Thank you Mr. Chairman for the floor. The delegation of Trinidad and Tobago is pleased to report on many initiatives that have provided significant advances in the work of the Trinidad and Tobago Intellectual Property Office (TTIPO) and many national institutions. With WIPO’s assistance we have successfully executed a National Seminar on How to Make a Living from Mobile Apps and a virtual seminar regarding Alternative Dispute Resolution in Mobile Applications Disputes on January 21, 2021. Additionally, the project has resulted in a pioneering work product entitled, “Handbook on Key Contracts for Mobile Applications- A Developer’s Perspective.” This handbook examines mobile app contracts and teaches “appreneurs” how to navigate through same. It will be extremely beneficial for our local e-commerce ecosystem.

Despite the limitations of the global pandemic, the next scheduled event in this project will be the Virtual Mentorship Programme concerning the formation of a mobile app association in Trinidad and Tobago and pitching and business matching on mobile development. The formation of a mobile app association is one of several recommendations originating from the Alternative Dispute Resolution virtual seminar. The event will highlight the experience of the United States’ Mobile App Association to explore strategies for starting such an association being private sector driven but supported through technical assistance from the TTIPO. The two-day programme is expected to benefit the software industry of Trinidad and Tobago by transforming ideas into profit-generating assets through the empowerment of app developers with tools for using IP for income generation in mobile applications.

We also keenly look forward to the successful completion of projects submitted to WIPO MATCH, access by the National Library and Information System Authority to books in accessible formats through WIPO’s Accessible Books Consortium, the establishment of Technology and Innovation Support Centres (TISCs), and the highly anticipated launch of our National IP Training Centre in January 2022.

With these comments, I thank you Chair.