



The National Gas company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (NGC)

Right on Track Launch 2018

Remarks by Lisa Burkett, Manager, Corporate Communications

Wednesday 24th January 2018

10:00am

Larry Gomes Stadium, Malabar, Arima

SALUTATIONS

In sport, one of the essential keys to success is teamwork. Without mutual respect, encouragement and support, no athlete can reach his or her full potential. For more than 25 years, NGC has partnered with various national and community-based athletic organisations to elevate sport in Trinidad and Tobago.

NGC continues to recognise the importance of sport and so too the education system, in positively moulding productive citizens. As such, through sports, arts and culture we have taken a strategic approach to developing and empowering our nation's youth.

One such programme is our signature sporting programme. Initiated in 1999, NGC's Right on Track brings to young athletes a targeted, science-based approach to athletic development. The core element of the programme is the NGC Right on Track Coaching Caravan which brings the programme right into heart of communities. This programme evolved to include a basketball component, an arrangement that grew naturally out of our long-standing NGC Community Basketball Programme.

This year, we are extremely excited to kick-off this initiative and will be leveraging our relationships with some of the country's most influential athletic organisations. We have aligned ourselves with the NAAATT's Kids' Athletics Programme and the NBFTT's Minis to Masters Programme, with the aim of establishing mass participation by children and young people in developing skills related to running, jumping, throwing, and basketball.

NGC's Right On Track and NBFTT programmes are specifically structured to encourage and facilitate the identification of talented young athletes. Many young athletes who are now winning favour on the international stage, had their beginnings in these grassroots programmes. Because of its broad scope, NGC Right on Track also caters to children who seek only to enjoy the sport for its own sake, to make friends and strengthen their own bodies and minds.

In this context, the effects of the programmes have been noticeable. Any parent, coach, or educator can testify to the positive impact of sporting activities on the children's physical and mental well-being, self-image and social skills. The results can also be seen within school and community physical education programmes, as children show more determination to succeed and have better team skills.

Though the focus is always on the children, it is important to note that the adults associated with these programmes, namely the coaches, trainers and administrators, also benefit from NGC's sponsorship. They have participated in seminars and workshops to improve their coaching skills, and, in some cases, NGC has sponsored them to upgrade their coaching levels.

I want to say at this juncture: coaches; trainers; principals; teachers; parents and members of the N3A and NBFTT: it is always an honour to partner with you. NGC looks forward to a long

and fruitful partnership as we seek to not only impart sporting techniques to our youth, but create our future leaders – on and off the track, field and court. And to members of the media, we are always grateful for your coverage. It's important for our fellow citizens to understand what is being done to build sport in the country.

As the country participates in major events this year, such as the upcoming Carifta Games, I dare say that there will be many young athletes among them who look to the stage, with all those national flags flying overhead, and all those athletes proudly representing their country, and promise themselves, "One day, that will be me."

Participants: I wish you all the best over the upcoming year, and I urge you to believe in yourselves as you move faster, leap higher, and reach further.

Thank you so much for your attention and support.

Please enjoy the rest of your day.

END