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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Re: Law Association Committee on Judicial Appointments**

The Law Association of Trinidad and Tobago is pleased to announce the establishment of a Committee on Judicial Appointments comprising the following:

- Justice Désirée Bernard (Chair), former judge of the Caribbean Court of Justice and Chancellor of the Court of Appeal of Guyana;
- Dr. Terence Farrell, Economist and Attorney at law, and former Deputy Governor of the Central Bank;
- Mr. David Abdullah, Economist and former Vice President of the Oilfields Workers Trade Union;
- Mr Rajiv Persad, Attorney at law and Vice President of the Law Association;
- Ms. Tracy Robinson, Senior Lecturer in Constitutional Law, University of the West Indies, Mona Campus;
- Ms. Vanessa Gopaul, Attorney at law; and
- Mr. Rishi Dass, Attorney at law.

The Terms of Reference of the Committee are as follows:

- To examine the constitutional and other arrangements pertaining to the selection and appointment of judges of the High Court and the Court of Appeal and to make recommendations, including changes to the Constitution and/or current practices and/or procedures and/or selection criteria, with a view to ensuring due process, transparency and accountability whilst maintaining the dignity of judicial officers and the independence of the judiciary;
- To consult with stakeholders and members of public and to receive and consider their written and oral submissions; and
- To report to the Council of the Law Association within three months or such further period as the Council may allow.

Dated 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2017

Douglas L. Mendes S.C.  
President,  
Law Association of Trinidad and Tobago

**President**– Douglas L. Mendes S.C. • **Vice President** – Rajiv Persad  
**Treasurer** – Theresa Hadad • **Honorary Secretary** – Elena Araujo