**Inputs for the UN Special Rapporteur on the
Promotion and Protection of the Right to Freedom of Opinion and Expression**

1.0 In its Government Programme 2015-19, the Government of Mauritius has committed to enact a Freedom of Information Act to promote transparency and accountability in public administration and more particularly in contract allocation.

* **The actors within the ICT Sector**

2.0 The Information and Communication Technologies Authority (ICTA) is the national regulator for the ICT sector, and is responsible, among others to:

* regulate the security of data; and
* take steps to regulate or curtail the harmful and illegal content on the Internet and other information and communication services

2.1 Some other organisations in the ICT sector are as follows:-

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| National Computer Board (MITIA) | - | The NCB was set up in 1988 and is a Government agency mandated to spearhead the development of ICT in Mauritius.Its core mission is to accelerate the transition of Mauritius into a regional ICT hub and ensure the swift realization of government's objective to make of the ICT sector a key pillar of the economy. |
| Central Informatics Bureau (CIB) | - | The CIB was created in 1989 and is a department under the Ministry of Technology, Communication and Innovation.Its main function is to promote e-Governance through the provision of project management, consultancy and advisory services to Ministries and Departments for the successful implementation of e-government projects and on ICT matters. |
| State Informatics Limited (SIL) | - | **The SIL** group of companies is a leader in providing integrated IT solutions (including **ERP**, **CRM**, **business intelligence** and **PMS solutions**) in **Mauritius**, and the s**outh-eastern Africa** and **western Africa**.Its main mission is to provide innovative and world-class ICT based business solutions built on strong domain expertise to major organisations in the region to enable them to achieve their objectives. |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Mauritius IT Industry Association (MITIA) | - | The MITIA is an association of the data processing industry created in 2001, which works with the authorities and the Ministry for Information Technology to make constructive proposals in the ICT Sector for Mauritius, having the national interest to short, average and long terms.The objectives of the MITIA are as follows:1. To set up an environment which will support the prosperity and the competitiveness of the data processing industry at the international level.
2. To represent the interests of the data processing industry near the government.
3. To create an environment favorable to strategic and commercial alliances.
4. To establish close connections with other regional and international associations.
 |

* **Legal and policy issues concerning the ICT Sector**

3.0 Under the ICT Act 2001, a public operator or any of his employees or agents is not barred from intercepting, withholding or otherwise dealing with a message which he has reason to believe is:-

* indecent or abusive;
* in contravention of the Act; and
* of a nature likely to endanger or compromise State’s defence, or public safety or public order
* **Human rights principles or obligations of the private ICT Sector**

4.0 The Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA) is the regulator for sound and television broadcasting and is responsible for, inter alia:-

* imposing limitations on cross media control of private broadcasting services;
* taking appropriate action against those who encourage or incite crime or racial hatred leading to disorder or offending public feeling;
* give adequate converge to information education, culture, entertainment and recreation; and
* being impartial and accurate.