

# e-COMMONWEALTH

A NEWSLETTER OF THE COMMONWEALTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS ORGANISATION

//MARCH 2017

COMMONWEALTH  
CYBERSECURITY FORUM  
2017

// COMMONWEALTH ICT  
INVESTMENT FORUM 2017

// DIGITAL BANGLADESH  
CONFERENCE



## //EDITORIAL



**Shola Taylor**  
Secretary-General

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the March issue of e-COMMONWEALTH. As expected, it was a month dominated by our work on cybersecurity. Reassuringly, the annual Commonwealth Cybersecurity Forum which took place in London showed that our members are committed to a much safer Internet and have, for many of them, adopted national cybersecurity strategies. I was particularly pleased with the buy-in from participants on the need for regional and international collaboration.

Prior to this, I was honoured to take part in Digital Bangladesh, at the invitation of the Honourable Tarana Halim, minister of state for posts, telecommunications and information technology. It was very encouraging to see the country's numerous stakeholders jointly looking for solutions to the country's broadband and cybersecurity challenges.

The CTO also took part at ICANN58 where we held once again a Commonwealth Government Advisory Committee meeting. Of particular importance is the policy development process of the GAC where we hope to see greater participation from member countries.

Whilst in Mozambique for the signing of the hosting agreement for the CTO's 2017 annual Forum and Council meeting, I visited the country's impressive Science Park in Maluana, some 90 kilometres North of Maputo. A sightseeing 'must' and an example for those of you planning to join us in Maputo on 11 - 15 September 2017.

Regulatory and operating environments continue to evolve for many of our members, such as BT's further opening of its access network.

I am also pleased to see the final arrangements in place for the inaugural Commonwealth ICT Invest'17 to take place on 10 - 12 April in Dubai, and I look forward to welcoming all of you there.

Shola Taylor  
Secretary-General//

# COMMONWEALTH CYBERSECURITY FORUM 2017

Commonwealth Cybersecurity Forum 2017 calls for greater international collaboration in the fight against cybercrime

This year's Commonwealth Cybersecurity Forum took place in central London on 22 - 24 March. The annual forum brought together senior representatives from international and regional organisations, governments, industry and civil society to hear about the latest developments in the field of cybersecurity and discuss ways to build both capacity and partnerships to tackle the cybersecurity challenges of today and tomorrow.

The predominant theme to emerge from the three-day conference was of the need for greater bilateral and multilateral collaboration between countries and international companies in the fight against cybercrime.

*"When it comes to cybersecurity, we are only as strong as our weakest link,"* said Shola Taylor, secretary-general of the CTO. *"The CTO is committed to assisting our members in developing and implementing their national cybersecurity strategies for the benefit, not only of their national ICT sectors, but also the international community. The Commonwealth Cybersecurity Forum is another strand to the*

*CTO's work in enhancing cybersecurity and protecting cyberspace."*

Mr Taylor called for collaboration between law enforcement, ICT operators, international agencies and policymakers in his address to the opening ceremony, which also heard from

the secretary-general of the Commonwealth, the Rt Honourable Patricia Scotland QC, Dr Chaesub Lee, director of the Standardisation Bureau, International Telecommunication Union, Chris Disspain, board member at the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names & Numbers (ICANN), Helen Musgrove, deputy director of cyber growth at the UK Department for Culture, Media and Sport and Les Anderson, vice-president of cyber at BT Security.

*"The Internet has the power to transform lives,"* Secretary-General Scotland told the conference. *"Abuses of this technology can just as easily devastate lives and I am pleased that this conference provides an opportunity to build cooperation among stakeholders from across the Commonwealth to develop a joined-up approach to tackling cybercrime."*

Over the three days of the event, issues



Honourable Tarana Halim, Minister of State, Posts & Telecommunications Division, Ministry of Post, Telecommunications & Information Technology, Bangladesh.



Shola Taylor, Secretary-General, Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation.



