

MEDIA RELEASE



**Trinidad and Tobago
Securities and Exchange Commission
57-59 Dundonald Street
Port of Spain**

March 14, 2012

In commemoration of World Consumer Rights Day 2012, the TTSEC urges investors to know their rights

On **Thursday March 15**, the Trinidad and Tobago Securities and Exchange Commission (TTSEC) joins the national and international community in commemorating *World Consumer Rights Day 2012*, the theme of which is *Our money, our rights: campaigning for real choice in financial services*.

A key aspect of the TTSEC's mandate is to ensure that citizens know their rights and responsibilities before they invest their finances in the securities market. Investing in an often complex and volatile market is not always an easy task but with proper information, investors can make wise decisions. In light of this, the TTSEC reminds citizens of the following rights:-

The right to information

All consumers have a right to receive truthful information about any product that they intend to purchase. They also have the right to receive information about an entity's history, its expertise, advisors, risks involved in the investment, obligations, benefits and the cost of any potential investment. Additionally, investors have the right to get investment advice that is consistent with their personal objectives and risk tolerance.

The right to choose

It is important to:-

- ✓ Choose the investment products that best satisfy your goals;
- ✓ Choose the investment provider that best suits your needs. (Do not feel forced to choose until you have explored all options)

The right to redress

Investors have the right to redress if they encounter problems with their products or the service. The first step for redress is consulting the entity so that they can address your concern or problem. If that process fails to resolve the issue, then the TTSEC should be informed and may adjudicate upon the matter in accordance with the securities legislation.

It is also important to remember:-

- Contact the TTSEC via telephone or visit the TTSEC’s website to obtain a current list of persons/entities registered to deal with securities;
- Scams can be very convincing. **(If something sounds too good to be true, it usually is!)**

For more information on the rights and the responsibilities of the investor or how to protect yourself as an investor, please visit www.ttsec.org.tt or call 624 2991.

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About World Consumer Rights Day (WCRD):

WCRD, an annual occasion for celebration and solidarity within the international consumer movement, marks the date in 1962 when President John F Kennedy first outlined the definition of Consumer Rights. WCRD provides an opportunity to promote the basic rights of all consumers and for demanding that those rights are respected and protected. WCRD was first observed on 15 March 1983 and has since become an important occasion for mobilising citizen action.

About the TTSEC:

The TTSEC, established by way of the Securities Industry Act of 1995, is responsible for maintaining oversight of the securities market and for ensuring that fairness, equity and transparency remain common values in the market place. Our vision as an organization, is to be an effective regulator of the capital market in which stakeholders have confidence.

Contact: Arlene Stephen, Senior Communications Manager, Securities and Exchange Commission
868 624-2991 ext.1275 (Phone) 868 624-2995 (Fax) arlenes@ttsec.org.tt (Email)