



CARIBBEAN COURT OF JUSTICE

134 HENRY STREET
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REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
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Nov 01, 2021

MEDIA ADVISORY

The first Original Jurisdiction matter initiated by one CARICOM Member State against another, will be heard this week by the Caribbean Court of Justice. The details of the matter of *Belize v the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago* are shown hereunder for your information:

HEARING DATES:

Tuesday 02 November 2021
Wednesday 03 November 2021

LOCATION:

Virtual

02.11.2021 Livestream link: <https://bit.ly/CCJNov01>

03.11.2021 Livestream link: <https://bit.ly/CCJNov2>

TIME:

10.15 A.M. AST (each Day)

SYNOPSIS OF CASE:

Belize has brought proceedings against Trinidad and Tobago arising from the alleged failure of Trinidad and Tobago to comply with its obligations under the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas (RTC). Under the RTC, CARICOM states are required to impose a 40% Common External Tariff (“CET”) on brown sugar imported from sources outside the Caribbean region. Belize contends that it has evidence to demonstrate that between November 2018 to June 2020 brown sugar which was produced outside the Caribbean region, entered the market of Trinidad and Tobago without the 40% CET being imposed. Trinidad and Tobago denies that it has permitted the importation of extra-regional brown sugar from any extra-regional territory without the imposition of the 40% CET.

The Court will be presided over by the Hon Mr Justice Saunders, President and the Hon Justices Wit, Anderson, Rajnauth-Lee, Barrow, Burgess and Jamadar. The Claimant is represented by Mr Andrew Marshalleck SC and Ms Samantha Matute-Tucker and the Defendant by Mr Terrence Bharath, Ms Amrita Ramsook, Ms Coreen Findley and Ms Sasha Sukhram.

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR JOURNALISTS

The proceedings will be live-streamed on the CCJ's YouTube channel and can be viewed via this link <https://bit.ly/CCJvideos>. For information on all the cases being livestreamed please follow the link: <http://bit.ly/CCJlive>.

About the Caribbean Court of Justice:

The Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) has an Original and an Appellate Jurisdiction and is effectively, therefore, two courts in one. In its Original Jurisdiction, it is an international court with exclusive jurisdiction to interpret and apply the rules set out in the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas (RTC) and to decide disputes arising under it. The RTC established the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME). In its Original Jurisdiction, the CCJ is critical to the CSME and all 12 Member States which belong to the CSME (including their citizens, businesses, and governments) can access the Court's Original Jurisdiction to protect their rights under the RTC. In its Appellate Jurisdiction, the CCJ is the final court of appeal for criminal and civil matters for those countries in the Caribbean that alter their national Constitutions to enable the CCJ to perform that role. At present, four states access the Court in its Appellate Jurisdiction, these being Barbados, Belize, Dominica and Guyana.

Issued by:

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