



**GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LAND AND FISHERIES
OFFICE OF THE HONOURABLE MINISTER**

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AGR: 5/3/5 Vol. III

May 22, 2019

Ms. Bridgid Mary Annisette-George
Speaker of the House
Speaker's Chambers
Level 2, Tower D
The Port of Spain International Waterfront Centre
1A Wrightson Road,
PORT OF SPAIN.

Dear Madam Speaker,

**Re: Twenty-Third Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Examination
of the Audited Financial Statements of the National Agricultural Marketing
and Development Corporation (NAMDEVCO) for the financial years 2008 to
2011**

I hereby enclose the response to the recommendations of the Committee which were outlined on pages thirteen (13) to twenty-one (21) of the above captioned Report.

Yours faithfully,

.....
**Senator Clarence Rambharat
Minister**

Encl: (1)

Twenty-Third Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Examination of the Audited Financial Statements of the National Agricultural Marketing and Development Corporation (NAMDEVCO) for the financial years 2008 to 2011

Responses to the Recommendations by the Committee

No	Recommendations by the Public Accounts Committee	Response
1	Marketing and Market Development Personnel	
	i. NAMDEVCO should provide an explanation of its current procedures for handling its marketing function in the absence of marketing-related officers by March 31, 2019; and	The Manager, Market Facilitation is responsible for planning, executing and coordinating efforts to provide markets for Trinidad and Tobago's agri-food products and to provide continuous market intelligence to the agri-food sector. During the period of vacancy of this position, marketing functions have been and continue to be led by the Marketing Information Officer- Ms. Andrea Simon-Alexander- who has been with the Corporation since September 2008. All marketing-related initiatives are managed and coordinated by Ms. Simon-Alexander during the period of vacancy. Her role is supported by six (6) Research Assistants involved in the daily collection of data at select locations thorough out Trinidad. Recommendation: The position was advertised and interviews will be held this month. The vacancy is expected to be filled by end of April 2019.
	ii. NAMDEVCO should provide a status update on a timetable for the completion of its Strategic Plan by March 31, 2019.	The Strategic Plan was approved by the Board and submitted to the Ministry of Finance on 14th February 2019. It was sent to the Line Ministry on 21st February 2019. Recommendation: The operationalization plan is currently being developed.
2.	Audited Financial Statements	
	i. NAMDEVCO should provide Parliament as a matter of urgency with details of the improvements to be made to its accounting policies and procedures as well as a description of its in-house training to guide staff in the preparation	1. Certain policies have been amended that will lead to more transparent accounting for particular balances. Example: the policy for accounting for Property Plant and Equipment has been amended.

No	Recommendations by the Public Accounts Committee	Response
	of the financial statements by March 31, 2019.	2. Material differences have been reconciled and eliminated in the financials. Example: Differences between Accounts Payable general ledger and sub-ledger balances and between Fixed Asset Register balances and General Ledger balances. 3. Staff members are being more closely guided and supervised in accounting processes and procedures by new Finance Manager (appointed since October 2016). The opportunity is always taken to make those an internal teaching/learning experience. 4. Financial Statements for the years 2012 to 2018 have been completed and are available for the Auditor General to audit. Recommendation The current systems and policies have enabled the Corporation to be up to date with its Financial Statements. They are awaiting the Auditor General's audits.
3.	Accounts Receivable	
	i. NAMDEVCO should provide the Parliament with a copy of its standard debt recovery procedure by March 31, 2019;	The vast majority of debtors are vendors who utilised stalls at the various markets but did not settle their \$100 and \$200 monthly bills over a period of time. Contact information for a number of these vendors not available and they have they have stopped using markets. This credit practice has been stopped and vendors are currently required to pay cash for utilising NAMDEVCO's facilities. There is a credit sales policy and collection procedure for the selected business that credit may be allowed. This applies in respect of clients of the Piarco Packing House. Refer to attached Appendix I. Apart from designated staff who are responsible for following up with debtors for payments, the Corporation has engaged the services of Credit Chex Ltd to address those accounts that have proven to be very problematic. Recommendation

