WITSA Chairman Chui Keynotes at 3rd Bhutan International IT & Training Event (BIITTE)
WITSA Chairman Yvonne Chiu delivered a keynote at the 3rd Bhutan International IT & Training Event (BIITTE) on June 21, 2018 in Thimphu, Bhutan. The event was hosted by the Bhutan ICT & Training Association and preceded the 2018 ASCIO Plenary Meeting. The speech, entitled "Re-imagining the Digital Era" can be read in full here.

WITSA's Global Public Policy Corner
WITSA Secretary General to Participate in ITU Telecom World 2018 Ministerial Panel
WITSA Secretary General Dr. Jim Poisant is slated to participate in the ITU Telecom World 2018 3rd Ministerial Round-table entitled "Financing Digital Development" on September 11 in Durban, South Africa. The Roundtable will explore new financing and business models required to advance digital transformation and move towards smarter societies throughout the world.

What can we learn from the initiatives and recommendations presented in other platforms such as the OECD roadmap for digitalization, or the Broadband Commission discussion paper "A New deal: investing in our common future. Policy recommendations to close the broadband gap"? What successful case studies and best practice in public private partnership can we draw on? How can governments provide a healthy investment climate through transparent, fair and stable initiatives in areas such as regulation, licencing, taxation and spectrum?

World Congress on IT
WCIT 2019 Yerevan
Armenia has been approved as the hosting country for WCIT 2019 during the meeting of the WITSA’s board of directors at WCIT 2014 Mexico.

It is expected 2000-2500 delegates from more than 80 countries of the world. WCIT 2019 will be the first Congress being held in Europe since 2010.

On March 09, 2015 an official agreement was signed in the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Armenia about the organization of WCIT 2019. It was signed by Karen Vardanyan - the Executive Director of the Union of Information Technology Enterprises, Hayk Chobanyan - the director of UITE Expo Company, and Jim Poisant - the Secretary General of the World Information Technology and Services Alliance (WITSA).

Member News

techUK speaks out against EU digital tax proposal
[June 25, 2018. The Hill] Tech industry lobbying groups are banding together to speak out against the European Union for a proposed tax targeting internet companies.

2018 PSC Annual Conference Recap
“Transforming Today for Tomorrow's Challenges” was the theme for PSC’s 2018 Annual Conference. Approximately 500 PSC members convened at the Greenbrier Resort for two-and-a-half days of networking, informational sessions and all around fun set to the backdrop of the West Virginia mountains. With more than 40 expert speakers from government and industry, attendees walked away with insights to help them lead in the year ahead -- and transform to meet tomorrow’s challenges.

NASSCOM Big Data & Analytics Summit
July 11th - 12th, Taj Yeshwantpur, Bangalore: Our theme last year was “AI and Deep Learning:
Transforming Enterprise Decision Making" where we discussed the growing importance of AI. This year, our theme "Democratizing AI: From Disruption to Business as Usual", will take it a level higher. Democratization is defined as the action/development of making something ubiquitous.

**AIIA Skills for Today. Jobs for Tomorrow**
This paper is about starting a serious and focused conversation across the broader community about how we best prepare to be workers in an ubiquitously connected and digitally smart world. It initiates a conversation that technology and digital leaders are driving. Working with governments, industry peers and educators, AIIA's goal is to help stakeholders, and the community generally, understand how best to prepare for a future workforce in which technology is an inevitable and integral part of how most work is done.

**NZTech: Digital Principles released by TechLeaders**
June 11, 2018: Digital Principles released by TechLeaders today to support NZ business’s commitment to digital transformation, read them now. https://techleaders.nz/.../digital-principles-set-up-to-help.../ @TechLeadersNZ #Digitalprinciples #transformation #nzgrowth

**SGTech Open Innovation Platform: "An Inclusive Community of Innovation for All**
SGTech, in partnership with Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA) seeks to promote the innovation process and strengthen the talent behind ICM companies to ensure their competitive advantage in the global marketplace through the Open Innovation Platform. Join an inclusive community of Co-Innovation at SGTech by submitting your (1) Problem Statement or (2) Interest to Solve, directly to OIP@SGTech.org.sg
ATCI Discussion on the Digital World: The Promise to Fulfill Man’s Purpose
[June 16, 2018] Presentation by Mr. Pravit Chattalada, Executive Director, the Association of Thai Computer Industry (ATCI)

