

e-COMMONWEALTH

A NEWSLETTER OF THE COMMONWEALTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS ORGANISATION

//MARCH 2016



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115
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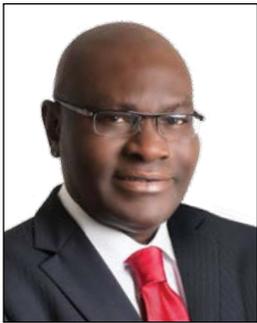
STRATEGIC PLAN 2016 - 2020

A ROADMAP TO RESULT-FOCUSED ICT LEADERSHIP

// CYBERSECURITY ACROSS BORDERS

// ICT INNOVATION AND APPLICATIONS –
REWARDING EXCELLENCE

//EDITORIAL



Shola Taylor
Secretary-General

As we move to implement our new Strategic Plan for 2016 - 2020, I am excited to see the enthusiasm it has already generated among our members. As shown in this issue, the month of March was dominated by our work on

cybersecurity which has been given high priority in our new Plan, and I was particularly honoured to discuss our work in this key area with Ed Vaizey, the UK Minister of State for Culture and the Digital Economy when he visited the CTO Secretariat earlier this month, and also later with other member country officials who attended the Commonwealth Cybersecurity Forum 2016 on 23 - 24 March in London. The security and safety of cyberspace is a global and present-day challenge and we have little choice but to renew and coordinate our efforts to continue to address this issue.

In addition to our normal activities, we have now launched the 2016 Commonwealth ICT &

Industry Awards as well as the Commonwealth Youth ICT Applications Competition. These initiatives add to our Commonwealth Fellowship programme to strengthen our ethos for innovation, excellence and mentorship, and we are eager to see all our members take part in some way.

In this issue, we also note new developments from our satellite industry members Intelsat, SES and Avanti Communications in support of broadband access initiatives in regions of the Commonwealth, and we look forward to deeper discussions on the subject at our forthcoming Broadband Caribbean Forum 2016 in Port of Spain on 15 - 16 July. //

//RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Strategic Plan 2016 - 2020: A roadmap to result-focused ICT leadership



On 18 March, the CTO Council approved a new Strategic Plan for the organisation for the period 2016 - 2020. Aligned with the vision outlined by Secretary-General Shola Taylor as he assumed office as last September in Nairobi, Kenya the plan is aimed at *transforming the CTO for enhanced value for its membership*.

The approved four-year Plan is an ambitious road map to make greater use the CTO's status as an intergovernmental organisation, its strong historical position as a platform for consultation, and its wide member and partner network across five continents to enhance value for all its members. As a result, the new mission statement of the CTO is to **provide result-focused ICT leadership in the Commonwealth and beyond**.

Key notable changes in the plan include:

- the introduction of **Member Action Plans** to be effective from April this year, as the main mechanism to respond to members' needs.

As part of this new approach, **Member Account Managers** have been appointed from the existing staff to maintain regular engagement with each member of the Organisation, supplementing the dedicated membership division.

- the introduction of the **Affiliate Membership** option open to governments of non-Commonwealth countries, as well as **Academia Membership** to encourage universities and tertiary educational institutions to take part in the Organisation's work.
- the adoption of the **unit of membership contribution** to consolidate previously separate membership financial contribution scales into a single, simpler and fairer system.
- the launch of a **Development Assistance Programme (DAP)** to support members' ICT development efforts.
- the creation of a new **HR & Administration** department to report to the Secretary-General. This department will drive major improvements in recruitment, development and retention of CTO employees, as well as a closer realignment of the CTO's employment conditions to the UN system.
- the creation of a new **Technical Support & Consultancy division** to identify and respond more directly and more effectively to members' needs.
- a new **Associate Consultants** registration scheme open to qualified and experienced individuals as well as consultancy firms who will support the

Secretariat in responding to needs of its members.

