

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS (ENTREPRISE) COMMITTEE

Recommendation / Comments of the

The Twenty-Third Report on the Examination of the Audited Financial Statements of the
InvesTT Limited for the years 2014 to 2017

5. Ease of Doing Business

Recommendation:

- iii. **The MALF, the MAGLA, the MoF, the MoH, the MPD, the MPA, the MOWT, the CED, the IRD, the Office of the Supervisor of Insolvency and the Treasury Division should provide a status update on the EODB initiatives with which they are involved**

The table below provides a status update on the EODB initiatives with which the Ministry of Health is involved: -

Reform	Action Item	Status of Reform/Action
Risk Management by the Chemistry, Food and Drugs Division	Improve the business process of customs entry for inspectors by utilizing ICT Solutions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Assessment and contract with internet provider	All (8) Food and Drugs Inspectors were trained to use mobile application for conducting warehousing inspections.
	Provision of additional and dedicated space to conduct inspection: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Seek Cabinet's approval- Engage the Port Authority of Trinidad and Tobago to design and construct the hazardous cargo examination bay	On October 9th 2019, at the meeting of the Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals Board, it was recommended that the following be developed: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a position paper on the subject matter; and• the RFP for the Hazardous Cargo Examination Bay Specialized Container Inspection.

Reform	Action Item	Status of Reform/Action
		<p>The Technical Secretary/ Registrar of Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals was tasked with the responsibility to complete a draft of the above papers for the Board's approval by the by the 1st quarter of the 2020 calendar year.</p>
<p>Expansion and alignment of the working hours of staff at the Ports, the Customs and Excise Divisions and other border agencies</p>	<p>Conduct Needs Assessment to determine the constraints under which the agencies operate that prevent the optimal provision of services</p>	<p>The number of inspectors have increased by five (5) and during fiscal 2020 additional training will be conducted on the ttbizlink / assycuda online system.</p>
	<p>Increased manpower and man hours at the ports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The creation of additional positions on the staffing establishment as identified by a manpower needs assessment 	<p>Currently, the Ministry of Health has held meetings with the Public Management Consulting Division (PMCD) and has submitted several requests for information in the rationalization of the organizational structure of CFDD. It is expected that this process should be finalized by the 1st quarter of the 2020 calendar year.</p>
	<p>Increasing the hours of work for inspectors</p>	<p>The last report on TTbizlink indicated that there is no backlog or long delay in processing customs entries on commodities such as Drugs/Food/Cosmetics/ Pesticides/ Toxic Chemicals.</p> <p>Additionally, with the recent additional employment of five (5) Food and Drugs inspectors and the provision of five (5) tablets by the Ministry of Trade and Industry, it is expected that there will be an increase in the number of inspections to warehouses and containers storing imported products.</p> <p>This should be sufficient to ensure greater efficiency in the processing of customs entries on commodities such as Drugs/Food/Cosmetics/ Pesticides/ Toxic Chemicals.</p>