



# Media Release

## TRADE AND INDUSTRY MINISTER TOURS NESTLÉ TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

**November 09, 2016:-** Senator the Honourable Paula Gopee-Scoon, Minister of Trade and Industry along with Dr Rolph Balgobin, President of the Trinidad and Tobago Manufacturers' Association (TTMA) toured the factory facilities of Nestlé Trinidad and Tobago Limited on Tuesday 08 November, 2016. The purpose of the visit was to gain insight into the operations of Nestlé Trinidad and Tobago Limited and to discuss the organisation's future plans for growth and sustainability, to aid in the advancement of Trinidad and Tobago's economy.

The Country Manager, Mr. Michel Beneventi, provided a comprehensive presentation of Nestlé's operations both locally and internationally detailing its export markets and the organisation's upcoming plans for new product development. He said **'Nestlé exports to 19 countries in the region and an estimated 40% of its total production is exported while 60% is used locally. Nestlé continues to support the local industry by purchasing fresh milk from farmers to allow for the production of our dairy products'**

Senator Gopee-Scoon witnessed the company's operations which she said indicates **'a clear commitment to providing quality products, investing in technology and innovation, developing and training of staff and caring about the environment'**. Minister Gopee-Scoon expressed willingness and interest to increase collaboration with Nestlé Trinidad and Tobago Limited and the Trinidad and Tobago Manufacturers' Association to promote business growth and expansion for local manufacturers. She commended Nestlé on its support of local farmers through the purchase of fresh milk and noted that **'the Government is particularly interested in developing the agro-processing/ agro-business sector which has the potential to increase its contribution to GDP by creating jobs and generating increased exports'**. The Minister called on Nestlé to **'look to new markets, be unique, continue to develop new products and advertise to remain competitive'**.

Dr. Balgobin noted that the manufacturing sector continues to grow and to provide employment.