



## SPECIAL BRIEFING SESSION FOR COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARIANS ON ELECTRONIC COMMERCE AND CYBERLAWS

24 April 2013 • Yaoundé Conference Centre • Yaoundé • Cameroon



COMMONWEALTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS ORGANISATION



08.30 **Registration**

### Session I: Opening ceremony

- 09.00 Welcoming remarks by:
- Representative of the Parliament of Cameroon
  - Representative of the CPA
  - Prof Tim Unwin, Secretary General, CTO
  - Ms Cécile Barayre-EI Shami, Programme Manager, E-Commerce and Law Reform, UNCTAD

09.40 **Introduction to the briefing sessions**

Lead facilitator: Prof. Ian Walden, UNCTAD consultant, Queen Mary, University of London

### Session II: Mapping out legal and regulatory e-commerce challenges and the role of Parliamentarians in enacting legal frameworks for e-commerce?

- 09.50 E-commerce presents a world of opportunity for doing businesses and reaching global markets. However, the exponential growth of the Internet and online activity raise a number of new complex regulatory issues and legal questions.

The establishment of an enabling legal framework for e-commerce is crucial for the development of not only online commerce but also e-government and other ICT applications such as e-health, e-education, etc. Members of Parliament are contributing to the establishment of such legal frameworks which support more broadly the implementation of ICT policies and favour the development of an inclusive information society.

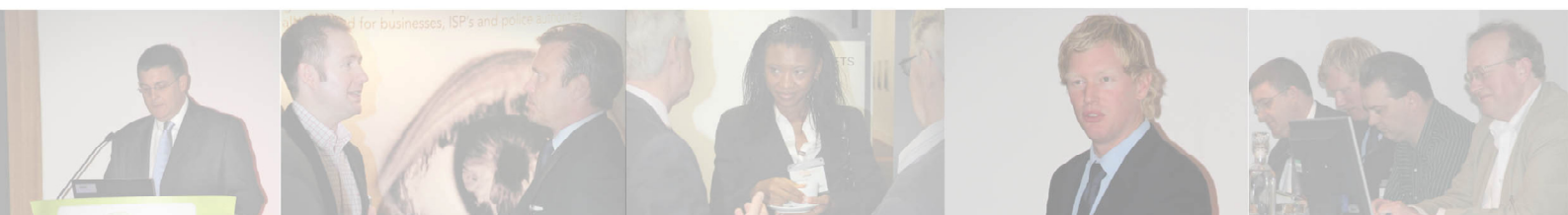
### Questions & Answers

10.30 **Coffee break**

### Session III: Cybercrime & Cybersecurity

- 11.00 Cybercrime refers to criminal activities committed by means of computers and the Internet, such as 'hacking' and the distribution of viruses. Cybercrime laws represent an upgrade from basic criminal law and even basic computer crime laws, as they are designed to address criminal behaviour and security issues in online commerce. Cybersecurity refers to various activities such as the tools, policies, security concepts, security, safeguards, guidelines, risk management approaches, actions, training, best practices and technologies that can be used to protect the cyber environment.

### Questions & Answers





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12.30 **Lunch**

### Session IV: Consumer protection

14.00 Consumer protection law is government regulation of transactions between consumers and businesses. It protects the interests of consumers by imposing minimum obligations on businesses and providing redress in situations where consumers suffer harm. Consumer law covers a range of topics, including: product liability, unfair business practices, fraud and misrepresentation.

### Questions & Answers

### Session V: Data Protection & privacy

14.45 Privacy may be defined as the claim of individuals to determine when, how and to what extent information about them is communicated to others. It is the right of an individual to control what happens with their personal information. Privacy laws are also known as, or supplemented by, Data Protection laws.

### Questions & Answers

15.45 **Coffee**

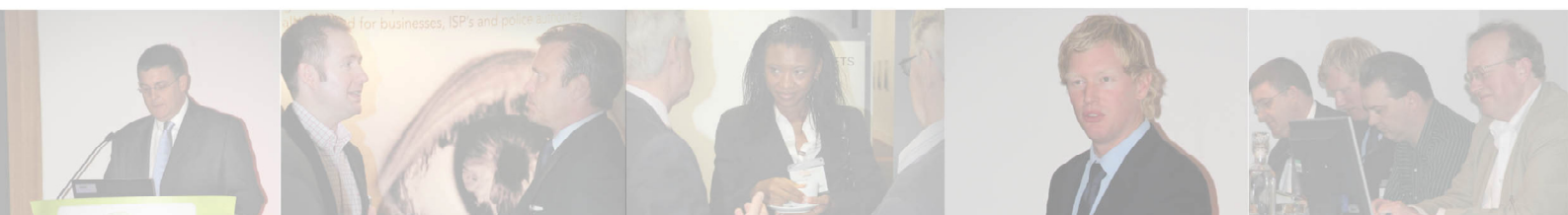
### Session VI: Online content control

16.10 Online content regulation refers to any type of regulation by governments or regulatory authorities directed at controlling access to information over the Internet based on its subject matter; and /or controlling, or attempting to control, access to Internet sites based on subject matter. Many jurisdictions manage Internet content through a mixture of legislation and other regulatory tools such as codes of conduct or licensing requirements for ISPs.

