

Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs

### **Office of the Registrar General**

# NEW BENEECA OWNERSHP FRAMEWORK **Profit Companies** & External Companies



# **Changes to the** Companies Act, Ch. 81:01 Amendments to the Companies Act, came into force on 14th October 2024, updating the requirements for companies to disclose their beneficial owners

# Which companies are required to disclose BOs?

### **Profit Companies**

All Profit Companies incorporated under the Companies Act, whether Limited by Shares, Limited by Guarantee, Limited by Shares & Guarantee and Unlimited

### **External Companies**

All External Companies registered under the Companies Act, whether Limited by Shares or Limited by Guarantee

### **Non-Profit Companies**

Non-Profit Companies, whether Limited by Guarantee or Unlimited are **NOT** required to disclose beneficial owners under the Companies Act.

# New definition of BO

### 2019-2024

#### BO of the share

The Companies Act for the period 2019 - 2024 required that the BO(s) of each share issued by the company be identified.

#### 2024 - onwards

#### BO of the <u>company</u>

With effect from 14th October 2024, companies are now required to identify the BO(s) of the company.

### Here are the new criteria to identify a BO:



owns or controls **ten percent or more** of the shares or membership interest of a company through direct or indirect ownership or control through other means.

exercises ultimate effective control of the company or external company indirectly or through others means.

#### *If no person is identified at A or B:*



holds the position of senior managing "official of the company or external company.

# **Filing Requirements - Form 45 Return of Beneficial Ownership**

The Form 45 is no longer required to be filed annually.



After a company files their first Form 45, the company will only be required to file where changes occur to the list of BOs

The Form 45 is filed in person at the Companies Registry with a filing fee of \$40.00







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# For more information, download the Beneficial Ownership FAQ

## Available now on the Companies Registry Website and at the link below:

http://legalaffairs.gov.tt/documents/RGDFAQBeneficialOwnership.pdf