

# e-COMMONWEALTH

A NEWSLETTER OF THE COMMONWEALTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS ORGANISATION

//APRIL 2017

## COMMONWEALTH ICT INVESTMENT FORUM 2017

// COMMONWEALTH ICT ROUND  
TABLE 2017

// CTO FELLOWSHIP  
PRESENTATIONS 2017





## //EDITORIAL



**Shola Taylor**  
Secretary-General

Dear friends,

With over half of the world's population yet to use the Internet, there is still more to be done. Over the past 20 years, we have promoted what we saw as the ultimate means to achieve universal access to ICTs: liberalisation of national markets, and privatisation of state-owned operators. Thanks to these two mechanisms, we have seen unexpected overall growth in areas such as mobile telephony.

However, major gaps persist in the areas of fixed access to voice and the Internet, especially in developing economies, and no solution should be overlooked if we are to bridge these gaps.

This is why we launched Commonwealth ICT Investment for Emerging Markets, an annual forum aimed at promoting public and private-sector investment in emerging markets. I am delighted to say that the inaugural event which took place in Dubai on 10 - 12 April was a true success, with strong support from the Telecommunications Regulatory Authority of the UAE and high-level participation from across the Commonwealth, from Samoa to Nigeria to Malaysia to Trinidad & Tobago. I excitedly look forward to next year's event.

Separately, our efforts to support more enabling policy and regulatory environments in member countries have resumed, through capacity building and our ICT Round Table series.

Unfortunately also, we are saddened by the recent passing of Marianne Treschow, the CTO's regional advisor for Scandinavia and Northern Europe. We will dearly miss her.

**Shola Taylor**  
Secretary-General//

# COMMONWEALTH ICT INVESTMENT FORUM 2017

Commonwealth community urged to build partnerships to facilitate investment in ICTs

The inaugural Commonwealth ICT Investment Forum took place in Dubai on 10 - 12 April, bringing together delegates from across the Commonwealth to discuss mechanisms to enable the major investment in ICTs required to connect the next billion people.

Insufficient investment in ICTs, and in particular in affordable technologies, has resulted in significant gaps in access to the Internet in Commonwealth countries.

It is well acknowledged that ICTs play a crucial role in national socio-economic development and Commonwealth ICT Invest'17 was convened in order to discuss opportunities for investment in emerging markets and facilitate partnerships and collaboration.

*"The exceptionally high-level calibre of participants at this forum clearly indicates that the international community is well*

*aware of the challenges and opportunities presented by the lack of investment in ICTs,"* said Shola Taylor, secretary-general of the CTO. *"They are clearly demonstrating their commitment to seizing these opportunities and moving forward to develop their*

*ICT sectors for the benefit of their countries, companies, peoples, the Commonwealth and beyond."*

In his keynote address to the opening ceremony, Mr Taylor highlighted to the audience the crucial role ICTs have to play in achieving the aims of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). New technologies can enable access to remote education

or healthcare, enhance gender equality, reduce energy consumption and increase food production. Increased broadband penetration can also boost national GDP. Investment in ICTs can enable governments worldwide to



Nilmini Rubin, Vice-President, Tetra Tech United States of America, addressing delegates at the Dubai event.



Robert William Middlehurst, Vice-President International Regulatory Affairs, Etisalat, United Arab Emirates.



Mlamli Booi, Chief Executive Officer, Sentech, South Africa.





Participants at the Commonwealth ICT Invest Forum 2017, Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

achieve the SDGs and also reap the benefits that ICTs can bring to their national and economic development. For this to happen, however, major investment in current and next-generation networks, in new technologies and in access needs to take place and so the CTO convened ICT Invest, not only to discuss opportunities for investment, but also to facilitate partnerships and collaboration.

