

**The Lilongwe Communiqué on  
African Universal Service and Access Fund Forum on 26 August 2008**

**The Administrators of Universal Service and Access Funds (USAF)** of some of the African countries having met in Lilongwe, Malawi today:

1. Being aware of the critical role USAF plays to ensure equitable telecommunications connectivity for all communities to ensure wider socio-economic development in African countries
2. Noting the unique needs of USAF in procuring expertise, building knowledge, establishing relationships and creating networks to carry out its mandate effectively
3. Understanding the commonality of these needs and the synergies that could be achieved by working together
4. Further acknowledging the guidance already provided and assistance to be gained in future from, the Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation ("CTO") and other international organisations.

**Declare that** the Administrators/head of Universal Service and Access Funds commend the work already carried out by the CTO and being desirous of continuing with that work pledge to establish an institutional framework that will facilitate, co-ordinate and organise the individual USAF agencies under a common strategic body that would enable the individual USAF agencies to leverage their collective strengths to achieve their aims and objectives.