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Written contribution/Report prepared by “Environmental Network of Trinidad and Tobago (ENT)” for the summary that elaborates the Office of the High Commission on Human Rights for the Universal Periodic Evaluation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

1. The Environmental Network of Trinidad and Tobago (ENT), thereafter referred to as ENT, is a national organization based at #162 Crescent Gardens, Mausica Road, D’Abadie, Arima. ENT networks with other organizations, communities and individuals to preserve and conserve natural environments across Trinidad and Tobago.

ENT was founded in the year 1989 and officially registered in the year 2009. Membership includes seven persons at administrative level and over twenty five persons heading groups and communities across Trinidad and Tobago.

ENT has spearheaded tree planting exercises, coastal clean ups, wild life surveys and educational and promotional initiatives aimed at sensitizing Trinidad and Tobago as to the importance of preserving the natural wealth of the country and instilling a sense of caring and pride in taking action to achieve this.



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The work of ENT has been recognized and endorsed by several Government Ministries, Governmental agencies, NGOs, and regional and international foundations including the United Nations Information Centre for the Caribbean area and the United Nations Environment Programme.

2. The main objective of ENT is to promote preservation and conservation of all natural environments across Trinidad and Tobago. ENT has produced several books and documentaries aimed at promoting a unified national consciousness of the importance of the natural environments Trinidad and Tobago is endowed with and their place in the regional and global environment.

3. Environmental Network of Trinidad and Tobago (ENT) uses this occasion with the Universal Periodic Review of Member States of the United Nations to present this written contribution to the Human Rights Commission of the United Nations on Venezuela. In particular, we hope that our experience will aid in exposing the condition of basic human rights in Venezuela.

4. ENT in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela:

Since 2001, the Environmental Network of Trinidad and Tobago (ENT), has been exploring all natural environments across Venezuela, documenting and filming the diverse eco-locations that this South American country is blessed with. A land of contrasts, Venezuela boasts of habitats



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ranging from snow capped mountains to hot and dry deserts, age old tepuis featuring the world's highest waterfalls to rolling savannahs, touristic beaches to extensive delta lands.

During these expeditions, ENT has been greatly impressed with the environmental policies practiced by the State and the cordial observance of these laws by the people. The creation and preservation of National Parks and Monuments have been a top priority of the State.

ENT has visited among other places the large Cueva Del Guacharo located 12km outside the town of Caripe in the mountainous north east. Strict observance of environmental laws includes continuing monitoring of visitor arrivals, escorts round the area, and a general pride in a clean and beautiful national monument. It was obvious to ENT that strong policies based on environmental impact assessments preceded this. For ENTN it is an honour to recognize that the Venezuelan government is putting into practice very well the right of protect and maintain the environment for its own benefit and that of the world of the future.

Trinidad and Tobago are but two small islands in the Caribbean located just off the north eastern tip of Venezuela. While each natural environment in Venezuela is more extensive than that of the smaller Trinidad and Tobago, the two countries share similarities complimentary to both. The caverns in Trinidad's Northern Range for example are also colonized by the Guacharo. However, despite strict environmental laws to preserve sites such as these, there is much poaching of the Guacharo because of the virtual inaccessibility of these caverns in the facilitation of monitoring



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their well being. To look at how the Cueva Del Guacharo was opened up and made into a national monument by the Government of Venezuela would be promise of a safe future for this species of bird in Trinidad.

In the Delta Del Orinoco ENT has observed the changing environments of the Warao people. Here in Trinidad and Tobago, there has been the establishment of a Green Fund through which programs for protecting the environment and its dependents can be funded by industrialists. These are just a few examples of some of the ways in which our two countries can look at how mutual progress can be made to adopt and implement environmental policies practiced by each.

ENT recognizes that our two countries share similar environments and there are many advantages to be gained by working together to establish a 'green niche' in this part of the globe. Our two countries are home to habitats and wild life found nowhere else in the world. ENT would like the opportunity to be part of a mutual drive to promote further national pride in the unique natural environments of our two countries.

We recommend that the Government of Venezuela continue to strengthen and intensify the good actions implemented to protect the environment since these actions improve the quality of life for all human beings on the planet.