



Public Hearing Summary

Wednesday November 02, 2016

Inquiry Subject:

The Examination of the Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on a Special Audit of the Operations of the Sports Company of Trinidad and Tobago with particular reference to the development and upgrading of Sporting Facilities in Trinidad.

Committee Members:

The following Committee Members were present for the meeting:

- Mr. Wade Mark - Chairman
- Dr. Tim Gopeesingh - Vice- Chairman
- Ms. Jennifer Baptiste -Primus - Member
- Mr. Fitzgerald Hinds - Member
- Mr. David Small - Member
- Mr. Foster Cummings - Member

Witnesses who appeared:

Sports Company of Trinidad and Tobago (SPORTT)

- Mr. Michael Phillips - Chairman
- Mr. Jason Williams - Financial Comptroller
- Mr. Dexter Browne - Project Consultant, Regionals
- Mr. Anthony Blake - Facilities and Maintenance Manager
- Ms. Mellie Pryce - Project Administrator
- Mr. Jeewan Kowlessar - Internal Audit
- Mr. Naveen Maraj - Legal Officer

Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs

- Mr. Ian Ramdahin - Permanent Secretary (Ag.)
- Mr. Lyndon Burton - Assistant Project Co-ordinator
- Ms. Violet Joseph - Director of Monitoring and Evaluation

Investments Division, Ministry of Finance

- Ms. Yvette Babb - Director, Social and Economic Transformation (Ag.)
- Mr. Ryan Maharaj - Senior Business Analyst (Ag.)

Office of the Auditor General

- Mrs. Jaiwantie Ramdass - Assistant Auditor General
- Mr. Louis Hernandez - Assistant Auditor General (Ag.)
- Mr. Cyril Barran - Assistant Audit Director
- Ms. Nicole Cockburn - Legal Officer

Key Issues Discussed

1. The criteria used to identify SPORTT for Special Audit by the Auditor General's Department;
2. The status of the implementation of the recommendations from the Auditor General's Special Report;
3. The frequent changes in Chief Executive Officers of the SPORTT;
4. The status of the strategic plan, direction and measurable targets of SPORTT;
5. High rate of turnover of staff and Board of Directors;
6. Litigation cases following the restructuring of SPORTT;
7. The process for contracting De Edge Consulting for the organizational review and redesign exercise of SPORTT;
8. The mandate and responsibility of SPORTT;
9. The number of Sports played in Trinidad and Tobago;
10. The shortage of staff in the Human Resources and Accounts Department;
11. The management of regional and in-door multi-purpose facilities and whether the facilities are outfitted to facilitate differently abled persons as athletes and spectators;
12. The status of projects being implemented;
13. The rationale for the construction of sporting facilities;
14. The development and upgrading of sporting facilities;
15. The status of the fixed asset policy and fixed asset register;
16. Whether the sporting facilities are in compliance with the Occupational Safety and Health Act;
17. The possible recommendations to improve the delivery of service provided by SPORTT in an efficient, effective and economic manner.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Wednesday November 16, 2016 at 9:30 a.m. to examine the Audited Financial Statements of Community Improvement Services Limited (CISL) for the period 2008 to 2012.

View the Hearing:

The hearing can be viewed on our YouTube page via the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MetcpzOjqVk>

**PA(E)C Secretariat
November 02, 2016**