



MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

MEDIA RELEASE

SUSPENSION OF DUTIES ON FOOD ITEMS TO CONTINUE

Port of Spain, March, 2010 - The Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) wishes to reassure the public that the suspension of duties on several popular food items including corned beef, sardines, cheese, fruit juices, yeasts, tea, baking powder, etc., will indeed continue from March 4th, 2010, thereby removing the need for any price increases.

This decision to extend the suspension of duties was made at the last Council on Trade and Economic Development (COTED) meeting in Guyana in February and therefore as far as the Government is concerned, there is no need to increase prices on these items, contrary to recent reports coming from the Supermarkets Association

The issuing of Legal notices which give effect to the suspension has already been approved by Cabinet and these are being prepared for publication shortly. The Ministry views the statements by the Association as quite unnecessary and alarmist.

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