



## PRESS RELEASE

DATE : 10<sup>th</sup> MAY 2011  
ENTITY : BUREAU TELECOMMUNICATION & POST (BT&P)  
TOPIC : WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION INFORMATION SOCIETY DAY  
NOTE : FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On May 17<sup>th</sup> 2011 the world celebrates “World Telecommunication & Information Society Day” (WTISD), the day on which telecommunication users and the telecommunication community worldwide will celebrate the founding of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in France in 1865.

The ITU is the specialized agency of the United Nations which is responsible for Information and Communication Technologies. ITU coordinates the shared global use of the radio spectrum, works to improve telecommunication infrastructure in the world and establishes standards worldwide.

World Telecommunication Day has been celebrated annually with the purpose to help raise awareness of the possibilities that the use of the Internet and other Information and Communication Technologies can bring to societies and economies. This year theme is “*Better life in rural communities with ICT's*”. The goal is to ensure that ICT will contribute to a better future for rural populations. ITU calls upon all stakeholders, policy makers, regulators, operators and industry, to promote the adoption of policies and strategies that will drive ICT development in rural areas and so contribute towards a better life.

Although we don't have rural communities in St. Maarten, Bureau Telecommunication and Post St. Maarten acknowledge the many benefits that ICT can bring to better the life of the population of St. Maarten. ICT brings communities together, stimulates education, provides many business opportunities, strengthens economies and therefore enhances prosperity.

Bureau Telecommunication & Post St. Maarten, led by Interim Director Ms. Peggy-Ann Brandon, will make its contribution by hosting a seminar during WTISD on May 17<sup>th</sup> 2011. The theme for this year's WTISD in St. Maarten is “**Cloud Computing in the Hospitality Industry**”. The keynote speaker is Mr. William Sullivan, from the University of Delaware. The Bureau Telecommunications and Post St. Maarten hopes that with this first step a contribution is made towards further enhancement of our Tourism product.

-END-