The new Plan is structured around six goals and strategic objectives, as follows:

- 1. Enhance the value of the CTO membership and expand the CTO's membership base**, including through Member Action Plans which define clear programmes and activities for each member.
- 2. Promote enabling regulatory environments** in key areas such as licensing, spectrum management, quality of service and over-the-top operators.
- 3. Promote affordable universal and high-quality broadband connectivity** via enabling policies and regulatory measures that will help facilitate the rapid rollout of broadband infrastructure.
- 4. Promote a culture of cybersecurity and effective cyber governance** through the establishment of cybersecurity frameworks, standards and guidelines.
- 5. Promote the development and use of ICT applications for socio-economic development** e.g. e-governance, e-health, e-education and e-agriculture, among others.
- 6. Ensure effective coordination of Commonwealth countries at international ICT conferences and meetings.**

"ICTs provide the underpinning for our members' socio-economic development efforts, just as health and education, and the CTO is ready to move in the direction set out in the new Plan in full support of all members." Mr Taylor said. //

Experts and delegates convene to discuss the future of cybersecurity



COMMONWEALTH
**CYBERSECURITY
FORUM 2016**

23 - 24 MARCH 2016, BT TOWER, LONDON, UK



Delegates at the Commonwealth Cybersecurity Forum 2016, BT Tower, London, UK

CTO members, technology businesses and cybersecurity experts from the Commonwealth and beyond gathered in London on 24 - 25 March for the Cybersecurity Forum 2016. The focus of this year's discussions was security across borders: building international cooperation, and delegates heard from a wide range of distinguished speakers and panellists on making cyberspace resilient and secure.

Opening the ceremony, the CTO's Secretary-General, Shola Taylor, said, *"the open, decentralised nature of cyberspace has empowered individuals, fostered innovation and driven development, it also presents dangers for its users. This year's event was an opportunity for delegates to understand new forms of cyberthreats and cybercrime and learn about new and effective ways to mitigate or eradicate them, particularly through international cooperation. The CTO will continue its efforts to promote a culture of cybersecurity and effective cyber-governance and this is one of our top priorities in our strategic plan for 2016-2020."*

Nigel Hickson, ICANN's Vice-President for UN and IGO Engagement, delivered a keynote address on behalf of Cherine Chalaby, Vice-Chair of ICANN. Mr Hickson outlined the ICANN process for the transfer of key internet governance functions from the US government to the global community. Speaking on the importance of this year's conference, Nigel Hickson said that *"ICANN*

is delighted and honoured to work with the CTO on this important annual event in the internet governance and cybersecurity agenda. It was an excellent opportunity to discuss important developments, not least the recent historic agreements reached on the transfer of key technical internet governance functions from the US to the global internet community."

The conference discussed a wide range of issues relating to cyberspace and

ICANN is delighted and honoured to work with the CTO on this important annual event in the Internet governance and cybersecurity agenda.

Nigel Hickson, ICANN

Cybersecurity. The discussion of national cybersecurity strategies highlighted the work the CTO is carrying out with member countries to assist them to develop and implement their national cybersecurity strategies.

The crucial issues of cybercrime, cyberterrorism, Internet safety and cyberlaw were all covered over the two-day conference. Sir Malcolm Rifkind, former UK Foreign Secretary, highlighted how the Internet has

enabled terrorists but also makes them vulnerable, while John Carr, OBE, Executive Board Member of the UK Council for Child Internet Safety commented that those who seek to exploit children via cyberspace target countries where the legal framework is weak. International cooperation to strengthen cyberlaw is essential to tackle these issues, and this was supported by Dr Jamie Saunders, Director of the National Cyber Crime Unit at the UK's National Crime Agency and Katalaina Sapolu, Director of the Commonwealth Secretariat's Rule of Law Division.

Conference consensus was that those involved in securing cyberspace must be constantly moving forward and ensure that cybersecurity is embedded in all aspects of business and Internet governance. *"I don't foresee any let up in the cyberthreat surface, and so the CTO's cybersecurity conference is crucial."* said Les Anderson, Vice-President of Cyber, BT Security. *"It is able both to raise awareness of the threats to cyberspace, and how to tackle them, but also to enable delegates to take this awareness home and influence policy, technical architecture and capacity building."*

In his concluding address, Mr Taylor told the audience: *"The Commonwealth is well placed to take a leading role in the international community working together to protect cyberspace and I hope that this conference has provided further support for delegates' endeavours in the future." //*

//CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

UK Digital Economy Minister Ed Vaizey commends CTO on new strategic goals



Minister Ed Vaizey and Shola Taylor

Ed Vaizey, the UK Minister of State for Culture and the Digital Economy has commended the Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation for its new strategic goals in key areas such as the promotion of broadband and cybersecurity in the Commonwealth.

