



Media Release

T&T AND CHILE HOLD THIRD ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS ON PARTIAL SCOPE TRADE AGREEMENT

December 16, 2022:- Trinidad and Tobago and Chile concluded the Third Round of Negotiations for the Partial Scope Trade Agreement between the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago and the Republic of Chile on Thursday, 15 December 2022. The Third Round was held over a period of three consecutive days at the Ministry of Trade and Industry. This Round of Negotiations presented an opportunity for the delegations to meet in person, as the first two Rounds of Negotiations were held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The First Round, which was held in August 2021, provided a meaningful introduction to the negotiations for both parties, while the Second Round was held in January 2022. The Third Round further built upon the successes of the previous Rounds and consisted of discussions by the teams of both countries in all Negotiating areas, namely Market Access; Legal and Institutional Issues; Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS); Rules of Origin and Origin Procedures; Trade Facilitation; Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT); Trade Remedies; and Competition Policy.

Numerous benefits are anticipated to emerge from the concluded Agreement, including preferential access for several locally produced goods (via the removal of import duties) in the Chilean market. Furthermore, imports into Trinidad and Tobago of selected inputs into manufacturing and consumer goods will have reduced duty. Additionally, Trinidad and Tobago is seeking to eliminate non-tariff barriers and to foster cooperation between the countries in mutual areas of interest, including trade facilitation and electronic trade.

The Trinidad and Tobago delegation was led by Chief Negotiator, His Excellency Colin Connelly, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago to Belgium, while the Chilean delegation was led by Chief Negotiator, Mr. Sebastián Gómez Fiedler, Director General of Bilateral Economic Affairs, Undersecretariat of International Economic Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Chile. A Fourth Round is expected in May, 2023.

END