No	Recommendations by the Public Accounts Committee	Response
		A debt recovery system currently exists and the details are attached in Appendix 1 for review.
	ii. NAMDEVCO should write to Parliament setting out the status of its clean-up efforts regarding its accounts receivable register and the rationale for any items removed from the said register, by March 31, 2019; and	Recommendation The clean-up involves investigating the long outstanding receivables especially from customers who are known to be good debtors and who are settling more current invoices. Our findings thus far have shown that for those relevant invoices the customers had issues with no delivery (but invoices issued prior) or quality of the goods delivered or the goods were given as samples but a bill was still submitted. Credit Notes were issued for the relevant invoices. Refer to list Attached Appendix II. There is one high value account (\$1.6m) for which legal action is being pursued.
	iii. NAMDEVCO should submit a progress report on efforts by the collection agency hired to pursue its bad debtors by March 31, 2019.	Recommendation The sum of \$8,522 has been collect as at March 31 2019 by the collection agency.
4.	<i>Organic Foods</i>	
	i. NAMDEVCO should create conditions conducive to the strengthening of market-driven organic agriculture by creating national mandatory standards for identifying and labelling produce as organic to give consumers the opportunity to show the extent of their interest in organic produce. This should be done by July 31, 2019;	Organic agriculture as stated in the introductory statement presented in the document only represents 2% of global food sales. This is simply because it accounts for a very specific and limited niche market. Some of the determining factors of that have impacted on the growth of organic agriculture/farming include the ability to meet the requirements of the certification; availability of the required inputs, that is, the alternatives to conventional agriculture; the presence of the national infrastructure necessary to facilitate this industry in the form of policy and legislation; the availability of knowledge on this method; the availability of research on the effectiveness specific to local conditions; the need for increased labour (as it is labour intensive); the presence of a lucrative market for the

No	Recommendations by the Public Accounts Committee	Response
		products and the fact that most non-traditional/conventional agricultural methods require more financing. Several other factors are noted in research surrounding the pre-conditions and barriers to the use of organic agricultural methods. Organic products are also synonymous with premium pricing due to the rigors of the production method and limited available options. Whilst other Caribbean countries are currently breaking ground on the certification of organic production- such as Grenada, Barbados and Jamaica- due to their tourism market demands, currently there are no certified organic vegetable producers in Trinidad and Tobago. Organic certification can assist in the marketing and development of specific crops such as cocoa, where it can be used to increase market access and further differentiate the local production. However, using resources to develop such an agricultural system may yield a very low return on investment at this point in time. Organic production is widely introduced in countries which have food production systems that address food safety issues, environmental safety and good agricultural practices. Locally, we lack basic infrastructure and systems to mitigate against basic food safety issues. The global food market is being driven by food safety, quality assurance and traceability, this is seen with the development of international standards for fresh produce such as Global GAP (Europe) other GAP schemes such as Canadian GAP, Asian GAP etc., Food Safety Modernization Act, Safe Food for Canada Act among others. These international standards can restrict exports to such countries if Trinidad and Tobago is unable to meet their requirements. In instances where international hotels, restaurants, fast food chains and supermarkets are audited against these international standards to ensure they are maintaining the required food safety and quality assurance systems, they can also restrict access to local markets for agricultural produce.

