



EMPLOYERS CONSULTATIVE ASSOCIATION OF TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

#17 Samaroo Road, Aranguez Roundabout North, Aranguez

Tel: (868) 675-9388 Exts. 226/242 Fax: (868) 675-4866 Website: www.ecatt.org Email: communications@ecatt.org

MEDIA RELEASE

December 9, 2015

Layoffs must be a last resort

As a result of the current, global pressures and poor economic conditions, businesses will be experiencing undue pressure for even greater efficiency and higher productivity in their operations in order to stave off instances of layoffs as the “final nail in the business coffin”.

Retrenchment of workers will serve to perpetuate the current period of decline and further derail the country’s chances of experiencing a turnaround in growth and development. The ECA urges employers therefore to carefully weigh the decision to “layoff workers” during this economic crunch, ensuring that all possible alternatives for higher levels of productivity and innovation have been explored.

In light of the recent decision by ArcelorMittal to “begin a process of laying-off workers”, such scenarios like these are always unfortunate and undesirable and the ECA calls for all stakeholders to exhibit some magnanimity in what is undoubtedly a protracted period of economic uncertainty.

Most importantly, this lay-off decision is a stark reminder that at this time, it cannot be business as usual for both Employers and Employees in general. The ECA continues to call for continuous consultation among all social partners as this will contribute to the flow and distillation of ideas and feasible solutions to combat the treacherous recession wave. The Country stands to benefit from genuine social dialogue and “all hands on deck” by the Tripartite bodies. This is the time for Consultation not Confrontation!

For further information, kindly contact:

Antonette Brotherson-Brusco | Team Leader Public Relations and Communications
Telephone: 675-9388 Ext 226 | E-mail: abrothersonbrusco@ecatt.org