*"Investment in the ICT sector is what is most lacking when it comes to ensuring that people around the world benefit from the Internet,"* said Gilbert Peterson, Chairman, Telecommunications Authority of Trinidad & Tobago and Chairman of the CTO Council. *"This event enabled us to explore together ways to attract and encourage investment in ICTs and affordable access. We all stand to gain from a world of universal access."*

The event was attended by ICT ministers and their advisors, telecoms regulators, development banks, regional ICT institutions, the private sector and development agencies from around the globe. Highlights include discussions on innovative partnerships, investing in cybersecurity, demand and government strategies for stimulating ICT investment. There were also a number of project showcases demonstrating ICT projects ready for investment.



Honourable Afamasaga Rico Tupa'i, Minister of Communication & Information Technology, Samoa, and Shola Taylor, Secretary-General, CTO, signing the agreement to host the Commonwealth Broadband Pacific Forum 2017, which will take place in Samoa on 25 - 27 July.

Shola Taylor, Secretary-General, Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation.

commonwealth  
**ICTInvest**  
10 - 12 APRIL 2017, DIFC, DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES  
partnerships  
to connect  
next business



## //RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

## Commonwealth ICT Round Table: developing a better understanding of ICT regulation



Delegates at the ICT Round Table April 2017, London, United Kingdom.

Over 20 delegates from Asia, Africa and the Caribbean took part in the first 2017 Commonwealth ICT Round Table in London on 24 - 28 April. The event, aimed at newly appointed board members, lawmakers and senior officials from ICT organisations, is designed to enable participants to develop a better understanding of policy, regulatory and management issues relating to the ICT sector.

The five-day event examined topics such as universal access funds, spectrum and the digital dividend, the management of cyberspace and over-the-top services. Delegates also took part in site visits to Facebook and BT.

"The round table is a very useful, worthwhile event," said Senator Olabiyi

Durojaiye, Chairman of the Nigerian Communications Commission. "The choice of experts presenting talks is very good and my colleagues and I who are in the early stages of coming into the telecoms industry greatly benefit from the information they convey."

"Capacity building amongst regulators is vital, not just for officials, but also for board members and other senior stakeholders in ICT regulation," said Brian Goulden, Director, Strategy & Capacity, Pygma Consulting, who presented on universal service/access funds and stakeholder engagement. "The CTO Round Table provides participants with an opportunity for gaining a good understanding of regulatory issues and for creating networks with their peers," he concluded. //

## UGANDA'S ANNUAL LAW CONFERENCE

## Growing the legal profession in line with technology

In a keynote on the future of the legal profession delivered at Uganda's 2017 Annual Law Conference on 30th March, Secretary-General Shola Taylor called on the legal profession to evolve with technology.

Technology is increasingly facilitating the legal profession, both by expanding the field of law itself and by facilitating the legal practice itself. But technology also brings new challenges.

Citing recent court cases involving online

social media and online networks, he said that technology advances are throwing up new types of disputes from data theft to cyber bullying, while adding new dimensions to existing disputes. Crimes such as fraud have reached new heights in cyberspace as can be seen from the stories we hear daily, he added.

"One challenge is that most legal principles which have been developed in an analogue age struggle to address the challenges of the digital age," said Mr Taylor. //



Shola Taylor with Honourable Bart Katureebe, Chief Justice of Uganda.

## Who's who



Mr Mahamad Aleem Bocus, Chairman, ICTA.

Mr Mahamad Aleem Bocus is the newly appointed chairman of the ICTA, the national regulator for the ICT sector and postal services in Mauritius. Mr Bocus is not new to the ICT sector, having served as director of

legal affairs at the authority from 2002 to 2006. Much has changed in the fast-paced sector in the last decade, and so the round table offered Mr Bocus the opportunity to refresh his knowledge of the area and explore new avenues.

"There is only one constant in ICTs and that is change," said Mr Bocus. "The CTO's ICT round table offers me a precious opportunity to plunge into ICT renewal. Additionally, the issues addressed are of immediate relevance and will no doubt make us better equipped to meet the competing challenges we face in the near future."



