

Message from the Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation



Gisa Fuatai Purcell
Acting Secretary General
CTO

It is my pleasure to be here among my Pacific people and my Commonwealth family, as the Acting Secretary General of the CTO.

The PITA AGM and conference is the best place to discuss the ICT issues including the Internet, a resource with so much potential for governments to achieve positive economic, social and political development. However, there is no denying that the digital divide, the gap between the “haves” and “have nots” exists between nations, within nations and regions. This disparity makes it impossible for our all our people to access the Internet, for education, communication, health etc.

The “DD” is an issue that we, the ICT experts have been strategizing and helping nations in developing policies, regulations and legislation, since the WSIS 2003. Now, 16 years later, we are still experiencing issues of the digital divide with emerging technologies including 5G, Artificial Intelligent, and block chain etc and issues of IoT, Cybersecurity and OTT among others. The positive news is we are gathered here today once again because of our passion to bridge the digital divide in our countries and region.

Let us focus on affordable, accessible, safe and sustainable Internet for every Pacific country, big or small.

[\[Click for Audio\]](#)