## *Mediapelease*

## TRADE MINISTER APPLAUDS FRONTLINE WORKERS

<u>10 April, 2020: -</u> As Trinidad and Tobago continues to respond to the challenges presented by the covid-19 pandemic, Trade and Industry Minister, Senator the Honourable Paula Gopee-Scoon is today applauding all frontline essential employees as they respond selflessly to the global covid-19 pandemic.

As the Ministry of Trade and Industry continues to execute its mandate amidst the various regulations implemented during this challenging time to protect public health, Minister Gopee-Scoon is extending appreciation to all workers in the medical industry and those involved in sustaining the country's commercial activities. In the business arena special applause is sent out to the port workers as well as those who work in other border agencies such as the Customs and Excise Division, Trade Licence Unit, Plant Quarantine Services, Chemistry Food and Drugs Division and Trinidad and Tobago Bureau of Standards as they steadfastly ensure that our country's exports and imports of essential items are being delivered and received locally and regionally and the ferry and cargo service remain operational to serve the citizenry. Minister Gopee-Scoon said "I would like to commend the management of the Port for implementing stringent policies to ensure the continuation of trade operations while keeping employees health and safety as top priority."

She added "Port and border operations are indeed essential services to our country's economic activity. As such, the commitment and dedication of management and staff to provide this service during this time must be commended". Minister Gopee-Scoon called on citizens to not be despondent, she said "Follow the guidelines from our Government as provided by our medical professionals, practice good personal hygiene and be positive and confident that Trinidad and Tobago will beat covid-19 as we work together!"

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