

Mr. Jayantha Fernando

Jayantha Fernando has 20 years International & South East Asian experience in a broad range of ICT legal and policy issues.

Since 1997 he pioneered drafting of several ICT related legislation. He gave leadership to Sri Lanka's accession to the Budapest Cybercrime Convention (2015) and Sri Lanka's ratification of the UN Electronic Communications Convention (2015), both firsts for South Asia.

For 10 years he shared operational responsibility for the "e-Sri Lanka Development Project", the flagship ICT development initiative of the World Bank, with which he was involved from the inception (2002) through the design phase and thereafter as an executive staff member during its implementation phase. He was instrumental in doing the legal blueprint to establish ICTA and Sri Lanka CERT-CC. He developed the legal framework for the use of authentication technologies for Digital Payments.

He is presently Chairman of Sri Lanka CERT, Chairman of .LK Domain Name Registry, Commissioner SEC and on the Board of many entities. He is also the Legal Advisor of ICTA.

He has traveled extensively to over 70 countries, speaking as an Invited Expert for Council of Europe, OAS and UNCITRAL. In his spare time he lectures widely on ICT Legal Issues at local and foreign Universities. He was active in ICANN (www.icann.org) and served as Associate Chair of ICANN NomCom and Vice Chair of ICANN GAC for two terms.

In 2016 he became the first South East Asian to be elected to the Bureau of the Budapest Cybercrime Convention Committee (T-CY) at the Council of Europe, which administers the Convention at a global level.

In recognition of Twenty Years of Service in the sphere of digital policies and laws, Mr Fernando was presented a lifetime achievement award at the national Zero One Digital Awards in 2017.

He is a British Chevening Scholar (2002) and an Eisenhower Fellow (2012).