Dr Chaesub Lee, Director, Standardisation Bureau, International Telecommunication Union.



Participants at the Commonwealth Cybersecurity Forum 2017, BT Centre, London, UK.

such as privacy and data protection, implementing national cybersecurity strategies, cyberspace and extremism and cyber standards were examined. The themes of collaboration and cooperation came up many times, from the calls from the secretaries-general to the highlighting of partnership work by the CTO with member countries and cybersecurity organisations to the discussion of how to ensure cross-border cooperation in cybersecurity through the sharing of information.

In her address to the conference, the Honourable Tarana Halim, Bangladesh minister of state for post, telecommunications and information technology outlined international legal measures to improve cybersecurity, emphasising the need for these to be incorporated into national law and added her voice to those calling on the international community to collaborate in the fight against transnational cybercrime.

*"Goodwill and collaboration play a strong role in the multi-stakeholder model ICANN uses for policy development,"* said Mr Disspain from ICANN. *"This conference provides the opportunity for collaboration on cybersecurity in the drive to move from discussing cybersecurity policy to action."*

To view more photos of event please visit:  
<https://fiic.kr/s/aHskWt8nid>



Les Anderson, Vice-President of Cyber, BT Security.



The Rt Honourable Patricia Scotland QC, Secretary-General, Commonwealth Secretariat.

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## //CONFERENCES &amp; EVENTS

## Commonwealth ICT Investment Forum 2017: creating partnerships for ICT prosperity



Dubai, UAE where the Commonwealth ICT Invest 2017 will take place.

ICTs will play a crucial part in achieving the aims of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. There are clear roles for ICTs in areas such as health and education, with ICTs enabling access to remote education and healthcare, facilitating research and the distribution of information. But ICTs have a role in all 17 goals, from enhancing gender equality through enabling political participation, to reducing energy consumption and so contribute to the efforts to tackle climate change, to increasing food production by providing farmers with new ways to access essential information and new markets.

For ICTs to enable governments worldwide to contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals and reap the benefits that ICTs can bring to their national social and economic development, there needs to be major investment in next-generation networks, new technologies and access. The Commonwealth ICT Investment Forum 2017 will bring together a wide variety of stakeholders, including ICT and finance ministries, national ICT regulators, international donors and investment bankers to explore the ICT investment opportunities in emerging markets across the world.

The Forum will showcase new projects and facilitate multistakeholder partnerships, alongside presenting the latest thoughts on:

- Regulating to attract investment;
  - New investments mechanism for ICTs;
  - New connectivity models;
  - Funding mechanisms for SMEs, start-ups and incubators;
  - Investment in ICT applications;
- And much more!

For more information, or to register, please visit: <http://www.cto.int/events/upcoming-events/ict-invest-forum-2017//>

## //RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

## Support for Commonwealth countries at ICANN's Government Advisory Committee



ICANN58, Copenhagen on 11 - 16 March 2017.

Commonwealth stakeholders met during ICANN58 which took place in Copenhagen on 11 - 16 March to discuss the need for greater participation of Commonwealth countries at the level of ICANN's Government Advisory Committee, and also the need for

supporting regional capacity building activities on more specific areas of ICANN's work, such as the new gTLDs.

*"It was interesting to see growing interest from member countries in GAC meetings, but we have to reach out to those yet to*

*take part to ensure they have a voice in the committee's policy development process,"* said Marcel Belingue, senior manager, membership and communications at the CTO, and chair of the Commonwealth GAC meeting in Copenhagen.//

## //RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

## Digital Bangladesh enhancing inter-agency collaboration in the fight against cybercrime



Opening ceremony of Digital Bangladesh 2017, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Over 150 delegates convened in Dhaka for the Digital Bangladesh conference which took place on 7 – 8 March. The conference, organised by the CTO in collaboration with the Ministry of Post, Telecommunications & Information Technology of Bangladesh and the Bangladesh Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (BTRC) – brought together stakeholders from ICT operators, policymakers and the law enforcement community in Bangladesh to develop a framework for preventing or responding to cybercrime.