PIKOM Welcomes Y.B. Gobind Singh Deo as the New Communications and Multimedia Minister
PIKOM hopes the ministry will continue to support the information and communication technology industry with a focus on promoting local participation in the internet economy

ITAN: AFRICAN UNION NETWORK OF SCIENCE workshop held in Abuja on June 27, 2018
AFRICAN UNION NETWORK OF SCIENCE workshop held in Abuja on June 27, 2018 with ITAN as the IT industry representative and about 40 vice chancellors of Nigerian universities.
**CAMTIC: The success system: IT process management**
June 20, 2018: In this talk, an exposition of concepts will be made in a practical and simple way, using Process Engineering, to boost competitiveness and increase the productivity of IT companies. In addition, success stories and testimonial references of successful implementation in Costa Rica will be presented.

**CESSI: Jobs 4.0: the future of work. Book the date! 13 September.**
From CESSI we will make a new edition of jobs 4.0: future of work. Where we will present the more than 60 new jobs in the future of the software industry. Much more than programmers! We will also talk about myths about employment automation and the impact of increased intelligence on the future worker. We will address how education for training is being transformed into this new cognitive age.

We will again discuss the future of employment in the area of large collaborative platforms, a phenomenon known as ‘gig economy’, and finally we will deal with the great importance of women, technology and their impact on the future of employment, where we will present statistics of gender impact in our industry and initiatives to increase vocations, mass incorporation and women's role in the software industry.

**CESSI: Visit to apesoft, chamber of the Peruvian software industry**
Aníbal Carmona: I am grateful to Jose Morales Founding, President of apesoft for the welcome meeting we held to enhance trade relations between software companies in our countries, and how to align actions to address common export markets.
We also agreed on actions for the next Peru Summit the most important export event in Peru. [http://www.peruservicesummit.com/](http://www.peruservicesummit.com/)
On behalf of CESSI, thank you very much for the attention received.

**int@j: MENA ICT Forum 2018: “The New IT; Innovative Technology**
September 10-11, Amman, Jordan: This year's theme was inspired by the continuous innovation and evolution of technology. We believe that IT is no longer just "Information Technology. It is, in fact, shifting heavily into becoming more and more "Innovative." So, are we ready for the new IT?
OECD Publishes Economic Outlook and Interim Economic Outlook

Key messages include: Global growth will be around 4%; Monetary and fiscal policies have been supportive; Job growth has been strong; Risks loom large over the next few years: oil prices, trade tensions, financial volatility; Now is the time to reform for sustainable and inclusive growth.

WTO issues 2018 Annual Report

"Trade growth in 2017 was the strongest since 2011. With continued robust growth forecast for this year and next, we are seeing trade playing its part in supporting the global economic recovery - supporting GDP growth, development and job creation around the world," says DG Azevêdo in his opening message. "If we are to avoid this strong performance being compromised by a further escalation in tensions, we must seek to further enhance global cooperation."

Consumers International Publishes Digital Index of Policies and Initiatives

Search by country, region or topic to find examples from business, policy-makers and civil society across the world.

First Ever Global Forum on Inclusive Trade for Least-Developed Countries

[13-14 June 2018, WTO, Geneva] The Forum explored the progress made in trade development in LDCs over the last decade, and sought to determine what more is needed. It aimed to mobilize bold new commitments by LDC leaders to use trade to meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

WEF Report: Addressing E-Payment Challenges in Global E-Commerce

This white paper informs discussion on e-payment challenges and solutions. It provides brief context on the e-payment ecosystem, the opportunities the sector presents for small business and financial inclusion and the payment-related hurdles faced by small players dealing digitally across borders.

WEF Readiness for the Future of Production Report 2018

The World Economic Forum, in collaboration with A.T. Kearney, has developed a new benchmarking framework, diagnostic tool and data set to help countries understand their current level of readiness for the future of production, as well as corresponding opportunities and challenges. This report shares the results from the inaugural Readiness for the Future of Production Assessment and insights from in-depth multistakeholder analysis in select countries.

