

U20 Footballers Receive Funding Boost

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The Honourable Shamfa Cudjoe, in her remarks before the presentation, extended best wishes to the team, and took the opportunity to reiterate that NGBs must be more circumspect in their funding requests. Minister Cudjoe said, "The Ministry and SporTT stand ready to provide the necessary assistance when called upon but NGBs also have the responsibility to practice transparency, accountability and even democracy in their own affairs. Planning and preparation are fundamental to the process of sport development and we look forward to improvement in these areas going forward."

Both Director Hayden Mitchell of the Sports Company of Trinidad and Tobago (SporTT) and the Ministry's Director of Sport Patrice Charles concurred with the Minister's concerns about the timeliness of formal requests for funding, especially in today's challenging economic climate.

The Trinidad and Tobago U20 team has won two of the Group A games at the tournament which began on 1 November. T&T came from behind to beat St Vincent and the Grenadines 3-2 and romped to a 5-1 victory against Puerto Rico. The next opponent is the USA, which is a joint leader of the Group (along with T&T and Suriname) on 6 points. The top two teams of each group would qualify for the 2019 FIFA U20 World Cup.