No	Recommendations by the Public Accounts Committee	Response
		The NAMDEVCO Farm Certification and Monitoring Programme focuses on some aspects of food safety and quality assurance and has an already established and implemented plan to upgrade the existing programme to a National GAP scheme with the goal of achieving Global GAP certification. This will position Trinidad and Tobago as a country that has developed a system to address food safety, quality assurance and any food related issues and will be able to meet the requirements to trade in the global food market. NAMDEVCO has been identified in the National Food Safety Policy as the organization responsible for the implementation and monitoring of a National GAP Programme. It must be noted that for food to be termed 'safe' it does not have to be produced using an organic production method but must meet developed standards requirements for all aspects of food production systems. Recommendation NAMDEVCO is currently working collaboratively with the Cropper Foundation, The Caribbean Industrial Agricultural Research Institute (CARIRI) and The Inter-American Institute for Co-operation in Agriculture (IICA) to support their development of a "Grown using safe pesticides" branded program using farmers on the NAMDEVCO Farm Certification and Monitoring Program to offer fresh produce labelled as "Grown using Safe Pesticides" to select supermarkets along the east west corridor. These products are expected to be on the shelves on or before August 2019. The implementation of a local or TTGAP program is expected to deliver (for farmers who volunteer to join the program) the opportunity to interest consumers into purchase foods grown according to verifiably safe production protocols. Products that are TTGAP certified will be given a certification number. This number will carry an annual expiry date and producers will have the

No	Recommendations by the Public Accounts Committee	Response
		opportunity to display this number either on their product or at the point of sale to ensure traceability can be carried out for the product in the event of a recall or other mishap.
	ii. NAMDEVCO should promote service-driven organic agriculture by working with strategic partners such as the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries (MALF) and farmer stakeholders to establish a system of aid for farmers to incentivize organic agriculture. This should be done by July 31, 2019;	Recommendation: NAMDEVCO is currently upgrading its Farm Monitoring and Certification and Monitoring Program to meet GAP (good agricultural practises) standards. As such, more critical monitoring and verification activities will be focusing on food safety on the farm. This is being done in conjunction with MALF as documented in the Food Safety Policy, 2018. Currently, NAMDEVCO does not monitor farmers who are engaged in organic farming since the standard for monitoring has not been developed. However Organic Certification can be achieved through international third party audits. Currently the MALF offer incentives to farmers who show evidence of engaging in production using safe chemicals. Consultations will be pursued with relevant stakeholders to develop incentives for producers who are TTGAP certified, this will also include marketing arrangements.
	iii. NAMDEVCO should develop an understanding of farmer-driven organic agriculture by conducting a survey to determine whether / how many farmers are involved in organic agriculture and their sales practices by July 31, 2019;	Recommendation To date, one (1) Cocoa Farm located in Tamana was successful in attaining organic certification by an international agency. However, this information is available at the MALF and a limited value is also available through the Farmers Market data.
	iv. NAMDEVCO should reserve spaces at its farmer's markets at preferential rates for farmers identified through recommendation 4(iii) to sell their organic produce once they comply with an agreed upon of mandatory or voluntary standards. This should be done by September 30, 2019; and	Recommendation All farmers who are engaged at the farmers markets are actively engaged in record keeping and are monitored aggressively for the use of safe pesticides. Currently, no fees are charged to farmers who sell at the NAMDEVCO Farmers Markets.
	v. NAMDEVCO should emphasize the possibility for the hotels to access	Recommendation

No	Recommendations by the Public Accounts Committee	Response
	organic produce to create local food and beverage items for their international clients who are likely to be interested in this option as organic food is already well-known traditional tourist countries of origin. This should be done by July 31, 2019.	Information on the certified farmers on the program are currently shared with hotels such as Hyatt, Hilton and a few others. Niche and speciality items are supplied and sourced upon request from the hotels through the Buyers and Sellers Forum developed by NAMDEVCO. These include, from time to time, produce grown using special technologies.
5.	International Plant Health Regulations	
	i. NAMDEVCO should consult with MALF on the possibility of pursuing agreements with Canada and the US or determine whether such agreements already exist and report to Parliament on what exists and what can be done to establish further market expansion initiatives by March 31, 2019.	Recommendation Further market expansion initiatives with the US require that farms become FSMA (Food Safety Modernization Act) compliant. Currently NAMDEVCO has facilitated training of four (4) officers in the capacity of Lead Instructors on the Produce Safety Rule and Human Food Rule of FSMA. Their role is to disseminate the training to farmers and agro processors with the aim of ensuring compliance with the export requirements. To date, approximately 300 stakeholders have been trained in the Human Food Rule as required for export of Value Added products to the US. Training is currently being arranged for more than 200 growers with respect to the Produce Safety Rule. Similar arrangements are being made with 'Canada Safe' (standard / program). Compliance with this program is a requirement for all fresh producer suppliers and value added processors who want to export to Canada. NAMDEVCO will soon subscribe to the Canadian Produce Marketing Association for support training for all stakeholders to ensure compliance with Canada Safe to support market expansion initiatives in Canada.
6.	Collaboration with the Tourism Sector	
	i. NAMDEVCO should disseminate information to hotels and other tourist-oriented facilities about the range of local produce that could be used in their food and beverage offering in general as well as to create uniquely local dishes, desserts and drinks or to put a new spin	Recommendation NAMDEVCO currently disseminates information to the hotel sector on a daily and weekly basis. Hilton, Hyatt and Radisson Hotel receive price and volume information via the daily price report to assist in determining their price paid for Fresh

