

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AND CARICOM AFFAIRS

## MEDIA RELEASE

## TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO VOTE AT THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE RESOLUTION ON THE STATUS OF JERUSALEM

## PORT OF SPAIN: 22<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER, 2017

The United Nations General Assembly voted on a resolution on the status of Jerusalem on 21<sup>st</sup> December, 2017.

Essentially, the resolution goes against the United States of America for its recent decision to move its embassy to Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

The results of the vote are as follows:

- 128 countries including Guyana, Barbados, Suriname, Grenada, Dominica, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Belize, Venezuela and major allies of the United States of America voted in favour of the resolution;
- 35 countries including Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, The Bahamas, Antigua, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Panama, Mexico and Canada abstained;
- 9 countries including Israel and the United States of America voted against the resolution; and
- 21 countries including St. Kitts and Nevis and St. Lucia were not present for the vote.

The policy of Trinidad and Tobago has always been to support the two States' policy which means steadfast recognition of the State of Israel with secure territorial borders as well as the establishment of a Palestinian State.

It is in this context that any and all negotiations relating to the future of Jerusalem arise.

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Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

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We would wish to see the United States play a major role in bringing this about by preserving its position as an influential broker in all negotiations which would have peace and security as its primary objective.

It is the sovereignty of Trinidad and Tobago that allows us to have been ahead of our time in supporting a One China policy and in standing in opposition to the continuation of the embargo against Cuba. Trinidad and Tobago stands with all our partners, including the United States, in pursuance of these objectives which we genuinely believe will contribute to world peace and advance humanity in an improved world economic order.

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