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DIVISION OF AGEING

Under the Auspices of Senator The Honourable Donna Cox
WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY (WEAAD) ONLINE Webinar Series:15, 22, 23 & 30 July 2021

Topic: Addressing Elder Abuse in Trinidad and Tobago's National Policy & Legislation on Ageing

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Date: July 30, 2021

Location: Port of Spain, Trinidad W.I.

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T&T's National Policy on Ageing & HOP Legislation

The Policy and Legislation are geared towards promoting inclusiveness and empowering older persons while attempting to protect them from elder abuse while aligning with international guidelines.



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National Policy on Ageing 2007



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Why Review the National Policy on Ageing 2007?

It allows for research into new technologies and new arising ageing issues along with modern-day solutions.

To involve all sectors of Trinidad and Tobago in protecting older persons from abuse.



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The Process for Reviewing the National Policy on Ageing for Trinidad and Tobago

- 1. Review of the NPA for T&T to be completed by the MSDFS internal team and first draft produced
- 2. First draft sent to MSDFS Executive for approval.
- 3. Approved draft circulated to state agencies for recommendations and revisions.
- 4. Second draft produced by the MSDFS internal team to incorporate feedback from state agencies.

5. Green paper created.

- 6. National consultations on policy green paper.
- 7. Green paper revised given public feedback and submitted to Cabinet.

8. Revised policy document once approved by Cabinet, circulated as white paper for action.



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National Policy on Ageing 2007

- Currently, the MSDFS is reviewing the National Policy on Ageing 2007. It is coordinated by a multi-departmental committee chaired by the DOA.
- An internal (MSDFS) stakeholder sensitisation Session was held on April 7, 2021, and each department has reviewed the Policy for its revision and provided feedback for the creation of an Action Plan.



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New Thematic Areas

- Social Protection
- Health, Wellness and Recreation
- Social Inclusion and Participation
- Education and Lifelong Learning
- Safety and Protection
- Physical Environment
- Research
- Capacity Building
- Monitor and Evaluation



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Homes for Older Persons Act

(2007)

R

Regulations (2009)



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Homes for Older Persons Act (2007) & Regulations (2009)

- The Home for Older Persons (HOPs) Act was first developed in 2000.
- It was repealed and replaced by the revised HOPs Act 2007, which was assented to on September 7 of that year.
- The Regulations 2009 were also created
- Neither have been proclaimed to date.





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Homes for Older Persons Act (2007) & Regulations (2009)

- The HOPs Act of 2007 is intended to provide for the licensing, regulation and monitoring of HOPs throughout Trinidad and Tobago.
- Currently, HOPs are licensed and regulated under the Private Hospital Act No 2 of 1960 by the Ministry of Health.



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Homes for Older Persons (HOP) Act Amendment Process

- The main objective of this exercise is to create a legislative policy that will guide the amendment of the Act and Regulations and facilitate its proclamation.
- In 2019 there were two (2) external consultations held with Homeowners throughout Trinidad and Tobago.
- The DOA conducted twelve (12) internal workshops inspectors of the Division between March to June 2021.



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Homes for Older Persons (HOP) Act Amendment Process

- It is expected to be submitted to MSDFS' executive by August 2021.
- Thereafter, wider public consultations will be held with key stakeholders to discuss same before the policy is sent to Cabinet



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Homes for Older Persons (HOP) Act Amendment Benefits

- Serves as a deterrent to perpetrators/elder justice;
- Ensure a consistent level of quality care to residents;
- Provide guidance for the operation of HOP.



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Homes for Older Persons (HOP) Act Amendment Considerations

- Capacity building within the DOA
- Penalties
- Reduce stigma against HOP and family members who utilize HOP.



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME & ATTENTION!!







