

CTO EVENTS

ICTs and People with Disabilities: a Caribbean Workshop **9-11 February 2015, Jolly Beach Resort, St John's, Antigua**

This workshop, being hosted by the Ministry of Information, Broadcasting, Telecommunications and Information Technology, Antigua and Barbuda, and facilitated by Tim Unwin, has been designed to address some of the key ICT initiatives taking place across the Caribbean for people with disabilities. Confirmed speakers to date include:

- Honourable Melford Nicholas, Minister of Information, Broadcasting, Telecommunications and Information Technology, Antigua and Barbuda
- Dr Aubrey Webson, Antigua & Barbuda's Permanent Representative to the United Nations
- Lisa Hixon, Unit for the Blind, Antigua and Barbuda
- Kenfield Griffith, Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer, mSurvey
- Leslie Emanuel, Executive Director, Disabled Peoples' International North America and the Caribbean
- Monique Ragbir, Citizenship, CPE, PR, PiL Coordinator, Microsoft Trinidad
- Arvil Grant, Chief Executive Officer, Caribbean Council for the Blind
- Senator Floyd Morris, University of the West Indies, Disability Unit Jamaica

Registration is free; if you are interested in attending, please contact [Emma Killick](#), Assistant to the Secretary General.

Commonwealth Digital Broadcasting Switchover Forum 2015: Embracing the Digital Future

17-19 February 2015, The Indaba Hotel and Conference Centre, Johannesburg, South Africa

This event builds on CTO's successful DBSF Africa events held over the last decade, which have helped policy makers, regulators and operators from the African ICT and broadcasting sectors to map out their strategies for digital switchover. This year's event widens the agenda to all Commonwealth Countries and is an excellent opportunity for participants to learn from each other about successes as well as the many challenges that they face in delivering on the June 2015 deadline for switchover.

Confirmed speakers include:

- Willington Ngwepe, Chief Operations Officer, Independent Communications Authority of South Africa
- Albertus Aochamub, Director-General, Namibian Broadcasting Corporation, President of the Southern African Broadcasting Association, and Vice President of

the Public Media Alliance

- Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum, Honourable Attorney General and Minister for Communications, Republic of Fiji
- Charles Igwe, Chief Executive Officer, Nollywood Global
- Andrew Rugege, Regional Director for Africa, International Telecommunication Union
- Mortimer Hope, Director Spectrum and Public Policy Africa, GSM Association
- Habbi Gunze, Director, Broadcasting Affairs, Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority
- Mothobi Mutloatse, Founder and chairman, Mobile TV, South Africa

For further information and to register for the event, please see the [website](#).

Commonwealth e-Governance Forum 2015: Smart Governance Through a Networked Government

24-26 March 2015, Kigali, Rwanda

Governments globally have adopted e-enabling governance in order to improve service, efficiency and transparency. Technological advances such as open data and Cloud services have added new dimensions to e-governance. Held in Rwanda, a leader in the use of ICTs for governance, the Commonwealth e-Governance Forum 2015 will examine new technologies, showcase innovative e-Governance services, facilitate knowledge exchange and assist relationship building.

Commonwealth Cybersecurity Forum 2015: Securing Cyberspace for Social and Economic Development

22-24 April 2015, London, UK

Safety, security and resilience are central to releasing the socioeconomic benefits of cyberspace. Effective cybersecurity requires multilateral cooperation and harmonised action. The fifth in this series, the Commonwealth Cybersecurity Forum 2015 will bring together stakeholders from across the Commonwealth to examine national cybersecurity strategies, evaluate innovative technologies, showcase expertise and foster relationships, while mapping out international cooperation.

