



Happy 1st
Anniversary



L-R: ITU Secretary-General Dr Hamadoun Touré with the Director General of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), Dr Jimmie Rodgers

ITU, SPC PLEDGE CLOSER COOPERATION TO SPUR PACIFIC REGION DEVELOPMENT

ITU Secretary-General Dr Hamadoun Touré signed an agreement with the Director General of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), Dr Jimmie Rodgers, which will strengthen and enhance cooperation between the two organizations and facilitate ICT development programmes throughout the region.

The new Arrangements between the two parties were agreed at the Pacific ICT Ministerial Forum, which was held at SPC headquarters in Noumea, New Caledonia, on April 11.

It will see ITU and SPC collaborate more actively across a range of areas, including: promoting ICT infrastructure development across the region and local industry; ICT human capacity building; cybersecurity; emergency communications; and new strategies to connect the unconnected. The two organizations also agreed to conduct formal annual consultations that include review of the progress made on implementation of the Arrangements.

More on page 6...

Contents

From PICTO.....	2
Ministerial 2011.....	3
Partnerships.....	6
Pacific Internet Governance Forum.....	8
Workshops.....	9
In-country missions.....	11
News from the region.....	12
Security.....	15
Upcoming events.....	16

From PICTO


Siaosi Sovaleni

Manager Pacific ICT Outreach Programme (PICTO)
Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), Fiji

It has been an eventful second quarter for our team with the Inaugural Regional Meeting of Energy, ICT and Transport Ministers taking place in Noumea, New Caledonia from 4–8 April followed immediately by the Inaugural Pacific Internet Governance (9–10 April, Noumea) and the Special SPC and International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Ministerial Forum (11 April, Noumea). This issue of *e-talanoa* covers these events, including the outcomes of these important meetings.

The above meetings were closely followed by regional workshops jointly organised with some of our partners. These included: the Pacific Cybercrime Legislation workshop on 27–29 April in Tonga (in partnership with the Council of Europe and the Australia Attorney-General's Department); a training course on ICT statistics on 26–29 April in Suva, Fiji (in partnership with ITU); and Regional Workshop on Developing E-government and E-business Strategy 10–14 May in Apia, Samoa (in partnership with the Commonwealth Secretariat). Some of the key outcomes from these regional workshops are outlined in this issue but there are some challenges to note such as: there is only one country in the Pacific that has specific legislation to deal with cybercrime; and only two countries have a government wide e-government master plan. Both of these areas are priority areas for SPC and we can provide technical and policy advice to our members upon request.

We are still working on revising the implementation plan for the *Framework for Action on ICT for Development* (FAIDP) taking into account the comments received at the ministerial meeting in Noumea. Consultations are ongoing with partners such as the University of the South Pacific (USP) to finalise regional implementation arrangements. Following this, we will send the draft plan to member countries for their consideration in the upcoming months. Even though we are still working

on revising the implementation plan, SPC and development partners are moving ahead in addressing the key challenges identified in FAIDP. Some of this work includes assistance by ITU, World Bank (WB) and SPC to PICTs in developing national ICT policies. Furthermore, WB and Asian Development Bank (ADB) continue to assist PICTs in exploring international connectivity via submarine fibre optic cables. In June, WB and ADB signed an agreement with Tonga to have a fibre optic cable link to Fiji. In addressing emergency communication, ITU, PITA, ESCAP and SPC are actively engaged in finding affordable solutions especially as our region is one of the most disaster prone regions in the world.

Recently, there have been a lot of regional ICT workshops/forums in the Pacific. In fact we are looking at three to four events for the region, including Asia Pacific, every month! Despite our efforts with partners to better coordinate our activities and events, there is still a lot of work to be done. For the Pacific region, we have numerous workshops by development partners on same (similar) topics such as e-government, ICT policies, cybercrime legislation, and ICT for DRR and DM. For example for the first nine months of 2011, we had or will have four e-government workshops, three ICT policy workshops, three cybercrime legislation workshops and three ICT for disaster related workshops. Ideally, we can minimise the duplications and have fewer but more relevant events in the region. Furthermore if these events are coordinated and organised jointly then we can free up some of the resources for the numerous other ICT priorities in the region. The region lacks ICT human resource capacity and having all these events also greatly affect their capacity as more time is spent out of office to participate in these events.

The month of April also saw milestones achieved in terms of enhancing inter-agency cooperation in ICT matters as SPC entered into partnership arrangements

with: ITU; the United Nations Asian and Pacific Training Centre for ICT for Development/Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-APCICT/ESCAP); NetSafe; and the Asia Pacific Network Information Centre (APNIC). These strategic partnerships are in line with SPC's adopted approach of 'many partners, one team'. This approach promotes a 'whole of sector' approach and recognises that numerous stakeholders contribute to ICT development in the region and accepts them as equal partners.

In terms of in-country missions, our staff visited Palau, Cook Islands, Tonga and Solomon Islands to conduct national ICT for Development workshops, hold consultation sessions with members of parliament, assess ICT needs and draft ICT policies. Over the next couple of months, our staff will be visiting the national parliaments in Niue, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, FSM, Nauru, and Samoa as part of the EU ACP project to assist them with their identified ICT needs. ICT policy makers and legislators play a key role in setting the policy and legislative frameworks for development of the ICT sector and using ICT for sustainable development. Increased understanding and appreciation of ICT among policy makers and legislators will garner the support that is needed to promulgate ICT policy and legislation at the national level. We must also be mindful of not leaving ICT policy development to technologists only as they are often unaware of the policy implications of the technologies they are developing and using. The project aims to address these issues by empowering and sensitising members of parliament to risks and benefits of using ICT as a tool for development. These missions will also double up to provide assistance to governments on issues such as ICT policies, cybercrime legislation, and web development.