No	Recommendations by the Public Accounts Committee	Response
	on internationally known items. This should begin by May 31, 2019; and	Produce to farmers. NAMDEVCO also facilitates the procurement of produce for Hilton Hotel to ensure the hotel has a consistent supply, thereby ensuring that local fruits and vegetables are always available on the menu. New information portals being developed at the Corporation will ensure more efficient use of the information provided using statistics
	ii. NAMDEVCO should promote the provision of season-specific food and beverage by hotels as a way to give their international clients an authentic Trinidad and Tobago experience. This could include, for example, sorrel, ginger beer and black cake at Christmas time in addition to delicacies associated with other religious festivities. Caribbean Airlines' Caribbean Café initiative could be replicated with the hotel sector on a reduced scale, given NAMDEVCO's smaller market and budget. This should begin by May 31, 2019	Recommendation NAMDEVCO hosted a Buyers' Consultation workshop in October 2018 where major hotels and restaurants were in attendance. Presentations encouraged hotels to increase local consumption of fruits and vegetables, the benefits derived from purchasing at farm gate and the support services available to them for sourcing and maintaining a consistent supply of fresh produce. This information dissemination workshop will be an annual event held by the Corporation where buyers can learn about new events/products/technologies/trends in the sector. In May 2019 NAMDEVCO will be hosting a workshop for Purchasing Managers in the Hotel and Restaurant sector to educate persons on Good Agricultural Practices, Post-Harvest Handling and Transporting of fresh produce and the opportunities for sourcing indigenous fruits. It will also re-sensitize person on the NAMDEVCO Farm Certification and Monitoring Program and the expected upgraded program. Additionally, season-specific foods' price and volume data are posted on NAMISTT real time during the year.
7.	Information Sharing Planform	
	i. NAMDEVCO should submit a report presenting all the types of information to be shared on the platform and where such information exists and detailing stakeholders' readiness for the establishment of a shared information platform and challenges faced in the	Recommendation NAMDEVCO currently utilizes its own public website NAMISTT to disseminate information to stakeholders across T&T on a daily basis. Any further Information Sharing Platform subscribes to will be presented

No	Recommendations by the Public Accounts Committee	Response
	implementation process to Parliament by March 31, 2019.	along with the information provided in <u>Appendix IV</u> .
8.	NAMDEVCO Mobile App	
	i. NAMDEVCO should write to Parliament with details of how it intends to revise its policy so that the AgriPrice App can send notifications every time prices change, and not only when there is a significant change, so that the prices indicated accurately reflect reality. Once greater confidence in the AgriPrice App is established, more people will download and use it. This should be done by April 30, 2019; and	In order to address the recommendations made by the committee regarding the AgriPrice App, the initial design will have to be modified to accommodate the change. The current process for receiving notification requires that users register for this service through the notification "Preferences Tab" and select the commodity or commodities for which the user would like to receive notifications of for when there is a price change. In this way users will not be receiving unnecessary notifications. The modification required in the system is the removal of the reference point or threshold that was initially set for each commodity that will now permit the app to send notification automatically every time prices change and not only when there is a <u>significant</u> price change. Recommendation The change will be implemented within the next two weeks and tested to ensure optimal functionality. Coupled with this change, a program of awareness and sensitization was identified in NAMDEVCO's 2019-2021 strategic plan to promote the use of this app and other information dissemination methods currently used by the Corporation.
	ii. NAMDEVCO should provide a timeline for the development of the new crop production data app, and the cost of establishing this app by April 30, 2019.	Recommendation The timeline for the development, testing, implementation and documentation of the Crop Production Data App will take approximately six (6) months. The initial design of the crop production data app will now have to be significantly modified