“In organising the Digital Bangladesh conference, Bangladesh is taking unequivocal steps to make the Internet, not only a safe space for its citizens, but also a trusted and resilient platform for its growing e-economy,” said CTO’s secretary-general Shola Taylor.

“This is the sort of investment necessary to connect the next billion to the Internet and ensure cyber networks are safe.”

Tackling cybercrime within the telecom sector is a key element of the work the CTO is undertaking as part of its cybersecurity programme and enhancing cybersecurity is an essential component in the drive to use ICTs to accelerate socio-economic development. The conference examined global best practices in tackling cybercrime, and leaders in the fields of telecoms regulation, law enforcement and service providers led the discussions that resulted in a draft strategic framework for the Bangladesh telecom sector to tackle cybercrime. Internet safety and safe surfing for children also featured strongly on the agenda as Bangladesh looks to build a

culture of cybersecurity.

The opening ceremony was attended by dignitaries including the Honourable Dr Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, speaker of the Bangladesh parliament, and the Honourable Begum Tarana Halim, state minister for posts, telecommunications and information technology. Mrs Halim told the conference: “We are delighted to work with the CTO on Digital Bangladesh. Tackling cybercrime is a key element to advancing Bangladesh’s digital agenda and this conference has developed a more coordinated response to cybercrime.”

“The dedication of our partners in realising the vision for this ambitious and important event is most impressive,” concluded Mr Taylor. “I commend the ministry and BTRC for their commitment to developing Bangladesh’s digital capacity.”//

## Commonwealth Day 2017

Commonwealth Day was celebrated on Monday March 13 with a service at Westminster Abbey in the presence of Her Majesty the Queen and the Commonwealth Secretary-General. Colleagues across the Commonwealth also celebrated under the theme ‘A peace-building Commonwealth’.



CREDIT: Commonwealth Secretariat

## //CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

## Commonwealth ICT Round Table scheduled for April

The Commonwealth ICT Round Table is a high-level programme designed to provide senior ICT policy and decision-makers with an understanding of the major trends in ICTs and the emerging opportunities for social and economic development, as well as the most pressing and long-term challenges in the sector.

The first round table of 2017 will take place in London on 24 – 28 April and will combine sessions led by well-established experts in their

respective fields with face-to-face meetings with private-sector executives and visits to key ICT institutions in London. Session topics confirmed so far include:

- Overview of ICT policy, regulation and operation
- The economics of regulation
- Spectrum and the digital dividend
- Social media and regulation
- Influencing global decisions on ICTs
- Cyberspace and cybersecurity

- Consumer protection
- Universal service

*“The CTO has developed this round table series to provide an unrivalled knowledge-building and experience-sharing opportunity for senior decision makers in policy making, regulation and operating to assist them find their way round the ICT landscape”* said Hilda Muchando, Manager, Capacity Development.

For more information, or to register, please write to [programmes@cto.int](mailto:programmes@cto.int)



## Kenya CA hosts ICT round table and broadband programme

Staff from the Communications Authority (CA) of Kenya undertook a five-day programme developed from the

Commonwealth ICT Round Table series on ICT policy and regulation. The event took place on 13 – 17 March in Nairobi. A course

on Broadband Technologies & Multimedia Services was also delivered for CA Kenya on 20 – 24 March.//

## 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 – 17 May	Performing a Regulatory Impact Assessment	Abuja
15 – 19 May	Traffic Accounting and Revenue Assurance	Nairobi
22 – 26 May	Frequency Planning and Spectrum Management	Anuja
5 – 9 May	Broadband Pricing	Abuja

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

## commonwealth Broadband'17 Pacific

25 - 27 JULY 2017, TATTE CONVENTION CENTRE, SAMOA

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## //TECHNICAL SUPPORT AND CONSULTANCY

# Working with members to tackle cybercrime

The CTO's Technical Support & Consultancy (TSC) division continues to work with member countries to develop their cybersecurity strategies. A key part of this work, as demonstrated by the Digital Bangladesh conference, is bringing together ICT and law enforcement communities to develop joint strategies to tackle cybercrime.

