministry, RDC and CEPEP



IMAGE 2 (LEFT): Minister of Rural Development and Local Government, Senator the Honourable Kazim Hosein and Permanent Secretary, Ms. Desdra Bascombe.

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IMAGE 3 (RIGHT): His Worship the Mayor of the City of Port of Spain, Alderman Joel Martinez and the Chief Executive Officer, Ms. Annette Stapleton-Seaforth during their presentation, this morning.



IMAGE 4 (LEFT): The Minister of Rural Development and Local Government, Senator the Honourable Kazim Hosein bringing the feature address during this morning's discussion.

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