

Press Release 10/06.10/10

**Eastern Caribbean Telecommunications Authority (ECTEL)**



## **EIGHT FROM ST. KITTS AND NEVIS HONOURED BY ECTEL**

**Castries, 06<sup>th</sup> October, 2010** – The Eastern Caribbean Telecommunications Authority (ECTEL) will in November host a ceremony to honor individuals from Dominica for their sterling contribution to the process of telecommunications liberalisation in the Eastern Caribbean, and the establishment of ECTEL. This will be the final ceremony for the year and follows four others, the most recent being in St. Kitts and Nevis.

At a formal ceremony at the Sir Cecil Jacobs Auditorium at the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB) Headquarters in St. Kitts on Wednesday, 8th September 2010, awards were presented to Hon Dr Denzil Douglas, Hon Sam Condor, Hon Cedric Liburd, Dr. Kenneth Ballantyne, Mr. Cosbert Manchester, Mr. Jason Hamilton, Mr. Joseph Richardson and Mr. Christopher McMahon.

In an address at the ceremony, Prime Minister, Dr the Honourable Denzil Douglas reflected on the “journey of change” and how the liberalization process improved the economic viability of the Member States. The Prime Minister stated that the success of the liberalisation of the telecommunications sector was not possible without ECTEL, the enabling institution which provided the harmonized regulatory and transparency frameworks.

Hon Glenn Phillip, Minister for Information, Technology and Telecommunications extended deepest appreciation on behalf of the Government of St. Kitts and Nevis to all the honorees for their invaluable service towards the work of the telecommunications liberalisation process. He urged ECTEL to accelerate its response to the challenges of the new converged era.

Twenty-six persons were publicly acknowledged for their contributions, the list included former and present Commissioners and former and present staff of NTRC St. Kitts and Nevis. Mr. Joseph Richardson, Commissioner of the NTRC delivered the vote of thanks on behalf of the honorees.

Other activities in St. Kitts and Nevis included two Youth Symposia on Information and Communications Technology which were held simultaneously on the 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2010, at the Nevis Cooperative Credit Union and at the National ICT Centre in St. Kitts.

At the Symposium in Nevis the Hon Hensley Daniel, Minister for Health, Gender and Social Affairs, Culture, Trade and Industry, Telecommunications and Information delivered the feature address. Presentations were made by Ms. Valerie Onu, Consultant, Entrepreneur and Innovator, on "ICT in Business" and educator Ms. Mentrice Athurton on ICT in Education. In St. Kitts the feature address was delivered by Hon. Glenn Phillip, Minister for Information, Technology and Telecommunications while Mr Jason Hamilton, Member of the ECTEL Board of Directors delivered brief remarks. Presentations were made by Mr. Jazziq Chiverton on ICT in Entertainment and Mr. Christopher Herbert on the one laptop per child initiative.

The youth symposia and awards ceremony were part of the programme of activities in observance of the tenth anniversary of the establishment of ECTEL.

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