



Trinidad and Tobago IFC and ACCA launch new suite of Global Business Services qualifications

Port of Spain, Thursday 13th October, 2016 – The Trinidad and Tobago International Financial Centre (IFC) and ACCA (The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants) have partnered to launch the Global Business Services (GBS) programme, a suite of three qualifications that are the first of its kind in Trinidad and Tobago, dedicated to enhancing the skills of professionals in the finance and accounting (F&A) outsourcing industry.

The new programme will position this country for growth in the financial sector. The programme offers a Certificate that includes an independently assessed online course and covers all the basic knowledge and skills required by global shared services employees. There's also a Diploma that boosts employees' financial expertise so that they can succeed in more challenging roles, as well as the Advanced Diploma that places a greater focus on advanced financial management, management accounting and performance management, improving employees' high-end professional skills.

"Through working closely with representatives from visiting Business Process Outsourcing providers, the Trinidad and Tobago IFC gained significant insight into some of the talent qualifications that attract these providers to new locations," said Aliyah Jaggassar, Vice President BPO/Shares Services Development, Trinidad and Tobago IFC. "We researched a number of options with various partners to make these qualifications accessible locally and are pleased to have identified ACCA's Global Business Services programme as an ideal choice for our market."

The GBS programme was introduced to finance professionals on Thursday 6th October, during an event held at the Hyatt Regency Trinidad in Port of Spain. Developed in consultation with over 150 employers from across the globe, the GBS programme is already available in countries with an established Business Process Outsourcing industry such as China, Malaysia and Poland.

"The ACCA GBS qualification directly contributes to world-class talent management, covering topics including relationship management, process improvement, governance and personal development, all supported by ACCA's global network of 100 offices in 53 countries, more than any other professional accountancy body," said David Hand, Head of Global Business Services at the ACCA.

The local programme is tailored for this market while retaining the globally recognised ACCA certification. It provides flexibility by allowing individuals to work at their pace, as well as it offers training for those



Aliyah Jaggassar, VP BPO/Shared Services Development, Trinidad and Tobago International Financial Centre (IFC) addresses the audience at the ICATT Conference 2016, where the Global Business Services (GBS) programme was introduced.



Chairman of the Trinidad and Tobago IFC Richard P. Young and Manager of Marketing & Communications Rudolph Hanamji, welcome Darryl White, Managing Director of RBC T&T, to the Trinidad and Tobago IFC booth.

interested in becoming a part of this new, growing sector.

Paula Marcelle-Irish, Head – Business Development at ACCA Caribbean, commented on the significance of the partnership between the ACCA and the Trinidad and Tobago IFC.

"ACCA is proud to have partnered with the Trinidad and Tobago IFC to support its mandate of developing talent in finance and accounting in the shared services and business process outsourcing arena, thus ensuring a continuous flow of skilled workers for local and international firms," she said. "There is a lot of scope for GBS across sectors in Trinidad and Tobago and we are excited at the opportunities that will become available in the short-to medium-term."

About the Trinidad & Tobago IFC:

The Trinidad and Tobago IFC aims to develop a robust financial services sector that would generate significant revenues and sustainable, high-value employment for the people of this country. As the main vehicle driving the expansion of the financial sector, the Trinidad and Tobago IFC has worked assiduously to achieve this goal through developing the Capital Market and creating a Financial Institutions Support Services (FINESS) industry.

About ACCA:

ACCA (the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants) is the global body for professional accountants. It offers business-relevant, first-choice qualifications to people of application, ability and ambition around the world who seek a rewarding career in accountancy, finance and management.

ACCA supports its 188,000 members and 480,000 students in 178 countries, helping them to develop successful careers in accounting and business, with the skills required by employers. ACCA works through a network of 100 offices and centres and more than 7,110 Approved Employers worldwide, who provide high standards of employee learning and development. Through its public interest remit, ACCA promotes appropriate regulation of accounting and conducts relevant research to ensure accountancy continues to grow in reputation and influence.