

**Address of the Hon. Deepak Balgobin, Minister of
Information Technology, Communication and Innovation for
the closing ceremony of “Innovation for All : Summit 2020”
at Lux Resort, Belle-Mare.**

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My colleagues Ministers

**Ms Sandrine Valère, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of
Information Technology, Communication & Innovation,**

Mr Abhishake Jugoo, Chairman of State Informatics Ltd,

Mr Jason Xia, CEO of Huawei,

Chairpersons, Executive Directors and officials of parastatal bodies,

Heads of departments and officials of various ministries,

**Representatives of the Industry, IT professionals, Academics and
Researchers,**

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

A warm welcome to you all and thank you for your presence tonight.

Let me begin by thanking the State Informatics Limited and Huawei for hosting the Innovation for All : Summit 2020. To all of you who have participated, thank you for your precious input. I know that there have been many interesting and useful presentations. I believe many good experiences have been shared during these two days.

I have noted a few highlights from the round tables sessions :

First of all, the need for Mauritius to adopt a Digital Education for all Concept, whereby our people can make the most of online learning while including inclusion and innovation and readying them for change in this brave new world.

Secondly, Data. The new resource must be exploited to the maximum to streamline public/private systems to create smart initiatives.

Looking at the future, our country is well poised to make the most of emerging technologies in our daily life and the laudable cabinet decision of creating the Mauritius Emerging Technologies Council comes at a right time to propel Mauritius into its new era of development.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Knowledge sharing is an important part of what we do. Our events, conference and summits also foster that sharing. As I mentioned in my opening remarks yesterday, we want to maximise the use of technology, including emerging technologies, in our journey towards a more innovative Mauritius. All this is in line with the vision of the Government to transform Mauritius into a High Income, inclusive and green country well before 2030.

These past two days helped us to advance on the innovation journey. As from now, we all need to continue working together for the common good of all the citizens of Mauritius. However, the time is right now to increase the pace towards the digital transformation of our beautiful country.

Let's all of us work together : The Government, The Civil Society, The Private Sector and our International Partners, to continue transforming our country into what I yearn to making Mauritius one of the best country to live in the world.

Dear Friends,

You have had a long but enriching two-day summit and I am sure you are all looking forward to get back to business with new ideas about innovation and emerging technologies, which hopefully will help lead the way in your different fields of work.

I would like to say Thank You to those who participated and also those who shared their ideas and experience on stage. We have heard from many voices that have a stake in the future of the ICT Sector in Mauritius.

Finally, congratulations and thanks to the State Informatics Limited and Huawei Technologies for all of their hard work to make this summit happen. Well done all and let's have a big round of applause to congratulate them.

I thank you all once again and wish you all a lovely evening.

And, if we don't get to meet again, I wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and your family.

Thank you for your attention.