### Questions & Answers

### 17.00 Closing session

- Representative of the Parliament of Cameroon
- Ms Cécile Barayre-El Shami, Programme Manager, E-Commerce and Law Reform, UNCTAD
- Representative of the CPA
- Prof Tim Unwin, Secretary General, CTO







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### About the Partners



[www.cpahq.org](http://www.cpahq.org)

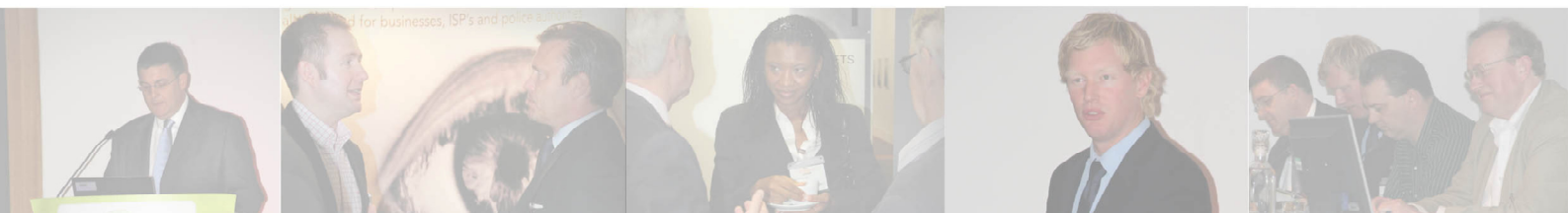
The **Commonwealth Parliamentary Association** (CPA) is an Association of Commonwealth Parliamentarians who, irrespective of gender, race, religion or culture, are united by community of interest, respect for the rule of law and individual rights and freedoms, and by pursuit of the positive ideals of parliamentary democracy. The Association's mission is to promote the advancement of parliamentary democracy by enhancing knowledge and understanding of democratic governance. It seeks to build an informed parliamentary community able to deepen the Commonwealth's democratic commitment and to further co-operation among its Parliaments and Legislatures. Its mission is achieved through a Strategic Plan which ensures CPA activities continue to meet the changing needs of today's Parliamentarians. CPA programmes provide the sole means of regular consultation among Commonwealth Members, fostering co-operation and understanding and promoting the study of and respect for good parliamentary practice. This role is endorsed by Commonwealth Parliaments and Heads of Government. In 2003, governments bound themselves to an underlying set of Commonwealth principles based on a CPA initiative with legal professionals to define the proper relationships between the arms of government. Active CPA Branches now exist in 175 national, state, provincial and territorial Parliaments, with a total membership of approximately 17,000 Parliamentarians.



COMMONWEALTH  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
ORGANISATION

[www.cto.int](http://www.cto.int)

The **Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation** (CTO) is the oldest and largest Commonwealth organisation in the field of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), and uses its experience and expertise to support members in using ICTs to deliver effective development interventions that emancipate, enrich, equalise and empower through the use of ICTs. With a membership network spanning the Commonwealth and beyond, consisting of over 40 Commonwealth countries and 100 non-Commonwealth countries, private sector entities and civil society organisations, the CTO delivers research, capacity development and events across broad thematic areas of ICTs for Development with a particular focus on six niche areas identified by its strategic plan for 2012 - 16 as Cybersecurity and Cybercrime; Broadband, especially mobile broadband for rural development; ICTs for people with disabilities; Regulatory environments (including convergence and digital broadcasting switchover); ICTs in education, with particular reference to skills development and entrepreneurship; and Youth and ICTs.





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UNITED NATIONS  
UNCTAD

[www.unctad.org](http://www.unctad.org)

The **United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)** is the United Nations body responsible for trade and interrelated development issues, serving governments and enhancing dialogue among stakeholders towards achieving prosperity for all. In the area of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), UNCTAD has been assisting Governments of developing countries towards their increased participation in the information based economy since 1998. Drawing on its policy research presented in the Information Economy Report, UNCTAD monitors trends related to the “digital divide”, and advises on how to design and implement ICT strategies and policies to better participate in the global information-based economy. Since 2002, UNCTAD’s E-Commerce and Law Reform Programme, funded by the Government of Finland, has been offering capacity building and advisory services to policy and law makers, including parliamentarians, to help them establish harmonized regional and national e-commerce legal and regulatory frameworks.