This issue of *e-talanoa* also marks the completion of one year for the newsletter. Future editions will be available in electronic form only on our website www.spc.int/edd as well as on the e-PIC portal www.e-pic.info/. As always, we welcome articles from our members, partners and stakeholders to publish latest news relating to ICT in the Pacific.

Malo

Pacific ministers for energy, ICT and transport meet in New Caledonia

Ministers responsible for energy, information and communication technology (ICT) and transport in Pacific Island countries and territories gathered in an inaugural joint meeting organised by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) in Noumea, New Caledonia from the 4 - 8 April 2011.

In his opening address, SPC Director-General Dr Jimmie Rodgers said, ‘the past three and a half years, arguably more than any other period in the recent history of this region, has been [a time] of unprecedented challenges at global, regional and national levels. These challenges have demanded the attention of leaders at all levels and have required careful and strategic responses.’

Dr Rodgers said the inaugural joint ministerial meeting came at an important time, with the region increasingly seeking approaches that augment national efforts through strategic partnerships and pooling of resources to deliver the best possible development outcomes.

He noted that this was particularly true in the transport, energy, ICT and infrastructure sectors, which are critical to economic development.

In setting the scene for the meeting, John Hogan, Director of SPC’s Economic Development Division

(EDD), looked at the sectoral linkages between energy, ICT and transport.

Mr Hogan said, ‘the linkages between energy, ICT and transport are very pronounced and in this day and age, one can’t look at these things in isolation or silos.’

He added that the three sectors had numerous cross-cutting impacts and that SPC will endeavour to harmonise work across the sectors and gain maximum synergy.

In closing the plenary, Dr Rodgers quoted his concluding remarks in the SPC publication, Meeting House of the Pacific: The story of SPC 1947–2007: ‘Decisions and choices made by today’s Pacific leaders and decision-makers not only affect the livelihoods of people now, they also help determine the future of our region and the type of future we leave for following generations.’



Ministers and officials of energy, ICT and transport, development partners and SPC staff in Noumea, April 2011



INAUGURAL REGIONAL MEETING OF MINISTERS FOR ENERGY, INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) AND TRANSPORT
PREMIÈRE CONFÉRENCE RÉGIONALE OCÉANIENNE SUR LES TRANSPORTS, L'ÉNERGIE ET LES TECHNOLOGIES DE L'INFORMATION ET DE LA COMMUNICATION

Strategic engagement for economic development using the key drivers of energy, ICT and transport
Engagement stratégique en faveur du développement économique fondé sur trois piliers : l'énergie, les transports, et les technologies de l'information et de la communication

NOUMEA, NEW CALEDONIA, 4-8 APRIL 2011
NOUMÉA, NOUVELLE CALEDONIE, 4-8 AVRIL 2011

Outcome of the ICT Ministers Meeting

Preamble

The meeting recalled the Tonga Declaration that was endorsed by Pacific Island countries and territories' ICT ministers on 18 June 2010;

The meeting acknowledged the progress in implementing the Tonga Declaration;

The meeting noted that the Framework for Action on ICT for Development for the Pacific (FAIDP) as endorsed in the Tonga Declaration outlines a new approach to developing and improving ICT services to support development, strengthen governance and improve the livelihoods of communities in the Pacific region;

The meeting recognised that national ICT policies are essential for effective multi-sectoral coordination and partnerships to fully utilise ICT as a tool for development and to ensure that national development priorities are addressed;

The meeting recognised the key role of ICT in disaster risk reduction, disaster management and climate change;

The meeting noted that Pacific Island countries and territories' ICT ministers in the Tonga Declaration requested that a FAIDP 'Strategic Action Plan' be developed;

The meeting acknowledged the value of a multi-pronged approach to cybersafety and cybersecurity.

The meeting noted the statement by the representative of France concerning the upcoming G8 meeting in Deauville (France) in May 2011. The issue of the internet will be one of the priority topics on the agenda, including widespread access to this means of communication in developing countries.

Pacific Regional ICT Meeting Report and Outcomes

The meeting agreed to endorse the recommendations in agenda items 1 and 2 of the Pacific Regional ICT Meeting Report and Outcomes (see page 5).

Pacific Regional ICT Strategic Action Plan (PRISAP)

The meeting endorsed the Pacific Regional ICT Strategic Action Plan in principle and requested the Secretariat to circulate a revised and prioritised implementation plan, which includes tangible and outcome-focused activities, out of session to members by the end of May 2011 for further consideration



Outcome of the ICT Ministers Meeting

AGENDA ITEM 1: STATUS OF PROGRESS AGAINST THE TONGA DECLARATION

RECOMMENDATIONS: *Pacific ICT ministers are invited to:*

Acknowledge the efforts of SPC, USP, CROP agencies and development partners in implementing the Tonga Declaration, recognise the need for national and regional resources to support the implementation of the Tonga Declaration, and request SPC and USP to continue monitoring progress in implementing the Tonga Declaration.