No	Recommendations by the Public Accounts Committee	Response
		to accommodate the requirements of Global GAP. Based on the training received thus far, Global GAP requirements are very detailed and significantly greater than what was previously envisaged. The approximate cost of development of the crop production data app for android devices is \$120,000.00 and the approximate cost of acquiring hardware devices (android tablets Samsung Galaxy Tab A 10.1) for twenty (20) Field Officers is \$80,000.00.
9.	Statistics	
	i. NAMDEVCO should report to the Parliament on how it intends to fill its data gaps by March 31, 2019.	Enhanced data collection through the use of improved ICT platforms and specialized training of staff to improve data collection techniques. The Corporation recently submitted a request for PSIP funding for a project entitled "Developing a Methodology and Prototype for using Satellite Imagery, Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (Drones) and Remote Sensing Technology for collecting geospatial data to estimate and forecast crop production levels in Trinidad and Tobago". The major objectives of this project are: • Development of a methodology and prototype for using satellite imagery, Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (Drones) and remote sensing technology to collect spatial data to estimate crop production in Trinidad and Tobago • Establishment of a national operational agriculture monitoring system based on sustainable methods, tools and technology that improves the quality of agriculture information and reporting based on the integral use of geospatial technology.
10.	Research Activities	
	i. NAMDEVCO should provide a breakdown of the research procedures it intends to use as well as the goals and expected outcomes of the research and how this would contribute to the development and expansion of markets and agribusiness	Research procedures currently used by the Marketing Department include subscription to key Market Trade Portals (ITC Trade Map, FAO Stat, USDA and Caribgate). The department has Research Assistants that currently subscribe to these portals to access

No	Recommendations by the Public Accounts Committee	Response
	investments in accordance with the Corporation's mandate, by March 31, 2019.	information on key commodities in addition to daily field research through visits to various retail establishments. The Corporation in October 2018 also participated in a Trade Mission to Canada hosted by Exportt. The finding from the mission were presented to stakeholders via an Exporters Workshop in February 2019. The Marketing Department is preparing to enhance its market research capabilities with the aim of disseminating real-time market intelligence information on agricultural marketing trends locally, regionally and internationally. The report will be broadcasted via social media as this is an active and cost effective communication tool. This activity will provide statistical outputs for stakeholders to enhance their decisions making activities based on empirical data being made available to those who interface with common desktop research trade portals outlined above. The Corporation also intends to provide effective market intelligence solutions through dissemination of information to various stakeholders based on their business activity such as the inclusion of information from Hotels, Restaurants and Caterers in the first phase, commodities demanded and frequency of purchases. The aim is to actively provide pertinent information to all stakeholders via improved data capture systems, new data collection practices and various communication channels whereby the information is accessible. A rebranding of the NAMIS website will also be aligned to this strategy to ensure a user friendly interface and also redesign of the reports on the website for ease of reference. Annual surveys will be performed by the department to assess the type of information being disseminated and the relevance of the information to the business activity of the stakeholder.

