



MINISTER OF FINANCE
The Honourable Colm Imbert
Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

F (I):2/178/1

September 8, 2020

The Honourable Bridgid Annisette-George, MP
Speaker of the House
Office of the Parliament
Parliamentary Complex
The Red House, St. Vincent Street,
Port of Spain

Dear Honourable Speaker,

Ninth Report of the Joint Select Committee on Finance and Legal Affairs on an inquiry into Trinidad and Tobago's performance in negotiating/creating opportunities for Trade outside of CARICOM

I refer to your letter Ref: Parl: 14/3/56 Vol. III dated June 24, 2020 on the captioned matter.

The Ministry of Finance, has noted the Report and its Recommendations, to this end the Ministry of Finance will collaborate with the relevant stakeholders to ensure that the recommendations are implemented.

Additionally, with respect to following recommendation:

B. "The Minister of Finance must collaborate with the Customs and Excise Division in order to provide the Parliament with a status update on the completion of the Harmonized Commodity and Coding Nomenclature"

In this regard, the following is submitted as requested:

- The Customs and Excise Division is currently using the Common External Tariff (CET) based on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System 2012 (HS2012).
- The Division is working towards the implementation of the Common External Tariff (CET) based on the HS Nomenclature 2017 Edition (HS2017), with a view to having it come into effect January 01, 2021.

Yours sincerely,

Minister of Finance