

Remarks Delivered by the Honourable Sean Sobers, Minister of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs, at the Official Launch of the Diplomatic Security Unit, St. Clair Police Station, Serpentine Road, Port of Spain, Friday, 29 May, 2026

Salutations to be provided by Protocol Division

Good morning,

It is an honour to stand before you today to mark a momentous occasion in the diplomatic history and national security architecture of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, as we officially launch the Diplomatic Security Unit (DSU). The DSU, represents a forward-thinking, sophisticated advancement in how our nation interacts with, protects, and supports the international community.

As Minister of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs, I am exceptionally pleased to witness the formalisation of this specialised unit. The Republic of Trinidad and Tobago has long established itself as the diplomatic capital of the Caribbean region, serving as a vibrant host to a vast network of embassies, high commissions, consulates, and international organisations.

This esteemed status brings a solemn constitutional and international responsibility. Under the strict tenets of the Vienna Conventions on Diplomatic and Consular Relations, we bear a sovereign obligation to ensure the safety, dignity, and unhindered operation of all foreign emissaries accredited to our shores.

The Ministry of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs plays a vital, supportive role in securing and maintaining these international partnerships. While our primary mandate focuses on building diplomatic bridges, advancing foreign policy, and driving commercial diplomacy to attract global investment, we recognise that effective diplomacy cannot exist in isolation. It requires an environment characterised by absolute safety, predictability, and stability.

Pursuant to the creation of the Diplomatic Security Unit, the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago through the Ministry of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs, continues to reinforce the domestic state apparatus. We ensure that our international partners possess the complete peace of mind necessary to engage in deep bilateral dialogue, expand trade relations, and foster cultural exchange.

This initiative directly complements our ongoing strategic campaign to take Trinidad and Tobago to the world, sending an unmistakable signal to global capitals that our country is a secure, sophisticated, and premier jurisdiction for international engagement.

An achievement of this magnitude and complexity is never the work of a single institution. It is a powerful demonstration of what can be accomplished through seamless inter-agency collaboration and a unified national vision. I want to express my deepest gratitude to the key institutional partners who have worked tirelessly to transform this concept into operational reality.

In this regard, I wish to extend our profound thanks to the Ministry of Homeland Security and the Minister of Homeland Security. Your strategic oversight, meticulous resource allocation, and unwavering commitment to safeguarding our sovereign space have provided the foundational framework for this unit. Your leadership ensures that our internal security apparatus remains modernised and fully capable of meeting international standards of diplomatic protection.

I also wish to offer my highest commendation to the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service, led by Commissioner Guevarro, who has remained the primary shield of law enforcement in our nation. The officers assigned to this new unit carry a highly sensitive, prestigious responsibility. Thank you to the executive leadership for your dedication to rigorous training, operational agility, and the deployment of elite personnel who fully understand the delicate balance of diplomatic immunity and public safety.

To the men and women who have been selected to staff this unit: you are now an integral extension of our nation's diplomatic interface. Your daily conduct, vigilance, and professionalism will reflect directly upon the reputation of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. I have every confidence that you will discharge your duties with the utmost distinction, integrity, and honour.

In closing, let us celebrate this collaborative triumph today as a clear testament to our collective capability when state agencies work in perfect harmony.

Together, we are protecting our guests, elevating our national security standards, and strengthening the foundations of our global partnerships.

Thank you, and may God continue to bless our sovereign Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.