

CTO and BroadGroup Announce Emerging Markets Global Summit

Submitted by: TMT Consultants Ltd

Monday, 27 September 2010

The Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation (CTO) and the international consultancy firm BroadGroup have announced a joint collaboration to organise the ICT Finance Emerging Markets Global Summit (<http://www.tmtfinance.com/cto/ict>) to take place on December 6-7, 2010 at the BIS Conference Centre in London.

Incorporating CTO's annual conference, Investing in ICTs in Emerging Markets, and BroadGroup's TMT Finance & Investment events, the much anticipated conference will be attended by ICT Government Ministers, CEOs of telecom operating companies, ICT regulators, high-level telecom finance executives, financiers and investors, law firms and management consultancy practices and will tackle the need to develop innovative international investment partnerships to stimulate ICT growth across emerging markets.

"It is now very well known that ICTs are a critical enabler of national development. Indeed, in many countries the challenge is how to use ICTs as facilitational mechanisms to transform whole economies through e-commerce, e-governance, e-education and other e-applications. But ICTs cannot spread rapidly in any country without the necessary infrastructure of fibre, satellite and wireless backbones, networks, and systems. And all these need finance. Investing in ICTs in emerging markets is therefore very critical for developing countries to realise their fullest potential," said Dr Ekwow Spio-Garbrah, CEO of CTO. "This forum offers a unique platform for stakeholders in developing markets to network with fund owners, technology providers, investors and other specialist advisers."

The conference programme will highlight key opportunities and will include content rich keynotes, expert panels, and round table debates. Flagship sessions include the Ministerial Panel, Telecom Leadership Roundtable, Raising Finance for Emerging Markets, Infrastructure Investment for Emerging Markets, M&A Panel, Investing in Emerging Broadband, Connecting Rural Communities and will also host the ICT Leadership Debate.

"The event provides an exceptional platform for government, industry and finance players across emerging markets to meet and debate the latest opportunities," said Dominic Lowndes, Managing Director, BroadGroup TMT Ventures, and Editor of TMT Finance News Alert. "Developing investment partnerships between these parties is critical to the successful growth of communications services in emerging economies."

For further information on the event, please visit www.tmtfinance.com/cto/ict

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About BroadGroup TMT Ventures

BroadGroup TMT Ventures is the premier content and information portal focused on finance and investment in the telecoms, media and technology sector emerging markets. Its portfolio of services includes the TMT Finance newsletter, a series of established events in the Middle East, Africa and Asia, and market reports. (www.tmtfinance.com)

About The Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation (CTO)

The CTO is an inter-governmental organization which provides technical assistance services to its member countries through research and studies, consultancies and advisory services, capacity building and training workshops, and through knowledge-sharing events. With a history dating back to 1901, the CTO is a partnership between the Commonwealth and non-Commonwealth governments, regulators, businesses, civil society organizations and other ICT stakeholders. The CTO's mission is to reduce global poverty through the more efficient utilization of ICTs, and its development agenda reflects the priorities set in the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). (www.cto.int)

