



ICTA and TRAI sign Letter of Intent for bilateral co-operation in ICT regulation

Port Louis: The Information and Communication Technologies Authority (ICTA) has signed a Letter of Intent with the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) which paves the way for bilateral cooperation in the regulation of telecommunication and broadcasting sectors.

Mr Dick Ng Sui Wa, the Chairman of ICTA and the Chairman of TRAI, Dr V. P Vaghela signed the Letter of Intent in a ceremony which was held online on Wednesday 7th July 2021. Senior delegations from both ICTA and TRAI were also present during the online meeting. Following the signature, the two sides entered discussions about areas for mutual cooperation.

The Letter of Intent sets out some eleven avenues for bilateral cooperation. These include spectrum management; consumer protection mechanisms; the promotion of technical innovation in the telecommunications field; the ICT regulatory framework in sustainable smart cities; the regulatory framework for M2M communications; Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT); Over-the-Top (OTT) Services and capacity building.

International cooperation, especially in the framework of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) membership is also covered under this Letter of Intent.

Mr Dick Ng Sui Wa described the signing of the Letter of Intent as a very significant moment. The ICT Board Chairman added, “that he is very optimistic that the Letter of Intent will cement cooperation between both regulators. The scope for exchanges in regulatory models and innovative approaches augur well. We will also explore international best practices in a number of fields and no doubt derive the benefits of the tremendous experience of TRAI. Equally we look forward to share ICTA’s experience in approaches we have adopted in our regulatory context.”

For his part, the Chairman of TRAI, Dr V.P. Vaghela welcomed the partnership and expressed great interest in the experience of ICTA in a number of fields, notably consumer complaints handling mechanisms, numbering plan management and the recent innovative auction of spectrum adopted for 5G allocation.

The Letter of Intent covers an initial period of three years.

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