

EXECUTIVE STAFF APPOINTMENT



DR. PATRICE PARRIS SEARLES Chief Executive Officer National Training Agency (NTA)

The National Training Agency congratulates Dr. Patrice Parris Searles on her appointment as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the NTA, with effect from 3 August 2021.

Dr. Parris Searles' experience spans over twenty years in skills development for vulnerable populations, labour market research, occupational analysis, training needs assessments, curriculum development, policy development and planning. As an assiduous leader and strong advocate for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) she has played a key role in the development of various TVET rationalisation plans and strategies and was a member of the Regional Working Committee for the revision of the Regional Vocational Qualifications Framework. She has also served as a consultant on several aspects of the National Child Policy of Trinidad and Tobago.

Her previous portfolios include Chief Executive Officer (Ag.), NTA; and Director, Social Investigations, Ministry of the People and Social Development Trinidad and Tobago. She also served in the capacity of Manager, Research, Planning and Development, NTA; Manager, Policy, Research and Planning – Ministry of Gender, Youth and Child Development, Trinidad and Tobago and Manager, Research and Curriculum Development at the Youth Training and Employment Partnership Programme (YTEPP) Limited.

Dr. Patrice Parris Searles holds a PhD in Sociology from the University of the West Indies (UWI). Her research interest lies in the area of educational sociology, with an emphasis on youth participation, engagement and development within the education and training arenas. She is a Certified Manager of Quality/Organizational Excellence with the American Society for Quality (ASQ) and holds a postgraduate certificate in Instructional Design from the University of Wisconsin.

Dr. Parris Searles has authored a number of academic papers focused on the labour market realities among at-risk youth and the effectiveness and relevance of various government policies and initiatives.