Minister Vaizey discussed these key areas of the CTO's work during a visit to the CTO Secretariat on 11 March 2016 where he met with Secretary-General Shola Taylor.

Shola Taylor thanked Ed Vaizey for the UK government's support for the CTO's work on cybersecurity, as well as for the regular contributions by Ofcom and BT to CTO's programmes aimed at board members and senior regulatory officials from Commonwealth countries and beyond. *"Through this support the CTO has been able to help member countries develop and implement national cybersecurity strategies. This is very important to us because we plan to continue our cybersecurity efforts which form a crucial aspect of our strategic plan for 2016 - 2020,"* said Mr Taylor.

Mr Vaizey, the UK government member responsible for the Broadband Delivery UK programme which aims to extend the coverage of fixed "superfast broadband" services to 95% of homes by 2017, was very pleased to learn that broadband is among the CTO's six priorities. He was particularly interested in the multi-stakeholder partnership between the CTO, the Commonwealth Secretariat and the International Telecommunication Union which supports the development of national broadband policies and strategies across the Commonwealth and beyond. //

Working with members towards a secure cyberspace

The values and aspirations that unite the Commonwealth – democracy, human rights and the rule of law are equally well applicable to the governance of cyberspace. As the CTO's Secretary-General Shola Taylor argued at the Commonwealth Cybersecurity Forum 2016, it was these values that were the basis for the Commonwealth Cybergovernance Model that, in turn, was the foundation for the CTO's approach to developing national cybersecurity strategies.

Since the launch of the Commonwealth approach in 2014, the CTO has worked with a number of countries to assist them to develop their national cybersecurity strategy, based on the Commonwealth approach. Current projects with Uganda, Botswana and Cameroon are in their final phases and in March Lasantha de Alwis, ICT Development Director, Marcel Belingue, Membership & Communications Senior Manager, Dr Martin Koyabe, Technical Support and Consultancy Manager and Senior Technical Officer Fargani Tambeayuk visited all three countries to work with all stakeholders to produce the final versions of the strategies which will be submitted to their respective government for adoption.

"Stakeholders in Uganda, Botswana and Cameroon have worked consistently hard and diligently to complete the project work and develop Cybersecurity strategies for their country," said Mr De Alwis. *"Cyberspace holds enormous potential to bridge the digital divide, empower individuals and drive development, but it also poses risks to individuals, businesses and nations, and so we are pleased to have delivered our colleagues the means to protect themselves from these risks."*

James Saaka, Executive Director of the National Information Technology Authority, Uganda agreed, commenting that the finalisation of the National Cybersecurity Strategy for Uganda *"...is indeed a big milestone for Uganda."*

The CTO would like to thank the UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) for the funding they have provided for these projects through their *Cyber Security Capacity Building Programme*. This important capacity building project recognises that cyberspace is only as strong as its weakest link, and through assisting individual countries, they are working towards a safe and secure cyberspace for current and future generations. //

CTO coordinates Commonwealth views at ICANN

The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) holds three meetings a year to bring together the global community to discuss policies for the Internet's naming system. The Governmental Advisory Committee to ICANN (GAC) is made up of representatives from governments and governmental entities and they come together to provide a unique regulatory, legal, and cultural perspective on the issues being discussed at the meeting.

In 2014 the CTO took on the role of coordinating the Commonwealth GAC in order to ensure Commonwealth parties to the GAC were well informed on GAC and ICANN issues that will impact them, and also to provide the Commonwealth's perspective to the GAC.