World Economic Forum’s Networked Readiness Index (NRI)

If you have not already read it, WITSA recommends that you take a look at the World Economic Forum’s Networked Readiness Index (NRI), also referred to as Technology Readiness, measures...
the propensity for countries to exploit the opportunities offered by information and communications technology (ICT). It is published in collaboration with INSEAD, as part of their annual Global Information Technology Report (GITR). The report is regarded as the most authoritative and comprehensive assessment of how ICT impacts the competitiveness and well-being of nations. The index was originally developed by the Information Technology Group, which worked at Harvard University's Center for International Development until 2002. It seeks to better understand the impact of ICT on the competitiveness of nations and is a composite of three components:

- the environment for ICT offered by a given country or community (market, political, regulatory, and infrastructure environment)
- the readiness of the country's key stakeholders (individuals, businesses, and governments) to use ICT
- the usage of ICT among these stakeholders.

DIGITALEUROPE: EU Member States must do more to guarantee crossborder data flows in trade agreements
[June 22, 2018] "Data is a key driver for AI innovation, the creation of new business models and Europe's competitiveness in the digital age. With the rapid developments in the fields of industry digitisation, AI technologies and the Internet of Things, it has become imperative for trade partners to guarantee seamless and unrestricted cross-border flows of data. A mere commitment to ensure trade-facilitating data flows, as we see now, is insufficient".

ASOCIO SMART CITY SUMMIT in Hanoi, Vietnam 17-20 September 2018

Other Countries Forge Ahead on Crypto Regulations
[NYT June 27, 2018] While the United States is dealing with thorny regulatory issues over cryptocurrencies, some jurisdictions abroad have more clarity, though global consensus is far-off.

Girls Who Code unveils new plan for closing tech's gender gap
[The Hill June 28, 2018] Girls Who Code is offering new ideas to promote their efforts to close the gender gap in the tech workforce.

Vietnam Forces Facebook and Google to Pick Privacy or Growth
[Bloomberg June 27, 2018] The law, which goes into effect Jan. 1 after the National Assembly passed it this month, requires foreign internet companies to store data within the country and
open local offices. If requested, they'll also be required to hand over to the government the data of users suspected of anti-state activity -- including spreading news that may impede Hanoi or hurt the economy.

Facebook's fight against fake news has gone global. In Mexico, just a handful of vetters are on the front lines
Facebook's limited forensics around false news in Mexico show how its aspiration to keep elections honest globally is still out of reach for the social network, despite the prominent role its service has come to play in many societies.

Skill shift: Automation and the future of the workforce
[McKinsey Global Institute] Demand for technological, social and emotional, and higher cognitive skills will rise by 2030. How will workers and organizations adapt?

Semiconductor Leaders Agree on Global Policy Agenda
The agreement sets forth a series of policy proposals to strengthen the industry through greater international collaboration. The WSC is a worldwide body of semiconductor industry executives from China, Chinese Taipei, Europe, Japan, Korea, and the United States that meets annually to address issues of global concern to the semiconductor industry. Recommendations from this year's meeting are included in the 2018 WSC Joint Statement.

Report: How Canada, the EU, and the U.S. Can Work Together to Promote ICT Development and Use
ITIF: Boosting transatlantic cooperation on ICT policy would allow Canada, the EU, and the United States to address global ICT challenges and support their domestic economies by raising productivity.

Will blockchain really change the world?
Through consortium efforts like the Trusted IoT Alliance it's hoped that interoperability standards will be developed and the true potential of ideal bedfellows like blockchain and IoT will be achieved.

When technology serves people
[World Commerce Review, June 2018] Margrethe Vestager, European Commissioner ofr Competition, says technology can be shaped to fit society's values so that technology serves people and not the other way round. Because our fundamental values are at stake here - our freedom, our democracy, our equality. And it's up to us all to stand up and protect them. So they won't be lost.
UNCTAD Publishes World Investment Report 2018

Global flows of foreign direct investment fell by 23 per cent in 2017. Cross-border investment in developed and transition economies dropped sharply, while growth was near zero in developing economies. With only a very modest recovery predicted for 2018, this negative trend is a long-term concern for policymakers worldwide, especially for developing countries, where international investment is indispensable for sustainable industrial development.

June 2018 edition of the eTrade for all newsletter!

The June edition of our newsletter, is full of interesting updates from our partners. First unveiled during UNCTAD's last ministerial conference, held in Nairobi in July 2016, eTrade for all become operational on 25 April 2017 when the online platform was launched.

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