Other upcoming events in 2015

Commonwealth Broadband Forum 2015

16-18 June 2015, Abuja, Nigeria

Commonwealth Human Resources for ICT 2015

6-8 July 2015, Maputo, Mozambique

CTO Forum and Council Meeting 2015

14-18 September 2015, Safari Park Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya

CTO CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT & TRAINING

ICT Regulation: Understanding the Big Picture of ICTs

9-13 March 2015, CTO Training Suite, London, UK

Following the success of the first of these workshops, held for newly appointed board members of telecommunications regulatory authorities in October 2014, the CTO has scheduled another course to run in London in March.

Appointed board members of regulatory agencies often come from different specialist backgrounds, but sometimes have little or no prior experience of ICTs. In order for them to succeed in their role, they must fully understand the complexities of ICT regulation in its wider context. It is also paramount for board members to recognise opportunities and challenges that ICT regulation poses within the sector. The Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation, with its long history of capacity building, is ideally placed to equip these senior decision makers with the know how to deliver on their core responsibilities as board members.

Delegates to the first workshop heard from a wide variety of presenters, including Facebook and OFCOM, on topics such as the regulatory environment, the role of ICTs in development, consumer issues and universal service funds. As well as appealing to newly appointed board members, this course is also well suited to senior officials with responsibility for the implementation and management of ICT policy.

For more information, and to register for this event, please contact [Hilda Muchando](#).

CTO RESEARCH & CONSULTANCY

The Research and Consultancy (R&C) Team continue to work on the [We.Learn.It](#) project; [national Cybersecurity strategies](#); broadband in East Africa and consultancy to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Centre in Mauritius.

On 12 January the R&C Team participated in the second technical review on the EU project Convergence of Wireless Optical Network and IT Resources in Support of Cloud Service (CONTENT Project). CONTENT project aims to focus on developing a next generation ubiquitous converged network infrastructure to support the network of the future.

CTO NATIONALLY & INTERNATIONALLY

Secretary General, Professor Tim Unwin gave a keynote address to [Dadamac's](#) Africa-UK Connections in Practice conference on 10th January. The event brought together people from the UK and English-speaking sub-Saharan Africa to discuss how things have changed now that communication is easier, and Prof Unwin spoke on *Talking with each other: can ICTs make a difference?* The presentation can be seen on [YouTube](#).

In January, Prof Unwin also had two missions to Switzerland. The first was to visit the new top management team of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), including Zhao

Houlin, the SG, Malcolm Johnson, the DSG and Sector Directors. The meetings were very productive and focused on the importance that both the ITU and the CTO place on working together collaboratively.



Zhao Houli, Secretary General, ITU and Tim Unwin, Secretary General CTO

The second mission to Switzerland was to Davos to participate in the World Economic Forum's annual meeting, 21 to 24 January. The internet and ICTs have been identified by the World Economic Forum as one of their top ten themes for the next decade and Prof Unwin participated in many sessions on the internet and digital technologies, as well as holding bilateral meetings with key global figures.

CTO SECRETARIAT

Welcome!

The CTO would like to extend a warm welcome to three new members of staff who joined the secretariat in January. Preetee Ramloll, has joined as our new Programme Management Officer, working with Hilda on Capacity Development and Training. Anna Chaplin is temporary Sales and Marketing Officer, focusing initially on event sales, but also working across other teams. Finally Adriana Cardoso has joined as temporary Travel and Logistics Officer.

Preetee told iCTO, "It is an honour for me to join the incredible team at the CTO. I knew there was no better organisation to join if I wanted to make a difference. I started as Programme Management Officer in the CDT Department and, with Hilda as my mentor, I am being trained in handling the PDT training procurement cycle in liaison with member organisations, identifying training requirements in compliance with internal procedures and targets and co-ordinating the implementation of approved training events.

I come from the paradise island of Mauritius and a lot of what I do and how I think has been shaped by my family and life experiences. I truly believe that each of us must find meaning in our work, and the best work happens when you know that it's not just work, but something that will improve other people's lives. This is the opportunity that drives each of us at CTO. Bravo to everyone here, and I hope to meet the PDT members very soon."