The most recent meeting of the Commonwealth GAC, chaired by Secretary-General Shola Taylor took place in the margins of ICANN55 in Marrakech at the beginning of March. Mr Taylor updated delegates on the CTO's new strategic plan and Mark Carvell, the UK representative to the GAC briefed delegates

on progress at ICANN so far. Delegates discussed the importance of IANA (Internet Assigned Numbers Authority) stewardship transfer and the importance of collaboration and cooperation. *"Coordinating the unique perspective of Commonwealth countries at international fora is a key priority in the CTO's Strategic Plan for the next four years,"* Mr Taylor said. *"I am pleased to have chaired my second Commonwealth GAC and enabled delegates to input into the discussion around the IANA stewardship transfer."*

At the end of ICANN55 a milestone agreement was reached to transfer some of the key technical Internet functions from the US government to the global community. Mr Taylor said: *"Internet governance requires the cooperation of a wide number of disparate stakeholders. The Commonwealth GAC is a forum that provides a vital information sharing platform for Commonwealth delegates, and also affords delegates the opportunity to input into the deliberations of the GAC itself."* //

//CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

ICT innovation and applications – rewarding excellence



Following the launch of the CTO's 115th Anniversary in London on 20 January 2016, the CTO is pleased to announce the inaugural Commonwealth ICT & Industry Awards and the Commonwealth Youth ICT Applications Competition.

ICT adoption and use vary considerably across countries and regions, impacting peoples lives often in radically different and positive ways. The Commonwealth ICT & Industry Awards are aimed at recognising the successes in ICT development of member countries and industry and celebrating the possibilities these achievements offer for others. Winners of these awards will be announced at the Commonwealth ICT Ministers Forum, on 14 - 16 June 2016 in London.

Ministries, regulatory authorities, universal access agencies and other public sector entities of Commonwealth countries can submit entries in the areas of:

- Universal access initiatives
- Broadband initiatives
- ICT policy and regulatory initiatives
- Cybersecurity initiatives
- Spectrum management initiatives
- Applications (e.g. e-health, m-government, etc)

For the industry award, which is open to any Commonwealth industry organisation, including network operators, manufacturers and service providers, the CTO is calling for submissions in the following categories:

- Universal access initiatives
- Broadband initiatives
- Cybersecurity initiatives
- Applications (e.g. e-health, e-learning)
- Corporate social responsibility

To support the CTO's strategic goal to promote the development and use of ICT applications for socio-economic development, and also to support the youth of the Commonwealth, the CTO is also launching the Commonwealth Youth ICT Applications Competition.

The Competition is aimed at recognising and encouraging youth excellence and innovation and the CTO is eager to see candidate entries from citizens of Full Member Countries aged 35 or less, on successful ICT applications in the following areas:

- E-commerce
- E-education
- E-agriculture
- E-health

Young laureates will receive a cash prize of £1,000, plus the opportunity to showcase their app at the CTO Forum 2016, taking place on 12-14 September in Nadi, Fiji.

Full details, including terms and conditions and key dates can be found on the CTO website at www.cto.int

"I am proud to be leading the CTO as we celebrate the achievements of the last 115 years, and I look to the future of ICT development." said Secretary-General Shola Taylor. *"As we celebrate our achievements, I am pleased that we are providing the opportunity to celebrate the achievements of our members and support the youth of the Commonwealth. I look forward to receiving the submissions for these competitions and sharing the successes of the winners later this year."*

Secretary-General Taylor meets with South African industry representatives in Johannesburg

The launch of the CTO's new Strategic Plan for 2016 - 2020 provides a number of opportunities for the ICT sector. In a presentation to representatives from the South African ICT industry on 16 March 2016, CTO Secretary-General, Shola Taylor, outlined some of the areas in which the CTO can support the sector.

Focusing on the priority areas of the Strategic Plan, Mr Taylor highlighted opportunities in regulatory support, consultancy, capacity development and training and outlined how support in these areas to the South African government and



I hope that we can work with companies in South Africa, and beyond, to assist them in adapting and I am confident that, under the direction set by our Strategic Plan, the CTO can support sustainable development through ICTs.

Shola Taylor, Secretary-General CTO



regulator will aid the development of the country's ICT sector. Companies also have the opportunity to engage directly with the CTO as ICT Sector Members which will enable them to benefit directly from the CTO's activities, knowledge sharing events and networking opportunities.