AGENDA ITEM 2 (a – m): PARTNERS AND REGIONAL INITIATIVES

RECOMMENDATIONS: *Pacific ICT ministers are invited to:*

- i. Encourage PICTs to join PacCERT for a membership fee to be set by the PacCERT Board;
- ii. Request ITU to provide financial support to PacCERT and to continue assisting PacCERT to ensure it is sustainable as it is a key initiative for the Pacific, recognising the economic significance of a cyber security breach and the impact on the lives of the Pacific community;
- iii. Recognise the key role of ITU in ICT and telecommunication development in the Pacific and request ITU to re-establish a subregional office in the Pacific and request to extend the ICB4PAC project;
- iv. Request SPREP and SPC to strengthen regional collaboration in addressing emerging e-waste problems in the Pacific region and develop a regional e-waste programme;
- v. Encourage all PICTs to participate in ICANN, APT preparatory meetings for global ITU meetings, and APT General Assembly and Management Committee meetings to ensure that Pacific issues are addressed and that endorsed priorities are incorporated in these organisations' working programmes;
- vi. Assist industry in the Pacific region by providing certainty and support in the process of IPv6 take-up and request SPC, USP, PITA and relevant partners to develop

a Pacific Regional IPv6 Action Plan for the Pacific in collaboration with expert organisations and relevant stakeholders;

- vii. Recognise UNDP's initiatives in Pacific Island nations to enhance the role of ICT in development, especially in facilitating access to financial services and knowledge sharing;
- viii. Support the invitation to Forum Island member countries to join the PIRRC for a membership fee as set by the Centre Management Committee and for non-Forum Pacific member countries and territories to apply for membership of PIRRC; endorse the governance arrangements for the Centre as proposed in the PIRRC paper; and authorise the PIRRC Working Group to conclude the necessary administrative arrangements with USP to allow the Centre to commence operations;
- ix. Support the initiatives of SPC and USP in national and regional capacity development; and support the implementation and delivery of training on UN-APCICT/ESCAP's Academy of ICT Essentials for Government Leaders program, especially on ICT for development, DRR, and climate change;
- x. Recognise and continue to support the cross-cutting work in ICT that is being undertaken by all donor partners;
- xi. Support closer collaboration and information sharing with the energy and transport sectors;
- xii. Recognise the significance of improved connectivity for broad-based economic and social development in the region, in particular the impact of broadband Internet on socio-economic development in PICTs; and
- xiii. Encourage PICTs to establish national-level steering committees to review and refine international/regional connectivity needs and consider investment options, and to establish a clear mechanism for coordination with external partners.

* *The complete outcome of the ICT Ministers Meeting can be downloaded from: <http://www.e-pic.info/en/homepage/item/299-pacific-ministers-for-energy-ict-and-transport-meet-in-new-caledonia>*



...continued from page 1

Jointly convened by ITU and SPC and supported by the Government of Australia and the European Union, the Pacific ICT Ministerial Forum was attended by ministers and senior officials from 15 Pacific Island countries and territories, as well as France.

A Special Ministerial Forum Communiqué adopted by delegates recognizes the key role of ITU in ICT and telecommunication development in the Pacific and, on behalf of Pacific Member States, requests ITU to:

- Support cybersecurity and Child Online Protection initiatives in the region,

including continuing to support the operations of the Pacific Computer Emergency Response Team (PacCERT)

- Establish an ITU presence in the Pacific
- Continue to provide projects that focus on the identified needs of the Pacific and organize more ITU events in the Pacific.

The Forum also welcomed Mr Francois Rancy, the Director of ITU's Radiocommunication Bureau.

The Forum followed directly on from the Inaugural Regional Meeting of Ministers of Energy, Information



L-R: ITU Secretary-General Dr Hamadoun Touré with the Director General of SPC, Dr Jimmie Rodgers

and Communication Technology and Transport (4-8 April), which was the first-ever cross-sectoral ministers' meeting convened by SPC.

SPC and UN-APCICT/ESCAP strengthen partnership in ICT development

The Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) and the United Nations Asian and Pacific Training Centre for ICT for Development/Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-APCICT/ESCAP), signed an Implementation Arrangement in April to strengthen their collaborative efforts to coordinate strategy and resources for the development of ICT in the Pacific Islands region.

The signing took place on Wednesday 6 April 2011 during the Inaugural Regional Meeting of Ministers for Energy, Information and Communication Technology and Transport, which was organised by SPC in Noumea, New Caledonia on 4-8 April 2011.

Delivering her keynote address to Pacific ICT Ministers, Director for UN-APCICT/ESCAP Dr. Hyeun-Suk Rhee

said, 'UN-APCICT/ESCAP will work to support SPC as it continues to deliver Academy training to government officials during national workshops in a number of Pacific Island countries (PICs) as part of the "ICT Access for the Poor" project, which is funded by the European Union (EU) and the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Secretariat'.

UN-APCICT/ESCAP will also work to support SPC in its broader work to implement the Framework for Action on ICT for Development in the Pacific (FAIDP), in collaboration with the other regional stakeholders including the University of the South Pacific (USP), particularly in building the ICT capacity of students and youth, who are the future leaders of the society. For this purpose, UN-APCICT/ESCAP will launch the "Young ICTD Leaders" module in October 2011.



L-R: Director-General of SPC, Dr. Jimmie Rodgers and Director for UN-APCICT/ESCAP, Dr. Hyeun-Suk Rhee

To further commemorate the occasion, Dr Rhee presented a plaque of appreciation to the Director-General of SPC, Dr Jimmie Rodgers, in recognition of the outstanding efforts to further the awareness and use of ICT for development in the Pacific and in honour of the partnership demonstrated.