No	Recommendations by the Public Accounts Committee	Response
		Other activities outlined such as marketing of the Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) Program to Commercial Buyers, the creation of an Online Application for Buyers and Sellers to Trade Produce, Development of value chain models for specific commodities and development of programs geared towards improving the quality of business activities among Agri-Entrepreneurs will all be guided by research and empirical data aimed at the development of key stakeholders.
11.	Sources of Revenue	
	i. NAMDEVCO should submit details of the Public Private Partnership Programme initiative concerning Packing Houses. This submission should include a timetable for implementation and a summary of the challenges faced and steps taken to address them. This should be done by March 31, 2019.	Recommendation PPP Program RFP prepared for all Packinghouses Challenges faced - completion of works at Brickfield Packinghouse and resolution of legal issues concerning Brechin Castle Packinghouse so as not to affect the unhindered operation of a PPP. Refer to Appendix 111 for timetable details
12.	Trade with the European Union	
	i. NAMDEVCO should report to Parliament on measures it intends to take to address challenges with GLOBAL G.A.P certification by March 31, 2019.	Recommendation The Corporation is pleased to report that recommendations outlined in 4(i) to 4(v) re organic agriculture has formed part of the road map to achieve Global Certification for Trinidad and Tobago agricultural producers by NAMDEVCO. i. A draft National GAP standard has been developed along with the Trinidad and Tobago Bureau of Standards by a core team lead by NAMDEVCO, involving IICA and CARIRI which is to be reviewed for finalization. This is a voluntary standard, once reviewed and approved it will then be published and the public awareness campaign will ensue. ii. A National GAP Steering Committee chaired by NAMDEVCO was re-formed

No	Recommendations by the Public Accounts Committee	Response
		and held its first meeting of 2019 on 7th March. This committee is comprised of members across ministries, key organizations and agencies that play major direct and indirect roles with respect to food and agricultural production and consumption. iii. A main aspect of the public awareness campaign will focus on farmers' adoption of the standard. The upgrade of the existing Farm Certification and Monitoring Programme and the continuous capacity building of the farmers who are currently monitored will aid the transition to the National GAP. These farmers will now act as leaders to promote adoption by their peers. iv. NAMDEVCO Farmers' Market, Northern and Southern Wholesale Markets, among others, will form the list of outlets where the GAP Certified Producers will now receive preferential treatment as one of the benefits to the scheme. v. At a Buyers and Sellers Forum organized by the Marketing Department in October 2018, attendees such as major hotels, restaurants, fast food chains, supermarkets, exporters and agro-processors indicated their willingness to increase local consumption on the basis that produce can meet the requirements of their international audits. Further discussion will be held with these organization to convert their willingness to actual demand.
13.	<i>NAMDEVCO's presence in Tobago</i>	
	i. NAMDEVCO should write to Parliament explaining what led to the decline of its activities in Tobago and the status of progress towards re-launching its initiatives there by March 31, 2019.	NAMDEVCO's Presence in Tobago The Tobago House of Assembly has a Division of Food Production, Forestry and Fisheries which includes a Department of Marketing.

No	Recommendations by the Public Accounts Committee	Response
		This Department of Marketing has specific responsibility to provide assistance to its stakeholders in the processing and marketing of high quality products. The Department's functions include: • Operating the Scarborough and Roxborough Markets • Operating and managing the Scarborough and Roxborough Abattoirs • Managing the Hope Processing Unit, the Louis D'or Marketing Facility and the Marketing Meat Room • Facilitating the marketing and sale of selected agricultural commodities • Conducting market research • Providing services related to maintaining post-harvest quality and the development of agro-processing industries

NAMDEVCO CREDIT POLICY

Policy Objectives:

The objective of this policy is to mitigate the risk of loss from extending **credit** to customers of the Corporation who are assessed not able to pay or cannot make payments on a timely manner as required.

Customer application

Any customer of the Corporation desiring to access credit terms for our sales to them must complete the approved application form which will include the total value of the credit sought inclusive of VAT and the period of credit which shall not exceed **30-60** day for each invoice. Each application must be accompanied by the following:

1. Financial statements: income statement, balance sheet and cash flow, of the customer not more than 12 months old from the date of application. Statements may be unaudited but must be prepared by a member of ICATT.
2. A 'good standing' reference letter from a financial institution registered with the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago.

Processing of Application:

Each application shall be assessed by the relevant facility manager and the Manager Finance and Administration constituting the Credit Committee in this instance on the following criteria:

1. Ability of the Corporation to financially sustain the credit value and term.
2. The ability of the customer to settle his credit account in a timely manner.
3. Customer history or reputation regarding financial matters.
4. Comments from the financial institution.
5. Benefit to Namdevco of granting the requested credit.