Following the successful event in Bangladesh, a workshop on cybercrime will also take place in Pakistan. This workshop will build on Pakistan's Cybercrime Bill which was passed in late 2016. The CTO is also working with the ministry of information technology of Pakistan to conduct a cybersecurity maturity model assessment which will identify gaps in the

country's cybersecurity situation.

*"Pakistan is keen to tackle the challenges of cybersecurity," said Dr Martin Koyabe, manager of the division. "I recently spoke to a telecom stakeholder meeting about cybercrime challenges and was impressed by the community's knowledge, engagement and enthusiasm for meeting the challenges of cybercrime."*

The CTO is also progressing with work in Malawi and Mozambique on the development of their cybersecurity strategies as part of the organisation's development assistance programme. Meetings have taken place in both countries in March with stakeholders to get their input to, and buy-in on, the draft strategies.//



Dr Martin Koyabe, Manager, Technical Support & Consultancy, CTO presenting to the PTA stakeholders meeting.

## //MEMBER NEWS

### BT and Ofcom reach agreement on future governance of Openreach

BT and Ofcom have reached agreement on a settlement that will see Openreach become a distinct, legally separate company within the BT Group. The agreement will provide BT and other companies with greater regulatory clarity and certainty which will help the United Kingdom retain its position as the leading digital economy in the G20.

Openreach builds and maintains tens of millions of copper and fibre lines that run

from telephone exchanges to homes and businesses across the UK.

The agreement is based upon voluntary commitments submitted by BT, that the regulator has said meet its competition concerns.

The agreement helps to ensure the UK telecommunications market remains one of the most competitive in the world. As hundreds of telecoms companies already use Openreach

this agreement will continue to enhance safeguards to ensure that all of Openreach's customers are treated equally.

*"I believe this agreement will serve the long-term interests of millions of UK households, businesses and service providers that rely on our infrastructure. It will also end a period of uncertainty for our people and support further investment in the UK's digital infrastructure"* said Gavin Patterson, BT's chief executive.//

### Avanti works with Kenya to stimulate ICT innovation

Avanti has announced a new contract with Telkom Kenya to provide connectivity for Kenya's Constituency Incubation Hubs initiative. The project, awarded by the Ministry of ICT of Kenya, will see Telkom Kenya install 1,160 hubs across the country using capacity on many of Avanti's HYLAS 2 Ka-band satellites.

The project will provide incubation hub facilities for young adults and entrepreneurs to develop their ICT skills and applications, bringing them into the digital world and enabling them to grow and start new businesses in the region.

David Williams, chief executive officer of Avanti, said: *"The project is a great*

*example of how our technology is positively impacting ICT development across Africa. Avanti's proven Ka-band technology continues to consistently deliver high-speed high quality connectivity to meet the needs of the most demanding operators and governments."*//

### Safaricom announces new board members

Safaricom announced the appointment of two new directors. At the board of directors' meeting that was held on 2 March, the board approved the appointment of Vivek Badrinath as a director of the company representing Vodafone Kenya Ltd. The board

also appointed Dr Bitange Ndemo as a non-executive and independent director of the company.

*"Both board members will bring vast talent and understanding of the global business landscape, as well as unique*

*insights into the world of telecommunications to our business. Our Board will be enriched by their knowledge which will enhance Safaricom's ability to navigate an increasingly multifaceted industry,"* said Nicholas Ng'ang'a, Safaricom's chairman.//

# commonwealth ICTInvest '17

10 - 12 APRIL 2017, DIFC, DUBAI, UAE

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