**MINISTRY OF TECHNOLOGY, COMMUNICATION AND INNOVATION**

**Subject:** Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Internet Governance

**Date:** Thursday 26 February 2015

**Time:** 13:25 hrs

**Venue:** Conference Room, Ministry of Technology, Communication and Innovation (MTCI), Level 4, New Government Centre, Port Louis.

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| **Members Present:** | | |
| **Ministry of Technology, Communication and Innovation (MTCI)** | | |
| **Administrative Staff** | | |
| 1. Mr. J. Phokeer | - | Permanent Secretary (**Chairperson**) |
| 1. Ms. S. D. Gujadhur-Nowbuth | - | Deputy Permanent Secretary |
| 1. Mr. P. Teeloku | - | Deputy Permanent Secretary |
| 1. Ms. U. Shewraj | - | Assistant Permanent Secretary |
| **Technical Staff** | | |
| 1. Mr. R. Hawabhay | - | Chief Technical Officer |
| 1. Mr. S. Ramgolam | - | Project Manager |
| **Secretariat** | | |
| 1. Ms. L. Chan | - | Office Management Assistant |
| 1. Mr. P. Gorden | - | Intern, Service To Mauritius (**Acted as Secretary**) |
| **National Computer Board (NCB)** | | |
| 1. Mr. I. Limalia | - | Acting Manager |
| 1. Mr. V. Mulloo | - | Manager, Government Online Centre (GOC) |
| **Central Informatics Bureau (CIB)** | | |
| 1. Dr. M. Soobron | - | Director |

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| **Information and Communication Technologies Authority (ICTA)** | | |
| 1. Dr. K. Oolun | - | Executive Director |
| 1. Mr. T. Dabeesing | - | Director Information Technology |
| 1. Mr. P. Luckwa | - | IT System Engineer |
| **Mauritius Telecom (MT)** |  |  |
| 1. **Ms. V. Cathapermal** | - | Senior Executive Regulatory Affairs |
| 1. Mr. J. Lim | - | Executive (Data and IP) |
| **Mauritius Bankers Association** | | |
| 1. Mr. S. Beegun | - | Regional ICT Consultant, Afrasia Bank |
| **Internet Society of Mauritius (ISOC)** | | |
| 1. Me. A. Radhakissoon | - | President ISOC |
| **Data Communications Ltd (DCL)** | | |
| 1. Mr. G. Ramalingum | - | Executive Chairman |
| 1. Mr. S. Ramalingum | - | Software Engineer |
| **Hot Link Co Ltd** | | |
| 1. Mr. J. Ng | - | Managing Director |
| **Mauritius Internet Users** |  |  |
| 1. Mr. S. Moonesamy | - | Consultant, Eland Systems |
| **FODY Technologies (.mu registrar)** | | |
| 1. Mr. B. Gentil | - | Director |

* 1. **Welcome**
  2. The Chairperson welcomed the members present and declared the meeting open.

**2.0 Purpose of Meeting**

2.1 The Chairperson stated that the purpose of the Meeting was to (i) reactivate the consultation process regarding *Multi-Stakeholder Forum* on Internet Governance; and (ii) to discuss the framework/model for the ***.mu*** country code Top Level Domain (ccTLD).

2.2 The Chairperson informed the members that:

(i) in June 2014, the “*Proposed Governance Framework for the .mu ccTLD*” had been circulated to members, who were requested to submit their views thereon;

(ii) till date no views/feedbacks had been submitted to the Ministry;

(iii) new members had been invited to join the Multi-Stakeholder Forum, such as the Mauritius Bankers Association; and

(iv) through a Parliamentary Question (PQ), Parliament had been informed that the *dot mu (****.mu****)* domain would be redelegated and the Multi-Stakeholder Forum would be called upon to play an active participatory role in the policy formulation for the administration of ***.mu*** and internet domain names in Mauritius.

2.3 The Chairperson invited Mr. T. Dabeesing, representative of ICTA, to drive the Committee through the proposed framework/model.

**3.0 PowerPoint Presentation**

3.1 Mr. T. Dabeesing made a PowerPoint presentation (Annex 1 refers) highlighting the following:

(i) Proposed framework for the .mu ccTLD;

(ii) Problem Statement;

(iii) The Remedy;

(iv) Operational model - 3R - Registry, Registrar, Registrant;

(v) Way forward;

(vi) Not-for-profit structure;

(vii) Proposed Action Plan; and

(viii) Status.

**4.0 Issues Discussed**

4.1 The Committee took note that:

(i) the procedures for the redelegation of the ***.mu*** *ccTLD* could be initiated only after the setting-up of a Multi-Stakeholder Forum. Hence, the need to formalise the structure of the said Forum before an Action Plan be established;

(ii) redelegation need not be just a matter of concern to the Ministry, but that of the whole local Internet Community;

(iii) the Multi-Stakeholder Forum need to be driven by a consortium regrouping Private sector – Academia – Internet Community; and

(iv) a Select Committee of 7-10 members could be setup to come up with proposal(s) for the Multi-Stakeholder Forum and Governance Framework. Thereafter a public consultation could be envisaged.

4.2 Mr. Moonesamy, representative of Mauritius Internet Users, pointed out the following:

(i) the redelegation process can be initiated by making a formal request to the *Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA)* and not to *Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)*;

(ii) if an agreement be reached for ***dot mu (.mu)*** domain, issues associated to ***gov dot mu (gov.mu)*** domain would automatically be resolved;

(iii) there were no real standards for redelegation, which are done on a case to case basis; and

(iv) there would be need for an information session to explain (a) the parameters of the said redelegation; and (b) the structure and functionalities of the *Multi-Stakeholder Forum*.

4.3 The Chairperson informed the Committee that just prior to the meeting, Mr. Yan Kwok of Internet Direct Ltd (IDL) met him in the former’s office and submitted a proposal for the settlement and acquisition of the ***gov dot mu (gov.mu)*** domain.

4.4 Mr. A. Radhakissoon pointed out that he would not be at ease to discuss commercial agreement when concern parties were not present. He was of the opinion that the commercial aspect of ***dot mu (.mu)*** domain need to be separated from the Multi-Stakeholder Forum, which had be set to look at the Mauritian governance of the said domain.

**5.0 Way Forward**

5.1 The Committee agreed to the following:

(i) a Select Committee under the chair of Mr. S. Moonesamy, representative of Mauritius Internet Users and the following members:

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| **No.** | **Sector** | **Name of Representative** |
| 1. | Government | Mr. T. Dabeesing |
| 2. | ISPs | Mr. G. Ramalingum |
| 3. | Internet Community | Mr. A. Radhakissoon |
| 4. | Banks | Mr. S. Beegun |
| 5. | Mauritius IT Industry Association | Mr. D. Sunnasy |

(ii) the purpose of Select Committee would be (a) formalise the Multi-Stakeholder Forum; and (b) work out a Governance Framework for the .mu ccTLD by **end of March 2015**;

(iii) the Select Committee may co-opt other members as and when necessary;

(iv) Mr. T. Dabeesing of ICTA to provide the backup-secretariat for the Select Committee; and

(v) the Ministry to (i) write to the University of Mauritius (UOM), to designate their representative to sit on the Select Committee; and (ii) share the PowerPoint presentation (Annex 1), to members present.

**6.0 End of Meeting**

6.1 The Meeting ended at 14:40 hrs with a note of thanks from the Chairperson.

**09 March 2015 Ministry of Technology, Communication and Innovation**