

Tancoo meets with CAF



CAF's director representative in T&T Bernardo Requena, third from right, presents a token to Minister of Finance Davendranath Tancoo, following a courtesy call to the financial complex in Portof-Spain. Looking on, from left, are senior debt analyst Jimmy Wong, permanent secretary Suzette Taylor-Lee Chee, CAF's regional manager for the Caribbean Dr Stacy Richards-Kennedy and CAF's principal executive Stephanie Ledesma.

Finance Minister Davendranath Tancoo met with representatives from the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF) in an introductory meeting on Monday.

According to a release from the ministry, the meeting was held to discuss some of the ongoing initiatives CAF had begun with the government previously as well as formally highlight the bank's role as T&T's principal multilateral development partner.

At the meeting, which took place at the Ministry of Finance head office, Eric Williams Finance Building, Port-of-Spain, representatives of CAF emphasised that over the past 30 years, CAF and the T&T Government have developed a strong and enduring partnership.

It was noted that CAF collaborated directly with the Ministry of Finance as the official focal point for the country's engagement including loan financing and technical assistance support on a range of issues such as flood mitigation, corporate governance for state-owned entities, digital payments and e-identity and public procurement.

The ministry also confirmed that "during the meeting, the Development Bank of Latin America also took the opportunity to advise the Minister of Finance that Trinidad and Tobago assumed the chairmanship of CAF's Board of Directors for a one-year term during the CLXXXIV Meeting of the Board of Directors held on March 27 in Santiago, Chile."

Most recently, CAF had helped facilitate the implementation of LACIF Grant Agreement, which afforded the government access to a €3 million facility from CAF and the European Union for the implementation of T&T's interoperability platform, e-identity programme and government data platform.

That deal was signed in February.

At that ceremony, former finance minister Colm Imbert confirmed that T&T's Finance Minister would chair CAF for the year.