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SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

RODNEY TAYLOR

Secretary General, Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU)

Rodney Taylor, a national of Barbados, was appointed as CTU Secretary General in March 2021.

Rodney has over 20 years of professional experience in leading digital transformation projects. Most recently, he was the Chief Digital Technology Officer with the Barbados Ministry of Innovation, Science and Smart Technology (MIST), where he was the technical lead on Barbados' digital transformation. Prior to that, he worked at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade on the management of information system units and as the Business Development and Operations Manager at the CTU.

Rodney is an advisor on Internet Governance and has published research on e-commerce diffusion in small island developing states. He is an Ethical Hacker and a founding member and former Chairman of the Barbados Chapter of the Internet Society, an organization whose aim is to promote the open development, evolution, and use of the Internet for the benefit of all people throughout the world.

Rodney holds a Master's in Management and Information Systems from the University of Manchester, UK, and a Post-Graduate Diploma in Public Sector Management from the University of the West Indies.

SARAI TEVITA

ICT Director, National University of Samoa

A national of Samoa, Sarai Tevita is an accomplished ICT professional with extensive and diverse experience in network infrastructure, cybersecurity, information management, hardware and software systems and project management. As an ICT Director at the National University of Samoa, she oversees the infrastructure of technical operations, manages IT team, and tracks technology in order to minimize security risks, increase user satisfaction, and achieve operational and business goals.

Sarai has around 20 years of work experience in the IT field in financial, agricultural and education sectors in Samoa with the focus on strategic planning and operational improvements through technology. She actively contributes to the national ICT development through the Samoa Information Technology Association and affiliated regional Internet societies. Most recently, she has been selected as the Secretary to the Pacific Islands Chapter of the Internet Society (PICISOC) Board for the period of 2022-2023.

Sarai holds a master's degree in Information Technology and Systems from the University of Southern Queensland, Toowoomba, Australia, and a Bachelor's degree in Business Information Systems and Technology from the Massey University, New Zealand.

PAUL **DONOHOE**

Digital Policies and Trade Coordinator, Universal Postal Union (UPU)

Paul Donohoe is in charge of the Digital Inclusion, Digital Transformation and SME Growth and Trade Programme at the International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union (UPU), a specialized agency of the United Nations, located in Berne, Switzerland.

The UPU Digital Policy and Trade unit covers strategy, policy and regulations to encourage innovative intelligent postal networks supporting e-commerce, e-trade and e-government. Areas covered include encouraging digital innovations, digital transformation and trade inclusion.

Paul has over 25 years of experience in IT, product development, marketing, business development, and corporate strategy in domestic and international markets covering the postal, e-commerce and financial services sectors. More recently, he has been involved in defining postal sector strategy and policy specifically addressing e-commerce demands.

FRANKLIN **SLUIS**

CEO, Bureau Telecommunicatie en Post, Regulatory Authority Curaçao

Franklin Sluis is a Senior Quality Registered Accountant with over 40 years of experience in the government and government owned entities. Currently, he is the CEO of the Bureau Telecommunicatie en Post (BT&P), the position he has been holding from 2016. BT&P is a multi-sector regulator, overseeing six sectors in Curaçao: telecommunication, postal service, electricity, water, fuel and airport tarrifs. Prior to that, Franklin was the CEO of the National Post of the former Netherlands Antilles and Curaçao, from 2008 to 2016.

Having started his career in the government as a customs officer, Franklin has an extensive professional experience in finance, accounting and auditing. He is a member of the Dutch Royal Accountants Association (NBA) and of the accreditation action committees of the University of the Dutch Caribean (UDC) and the University of Netherlands Antilles (UOC). Franklin is also engaged in charitable work, and is a chairman of the board of an elderly home.

ANDREA **GIACOMELLI**

Aid-for-Trade and Trade Policy Advisor, Permanent Delegation of the Pacific Islands Forum to the United Nations, World Trade Organization, and Other International Organizations in Geneva

Dr Andrea Giacomelli works as Aid-for-Trade and Trade Policy Advisor at the Permanent Delegation of the Pacific Islands Forum to the United Nations, World Trade Organization, and Other International Organizations in Geneva.

In his role, Andrea promotes the establishment of regional initiatives in the priority areas of the Pacific Aid-for-Trade Strategy and assists Forum Island Countires, individually and collectively, to make better use of Aid-for-Trade opportunities.

Before joining the Geneva Delegation, Andrea worked as a consultant for the Pacific Islands Forum Secreatiarat in Suva, a Trade Advisor for the Vanuatu Ministry of Tourism, Trade, Commerce and Vanuatu Business, and an Economist and Policy Advisor for Government of the United Kingdom.

Moderation – IAN **KERR**

UPU Voice Mail podcast host

Ian Kerr is the founder and host of the Postal Hub Podcast, co-host of the Last Mile Prophets, and host of the UPU Voice Mail podcast. He has a lifetime of experience in the postal and delivery sectors, and is an advocate for creating a more sustainable delivery and e-commerce ecosystem.