



**The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited
Media Release**

NGC President participates in Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF) Workshop

12th October 2021

On Wednesday 29th September 2021, President of The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (NGC), Mr. Mark Loquan, represented the state energy company at the Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF) 4th Annual Workshop on the Promotion of Natural Gas Demand.

The aim of this virtual workshop was to bring global industry stakeholders together in discussion around the prospects for natural gas in a low-carbon future; policy mechanisms for its deeper integration into the energy mix; as well as its growing importance to improving energy accessibility in new markets, the development of blue hydrogen and a cleaner transportation sector.

The agenda also covered a panel discussion on strategies for carbon and methane emissions reduction across the global natural industry, in pursuit of carbon neutrality. Mark Loquan participated in this panel alongside principals from energy companies across the world. Mr. Loquan's presentation situated the need for cleaner energy in the context of a Caribbean region that is increasingly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. He emphasised the importance of youth education and skills development to building a more resilient and decarbonised future. He also shared NGC's approach to methane reduction using satellite and infrared technology, as well as some perspectives on how sustainability of the broader energy sector can be achieved through collaboration, technology, education, policy and transparent reporting.

NGC's participation in this workshop supports its ongoing efforts to internationalise its business and brand. It also represented a seat at the table for NGC to bring the perspectives, concerns and ideas of small island developing states to global-level discussions.

Commenting on the significance of this opportunity to address and engage with global industry stakeholders, Mr. Loquan said:

“The issues facing our industry and indeed our planet over the coming decades cannot be resolved in isolation. Collaboration, knowledge-transfer, dialogue and debate are necessary and urgently needed if we are to successfully overcome the challenges before us. The GECF workshop was an important forum for exchange and engagement with stakeholders fighting our same fight, whose ideas and experience can guide our own decarbonisation efforts here in Trinidad and Tobago. I was also grateful for the opportunity to share learnings from the NGC experience, as we believe we have a lot to offer by way of insight and expertise. As an industry, we need to capitalise on these opportunities to learn from one another to advance our common agenda.”

The workshop gathered representatives from GECF member countries, global industry, academia, government Ministries, gas associations and business organisations. Also in attendance was The Hon. Stuart Young, Minister of Energy and Energy Industries, who participated in an opening keynote session with other Ministers and industry leaders.

The Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF) is a gathering of the world’s leading gas exporting countries and was set up as international governmental organisation with the objective to increase the level of coordination and strengthen the collaboration among Member Countries: Algeria, Bolivia, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Iran, Libya, Nigeria, Qatar, Russia, Trinidad and Tobago, and Venezuela. Angola, Azerbaijan, Iraq, Malaysia, Norway, Peru, and the United Arab Emirates have the status of Observer Members.

For more information:

Lisa Burkett, Manager, Corporate Communications

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

Orinoco Drive, Point Lisas

Lisa.Burkett@ngc.co.tt

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