

PROCUREMENT BUZZ

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A Toast to our First Procurement Regulator: Celebrating the First Five Years

"Servant Leader...Admirable...Charismatic...Hospitable... Motivating..." These are some of the sentiments expressed by the Board, Management and members of staff to Mr. Moonilal Lalchan, the first Chairman of the Procurement Board of Trinidad and Tobago, and the Procurement Regulator of the Office of Procurement Regulation.

Mr. Lalchan's first five year term of office came to an end on January 11, 2023 after pioneering the OPR through its embryonic stage to being a transformative institution for reform in Trinidad and Tobago's public procurement, retention and disposal of public property mandate.

Since holding the reigns, some of the OPR's key achievements under the auspices of Mr. Lalchan over the last five years included, but were not limited to; the establishment of a Learning Management System (LMS), crafting and disseminating Public Information Campaigns, implementation of a Whistleblowing system and Case Management solution, development of Handbooks and Guidelines related to various aspects of procurement, retention and disposal of public property, hosting hundreds of stakeholder consultations, sensitisations and capacity building sessions, and also reviewing and contributing the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Property Act, 2015, as amended with supporting Regulations, and establishing the Procurement Depository. The OPR wishes Mr. Lalchan all the best in his future endeavours.



Rollout of Training Standards, Competence Levels & Certification Requirements for Retention and Disposal Webinar



The Property Disposal Department facilitated the rollout of the Training Standards, Competence Levels and Certification Requirements for Retention and Disposal for 'named' Procurement Officers, Accounting Officers and HR Professionals and Educational Institutions, from January 4-6, 2023. This Standard is guided by section 13(1)(b) of the Act, with the goal of supporting the development of retention and disposal public sector capacity, training, and dissemination of information, whilst ensuring the effective application of retention and disposal rules through appropriate mechanisms.

Presenters for this webinar included Laura Heeralal, Property Disposal Officer, Samantha Marchan and Melissa Ramkumarsingh, both Senior Capacity Development Specialists, from the OPR. To review the recorded session, click [here](#) to visit our website.



Photo Caption: (L-R): Lindy-Ann Mitchell - Head, Legal Department along with webinar presenters Sanchel Ferreira - Complaints Officer, Melissa Mano - Legal Officer and Nathifa Lowman - Senior Legal Officer

Complaints Sensitisation Session for Members of the Public

In anticipation of full proclamation of the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Property Act, 2015, as amended, the OPR conducted a sensitisation session to guide the public on the complaints process on public procurement proceedings. The session was hosted by the OPR's Legal Department on January 10th, 2023 and addressed topics such as; who can make a complaint, how to file a complaint, the complaints handling process and the outcomes after an investigation. To review the recorded session, click [here](#) to visit our website.

Upcoming Events: Launch of OPR Kids' Animation Series



The OPR is proud to partner with the University of Trinidad and Tobago's (UTT) Trinidad and Tobago Animation Production (TTAP) Factory to produce an exciting five-part animated series on the adventures of VIT and AL, as part of our Public Information Campaign for Primary School Students.

Look out for more youth and youth-based activities in the coming months!

OPR Department Highlight: Administrative Review Secretariat

- The Administrative Review Secretariat Department provides legal and administrative support to the OPR's Hearing Panels which are responsible for determining Challenge Proceedings pursuant to Part V of the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Property Act 2015, as amended as well as Ineligibility Proceedings pursuant to Sections 58 (3), 59 (7) and 41 (2) & (3) of the Act.
- The Department is responsible for overseeing the procedures and processes utilised for the filing of documents, case management and other ancillary services to enable the Hearing Panels to decide Challenge and Ineligibility Proceedings in a fair and efficient manner. The Department also provides legal support to the Corporate Secretary in relation to the activities of the Board and its Committees under the Act.



Did You Know.. that the OPR will be leveraging e-learning to build capacity?

The OPR intends to revolutionise the delivery of its capacity building programme through the launch an e-Learning Management System Platform in the near future.

This virtual learning platform will provide local and foreign suppliers/contractors, local Public Bodies and the staff of the OPR, access to interactive content relating to the Act, the Regulations, Handbooks, Guidelines, Systems, Policies, Procedures and Processes. The OPR envisages that this platform will:

- Transform - its capacity building interventions through delivery of "on demand", mobile friendly content, and
- Assist - the OPR in tracking and reporting on the progress of its learners, allowing the OPR to target our interventions where they need it most.



Get to Know the Procurement Board of Trinidad & Tobago:



Member: Dr. Anthony Lamb

Anthony Lamb is a Member of the Procurement Board of Trinidad and Tobago. He was appointed on January 12th 2018 and reappointed on January 26th, 2021 for a three year term.

APPOINTMENT ACCORDING TO ACT:

He was appointed pursuant to Section 10 (1) (e) - A Member having qualifications and experience in Civil Engineering

DR. ANTHONY LAMB AT A GLANCE:

- Dr. Lamb is a chartered engineer (CEng) with over eighteen (18) years' experience in the areas of structural analysis, design and assessment of onshore and offshore structures in Trinidad and Tobago and the United Kingdom (UK).
- He holds a PhD in Earth Science and Engineering Research with specialisation in Computational Geomechanics from Imperial College, London.

Click [here](#) to read Dr. Lamb's full biography on our website.

OPR Continues Virtual Sensitisation Sessions



During the period October to December 2022, the Office participated in thirteen (13) Sensitisation Sessions and stakeholder meetings, including the Trinidad and Tobago Publishers and Broadcasters Association, Integrity Commission, Public Transport Service Corporation and the National Commission for Self Help.

Procurement Depository Update



The OPR continues on with the phase of the Procurement Depository where previously registered suppliers can request pre-qualification.

As of January 23rd 2023, 1,400 suppliers have commenced the registration process. The OPR received 679 requests relating to the Depository and was able to close off 669 requests thus achieving a 99% closure rate.

WE STAND UPON THE PRINCIPLES OF GOOD GOVERNANCE, NAMELY:

ACCOUNTABILITY | INTEGRITY | TRANSPARENCY | VALUE FOR MONEY