



MEDIA RELEASE

11th July, 2023

FTC Hosts Virtual Stakeholder Meeting with Poultry Sector Stakeholders: “Let’s Talk Poultry and Competition”

The Fair Trading Commission (“the Commission”) recently hosted a virtual Stakeholder meeting with the local Poultry Sector under the theme “Let’s Talk Poultry and Competition” on Tuesday 11th July 2023.

Dr. Ronald Ramkisson, Chairman of the Commission in his Opening remarks highlighted the significance of the poultry sector for the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago. Specifically, he emphasized the importance of exploring factors such as prices, supply and demand, imports and exports, the feasibility of entering the poultry market and whether there are unfair practices in the industry.

Mr. Robin Phillips, President of the Poultry Association of Trinidad and Tobago (“PATT”) subsequently delivered a comprehensive presentation on the factors that affect the competitiveness of the poultry sector. Mr. Phillips further elaborated on the role that fair competition has played in determining price and the adequacy of supply volumes. He also discussed the importance of this industry to the food security and overall national development of Trinidad and Tobago.

Ms. Joanne Singh, Veterinary Officer in the Animal Production & Health (AP&H) Division at the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries (“MALF”) then delivered a presentation on the role and function of the Poultry Surveillance Unit (PSU). She highlighted that the PSU provides ambulatory services, regulates and also monitors the imports and exports of poultry products in Trinidad and Tobago. Specifically, Ms. Singh explained the programs that have been put in place to monitor the health of poultry and further emphasized the PSU’s commitment to serving the poultry industry.

Mr. Bevan Narinesingh, Executive Director of the Commission in his presentation discussed the importance of encouraging greater Competition in the poultry industry and highlighted the role, powers and functions of the Commission. He further highlighted the competition issues facing the poultry sector with particular emphasis on the numerous cases of anti-trust breaches in the sector globally and also proposed methods for further engagement with stakeholders in the Poultry sector.

The virtual meeting also served as an opportunity to solicit the views of the presenters as well as attendees regarding the health of poultry products, the feasibility of entering the poultry industry and importing of poultry products into Trinidad and Tobago.

Other stakeholders in attendance included representatives from the Trinidad and Tobago Bureau of Standards (TTBS), Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Commerce, Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Consumer Affairs Division (CAD), The National Agricultural Marketing and Development Corporation (NAMDEVCO), Ministry of Health, Veterinary Public Health Department, Tobago Agribusiness Development Company (TADCO), Warnerville Grain Mills Limited, Master Mix Feeds and Tru Valu Supermarket.



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