Mr Mvilawemphi Dlamini, Chief Executive Officer, Swaziland Communications Commission.

Mr Mvilawemphi Dlamini, was appointed chief executive officer to the Swaziland Communications Commission in March this year. Mr Dlamini is an IT specialist with two decades of hands-on experience and was head of IT at Standard Bank

Swaziland for over 10 years. The Commonwealth ICT round table is an opportunity for Mr Dlamini to gain an overview of the current issues in regulating ICTs and telecoms.

"The variety of topics covered by the ICT Round Table is commendable and has been extremely useful as I begin to implement my vision for assisting the ICT sector in Swaziland," said Mr Dlamini. "The round table also offers me the opportunity to network with international colleagues and incorporate their experiences into my work." //

## //RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

## Obituary – Dr Marianne Treschow



Marianne Treschow & Shola Taylor at the 115th Anniversary celebration of the CTO in January 2016, London, UK.

The CTO was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Dr Treschow, regional advisor for Europe and Scandinavia. Former Director-General of the Swedish Post & Telecom Authority, Dr Treschow worked closely with the CTO for a number of years, linking policymakers, regulators and industry from her region with the CTO and its member countries for the benefit of ICT development throughout the Commonwealth.

*“Marianne was knowledgeable, passionate, informed and informative,”* said Shola Taylor, Secretary-General of the CTO. *“She was committed to the cause of advancing the progress of ICTs and bringing the benefits they can deliver to the Commonwealth community.”*

*Above all, she was graceful, kind and generous with her time and always charming. We shall miss her greatly at the CTO.”*

*“Dr Treschow made an immense contribution to the regulation and development of ICTs, both in Sweden and internationally,”* said Gilbert Peterson, Chairman, Telecommunications Authority of Trinidad & Tobago and Chairman of the CTO Council. *“Her contribution to the work of the CTO, and her support and assistance to the Organisation’s members will be much missed.”*

Dr Treschow’s funeral took place on 5 May where the CTO was represented by Hilda Muchando, Manager, Capacity Development. //

## CTO strengthens technical support and consultancy to members



The CTO has recruited a senior programme officer to its Technical Support & Consultancy Division. Anita Sohan will support the division’s ongoing projects on cybersecurity: assisting members to develop and implement their national cybersecurity strategies and strengthen the cybersecurity systems for small and medium sized businesses. Anita will also coordinate the CTO’s work in international ICT fora, including the ICANN Government Advisory Group, and the ITU’s telecommunication development sector conferences. //

Anita Sohan, Senior Programme Officer, Technical Support & Consultancy Division, CTO.

## CTO reaches out to the Pacific Islands at PITA AGM



CTO Regional Advisor Gisa Fuatai & HE Henry Tuakeu Puna, Prime Minister, Cook Islands.

CTO regional advisor, Gisa Fuatai Purcell, represented the CTO secretary-general at the Pacific Islands Telecommunications Association’s (PITA) AGM which took place in the Cook Islands on 3 – 7 April 2017.

Mrs Purcell spoke on ICT leadership roles and trends and also gave a presentation on the CTO’s ongoing programmes and support for cybersecurity.

*“The PITA AGM offered a vital opportunity to communicate the CTO’s work with ICT Ministers in the Pacific Islands,”* Mrs Purcell said. //

## //CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

## Staff at TRB Cameroon attend emotional intelligence training



Participants at the emotional intelligence course, Cameroon, April 2017.

Delegates from TRB Cameroon attended training on emotional intelligence in Yaoundé on 24 – 28 April.

The course, suitable for anyone who leads or works in a team, was designed to identify and develop emotional intelligence in order to build stronger relationships, empathise with others, manage stress levels, overcome challenging situations, learn to diffuse personal conflicts and much more. //



## //CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

# CTO fellowship presentations 2017

At a ceremony held on 21 April in London, Commonwealth fellows Ifeanyi Ifebigh from the Nigerian Communications Commission, Tshegofatso Mankonyane from Botswana Telecommunications Corporation and Victor Nyamadi from Vodaphone Ghana presented the outcome of their three-month research programmes.