Supporting Pacific Island nations in IPv6 transition

Due to the phenomenal growth of the Internet over the years, Internet Protocol version 4 (IPv4) address space is running out. As a result, countries are moving towards adopting IPv6, the newer version of IP addressing that offers a solution to this problem.

In April, SPC entered into a partnership agreement with the Asia Pacific Network Information Centre (APNIC) to increase cooperation between them in the area of Internet-related issues, particularly those pertaining to IP addresses, such as assisting Pacific Island nations with their transition to IPv6.

The signing of the MOU took place on 10 April 2011 during the Inaugural Pacific Internet

Governance Forum in Noumea, New Caledonia.

SPC and APNIC have overlapping regional coverage and common characteristics, and the MoU seeks to maximise the combined impact of their work and outcomes, particularly those pertaining to Internet development through collaboration and joint efforts.

The MoU also recognises the various existing agreements, declarations and commitments in information communication technology (ICT) at the international and regional level that impact Pacific Island countries and territories. In particular, the MoU recognises the *Framework for Action on ICT for Development in the Pacific*, endorsed by the Pacific



L-R: Director-General of SPC, Dr. Jimmie Rodgers and APNIC Director-General Paul Wilson

ICT ministers at their meeting in Nuku'alofa, Tonga in June 2010.

The ICT framework has set a target of 2012 for all PICTs to have IPv6 transition plans in place.

SPC signs MOU with Netsafe to enhance cooperation in cybersafety programmes

An agreement was reached that will see the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) and the Netsafe working in partnership to facilitate the exchange of information between the two organisations, as well as to further enhance cooperation and the effectiveness of the cybersafety programmes administered by them.

Director-General of SPC Dr Jimmie Rodgers said, 'Cybersafety, or internet safety, is an important deliverable of the *Framework of Action on ICT for Development* in the Pacific. A key principle of the framework is 'many partners, one team' as we recognise that there are a lot of development partners working in the ICT sector

and they need to work as a team to ensure that we have a coordinated approach.

Mr Martin Cocker, Executive Director of Netsafe, said, 'that cybersafety and cybersecurity require a range of responses from a range of players and he feels that coordination is the key ingredient.

'That is the reason Netsafe is partnering SPC in the development of cybersafety and security services in the Pacific; we see that SPC plays that coordination role,' he said.

The signing of the memorandum of understanding took place on Wednesday, 6 April 2011 during



L-R: Executive Director of Netsafe, Mr. Martin Cocker and Director-General of SPC, Dr. Jimmie Rodgers

the week-long Inaugural Regional Meeting of Ministers for Energy, Information and Communication Technology and Transport organised by SPC in Noumea, New Caledonia.

Strengthening Internet governance and policy in the Pacific

Over 70 delegates gathered in Noumea, New Caledonia to participate in the inaugural meeting of Pacific Internet Governance Forum (Pacific IGF) held in, Noumea, New Caledonia from 9 – 10 April 2011.

The Pacific IGF is a part of the global IGF process, which started in 2006, and aims to strengthen and enhance the engagement of all stakeholders in Internet governance and the policy framework for the Internet.

The meeting explored how Internet can be used for the benefit of Pacific communities and how the associated risks and challenges can be best addressed by the stakeholders involved.

The overall theme of the meeting was “Developing the Future Together”, reflecting the open and inclusive nature endorsed within the global IGF, with its multilateral, multi-stakeholder, democratic, transparent, and equal participatory approach to discussions on Internet related public policy issues.

The two-day meeting focused on internet access, public policy, the Digital Divide in the Pacific, critical internet infrastructure and emerging issues.

SPC hosted the meeting at its headquarters in Noumea.

KEY MESSAGES:

- How to make sure the Pacific voice is heard globally in the Internet arena.
- Need for PICs to be more involved with ICANN.
- Remote access — multi-stakeholder approach and it's not about the technology.
- Getting services to unserved or underserved people — disadvantaged groups.
- Need for strong leadership and better coordination.
- Is there a need to change the current approach to capacity building?
- Digital inclusion.
- Need for increased international bandwidth and to address growing cyber security challenge.
- What to regulate, should it be regulated, who does it affect?
- The rise of the citizen journalist

* *The complete Pacific IGF document is available at: <http://www.e-pic.info/en/homepage/item/297-pacific-internet-governance-forum-igf-9-10-april-2011>*



Delegates of the Pacific Internet Governance Forum (IGF) held in Noumea, New Caledonia from 9–10 April 2011

Enhancing government services in the Pacific region using ICT

In response to the challenges and opportunities of this digital age, many public sector organisations are embracing the concept of e-government — government using information and communication technology (ICT) to improve their service delivery, strengthen accountability and increase transparency.

To enhance e-government services in the Pacific region, the Commonwealth Secretariat (ComSec), in collaboration with SPC, conducted a regional workshop on developing e-government and e-business strategies. The workshop ran from 10–14 May and was held at the Tanoa Tusitala Hotel in Apia, Samoa.

The workshop covered a range of issues critical to developing successful e-government and e-business service strategies, including an e-government framework, e-government business cases, business process re-engineering, policy and legislation to support e-government, and change management. Public sector organisations need to consider these issues in order to plan and transform



Participants of the e-government workshop held in Apia, Samoa from 10-14 May 2011.

their organisation strategically.