Approval of Application:

1. Each application shall be recommended or declined by the constituted Credit Committee.
2. Addresses and contact information is to be verified.
3. Each application shall then be forwarded to the CEO for endorsement or refusal.
4. Each application which was positively endorsed by the CEO will be forwarded to the Board Finance Committee and Board of Directors for approval.
5. Once approved by the Board of Directors the customer shall be notified and the credit facility established from the effective date.

Credit Management:

1. Before any credit sale is transacted the facility manager shall ascertain the total credit balance outstanding for that customer and whether any credit invoice is past due. If the credit balance is in excess of the total credit limit or any invoice is past due, **no new credit sales shall be accepted.** New credit sales shall be undertaken only to the extent of the total credit limit.
2. The Clerk and/or the facility manager shall follow up with customer on a weekly basis to secure collection of due invoices.

3. The Accountant in the Finance department shall generate an aged listing of outstanding credit invoices and query with facility clerk and/or manager past due invoices and timeline of collection. The Accountant will contact customer directly to secure payment of any past due invoices.
4. Invoices past due for 90 days shall be referred **for legal follow-up**.

19.01.23

APPENDIX II

Invoice/CM #	Date	Quote No	Name	Amount
PCR1659	10/17/18		Utopia Meat & Veggie Mart	-111.72
PCR1660	10/17/18		WEST BEES	-128.11
PCR1661	10/17/18		Utopia Meat & Veggie Mart	-128.30
PCR1662	10/17/18		Utopia Meat & Veggie Mart	-99.10
PCR1663	10/17/18		Utopia Meat & Veggie Mart	-162.64
PCR1664	10/17/18		Kenny Suchit Supermarket	-220.56
PCR1665	10/17/18		Kenny Suchit Supermarket	-220.56
PCR1666	10/17/18		Dollar Valu	-459.50
PCR1667	10/17/18		Dollar Valu	-229.75
PCR1668	10/17/18		Dollar Valu	-91.90
PCR1669	10/17/18		Dollar Valu	-91.90
PCR1670	10/17/18		Dollar Valu	-229.75
PCR1671	10/17/18		The Green Market	-300.00
PCR1672	10/17/18		Hosein's Catering Services Ltd	-365.91
PCR1673	11/30/18		Pricesmart 2nd	-600.00
PCR1674	11/30/18		Pricesmart 2nd	-2,250.00
PCR1675	11/30/18		Sharda Ramkissoon	-88.00
PCR1676	12/24/18		Ayoub Mohammed	-5.36
Total				-5,783.06

APPENDIX III

Packinghouse	Time to Completion (approximate)	Major Challenges Faced	How the challenges are being addressed
Brickfield Packinghouse	One (1) month from date of this report	1. Electrical connection 2. Approval from Commissioner State Lands to provide lease for property	1. Engagement of a project management consultant to ensure outstanding works are completed by contractor 2. Meeting with representative of Commissioner State Lands to request lease for property.
Woodford Lodge Facility	Two (2) weeks from date of report	1. Receipt of registered deed for property	1. Wrote to Chief State Solicitor to request Registered Deed
Brechin Castle Packinghouse	Based on the outcome of settlement of disputable sum to contractor and consultant. The matter has engaged legal actions.	1. Disputable sum payment to both project contractor and consultant 2. Lease agreement for property	1. Analysis of works done, through the engagement of a project management consultant who reviewed works done by the PMC as well as the Quantity Surveyor hired by the audit from PWC for Brechin Castle Packinghouse. Brechin Castle Packinghouse matters outstanding in litigation. Attempts being made to settle based on retention of a

Packinghouse	Time to Completion (approximate)	Major Challenges Faced	How the challenges are being addressed
			joint Quantity Surveyor to conduct a measurement of all works done to date. 2. Meeting with representative of Commissioner State Lands to request lease for property.