Mr Ifebigh's research focused on spectrum management, looking in particular at the outcomes of the 2015 World Radiocommunications Conference (WRC), which resulted in a number of decisions on the management and utilisation of spectrum. He concluded that, since Commonwealth countries have barely two and a half years before the next WRC in 2019, these nations should endeavour to commence studies that are relevant to their countries based on the ITU WRC-19 agenda.

Mrs Mankonyane's focus was on the CTO's Programme for Development & Training (PDT), looking at the current portfolio of courses offered for PDT members and benchmarking them against other suppliers in order to demonstrate the value of PDT membership. She concluded that more awareness needs to be created around these programmes to sensitise people about their

value and benefits, so that membership can be expanded to those who are not part of the scheme yet.

Mr Nyamadi conducted research that examined the status of cybersecurity in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) from both a national and regional perspective. Mr Nyamadi developed an automated toolkit for the cybersecurity maturity model developed by the Global Cyber Security Capacity Centre at the Oxford Martin School, which was used to conduct assessments of the cybersecurity maturity of Togo, Ghana and Nigeria. The conclusions drawn from his research show that the majority of ECOWAS countries need support to develop their cybersecurity strategies. Also, some of these countries require a yearly review of the strategy to identify new risks

through a stakeholder

consultative approach.

Hosted by the CTO for the duration of their projects, the three fellows were beneficiaries of professional fellowships from the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission (CSC).

Special guests present at the ceremony were Joyce Asamoali-Koranteny, minister-counsellor from the Ghana High Commission, Henri Mpollo, first secretary from the High Commission for the Republic of Cameroon and Bala Ibrahim minister-counsellor from the Nigerian High Commission.

*"The CTO is delighted to host CSC Fellows from our member countries each year," said Mr Shola Taylor, secretary-general of the CTO. "These fellows research and build solutions on topics that are of great benefit, not only to the CTO, but also to their employer and their home countries."*

*"I am very impressed by the work carried out by the Fellows," said Mrs Asamoali-Koranteny. "The presentations by the fellows were very insightful".*

The CSC awards over 900 scholarships and fellowships every year to Commonwealth citizens for postgraduate study and professional development. The CTO host around six fellows every year from CTO Full Member Countries, who work on a range of ICT-related research topics including capacity development, cybersecurity and broadband.//



CTO Fellows (left to right): Ifeanyi Ifebigh, Tshegofatso Mankonyane & Victor Nyamadi.

### CTO upcoming courses

DATE	COURSE	LOCATION
10 – 15 April	Finance for Non-Finance Managers in Telecommunications	Johannesburg
8 – 12 May	Overview: ICT Policy and Regulation	Johannesburg
15 – 19 May	Introduction to Big Data Analysis	Johannesburg
15 – 19 May	Telecommunications Finance for Non-Finance Managers	Port of Spain
15 – 19 May	Traffic Accounting and Revenue Assurance	Nairobi
22 – 26 May	Frequency Planning and Spectrum Management	Anuja
5 – 9 June	Broadband Pricing	Abuja
19 – 21 June	Performing a Regulatory Impact Assessment	Abuja

For more information on courses, contact us at [programmes@cto.int](mailto:programmes@cto.int)

## //TECHNICAL SUPPORT & CONSULTANCY

### CTO staff learn what it takes to assess a company's cybersecurity

On 19 April, staff from the CTO office in London received training on the Information Assurance for SMEs' (IASME) Cyber Essentials assessor course. IASME offers two cybersecurity assessments for small to medium sized enterprises (SMEs): Cyber Essentials and the IASME standard. The Cyber Essentials standard is an essential requirement for all companies working with the UK government and aims to help organisations implement basic levels of protection against cyber attacks, demonstrating to their customers that they take cybersecurity seriously.