It is anticipated that the Samoa workshop will enable delegates to have a better understanding of these issues

and will assist them in developing an e-government action plan for implementation when they return to their home country.

Following on from discussions held over the four days of the e-government workshop, participants agreed to support the following outcomes:

- To acknowledge the significant benefits of e-government, which include putting citizens first, providing government services 7/24/365 and increasing government efficiency;
- To note that the *Framework for Action on ICT for Development* in the Pacific has set a target for 14 Pacific Islands countries to have e-government plans in place by 2015;
- To request ComSec to support the position of a Regional E-government Adviser at SPC and to explore establishing a regional e-government framework;
- To support ComSec and SPC work on UNESCO Teachers' Framework programme to develop regional and national programmes for training teachers on how to use ICT in the classroom and to develop an ICT curriculum; and

- To support efforts to improve cooperation and collaboration between Pacific nations and international/regional organisations to share experiences and best practices in e-government.

Key messages from the workshop

- a. E-government is not a technology initiative, it is a business transformation program
- b. A clear and compelling reason for undertaking e-government
- c. Business process re-engineering is a must
- d. Change and communications management efforts and resistance to change cannot be underestimated

* *The complete Workshop Outcomes document is available at: <http://www.e-pic.info/en/homepage/item/308-enhancing-government-services-in-the-pacific-region-using-ict-10-14-may-2011>*

Responding to cybercrime threats in the Pacific

The Australian Government Attorney General's Department (AGD), the Council of Europe (COE) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) co-hosted the Pacific Regional Workshop on Cybercrime Legislation at the Fa'one'lu Convention Centre in Nuku'alofa, Tonga from 27 to 29 April 2011.

The workshop was opened by Lord Tu'i'vakanō, the Honourable Prime Minister of Tonga and Minister responsible for Communications. The workshop participants deeply appreciated the presence of the Prime Minister at the opening and his leadership role in supporting the use of information and communication technology (ICT) as a tool for development for Tonga.

Seventy delegates attended the workshop, representing the following countries: Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga,



Delegates of the cybercrime workshop held in Nuku'alofa, Tonga from 27-29 April 2011

Tuvalu and Vanuatu. Representatives of COE, SPC and the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) also attended the workshop.

The workshop was convened in response to the Tonga Declaration made by Pacific ICT Ministers at the Pacific Regional ICT Ministers meeting held in Tonga on 18 June 2010.

Following on from discussions held over the three days of the workshop, delegates agreed to support the following outcomes:

- i. To note the significant impact of cybercrime in the Pacific region, in particular as a threat to security and economic development in the region;
- ii. To note that the *Framework for Action on ICT for Development* in the Pacific has set a target for 14 Pacific Island countries to have cybercrime legislation in place by 2015;
- iii. To consider the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime (Convention) as providing a guideline for cybercrime legislation in line with international standards, and to further note the existence of the Computer Crimes Act 2003 (Tonga) and related Acts as a good example for the Pacific region of implementation of the Convention's provisions;
- iv. To agree that there is a need to strengthen, and where possible, harmonise domestic legislation to enable law enforcement authorities to effectively combat cybercrime and collect electronic evidence. This legislation should, where possible, seek to

criminalise:

- a. Illegal access to computer data and/or computer systems;
- b. Illegal interception of computer data
- c. Interference with computer data and/or systems
- d. Misuse of devices used to commit further cybercrime offences
- e. Computer-related forgery and fraud
- f. Activity relating to the production, distribution and possession of child pornography, and
- g. Offences relating to copyright infringement.

To support efforts to improve cooperation between countries and between law enforcement agencies and internet service providers in combating cybercrime.

* *The complete Workshop Outcomes document is available at:* <http://www.e-pic.info/en/homepage/item/307-pacific-regional-workshop-on-cybercrime-legislation-27-29-april-2011>

ICT as a tool for development for the National Parliament Office (NPO) of the Solomon Islands

The Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) is currently implementing the EU ACP ICT Access for the Poor (ICT4P) project and undertook an incountry mission to Solomon Islands as part of this project.

The overall objective of the action is to reduce poverty by providing the poor, including rural and remote island communities, access to ICT.

To pursue this objective, the action aims to:

1. Improve ICT policy and legislation, and increase government resources for ICT access by engaging lawmakers themselves and providing support services to ensure their actions are needs-based and feasible.
2. Have better informed legislators to ensure they can advocate the needs to have affordable and sustainable ICT development especially affordable access to the poor including rural and remote island communities.
3. Enable Pacific legislators to draw on appropriate and best expertise, experience and knowledge world-wide and localising it to regional and national level.
4. Facilitate a network of Pacific legislators interested in ICT. A like-minded network of legislators can bounce ideas of each other, share experiences, and leverage contacts to generate political will.

The beneficiaries of this project include the legislators and communities in the Pacific ACP countries with a special focus on the poor including rural and remote island communities.

The objectives of this project aforementioned are all about supporting and enabling legislators to provide leadership and be proactive in developing effective ICT policies and legislation.

This project is using a multi-faceted strategic approach to accomplish this by providing support mechanism, capacity building and resources (hearings, workshops) to encourage them to learn more about ICT, the technologies, benefits and challenges.

