



INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION  
TECHNOLOGIES AUTHORITY

## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **ICT Authority donates ICT equipment to mark the commemoration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the last Chagossian deportation**

Baie du Tombeau - June 17, 2023 – The ICT Authority is proud to have taken part in the commemoration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the last Chagossian deportation, a historical landmark celebrated at the Marie Charlesia Alexis Chagossian Community Centre in Baie-du-Tombeau, in the presence of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Mauritius, Pravind Kumar Jugnauth.

In an effort to uplift the Chagossian community and support their continuous journey towards digital literacy, the ICT Authority has donated 10 personal computers and 5 laptops. The donation is a demonstration of the commitment of the Authority to promote digital inclusion, foster digital skills and broaden their access to global information and opportunities.

The event, held on June 17 June 2023, drew the attention of dignitaries, representatives from Human Rights Watch as well as members of the Chagos Refugee Group from several countries.

"This donation is more than just a gesture of solidarity, it is a pledge to the Chagossian community that we stand with them in their ongoing journey towards a future that acknowledges their past, yet opens doors to digital and inclusive opportunities," said Mr Dick Ng Sui Wa, Chairperson of the ICT Authority. "We believe in the power of technology as a tool for change, and this donation is a step towards ensuring the Chagossian community is not left behind in this digital age."

The Chairperson of the Chagossian Refugee Group, Mr Olivier Bancoult, thanked the ICT Authority for its invaluable contribution to empowering the education of the Chagossian community through the donation of ICT equipment.

The heartfelt gathering, filled with poignant testimonies and touching moments, further cemented the resilience and fortitude of the Chagossians.

Pursuant to Section 16(a) of the ICT Act, the Authority has as mandate 'to democratise access to information taking into account the quality, diversity and plurality in the choice of services available through the use of information and communication technologies.'

**19 June 2023**