



**THE NATIONAL GAS COMPANY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
LIMITED**

**REMARKS BY VICE PRESIDENT, HUMAN & CORPORATE RELATIONS
MRS CASSANDRA PATROVANI SYLVESTER
GRADUATION CEREMONY
OUTBOARD ENGINE REPAIRS AND BUILDING CONSTRUCTION
TECHNOLOGY
THURSDAY MAY 9, 2013
ROVANEL'S RESORT CONFERENCE CENTRE
TOBAGO**

Miss Ruth Redman, Master of Ceremonies

Mr Hayden Spencer, Asst. Secretary, Division of Agriculture,
Marine Affairs, Marketing and the Environment

Mr Garth Ottley, Director, Department of Marine Resources
and Fisheries

Mr Orville Moore, Director, NGC

Graduates

My colleagues at NGC

Ladies and gentlemen



Good afternoon. I am delighted to be here on behalf of The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago to congratulate the graduates of the Outboard Boat Engine Repairs and Building Construction Technology programmes.

NGC is extremely pleased to sponsor these training and educational programmes. Over the past twenty years, we have built a legacy of social responsibility to the people of Trinidad and Tobago. In our beautiful sister isle, our contribution to innovative and effective training activities, designed to assist Tobagonians to develop their skills and potential is paramount as Tobago becomes more integrated into our natural gas transmission grid and operations.

As a viable partner with Tobago in its continued development, and following consultations with the Tobago House of Assembly, the need for investment in training emerged as one area for support.

Outboard Boat Engine Repairs was chosen to equip members of the fishing community with the skills to troubleshoot and carry out minor repairs to their boat engines to avoid their having to travel to Trinidad for that



purpose. After all, the maintenance and efficient running of the primary tool of their livelihood also ensures that they do not lose income because of downtime. This programme also supports the safety aspect of NGC's sponsorship of a major prize in the annual Tobago Commercial Fishing Competition which is coming up again in June this year.

In the same way, the Building Construction Technology programme not only gave 20 adult Tobagonians the practical and theoretical training needed for employment in the constructor sector, it also provided a new resource base of skilled workers for the sector.

In an increasingly globalised and competitive market, knowledge has become one of the determining factors in a person's ability to realize his or her professional goals. We need to be innovative. New knowledge, new training, new ways of doing things are all essential for our growth as individuals and as a society.

That is why we at NGC are so pleased with the enthusiasm shown by you, the graduates. You saw an opportunity to enhance your existing skills or to learn new skills, and you



enthusiastically and openly embraced it. If Trinidad and Tobago is to compete globally, if we are to create a sustainable society, then this is the kind of responsiveness we require from our citizens. In that regard, not only will your hard work and achievements benefit you, they will also benefit Tobago and our twin island republic.

In keeping with best practice of maintaining sustainable community relationships, we consulted with our main stakeholders here, namely, the Tobago House of Assembly, the Department of Marine Resources and Fisheries and the National Energy Skills Centre, without whose support NGC would have found it very difficult to stage these programmes. The value of good partnership can never be underestimated.

In closing, I would like once more to affirm NGC's pleasure in being part of these programmes and to unequivocally state our commitment to partner with others for the development of Tobago and Trinidad and our people.



On behalf of all of us at NGC, I extend congratulations to all of our graduates today for a job well done. We sincerely wish you prosperity and success in all you do.

Thank you.