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Press Release

Statement by the Chairman/Judge Her Honour Madam Justice Donna Prowell-Raphael on the Opening of the 2018/2019 Law Term

*“When we lose the right to be different, we lose the privilege to be free.”
Charles Evans Hughes, 11th Chief Justice of the United States*

Chaguana, October, 4 2018 : In a statement issued by Chairman/Judge, of the tribunal, Mrs. Donna Prowell-Raphael, expressed optimism that stakeholders will be better served with the state-of-the-art initiatives made despite the potentially financially paralysing situation of the facility.

Among other innovations, Attorneys can now expect to receive email reminders of court deadlines and dates, while video conferencing for case management through desktops, laptops even cell phones may soon be a reality.

The tribunal is a superior court of record enjoying similar status to that of the High Court and the Industrial Court with powers to impose fines, make orders for damages and/or grant injunctions to persons who feel they are being discriminated against.

The Tribunal (though often mistaken for it) is not the same entity as, or a part of, the Equal Opportunity Commission. The Tribunal’s functions are judicial – and are independent and distinct from the conciliatory role and functions of the Commission.

The Commission receives complaints of discrimination for conciliation under the Act. Complaints that cannot be resolved by conciliation or remain unresolved after conciliation can be referred by the Commission to the Tribunal for judicial adjudication and determination.

October 4, 2018