The CTO is working with our members in Botswana, Cameroon, Jamaica, Nigeria and

Uganda to train assessors who can then work with SMEs to ensure they implement the Cyber Essentials standards. Promoting the adoption of cyber standards by the SME sector is critical

enough to play a major role in the local and international digital economy.

The overview of the training to become a Cyber Essentials assessor was also attended



Attendees at the IASME workshop at the CTO, London, Uk.

by Dwayne Cassell who is working with the Montserrat Ministry of Communications, Works, Energy and Labour to enhance the country's cybersecurity posture.

*"Minister Paul Lewis is setting up a cybersecurity department for Montserrat which will, among other things, provide training to companies to get the nation's cybersecurity systems up to standard" said Mr Cassell. "The*

*Cyber Essentials assessment will be a useful tool for the department, and SMEs in Montserrat."*

in building a trusted, borderless business environment and will ensure SMEs are secure

## //MEMBER NEWS

### TRB Cameroon to adopt new spectrum management manual

The Telecommunications Regulatory Board (TRB) of Cameroon is currently finalising a manual of procedures in national spectrum

management. The manual will include both procedural and training procedures to enable national regulatory bodies to better manage

the spectrum in their jurisdiction. Once complete, the manual will be available to partners across the region.

### Caribbean firms turn to Cloud

The advent of cloud computing is creating new possibilities for businesses in the Caribbean. Cloud computing provides a simple way to access servers, storage, databases, analytics and a broad set of application services over the Internet, a process that Caribbean island states have been adopting.

*"As more Caribbean companies confront the reality of rising costs for technology*

*services, cloud computing is emerging as an attractive option for those seeking to reduce routine expenditure without compromising on competitiveness or service delivery capability,"* said Bevil Wooding, the founder of the Caribbean Network Operators Group (CaribNOG), the region's first volunteer-based community of network engineers and computer security experts. CaribNOG has been increasing region-wide

awareness of cloud computing and other important issues related to technological innovation and regional development.

Since 2010, the event has become a nexus for industry professionals from across the Caribbean region and around the world seeking a forum to build relationships, exchange information and share experiences on developing cloud technology in the Caribbean region.

### Huawei: Digital divide is now a digital chasm

Huawei's Global Connectivity Index 2017 reports that digitally-developed economies around the globe are continuing to progress due to larger investments and adoptions in Information Communication Technology. At the same time, digitally-developing economies have also started to accelerate their growth by investing strategically in ICT capabilities and their digital transformation journeys – yet the

gap continues to grow.

Those are some of the findings in the company's CGI 2017, a study that shows how countries are progressing with digital transformation based on 40 indicators that cover five technology enablers: broadband, data centres, cloud, big data and Internet of Things. Investing in these five key technologies enables countries to digitize their economies.

Through centralized planning, potential connectivity can be fully leveraged and ICT capabilities can support positive growth of national economies.

According to GCI 2017, global progress towards a digital economy is picking up pace. The world's GCI score is up four percentage points since 2015. The report shows that ICT has become an engine of economic growth.

### Avanti Communications and Motion Picture Solutions connect over 300 cinemas

Avanti connected 331 cinemas across the UK to securely distribute content. The secure and reliable service is delivering HD feature films to connected sites. With many cinemas across

the UK located in areas with little or no access to reliable internet connectivity, movie files are often physically distributed by couriers whereby the risk of content not being delivered is high.

Powered by Avanti's HYLAS 1 Ka-band satellite, the service provides MPS a secure and highly reliable content distribution service ensuring film delivery to the cinemas.



Conference  
&  
Exhibition

# CTO ICTForum'17

11 - 13 SEPTEMBER 2017, MAPUTO, MOZAMBIQUE

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Sharing the ICT vision for the Commonwealth & beyond



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