The outcomes of the Solomon Islands mission are:

1. Better informed NPO staff on ICT issues in Solomon Islands;
2. Results of the ICT survey, which identified the gaps to be addressed in ICT training activities;
3. A draft ICT User Acceptable Policy for NPO users;



L-R: Manager PICTO, Siaosi Sovaleni, Chair of the Solomon Islands Parliament ICT Steering Committee, Ian Rakafia and ICT Officer PICTO Tanielu Aiafi

4. A draft ICT Policy for NPO; and
5. A draft ICT Policy for the Solomon Islands.

Some of the activities implemented in Solomon Is were:

1. An ICT survey conducted to determine the training needs of NPO staff;
2. A workshop for NPO staff conducted to raise their awareness and understanding of ICT being used as a tool for development;
3. An ICT User Acceptable Policy drafted for NPO Users; and
4. A workshop on National ICT Policy for Solomon Islands

SPC, through its PICTO programme, will continue to work with NPO in Solomon Islands to strengthen its capacity in the use of ICT and the development of an ICT Policy not only for NPO but for Solomon Island as a nation.

The PICTO programme aims to visit seven PICT parliaments in the future.

Launch of SPICTEX 2011

The launch of the South Pacific Information and Communications Technology Exposition (SPICTEX) 2011 was commemorated by the University of the South Pacific at the Tanoa Plaza in Suva on 20 June.

The inaugural ICT Expo, which is scheduled to be held from 20–23 July 2011, will be hosted at the Japan-Pacific ICT Centre at USP's Laucala Campus.

Being the first of its kind for Fiji and the region, SPICTEX is an initiative of the Faculty of Science, Technology and Environment (FSTE) at USP, in partnership with the Government of Fiji and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

SPICTEX was officially launched by the Chief Guest and the Prime Minister of the Republic of Fiji, Commodore Josaia Voreqe

Bainimarama.

SPICTEX is based on three main themes: 'ICT in Education, ICT in Business and ICT for All' with a focus on target groups such as students, ICT industries, regional educators and the general public.

Among the many activities planned for the Expo are presentations by international guest speakers, ICT symposium and panel discussions, information sessions for the public, product and service exhibitions by local and international ICT companies, and quiz competitions for schools.

The function was attended by the Attorney General, Mr Aiyaz Sayed Khaiyum, the First Secretary, Embassy of Japan, Mr Takato Maki, JICA Deputy Representative, Mr Yutaka Fukase, senior government



L-R: The Prime Minister of the Republic of Fiji, Commodore Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama and the Vice-Chancellor and President of USP, Professor Rajesh Chandra during the SPICTEX 2011 launch

officials, members of the diplomatic corps, members of the USP Senior Management Team and other invited guests.

* Article by USP Marketing & Communications Office.

USP-JICA ICT Project conducts ICT Global Trend Seminars

A series of technical seminars were conducted by the University of the South Pacific (USP) - Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) ICT for Human Development and Human Security Project in collaboration with the School of Computing, Information and Mathematical Sciences (SCIMS) at the Japan-Pacific ICT Centre.

Recently two such seminars on 'Global Trend Seminar on Software Human Interface & Human Centered Design' and 'Global Trend Seminar on Cloud Computing and Security' were successfully hosted on 12–18 May and 23–27 May 2011 respectively.

The seminars reflected on the contents of the new Bachelor of Software Engineering and Bachelor of Net-Centric programmes, which are currently under development. The new programmes were endorsed by the USP Council and will be offered from Semester 2, 2011 by the university.

The seminars, which provided participants with the opportunity to upgrade their knowledge and skills on the latest ICT trends and topics was well attended and had a positive response from those that participated.



Mr Kurachi, a JICA Expert lecturing on cloud computing and security at the 'Global Trend Seminar on Cloud Computing and Security' which was held at the Japan-Pacific ICT Centre at USP.

The seminars were facilitated by Japanese academics and JICA experts as part of the USP-JICA ICT for Human Development and Human Security Project, which contributes towards ICT capacity building in the region.

* Article by Mr. Shinya Murakami, USP-JICA ICT Project and Mr. Ashley Gopal, USP Marketing & Communications Office.

Moving towards e-government

By Godwin Ligo

Work on achieving this goal has already begun and is making headway through wide consultations amongst government ministries, departments the legislature, the executive and other arms of the government including statutory bodies and authorities.

As part of the ongoing consultations, a half-day workshop was organised, Thursday (July 7, 2011) for the Director Generals and senior government officials at Le Lagoon hotel in Port Vila to learn more about the e-government, its objectives and applications as well as many other components to make the

system effective and successful for the government of the Republic of Vanuatu, when it comes into effect.

Key facilitators at the workshop included Fred Samuel Chief Information Officer in the Ministry of Finance and the man who was specially engaged by the government for the project and its ongoing operations once set to go, hopefully by the end of 2011. Other facilitators were Director General of the Ministry of Infrastructure Jotham Napat who is also one of the key people behind the project and another key player in the process of the project is George Maniuri, Director General in the Ministry of Finance, Steve Furst eGovernment



L-R: Fred Samuel and Jotham Napat are two of some of the key people behind the e-government project

Advisor and Marian Berukilukilu of the Public Regulator Office.

<http://www.dailypost.vu/content/moving-towards-e-govt>

ICANN approves historic change to Internet's domain name system

ICANN's Board of Directors approved a plan to usher in one of the biggest changes ever to the Internet's Domain Name System.

During a special meeting, the Board approved a plan to allow an increase in the number of Internet address endings – called generic top-level domains (gTLDs) – from the current 22, which includes such familiar domains as .com, .org and .net.

