

**Keynote Address by  
Honourable Deepak Balgobin,  
Minister of Information Technology,  
Communication and Innovation**

**Official Launch of Enterprise Technology  
Solutions by NEC in partnership with  
IgKnight Mauritius**

**Hennessy Park Hotel, Ebony 1 Ballroom,  
Ebene**

**Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 1400hrs**

**My Colleagues, Honourable Teena Jutton, Parliamentary Private Secretary, and,**

**Honourable Kenny Dhunnoo, Parliamentary Private Secretary,**

**Mr Shaan Kundomal, Group CEO of Kundomal and Co.,**

**Mrs Tarishma Kundomal, Group Deputy of Kundomal and Co,**

**Chairpersons, Directors and CEOs,**

It is a pleasure for me to be here at the official launch of NEC Mauritius Enterprise Technology Solutions which, I am informed, is being done in collaboration with their local partner Igknight Ltd.

I understand that this launch has been years in the making for some time and welcoming a company with 124 years of existence certainly calls for celebration.

Allow me to express my gratitude to NEC for this innovative leap to choosing Mauritius as a pivotal location.

I am also informed that the Embassy of Japan in Mauritius has been actively encouraging Japanese companies to consider Mauritius as their hub and NEC has been one of the first to respond, positively.

Mrs. Nakamura, please convey my deepest thanks to the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan in Mauritius and the Government of Japan for promoting bilateral trade between our two countries.

We are proud to learn from advanced economies such as Japan and other friendly countries who have a wealth of knowledge and experience that we can leverage to enhance our own capabilities and drive development in various sectors, including ICT.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Collaborations between Mauritian companies and multinationals, such as NEC, can only promote economic growth for our country.

Partnerships, as Mr. Kundomal highlighted previously, are about people of different cultures and backgrounds coming together and working for mutual benefits.

When this happens, transfer of skills and transfer of technology become a natural outcome.

This collaboration highlights the strength of cross border partnerships and underscores our commitment to adopting world-class technologies that address both local and global challenges.

I am sure that NEC once well-established can also have a regional headquarters in Mauritius.

With this launch, you are embarking on a journey to weave advanced technological fibers into the very fabric of our society and entering in a new era of innovation and opportunity in the ICT landscape.

Your initiative is in line with Government's strategy to build a more modern, connected, efficient, and resilient Mauritius.

In a world where we are speaking to AI enabled Bots, where the physical and virtual overlap, through tools such as Apple's new Vision pro, and our assets can now be digital, it is imperative that the Public and Private sectors continue to work hand in hand for the benefit of our citizens.

Mauritius has always been an early adopter of technology.

Transitioning into a digital economy also comes with its challenges from infrastructural upgrades to ensuring that our core services meet the best standards in terms of reliability and cybersecurity.

We have voted for a new Cybersecurity and Cybercrime Act in 2021.

Today, Mauritius is connected to the Internet through 4 submarine cables, which is synonymous of a resilient connectivity, an imperative for a small island nation like ours.

With our numerous initiatives to digitalise Public Services, Government is committed to creating a digitally inclusive society where every citizen can access and benefit from the opportunities created by these advancements.

My Ministry has setup the necessary ICT enablers that facilitates the deployment of the required solutions that will drive the digital economy forward.

The InfoHighway data sharing platform, the MauPass Digital Identity system, the MoKloud repository for the safekeeping of official documents in digital formats, the MauSign Certification Authority, MoRendezVous platform to reduce queuing up, to name a few, are initiatives in the direction of an e-Government Citizen-centric environment.

The newly created Mauritius Emerging Technologies Council (METC) is driving our nation's digital transformation.

I wish to invite you all to the upcoming Mauritius Emerging Tech EXPO 2024, with the organisation of an AI Summit on the 8th and 9th of May followed by an Emerging Tech Expo from the 10th to 12th May at the SVICC, Pailles.

This event will gather all key players in the ICT sector in Mauritius from both Public and Private sectors and some international delegates as well.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

The launch of NEC Mauritius Enterprise Technology Solutions is not just a celebration of a new service but a reaffirmation of the journey of digital transformation and technological integration on which Mauritius has embarked upon, with form commitment.

Technology is serving as a bridge to opportunity and a catalyst for development, making Mauritius a model for technological integration in the region.

Thank you, to NEC and Igknight for your contribution to innovation in Mauritius and may I wish this partnership to be blessed with success.

**Thank you for your attention.**