MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO’S EXPERIENCES & CHALLENGES REGARDING THE TREATY’S REPORTING OBLIGATIONS
Layout

- Background
- Current Reporting Status
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Ministry of National Security

Background

- Ratified 25 September 2013
- Initial Report: 2015
- Reporting responsibilities
  - Due by 31 May annually

Core Agencies Responsible:

- The Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS)
  - Issuing of Firearms Users Licenses and Firearms Users Employees Certificates
  - Approvals for firearms and ammunition imports and exports
  - Data collection, storage and dissemination of all firearms-related data
- The Ministry of National Security (MNS)
  - Official POC for UNATT
  - Request data from TTPS by March annually
  - Collate, verify and compile responses
  - Submit reports to the International Affairs Unit, Ministry of National Security for approval by the State (Cabinet)
Ministry of National Security

Current **Status** of T&T Reporting Obligations

- **Completed and Uploaded**
  - 2015 to 2019
  - 2020 & 2022
  - 2021
  - 2023
- **Pending Approval**
Challenges with T&T Reporting Obligations

- **Bureaucratic Process** - Delays in approvals.

- **Lack of Continuity** - Personnel Reassignment/Staff shortages.

- **Data Management** - Improper/ manual record keeping systems.

- **Compliance** - Current legislation (The Firearms Act of 1970 - Amended 2023) does not mandate the timely submission of Annual Reports.
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Mitigative Strategies to Improve T&T Reporting Obligations

**Implementation of a responsible entity (MNS)**
- Point of Contact (PoC) and Alternate
- Improving stakeholder relations.
- Improving communication amongst key agencies.
- Improving data collation, verification and transmission

**Capacity building of Point of Contact**
- Participation in ATT sponsored training workshops
- Participation in prior CSP peer to peer sessions on reporting
- Applying lessons learnt from other States Parties to T&T

**Review of Initial Report**
- Updates/changes based on ATT implementation

**Accessed grant funding from UNATT**
- Voluntary Trust Fund (VTF) Cycle 3 – 2021
  - “Development of an integrated data management IT system for stockpiling management in the private sector”
- Automatic generation of reports
- Ease of verification
Ongoing and Proposed Initiatives

• Capacity Building Workshops for the Competent Authority
  – Design & implement training to complete UNATT Annual Reports
  – Aiding with developing Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for UNATT Reporting (TTPS)

• Legislative Amendments (Firearms Act of 1970 – Amended 2023)
  – Mandatory Reporting and deadline dates
Thank you for your time.

Questions?
Comments?
Contact Information

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