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MLLA and UNDP Partner to Digitise Land-Related Services in Trinidad and Tobago

The Ministry of Land and Legal Affairs (MLLA) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to accelerate the digital transformation of Trinidad and Tobago's land related systems and services.

The multi-year project, entitled "*Digital Transformation of Land-Related Services*," establishes a collaborative framework to modernise public services delivery.

Under the project, the Ministry in partnership with the UNDP will launch a single digital portal so the public and businesses can easily handle land matters centrally, while also upgrading old systems and processes and moving core Land Registry services online. Alongside these new digital tools, the team will map existing state land information, improve how government departments share and exchange records, and provide staff with the practical training and day-to-day operational support needed to keep the system optimized for continued service delivery.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, the Honourable Saddam Hosein, Minister of Land and Legal Affairs, emphasised the citizen-centered focus of the reform:

"Digital transformation must be about people. It must make it easier for citizens and businesses to access Government services, eliminate administrative bottlenecks, and build a more responsive, transparent public sector."

Mr. Ugo Blanco, UNDP Resident Representative, reaffirmed the organisation's commitment to supporting institutional modernisation, noting that sustainable transformation requires pairing modern digital architecture with capacity building and effective inter-agency coordination:

"Past experiences show what is possible when institutions come together around a shared vision, using technology not simply to digitise processes, but to create better services, stronger public institutions and greater confidence in the systems that people rely on every day."

Also in attendance was the Honourable Sean Sobers, Minister of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs, who noted that transparent land management directly influences family wealth, housing, agriculture, and business investment. He highlighted that moving these services online will save citizens from making multiple trips to government offices, making transaction processing faster and ensuring that national digital upgrades actively support everyday people, including rural residents and vulnerable groups.

The initiative represents Phase I of the Government's broader Land Administration Modernisation Programme, running in tandem with the UN ECLAC's technical assistance to establish a National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI). Together, these initiatives aim to eliminate institutional fragmentation and establish a secure, modern, and data-driven foundation for national land administration.

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