



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Ministry of Land and Legal Affairs

COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MINISTER HOSEIN SIGNS PATENT DRAFTING MOU AT 68TH WIPO GENERAL ASSEMBLIES

The Honourable Saddam Hosein, Minister of Land and Legal Affairs, signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Patent Drafting on behalf of Trinidad and Tobago with the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) during the 68th WIPO General Assemblies in Geneva, Switzerland.

This agreement addresses a critical gap for Trinidad and Tobago. Currently, local inventors must look abroad for patent drafting expertise because the private sector lacks this capacity, and the Trinidad and Tobago Intellectual Property Office (TTIPO) is legally restricted from providing the service. This reliance on foreign jurisdictions skews national innovation data and lowers the country's Global Innovation Index score.

This partnership will directly encourage local innovation and creativity across multiple sectors. Building local patenting capacity provides essential protection for the country's unique cultural expressions and creative outputs, ensuring that home grown ideas are commercialised safely and sustainably.

WIPO Director General, Darren Tang, warmly welcomed Minister Hosein, commending Trinidad and Tobago for its proactive approach to empowering local creators.

Minister Hosein noted that while the country has no shortage of innovators, local private sector capacity remains the missing link. This agreement will lay the groundwork to train qualified local professionals in these high demand skills, which are sought after both at home and across the wider Caribbean.

By building this expertise locally, the Ministry aims to support inventors at home and encourage local patent filing. The Ministry through TTIPO is ready to launch this initiative alongside ongoing support for pre patentability searches and research funding.

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