

Level 8 -10, Tower C, International Waterfront Complex, 1A Wrightson Road, Port of Spain Trinidad and Tobago

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MEDIA RELEASE

Phone: 612 8853

Clarity on the taxing of local artistes that perform abroad

The Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts wishes to clarify statements circulating in the media as it relates to the taxation of artistes that perform abroad.

The matter was raised by Opposition Member of Parliament (MP), Mr. Rodney Charles as yesterday's Joint Select Committee on Foreign Affairs, wherein the MP suggested that consideration should be given to collecting revenue through taxation from artistes that perform abroad.

The Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts wishes to advise that currently no such measure is under consideration by the Ministry nor the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. Such a measure can have restrictive implications and negatively impact the industry. Additionally, all cultural practitioners, including artistes working both locally and abroad, are presently subject to the tax provisions of the country, as are all other citizens.

The Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts continues to encourage the export of Trinidad and Tobago's cultural products and remains committed to developing the industry through working with all of its stakeholders to redound to the benefit of all citizens.

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