

## **Judicial Training Skills and Introductory Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence Course**

**Training provided under the GLACY project  
Hosted by Institute for Judicial and Legal Studies  
Port Louis, Mauritius, 26-30 January 2015**

### **Eighteen judicial and law enforcement officers trained to be trainers on cybercrime and electronic evidence**

From 26-30 January 2015, the Institute for Judicial and Legal Studies (IJLS) hosted a team of trainers from the Council of Europe to equip judicial and law enforcement officers with the necessary training skills, up-to-date technological skills and understanding of the relevant international and domestic legal framework to deliver further training on cybercrime and electronic evidence. Representatives from the Judiciary, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Attorney General's Office, Mauritius Police Force IT Unit, private practice ably assimilated training skills into their presentations, voraciously digested new technological knowledge and keenly identified legal challenges in the international and domestic legal framework to address crimes involving electronic evidence. They will constitute a newly formed cadre of judicial trainers, who will adapt the template training materials to local requirements and provide, as per the legal mandate of the IJLS, continued professional development to officers of the criminal justice system. The first delivery by this cohort of Mauritian trainers is planned for August 2015 and will be audited by the Council of Europe.

This integrated approach to judicial training, under the umbrella of the IJLS, was supported by the Chief Justice, the Attorney General and the ICT Minister, who hailed the course as "important" and "necessary". Given that all judicial orders concerning procedural provisions of the Budapest Convention are addressed to the Supreme Court, the Chief Justice highlighted the need for specialised training at this level. Indeed, the President recognised the need for training and professional development in his Government Programme; "One of the glaring gaps identified so far in the ICT sector is the shortage and the right mix-match of skills".

This first train the trainers course, opened by the Acting Head of the delegation of the European Union to Mauritius, as part of continued support by the Council of Europe to judicial training as one of the seven result areas in up to ten countries of the project Global Action on Cybercrime is timely and consistent with the Government Programme 2015-2019, announced by the President of Mauritius on 27 January, which highlights

- global connectivity, high skills and technology as the standard for transformation, to guarantee access to information and broadening of the democratic space and position Mauritius as the 'virtual office' of Africa;
- legislative and procedural reform: the legal framework will be amended, modeled on the UK Police and Criminal Evidence Act, the Criminal Code will be updated to provide for new criminal offences, including [...] financial crime as well as offences related to use of technology and investigations will be conducted in a more professional manner with focus on scientific-led evidence rather than confession;

- Secure ICT infrastructure to protect Mauritius from internal and external cyber threats and attacks: The National Cybersecurity Strategy will thus allow Mauritius to manage and expedite both deliberate and unintentional disturbances in the cyber space.

On the last day of the course, 55 members of the judiciary, including the Chief Justice, the Master, Supreme Court judges joined the team for a presentation on the outcome of the week's activity.