MEDIA RELEASE

OPR ADVANCES SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT AGENDA THROUGH STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP WITH IDB

The Office of Procurement Regulation ("OPR") is committed to realising the objects of the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Property Act, 2015, as amended ("the Act") pursuant to Section 5(1)(c), which mandates the OPR to promote, among other things, ***"local industry development, sustainable procurement and sustainable development, in public procurement and the disposal of public property."***

To this end, under the Inter-American Development Bank's ("IDB") **Regional Technical Co-operation Project: Integrating Climate Action into Public Procurement in the Caribbean**, the OPR was granted non-reimbursable technical assistance for the development of a ***Sustainable Public Procurement Toolkit*** complemented by an ***updated General Guideline: Sustainable Development and Sustainable Procurement and Disposal of Public Property***.

The objective of this partnership is to provide detailed guidance to public bodies and practical tools that will enable them to embed sustainability considerations into the planning, management and execution of their procurement activities. A central element of the project is a week-long training session for key public bodies from February 10-14, 2025 at the OPR's Head Office in Port of Spain. This training session, which will include a Train-the-Trainer segment, will be facilitated by a renowned Sustainable Procurement Consultant.

A total of ten (10) toolkits are being developed that target core environmental, social and economic issues, such as Water, Biodiversity, Climate Change, Waste Management, Employment, Skills and Training, Health and Wellbeing, Security and Crime, and Equality and Fair Work.

Upon completion of this project, the OPR anticipates that in the short to medium term, public bodies will become more intentional in embedding broader sustainability considerations and Environmental, Social, and Governance ("ESG") practices into their procurement planning and decision-making. In the long term, this shift toward conscious and responsible procurement will be intrinsic to national sustainable development.

In keeping with the objects of the Act, the OPR will continue to promote ***Responsible Actions*** *for* ***Sustainable Results.***

Responsible Actions
Sustainable Results