

TSTT & iGovTT

Signs Historic

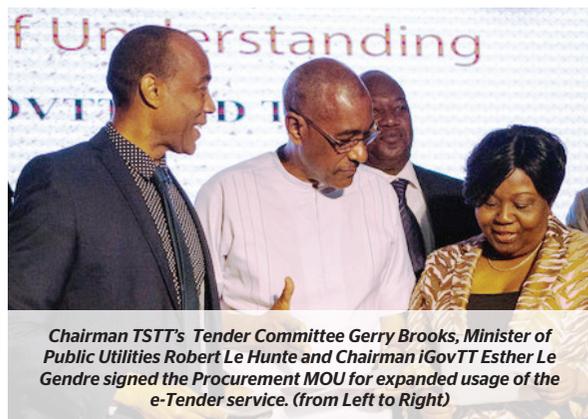
e-Tendering MOU

This historical MOU follows the passage of Procurement Legislation and the appointment of a Procurement Board to ensure transparency in the award of Public Sector contracts. Left to right: Keino Cox (Senior Manager Supply Chain TSTT), Gerard Cooper (CFO TSTT), Gayle Allick-Solomon (Senior Manager Corporate Legal & Compliance TSTT), Gerry Brooks (Chairman Tenders Committee TSTT), Robert Le Hunte (Minister of Public Utilities), Dr. Ronald Walcott (CEO TSTT), Esther Le Gendre (Chairman iGovTT), Charles Bobb-Semple (Ag. CEO iGovTT), Janet Peters (VP Legal iGovTT).

The Telecommunications Company of Trinidad and Tobago (TSTT) and The National Information and Communication Technology Company (iGovTT) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to jointly market and promote the adoption of TSTT's e-Tender Software as a Service (SaaS) procurement portal by 22 Ministries, 119 Companies and 135 Statutory Bodies.

The MOU provides several benefits:

- Allows iGovTT to support local innovation, given the e-Tender SaaS is the only fully locally developed and owned procurement SaaS of its kind.
- Provides a unique opportunity for iGovTT to ensure valuable foreign exchange is kept at home as payment for e-Tender is in TT dollars, with no remittance to overseas unlike other software providers.
- Provide greater visibility for state enterprise and government ministry projects and allow more local entrepreneurs to participate in these initiatives.



Minister of Public Utilities, Senator the Honourable Robert Le Hunte, said the portal will be used for soliciting potential vendors for an array of government projects and provide an unprecedented level of transparency in the bidding process.

"This website was created locally by TSTT but bears all of the hallmarks of an internationally renowned vendor portal and is going to bring greater efficiency and openness to the tendering process in Trinidad and Tobago."

Dr. Ronald Walcott, Chief Executive Officer, TSTT, said the company has always been an avid champion of empowering local business and entrepreneurship and stimulating economic growth in T&T.

"I also want to cast this TSTT / iGovTT partnership in the context of TSTT as the national telecom provider adapting its growth strategy in a way that synergistically supports overall national development."

Gerry Brooks, Chairman of TSTT Tenders Committee, noted that TSTT was breaking the traditional State enterprise paradigm and like other international telecom companies providing a broader suite of products outside the previous traditional mould. "This is a potential game-changer in Public Sector Procurement and Supply Chain Management, particularly, in the context of the new Procurement Legislation."

These sentiments were shared by Chairman of iGovTT, Esther Le Gendre, who said the initiative was one of several through which iGovTT is leveraging Information and Communications Technology to improve the delivery and efficiency of Government services. "This initiative supports iGovTT's responsibility for implementing Government's enterprise-wide ICT strategies and programmes."

The event was attended by business representatives and several senior Ministry personnel, including Permanent Secretaries, as well as other key stakeholders in local procurement, who were given a virtual tour by TSTT's Keino Cox, Senior Manager Supply Chain, TSTT, on how the new e-Tender Software can make procurement practices more efficient and effective for local businesses and entrepreneurs.