New gTLDs will change the way people find information on the Internet and how businesses plan and structure their online presence. Virtually every organization with an online presence could be affected in some way. Internet address names will be able to end with almost any word in any language, offering organizations around the world the opportunity to market their brand, products, community or cause in new and innovative ways.

The decision to proceed with the gTLD program follows many years of discussion, debate and deliberation with the Internet community, business groups and governments. Strong efforts were made to address the concerns of all interested parties, and to ensure that the security, stability and resiliency of the Internet are not compromised.

ICANN will soon begin a global communications program to tell the world about this dramatic change in Internet names and to raise awareness of the opportunities afforded by new gTLDs. The application process will also use this period to elaborate on what is involved in applying for a new generic top-level domain.

Under the plan, new gTLDs applications to be accepted beginning on January 12. The decision to launch the new gTLD program raised the curtain on ICANN's 41st public



meeting that took place in Singapore in June 2011.

About ICANN: ICANN was formed in 1998. It is a not-for-profit public-benefit corporation with participants from all over the world dedicated to keeping the Internet secure, stable and interoperable. It promotes competition and develops policy on the Internet's unique identifiers. ICANN doesn't control content on the Internet. For more information please visit: www.icann.org.

Savenaca Vocea

Manager, Regional Relations – Australasia/Pacific Islands
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)



Importance of sub cables to the South Pacific

By John Hibbard

CEO Hibbard Consulting Pty Ltd and President Pacific Telecommunications Council

I love to fly over the Pacific Ocean. As I do, I am drawn to studying the ocean and to envisioning the submarine cables lying 4000 metres on more below the surface on the sea-bed. These conduits of communications represent the pinnacle of the optical fibre technology which we all take for granted these days. These cables wend their way across the sea floor from Australia to Hawaii, from Singapore to California and between a myriad of other places around the globe. The engineering demands are difficult to comprehend.

A whole cable carrying the fibres is only the thickness of a domestic garden hose. It has to be laid so that it sits on the most benign sea-bed that can be found in the proximity of the route. But it must cross chasms, transverse the trenches between the plates and avoid the volcanoes. It must never hang between two submarine mountains and it must be capable of working as deep as 8000 metres, sometimes even more, and without interruption. About every 100 kms, there is an amplifier which sits on the sea-bed to boost the signal so that it is intelligible at the end of the cable. These amplifiers are required not to fail for a minimum of 25 years placing extraordinary demands on the engineering design and production quality.

Why are these cables so important to us all? For the vast majority of countries, 98% or more of their trans-oceanic communications are carried by submarine cable. Your telephone calls, your email, your internet are carried on these cables. Without submarine cables, your internet service would be performing like the early dial-up services where it took 30 seconds to download a new page.

The economies of countries are heavily dependent on submarine cables. With the growth of e-business, reliable high speed connectivity is essential for all the transactions that occur that enhance the financial health of a nation. Much of the world's international trade is conducted over the internet.

While most developed countries now have cables, many developing countries are only just getting theirs. This is particularly the case for the Pacific. Cables cost a lot to establish but are not too expensive to operate. They have capacity far beyond island needs and so growth in demand can be accommodated very cheaply. So prices fall significantly with volume. The economic equations which anticipate a high growth in demand for connectivity allow for the price of international capacity to be offered from the outset at much lower price.

The principal beneficiary is the public. The retail price paid for internet service, the principal use of the cable, is strongly influenced by the price of the international link. So if this falls, so should the retail price. Moreover because of the abundant capacity, data download allowances can be substantially increased. Many users at this stage convert from dial-up to broadband if it is available. The lower prices often see the emergence of new providers in the market place such as ISPs. This generates increased competition, lowers prices and generates even more demand.

The latent demand for lower priced, high capacity connectivity is strongly by the Pacific countries who have obtained their first cable in recent years.

Cable Name	Routing	Demand prior to commissioning	Capacity one month after date of commissioning	Capacity Now (April 2011)
APNG2	PNG – Aust	22Mbps	45 Mbps (Nov 2006)	180 Mbps
Gondwana	New Cal – Aust	150 Mbps	450 Mbps (Oct 2008)	800 Mbps
ASH	Pago-Hawaii	35 Mbps	90 Mbps (May 2009)	180 Mbps
SAS-ASH	Apia-Hawaii	15 Mbps	45 Mbps (May 2009)	90 Mbps
Honotua	Tahiti -Hawaii	600 Mbps	1500 Mbps (Sept 2010)	4000 Mbps

Amongst the smaller Pacific Island countries, we see the impact of the arrival of their first cable. The two Samoas got their cable in May 2009. In the month after commissioning the demand had trebled and now two years later it is close to six times what it was just before the cable. With New Caledonia, demand instantly trebled and is now 5 times what it was before the cable came into service in October 2008. But the real hero in raising the bar for the impact of a cable is French Polynesia. It only got its cable in September 2010, and just 8 months later, it has already had a 6 fold increase.

We see the ratio increasing since PNG got its first fibre cable. Imagine what the growth rate Vanuatu and Tonga will experience with their cables in 2012/3. Several factors contribute to this increasing impact. The pre-existence of broadband is one, and the greater use of e-business and internet access in daily life is another. The local people, the tourists and the external world demand this and the cable enables it. So much so that the question for a country is no longer “Can we afford to have a cable?” but rather “Can we afford NOT to have a cable?”



What's your weakest link?

