



**Address**

**By**

**Mr. Maxie Cuffie,**

**Parliamentary Secretary in the**

**Ministry of Public Administration**

**on the**

**Occasion of the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of**

**the National Information and Communication**

**Technology Company Limited (iGovTT)**

**July 19, 2019**

- **Permanent Secretaries**
- **Deputy Permanent Secretaries**
- **The Board of Directors, Executive Management and staff at iGovTT**
- **Specially Invited Guests**
- **Members of the Media**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning.

Firstly, I would like to thank each and every one of you for your presence here as we celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the the National Information and Communication Technology Company Limited (iGovTT).

We are here today to recognise an important milestone in the journey of the National ICT Company, and by that, I mean that

we are celebrating “**TIME**”. Why do I say that? We are celebrating time because time means effort; time means hard work; time means sweat; time means investment and time means many moments spent together, hashing out ideas, planning, conceptualizing, and growing from strength to strength. Time also means achievements.

Those are the very things that have built iGovTT into what it is today – time, effort, diligent work, sound investments, plans and ideas. iGovTT was established in 2009 to support Government’s vision of Trinidad and Tobago sustaining its own development and providing a high quality of life for all citizens, through the use of ICT. That bold vision continues to be achieved by your contributions here, as over the past 10 years, iGovTT has actively maintained its focus on small and large-scale projects that seek to bring to life Government’s

vision for sustainable national development and meaningful uptake of ICT within the Public Service.

As the Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Public Administration, with responsibility for the national ICT mandate in Trinidad and Tobago, I am very pleased with the projects undertaken and services offered by iGovTT, because they demonstrate how richly our ICT landscape has grown and continues to develop. Each of the ICT-enabled solutions to which you have given your time and effort to developing has provided greater efficiency and utility to end users, the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago, and is positively transforming the way we transact business with citizens and businesses alike.

The more prominent solutions include but are not limited to the Single Electronic Window, TTBizLink, and eTax

supported by the ttconnect and GovNeTT platforms. Some of the projects undertaken include:

- the support and delivery of high quality, integrated and standardised ICT infrastructure across the GoRTT;
- research on environmentally friendly approaches in ICT;
- umbrella specialist services such as Government Data Centre Services; and
- the delivery of new e-government services, such as the MusicTT online platform.

As we think of these technology solutions, we are also celebrating the present, an exciting time in which iGovTT will launch even more pioneering initiatives, such as GovPayTT, which makes it easy for Ministries, Departments and Agencies

to receive non-cash payments, and connecting government services to different payment service providers (PSPs).

Ladies and gentlemen, we are also celebrating time saved, because of the improvements in service delivery that iGovTT has facilitated for citizens and businesses. ttGovChat, the service delivery channel that allows ttconnect agents to have real-time online conversations with customers, enables government transactions to be initiated or resolved from the comfort of one's home or mobile phone.

If we are celebrating time, it would be remiss of me not to celebrate the future as well. As the implementing arm of the Ministry of Public Administration, I know that iGovTT will be instrumental in the roll-out of the ICT Blueprint, the National ICT Plan for 2018-2022. The projects to come in the next 10 years will, I daresay, be more impactful on our growth towards

digital government, connecting us more and bringing us to a standard of development of which we can all be proud. We can all look forward to the further implementation of free WiFi connectivity infrastructure in public locations, and the implementation of GovNett NG, a connectivity platform that will move the public service away from the purchase and maintenance of large physical infrastructure and towards the use of cloud or cloud-enabled services, allowing us to benefit from spatial and cost efficiencies and better service delivery.

Even while we celebrate this anniversary today, I challenge the Board of iGovTT to not only continue with its current momentum but to increase it. There is much still to be done and we are eager to see it through.

Some of you here have been with iGovTT for all of their 10-year journey, and some of you have been with us for a shorter

time. But no matter the number of years, months or hours, the last 10 years, and all the parts thereof that you have given, represent your support. Thank you especially to the Board of iGovTT, the employees, the stakeholders, and all who have given of their time to make today a reality. Your support has enabled us to develop for the better, to attain and reach for more as a nation. This is Government's 2030 Vision. Progress along our digital path will aid the efforts that are already underway to reduce inefficiency, diversify the economy, foster innovation and improve overall quality of life for all citizens.

Congratulations on the achievement of this milestone, and here's to much more well-spent time with iGovTT.

I thank you.