



PRESS RELEASE

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CANTO STAGES 26TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Telecommunication Association to discuss Haiti Telecommunication needs

The Caribbean Association of National Telecommunication Organizations will hold its 26th Annual General Meeting at the Pegasus Hotel in Georgetown, Guyana. The two day meeting will be held from the 31st January to the 1st February, 2010 and will be co-hosted by Guyana Telegraph and Telecom (GT&T). The AGM will be attended by top executive telecommunication operators and suppliers from over 31 countries. Carded on the agenda is the highly anticipated Mobile Content and Value Added Services workshop from the 2nd – 3rd of February, facilitated by the Commonwealth Telecommunications Organization (CTO).

The CANTO members will discuss the activities of the Secretariat in 2009 and will also create a working plan for the 2010 financial year. The packed agenda features, the board of directors meeting, five working committee meetings and the AGM proceedings. There will also be a special meeting convened on the 1st of February, by the Disaster Preparedness Committee (DRP). The DRP will continue the discussions on the [telecommunication status of Haiti](#). CANTO will play a pivotal role in assisting Haiti in the communication sector by utilizing the assistance of its members.

The Secretariat is currently working with the ITU in partnership with members to develop a collaborative effort to assist in the restoration of Haiti's telecom sector. The next steps will be discussed at the emergency DRP meeting. The face to face meeting will be a continuation of many conference calls held in the wake of the tragedy; and will focus on an immediate plan of action for the resurgence of the telecommunication sector in earthquake ravished Haiti. For more information visit: <http://www.canto.org/26agm/>.

CANTO will also undergo some changes in board membership. Mrs. Karen Bevans, of Belize Telemedia Limited; Mr. Tellis Symonette, Bahamas Telecommunications Company; Mario Hernandez Lopez, ETECSA, Cuba; and Linus Rogers, TSTT, Trinidad and Tobago have all completed their second term as directors. Mr. Julian Wilkins of Digicel Trinidad & Tobago and Davidson Charles of Cable & Wireless Antigua have completed their first term and will be up for reelection. This makes a total of 6 vacant positions on the board. Full members will be given the opportunity to vote for interested candidates during the general meeting proceedings.

The Caribbean Association of National Telecommunication Organizations (CANTO) was founded in 1985 as a nonprofit association of telephone operating companies in the Caribbean. CANTO is now recognized as a major trade association in the telecommunication sector, not only in the region but also internationally.

A Board of Directors appointed by the membership directs the policy strategy of the Association. This strategy is executed by the staff of a permanent Secretariat that is headquartered in Trinidad and Tobago. For More information on CANTO visit www.canto.org