7. Information Sharing Platform

i. NAMDEVCO should submit a report presenting all the types of information to be shared on the platform and where such information exists and detailing stakeholders' readiness for the establishment of a shared information platform and challenges faced in the implementation process to Parliament by March 31, 2019.

Response:

Summary:

NAMDEVCO currently utilizes its own public website NAMISTT to disseminate information to stakeholders across T&T on a daily basis.

Any further Information Sharing Platform that it subscribes to will be presented with the information provided below. Section seven (7) of the table below outlines one type of information "Weekly Market Commentary Reports for all wholesale markets" outlines one initiative that NAMDEVCO seeks to introduce into its own website and any other information sharing platform.

Types of Information	Information Existence	Stakeholders Readiness	Challenges Faced
1. Daily, Monthly and Yearly (Average, Min, Max) Wholesale Fresh produce Prices and Volumes traded at the Norris Deonarine Northern Wholesale Market, Macoya	Currently possess published information for over 12 years.	Stakeholders already have access however, information can be adapted to fit any other Information Sharing Platform other than NAMISTT if needed. Stakeholders include: Farmers, Exporters, Supermarkets, Agro processors, Hotels and Restaurants, Caterers, Policy Makers and Planners, General Public	None, all data and information readily available.
2. Weekly, Monthly and Yearly (Average, Min, Max) Wholesale Fresh produce Prices and Volumes traded at the Southern Wholesale Market, Debe	Currently possess published information for over 12 years.	Stakeholders already have access however, information can be adapted to fit any other Information Sharing Platform other than NAMISTT if needed. Stakeholders include: Farmers, Exporters, Supermarkets, Agro processors, Hotels and Restaurants, Caterers, Policy Makers and Planners, General Public	None, all data and information readily available.
3. Daily, Monthly and Yearly (Average, Min, Max) Wholesale Seafood Prices and Volumes traded at the Orange Valley Wholesale Fish Market	Currently possess published information for over 12 years.	Stakeholders already have access however, information can be adapted to fit any other Information Sharing Platform other than NAMISTT if needed. Stakeholders include: Fishermen, Supermarkets, Hotels and Restaurants, Caterers, Policy Makers and Planners, General Public	None, all data and information readily available.

Types of Information	Information Existence	Stakeholders Readiness	Challenges Faced
4. Daily, Monthly and Yearly (Average, Min, Max) Wholesale Seafood Prices and Volumes traded at the Port of Spain Wholesale Fish Market	Currently possess published information for over 12 years.	Stakeholders already have access however, information can be adapted to fit any other Information Sharing Platform other than NAMISTT if needed. Stakeholders include: Fishermen, Supermarkets, Hotels and Restaurants, Caterers, Policy Makers and Planners, General Public	None, all data and information readily available.
5. Monthly and Yearly (Average) Retail Fresh-produce Prices at our local Farmers' Markets, Municipal Markets, Vege-Marts, Supermarkets across T&T	Currently possess published information for over 9 years.	Stakeholders already have access however, information can be adapted to fit any other Information Sharing Platform other than NAMISTT if needed. Stakeholders include: Farmers, Supermarkets, Hotels and Restaurants, Caterers, Policy Makers and Planners, General Public	Due to human resource constraints during the second and third year of data collection, there are gaps within the data.
6. Weekly Market Commentary Reports for all wholesale markets.	Have limited information, however such information used to be shared publicly via Greenvine newsletter on a monthly basis.	Moving to a Weekly publication would definitely create a positive impact in the sector, however, further analysis has to be done as to whether or not such weekly information can cause price fluctuations depending on the interpretation of such information by the public.	No challenges except there is limited information available for public consumption and a standard format has to be established prior to publication.
7. Local, Regional and International Buyer listings for Fresh produce	Current listing has been reviewed and published.	Stakeholders already have access however, information can be adapted to fit any other Information Sharing Platform other than NAMISTT if needed. Stakeholders include: Exporters, Caterers, Policy Makers and Planners, General Public inclusive of Agri-Entrepreneurs	None, all data and information readily available.