



Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management
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MEDIA RELEASE

Friday 18th October, 2019

For Immediate Release

T&T SHIPS RELIEF ITEMS TO THE BAHAMAS

During the period 2nd - 4th September, 2019, Hurricane Dorian unleashed its destructive power on the Commonwealth of Bahamas and in particular, the islands of Abaco and Grand Bahama. Following the passage of the hurricane, Trinidadians and Tobagonians once again demonstrated their generosity for their Caribbean neighbours and donated critically needed relief supplies to assist in relieving the suffering and hardships of those affected.

The Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management (ODPM) of the Ministry of National Security, coordinated the national relief effort and after approximately 5 weeks, on Thursday, 17 October 2019, a vessel carrying 7 containers with over 115 tonnes of supplies, sailed from the Port of Point Lisas for the Bahamas.

Witnessing the loading of the vessel was the Honorary Consul for the Bahamas, Dr. Elaine Davis, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the ODPM, Major General (Ret'd) Rodney Smart; Lt. Colonel Patrick Gomez, Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force's (TTDF) Director of Strategic Logistics; Mrs. Elena Villafana-Sylvester, CEO of the Foundation for the Enhancement and Enrichment of Life (FEEL); Mr. Riad Gouridath, Sales Manager of Tropical Shipping; and Mr. Clint Duncan, Manager of Cargo Handling, Point Lisas Industrial Port Development Corporation Limited (PLIPDECO).

At the gathering Dr. Davis expressed her sincere gratitude to the Government and People of Trinidad and Tobago for the kind generosity extended to her country. She indicated that the contributions will go a long way to assist many a Bahamian family rebuild their lives post-Dorian.

Major General (Ret'd) Smart also took the opportunity to thank all citizens and organisations that partnered with the ODPM to provide foodstuff, water, hygiene products, building supplies, equipment, tools, manpower, warehousing facilities, transportation and financial assistance. He also thanked the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) for the organisation's role in assisting with the cost of transporting the items by sea.

The ODPM would like to specially recognise the following organisations that contributed or otherwise assisted in the coordination of the relief effort:

NAME OF ORGANISATION	
Ministry of National Security	Ministry of Rural Development and Local Development
Ministry of Trade and Industry	Ministry of Education
Achievor Enterprises Limited	Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)
Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School of Business	Brian's Tent Rentals
CGA Limited	Coca Cola Trinidad & Tobago
Foundation for the Enhancement and Enrichment of Life (FEEL)	Heritage Petroleum Company Limited
Kazyia Eventors, Rentals & More	Langston Roach Industries Limited
Nestle Trinidad & Tobago Limited	SCL (Trinidad) Limited
The Bankers Association of Trinidad & Tobago	Tobago Emergency Management Agency
Trinidad & Tobago Defence Force	Trinidad & Tobago Manufacturers Association (TTMA)
Trinidad & Tobago Red Cross Society	Tropical Shipping
UNICOMER (Trinidad) Limited	Vemco Limited

Appendix 1

Photos and Captions

Photo 1.



Photo Caption 1: Honorary Consul for the Bahamas, Dr Elaine Davis thanks CEO of the ODPM, Major General (Ret'd) Rodney Smart for the ODPM's contribution to the Bahamas Relief Effort. Also in photo Mr. Riad Gouridath, Sales Manager of Tropical Shipping; Mrs. Elena Villafana-Sylvester; CEO of FEEL; and Lt. Colonel Patrick Gomez, TTDF's Director of Strategic Logistics.

Photo 2.



Photo Caption 2: Shipment of relief items from T&T to the Bahamas – From l to r - Riad Gouridath, Sales Manager of Tropical Shipping; Major General (Ret'd) Rodney Smart, CEO of the ODPM; Dr Elaine Davis, Honorary Consul for the Bahamas; Clint Duncan, Manager Cargo Handling, Point Lisas Industrial Port, Plipdeco; Elena Villafana-Sylvester, CEO of FEEL; and Lt. Colonel Patrick Gomez, TTDF's Director of Strategic Logistics.

Photo 3.



Photo Caption 3: Discussion on the relief collection drive. From l to r, Major General (Ret'd) Rodney Smart, CEO of the ODPM; Dr Elaine Davis, Honorary Consul for the Bahamas; Elena Villafana-Sylvester, CEO of FEEL, Lt. Colonel Patrick Gomez, TTDF's Director of Strategic Logistics; and Riad Gouridath, Sales Manager of Tropical Shipping.

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