



The Government of the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago

Personnel Department

(Office of the Chief Personnel Officer)

Telephone Contact: 1-868-612-4CPO (4276)

#3 Alexandra Street, St. Clair, Newtown 190129, Trinidad and Tobago

MEDIA RELEASE

TTUTA Accepts CPO's 5% Salary Offer with COLA

April 18th, 2025 – The Trinidad and Tobago Unified Teachers' Association (TTUTA) accepted the Chief Personnel Officer (CPO), Commander Dr. Daryl Dindial's **5% offer for the period 2020 to 2023 with a spread of 1%, 1%, 3%**, which represents a closure of the gap by 18.2% followed by the consolidation of the **Cost of Living Allowance (COLA)** and other improved terms and conditions for members of the Teaching Service.

Commander Dindial stated that negotiations, which began in November 2024 and continued with significant technical sub-committee work into the new year, were very challenging. He commends TTUTA's leadership for their persistence and professionalism in advancing arguments for their membership. Dindial indicated he was also very humbled by their reasonableness, rationality and even their understanding of the current macroeconomic realities our nation is confronting.

He reminded that the period under review was the COVID period where the country experienced -9.1%, -1.8% (2020-2021) in deficit before experiencing a + 1.5% in growth in 2022, yet the State maintained employment levels throughout and saw it fit to further increase wages in the Public Service. He stated, we must not forget that during the period our Teachers operated in the dual system of education to support the developmental needs of our children.

The CPO also announced that he received approval from the Minister of Finance to commence the **Job Evaluation Exercise** for the Teaching Service a year earlier than initially scheduled. This long-awaited exercise is aimed at modernising the compensation structure and identifying changes in the roles of educators in the Teaching Service.

The CPO added that the work with TTUTA is continuous and wanted Teachers to know that matters pertaining to the Group Health Plan, classification of leave, determination of increments, transition of the third schedule personnel into the Teaching Service Compensation Plan, the upgrade of Assistant Teachers and the training of personnel who administer terms and conditions



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at the Tobago House of Assembly are all being advanced with the support of the Ministry of Education.

Commander Dindial extended his heartfelt appreciation to our nation's Teachers as they are not just educators, but mentors, counsellors and protectors to our children. He emphasised that they wear many hats each day, nurturing the minds and values of our future generations. On behalf of the State, the CPO expressed sincere gratitude for their unwavering dedication and their immeasurable contribution to national development.

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