"There are many stresses and strains for companies responding to this rapidly changing sector," Mr Taylor said. *"I hope that we can work with companies in South Africa and beyond to assist them in adapting and I am confident that, under the direction set by our Strategic Plan, the CTO can support sustainable development through ICTs."*



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UPCOMING COURSES AND EVENTS

Regulatory Boards Workshop	11 - 15 April 2016, London	Workshop
Digital Broadcasting Africa Forum 2016	11 - 13 May 2016, Abuja	Conference
Commonwealth ICT Ministers Forum 2016	14 - 16 June 2016, London	Conference
Commonwealth Spectrum Auction Workshop	June 2016, Namibia	Workshop
Broadband Caribbean Forum 2016	14 - 15 July 2016, Port of Spain	Conference
Regulatory Boards Workshop	18 - 22 July 2016, London	Workshop
Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation Forum 2016	12 - 16 September 2016, Nadi	Conference
Broadband Asia Forum 2016	October/November 2016	Conference
Commonwealth Human Resources and ICTs Forum 2016	21- 22 November 2016, Kingston	Conference
Spectrum Management Conference	November 2016	Conference

//MEMBERS' NEWS

SES deploys SATMED e-health platform and launches first maritime VSATs on Friendship's floating hospitals in Bangladesh



CREDITS: SATMED

Satellite operator SES, and Friendship, a non-governmental organisation, along with the technical assistance of Square Informatix (Bangladesh) Ltd launched the first state-of-the-art maritime VSATs on three of Friendship's floating hospital ships. SATMED, the newly

deployed satellite-based e-health platform, will enable the NGO to establish communications with national and international doctors from remote areas, to provide medical counselling to marginalised communities through telemedicine and to exchange medical knowledge with local doctors. SATMED is an IT-enabled cloud infrastructure accessible around the globe that facilitates data exchange between professionals and medical frameworks such as electronic medical records and teleradiology systems. The project is funded by the Luxembourg Government and implemented in cooperation with SES Techcom Services and e-Medical Communication. //

Kenya's Safaricom powered Barclays Kenya Open as sole connectivity partner

Safaricom supported the 2016 Barclays Kenya Open as part of its commitment to be the tournament's sole connectivity provider. Safaricom supplied a mix of cutting-edge technologies that will aim to streamline communications at the globally recognised event which attracts players and spectators from across the world. "The Kenya Open continues to form a key part of the global golfing calendar. We are pleased to

be associated with the event once again as sole connectivity provider." said Rita Okuthe, Director of Safaricom Business. Under the terms of the partnership, Safaricom Business provided an ultra-modern media centre at the venue. The centre was fitted with computers and high-speed Internet access that allowed journalists to file stories as well act as the communication center for the professionals and the tournament directors. //

Intelsat 29e completes in-orbit testing

Intelsat's satellite engineering team and supporting groups have completed thirty days of payload in-orbit testing (PIOT). This was a critical step in ensuring that the capabilities and performance of the payload (which includes communications and telemetry & command radiofrequency subsystems) withstood the launch and on-orbit environments. PIOT also verifies the proper pointing of communication antennas post deployment. The process requires detailed planning, coordination (some with other operators to avoid interference), training and rehearsal. //

Avanti Communications helps extend broadband connectivity across East Africa

Intelsat, a service provider of VSAT equipment, has signed a new contract with Avanti Communications, a leading provider of satellite data communications services in Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Avanti's HYLAS 2 Ka-band satellite will provide Intelsat with capacity over the iDirect platform to deliver broadband services to its enterprise, government and defence customers, as well as to GSM operators. "The flexibility and high quality of Avanti's satellite services allow Intelsat to provide affordable broadband internet to rural and underserved Africa." said Matthew O'Connor, Chief Operating Officer at Avanti. //



Irene Kaggwa-Sewankambo appointed UCC Director of Engineering

CREDITS: UCC

Uganda Communications Commission (UCC) has appointed Irene Kaggwa-Sewankambo as Director of Engineering and Communication Infrastructure. Mrs Kaggwa-Sewankambo possesses extensive experience in the areas of planning, policy development and implementation, including for licensing, Internet development, quality of service, numbering resource management and universal access. Irene holds an MSc in Economic Management and Policy from Strathclyde University, an MSc in Communication Systems and Signal Processing from University of Bristol, and a Bachelors Degree in Electrical Engineering from Makerere University. //

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