By *Phill Hardstaff, Manager ICT Section,
Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), New Caledonia*

In this issue we are going to talk about security at the work place, ICT security that is.

The last couple of months have been very interesting times indeed with lots of security related news making the rounds. We have seen many hacking attacks at some very large web sites. One of the things that came out of these was the re-use of passwords. An analysis done on the stolen passwords of users at Sony revealed that the vast majority had used the same passwords at other (hacked) web sites. Password reuse is very common, but as this hack proved it can also be very damaging. For example, I get hold of your password you use on web site X and that is the same password you use for Paypal, bang, I control your Paypal account.

However what I want to focus on in this issue is people. All of this hacking aside, some of your biggest worries lie inside your network and not outside. Some background. Recently at SPC, with the help of a security training company, we sent a "phishing" email to all 600 plus SPC staff members. In the email there was a link that they were told to click to reset their password. It read something like this:

*From: IT@spc.int[mailto:IT@spc.int]
Sent: Friday, May 06, 2011 8:19 AM Subject: Change of password required Immediately*

We suspect a security breach happened earlier this week. In order to prevent further damage, we need everyone to change their password immediately.

*Please click here to do that:
Change Password
Please do this right away.*

*Thanks!
Sincerely,
IT-*

Now if this was a real phishing email that link would probably lead to a web site where you are asked to enter your user name and password, then bingo the phishers have your logon details. In this case however it led to a web page saying that you should not have clicked on the link and explained why. Imagine if this was your home Gmail account for example then the phisher gains access to ALL your emails and can then set about locking you out of your own account. Scary isn't it, all because you clicked on a link that you should not have. It is called Social Engineering.

Let's do a little bit of analysis on what's wrong with the above email that was sent to SPC staff:

1. It seems to come from an SPC email address, however if you replied to the email it would bounce as that address does not exist. And in your mail client it would have simply showed as IT@spc.int instead of IT Noumea or Phill Hardstaff etc.
2. Lack of any names in it? We never send anything signed just IT, no reference to Helpdesk, no reference to French version coming soon etc etc Anything this important would have come from an individual in IT.
3. Click on a link to change your password? By now you should be really suspicious. This is a classic scam tactic, click here and you go to a fake login page where you are asked your user name and password, this is where real damage is done, so if you clicked on the link that could have been very bad, however in this case it was not.
4. Security breach earlier this week? And we didn't say anything? Not really IT's style as we tell about bad things as well as good things almost immediately.
5. Again, click on a link to change your password? In the SPC environment you change your password by doing ctrl-alt-delete and then select change password, there is never any need to click on a link.

I should add that faking the sender address is the easiest thing in the world to do, this could have just as easily have been sent as coming from me but to do that the people trying to get your login information would have to have had inside information, but it could happen.

The above is a crude form of Social Engineering, designed to make you feel that you need to react and at the same time try to appear to come from someone you know and trust, hence it@spc.int, which is simply a best guess at what the email address of IT might be.

So, still feel safe using the internet? If someone came to your front door saying, I am IT, I have come to fix your computer, let me in, would you? chances are you wouldn't. However people all over the world will believe they have won lotteries they never entered. It's the same with emails and web sites. Please take care. Banks and financial institutions will never send you emails with links to click on or ask you to reply with personal details.

Till next time.

Tonga-Fiji Cable Submarine Connectivity Project

The Kingdom of Tonga has applied for financing in the total amount of US\$34 million towards the cost of the Tonga-Fiji Submarine Cable Project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds to payments for goods, works, related services and consulting services to be procured under this project.

This project will be jointly financed by the Asian Development Bank, International Development Association and the Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility.

Source: *Ministry of Information and Communications, Nuku'alofa, 2011.*



KINGDOM OF TONGA

Solomon Islands appoints a new Telecommunications Regulator

Solomon Islands has appointed a new Telecommunications Regulator.

Hong Kong based Bernard Hill will replace Nicholas Williams who ran into trouble with

his plans to liberalise the communications market in the Solomon Islands.

Source: *Radio Australia Online 2011.*



Bernard Hill
(photo Source: Certari Consulting Limited)



Upcoming Events

JULY

- Pacific Region Seminar on Integrating Information Resources for Climate Change Adaptation and Awareness 2011
Nuku'alofa, Tonga
26–30 July 2011

AUGUST

- Pacific Platform for Disaster Risk Management 2011
Auckland, New Zealand
1–5 August 2011
- ITU/ICB4PAC Cyber legislation workshop
Apia Samoa
22–26 August 2011
- APNIC 32
Busan, Korea
28 August–1 September 2011



SEPTEMBER

- ITU Regional Workshop on Asset Recovery and Fighting Cybercrime
Republic of Korea
21–23 September 2011
- Internet Governance Forum 2011
Nairobi, Kenya
27–30 September 2011



OCTOBER

- ICANN 42
Dakar, Senegal
23–28 October 2011



Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)

Pacific ICT Outreach Programme
Economic Development Division
Secretariat of the Pacific Community
Private Mail Bag, Suva, Fiji
Email: picto@spc.int
Telephone: +679 337 0733
Fax: +679 337 0146
Website: www.spc.int/edd

e-Talanoa

The name of the newsletter 'e-talanoa' came from merging the word 'talanoa', which largely means talking / communicating / sharing in most Pacific languages, with 'e' denoting electronic. E-talanoa encapsulates the convergence of the traditional and the modern means of communication and sharing of ideas and news.