MEDIA RELEASE
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The Honourable Chief Justice to Sign MOU with Supreme Court of Nigeria.

Port of Spain: As part of the project to establish a Juvenile Court in Trinidad and Tobago by September 2016, The Honourable the Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Ivor Archie O.R.T.T. will sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the National Judicial Council of Nigeria (NJC) and the National Centre for State Courts (NCSC), for the design, development and implementation of a new case management information system (CMIS) for the Juvenile Court Project (JCP). Once developed and tested in the Juvenile Court arena, the new CMIS may be considered for roll out across the wider Judiciary in a bid to address delays in court matters and reduce the cost of operations.

The NCSC is a United States of America based clearinghouse for research information and comparative data to support improvement in judicial administration and currently provides technical assistance to develop the CMIS for the Juvenile Court Project.

It is expected that the JCP will strengthen the capacity of the Judiciary to deal with juvenile matters with greater emphasis on a rehabilitative and less retributive approach. To do this, the information systems being utilised by the specialised Court must provide quality data to support the Judiciary’s decision making, as well as support optimal process flows in the management of cases and transactions between the court and its clients.

The NJC has developed in collaboration with the NCSC an automated CMIS with notable and credible success. The Supreme Court of Nigeria in collaboration with the NCSC has agreed to partner with Trinidad and Tobago to find a suitable solution using the Nigerian CMIS as the foundation. The MOU among the parties will provide the framework for the development of a cooperative agreement going forward.

It is expected that once the new CMIS is implemented in Trinidad and Tobago, it would be rolled out to other Commonwealth CARICOM nations.

The Honourable the Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Ivor Archie will travel out of jurisdiction tomorrow (Friday 29th January, 2016) to sign the MOU. The Honourable Mr. Justice Allan Mendonça will perform the duties of Chief Justice in his absence.

The Chief Justices of Jamaica and Barbados will also attend the signing ceremony in Nigeria.

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