



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

**Ministry of Public Administration
and Digital Transformation**

Response to the Public Accounts Committee

The Thirty-Third Report of the PAC on the Follow-up on the status of the implementation of the recommendations on ICT governance and general controls as stated in the Reports of the Auditor General on 2017, 2018 and 2019 Public Accounts

Written Submission

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Response to the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) Recommendations in the Thirty-Third Report of the PAC on the Follow- up on the status of the implementation of the recommendations on ICT governance and general controls as stated in the Reports of the Auditor General on 2017, 2018 and 2019 Public Accounts

No.	Recommendations	Page	Ministry of Public Administration and Digital Transformation's Responses
3	<u>Hacking Prevention and Response</u> Recommendation: i. The Ministry of Public Administration should report to Parliament on the following by August 30, 2020: and a. the findings of the November 2019 Third Party Risk Assessment of GovNeTT; and b. the reason for which Third Party Risk Assessments are not conducted across the board.	17-18	a. There was no Third Party Risk Assessment of the platform conducted in November 2019 since the implementation of the GovNeTT Stabilization project was in progress. b. Typically, when GovNeTT type contracts are prepared, the need for the support vendor to continually do security and user assessments is included. However, there has not been a standing arrangement for the conduct of independent assessments during the operational life of the contract. In this regard, cost estimates will be needed with a project justification to secure funding to cover the likely additional cost. Therefore, for an assessment to be conducted, there will be a need for a budget approval. The Ministry shall address this matter in the future by including independent ICT assessments of the platforms in its budget.
2	<u>Interoperability</u> Recommendation: i. The Ministry of Public Administration should report to Parliament on the progress made in enhancing interoperability across the public sector through the Microsoft Enterprise Agreement by August 30, 2020	18-19	ICT Systems interoperability across the public service will be facilitated in the near future following the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Republic of Estonia. The approach is for a transfer of knowledge and skill whereby Estonian ICT resources will guide the design, development and rollout of the Interoperability solution. The solution will be maintained by nationals following its implementation. The Microsoft Enterprise Agreement (MEA) has no bearing on this project.