



Public Hearing Summary

Wednesday September 11, 2019

Inquiry Subject:

Follow-up on the status of the implementation of the recommendation on Information and Communication Technology (ICT) governance and general controls as stated in the Report of the Auditor General on the 2016, 2017 and 2018 Public Accounts.

Committee Members:

The following Committee Members were present for the meeting:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---|---------------|
| • Dr. Bhoendradatt Tewarie | - | Chairman |
| • Mr. Taharqa Obika | - | Vice-Chairman |
| • Mrs. Ayanna Webster-Roy | - | Member |
| • Dr. Lester Henry | - | Member |
| • Mrs. Paula Gopee-Scoon | - | Member |
| • Mr. Adrian Leonce | - | Member |
| • Mr. Randall Mitchell | - | Member |

Witnesses who appeared:

Auditor General's Department (AGD)

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| • Ms. Lorelly Pujadas | - | Auditor General |
| • Mr. Louis Hernandez | - | Assistant Auditor General (Ag.) |
| • Mr. Desmond Noel | - | Assistant Auditor General (Ag.) |
| • Mrs. Nela Dwarika-Ali | - | Audit Director |

Ministry of Public Administration

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| • Ms. Joan Mendez | - | Permanent Secretary |
| • Mr. Claudelle McKellar | - | Deputy Permanent Secretary |
| • Ms. Shanaz Mohammed | - | Public Sector ICT Specialist |
| • Mr. Desron Palmer | - | ICT Policy Strategy & Development Specialist |

ICT Governance and General Controls – Auditor General’s Reports

- Ms. Abigail Bynoe - Manager, Policy, Strategy and Monitoring

Ministry of Planning and Development

- Mrs. Ayleen Alleyne-Ovid - Permanent Secretary (Ag.)
- Mr. Peter Mitchell - Director (Ag), Project Planning and Reconstruction Division
- Mr. Mark Joseph - Project Monitoring Officer, Project Planning and Reconstruction Division
- Mr. Keane Bryan - Director IT Department Specialist
- Ms. Abigail Bynoe - Manager Policy, Strategy and Monitoring

National Information and Communication Technology Company Limited (iGovTT)

- Mr. Charles Bobb Semple - Deputy Chief Executive Officer
- Dr. Sean Roche - Chairman
- Mr. Sherwin Ragoonanan - Head, Operations Unit
- Ms. Christine Ferreira - Head, Finance and Administration
- Ms. Vashti Maharaj - Director
- Ms. Jacqueline Morris - Director

Key Topics Discussed:

1. Status of the training of Auditor General’s Department personnel to conduct IT audits;
2. The 2016 review of the IT Governance Framework focusing on seven (7) Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDA);
3. The challenges with regard to ICT throughout the public service;
4. The lack of standardization in the use of ICT guidelines throughout the public sector;
5. The status of the Interoperability Framework and its role in ensuring uniformity throughout Ministries and Department;
6. The establishment and role of the Government ICT Leadership Advisory Council (GILAC);
7. The status of the initiatives under of the National ICT Plan 2018-2022 halfway through the life of the Plan;
8. The status of the implementation of the National ICT Plan 2018-2022;
9. The lack of the monitoring of ICT governance and structure across the public sector;
10. The status of the approval of the ‘Cloud Policy’;

ICT Governance and General Controls – Auditor General’s Reports

11. The review of technical and functional support units of all MDAs conducted by the Project Management Consulting Division (PMCD) of the Ministry of Public Administration; (MPA)
12. The role of the MPA in formulating ICT-related policy;
13. The role of iGovTT in the implementation of MPA policy and as policy advisor to other Government Ministries;
14. The iGovTT’s self-assessment of its fulfilment of its mandate and the potential to improve its service delivery;
15. The need for human resource enhancement with respect to ICT;
16. The efforts by the MPA to monitor expenditure on ICT across MDAs;
17. The status of the MPA’s Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery Plan;
18. The HackTT ICT innovation competition hosted by iGovTT;
19. The collaboration between the MPA and the MPD to monitor ICT expenditure under the Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP);
20. The need to align ICT projects with the Vision 2030 Plan;
21. The MPA’s Collaboration with the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) for capacity building;
22. The status of the MPA’s collaboration with the Government of the Republic of Estonia to observe best practices;
23. The two Digital Divide Surveys conducted by the TATT with a view to assessing access gaps;
24. The status of the use of the Universal Service Fund to fund projects aimed at geographical and social service access gaps;
25. The provision of free WIFI in selected public areas such as libraries, hospitals and transport hubs;
26. The status of the Enterprise Asset Management Framework;
27. The status of the Court Pay and Gov Pay systems as well as the Gov Net platform;
28. The status of collaboration between iGovTT and the Ministry of Health (MoH) through GILAC for integration of RHAs ICT infrastructure;
29. The challenges of the MoH’s Health Information Management System to improve ICT collaboration with RHAs;
30. The status of the ICT integration pilot project involving two (2) Regional Health Authorities (RHA); and
31. The status of security measures taken in light of the 2019 hacking incident.

View the Hearing:

The hearing can be viewed on our YouTube page via the following link:

<https://youtu.be/sOIYhmCWdRU>

**PAC Secretariat
September 11, 2019**