

## Media Release

### IFIP IP3 Global Industry Council Releases GIC 2020 Skills Assessment Report

#### *New Report Spells Out Skills and Knowledge Needed by ICT Professionals in 2020*

**Wednesday 30 September 2015** – A new report detailing the knowledge, skills and competencies that ICT professionals will need over the next five years has been released today. Developed to inform ICT professionals who want to remain relevant as well as the companies that employ them, the [GIC 2020 Skills Assessment Report](#) seeks to ensure that businesses continue to have access to high quality skills to design and implement their ICT systems.

The GIC 2020 Skills Assessment Report was developed by the Global Industry Council (GIC) within the International Professional Practice Partnership (IP3), part of the global ICT professionalism body, IFIP. It was compiled by GIC Director and Vice-Chair, John Morton, with input from all GIC Directors.

IP3 President, Brenda Aynsley said the report was developed to provide guidance for ICT professionals and their employers in a time of unprecedented change. “More than any other industry, ICT faces dynamic growth and disruption,” she said. “Companies in all sectors are struggling with ferocious competition to hold and win customers and remain competitive. Business must ask, “How will technology enable us to hold our market position and gain competitive advantage?”

Ms Aynsley said it is no longer sufficient to just use technology – the challenge is to use technology for innovation while managing any risks that might result in that process.

“The role and purpose of professionalism within ICT is clear and will not significantly change. However, the knowledge, skills and abilities ICT professionals need are constantly changing,” she said. “This change will continue and accelerate in the years ahead. When you add to this the global ICT skills shortage and the resulting war for talent, CIOs and other business leaders have to focus on acquiring and developing the skills that are required today and into the future. At the same time, educators and other learning and development professionals must meet the challenge of providing ICT professionals with appropriate skills and competencies.”

IFIP President, Leon Strous, welcomed the report as a significant deliverable for the ICT industry and profession.

“At a time when the need for ICT professionals is still increasing at a pace where supply cannot keep up with demand, it is extremely important that no concessions are made as far as the quality of information systems is concerned. We have become too dependent on ICT to be able to afford bad systems. The risks of losing substantial amounts of money, or worse, the loss of life, are simply too high. As ICT professionals, we have a duty to safeguard the quality of what we do. This report is a landmark for further work in this respect,” he said.

Frits Bussemaker, Secretary General International Relations CIONET International & Partner CIONET Netherlands, confirmed the report’s importance for businesses and governments alike.

“We are witnessing a global transition to a digital society. This change is accelerating and therefore both public and private organizations need to understand today what digital skills they need to possess. The IFIP IP3 GIC 2020 Skills Assessment Report was produced by seasoned ICT executives who work at the coalface

of ICT and provides excellent guidance to help any organization seeking or providing digital skills with acquiring the right skills.”

John Morton, CEO of CPM and a founder of three technology start-ups, was principal author of the report. He will deliver a Keynote Speech at next week’s IFIP World Computer Congress (WCC) [IT Job Forum](#), with the title, “No battle was ever won according to plan, but no battle was ever won without one.” (*Title borrowed from a quote by Dwight D. Eisenhower*). This presentation looks at one important aspect of the report, Big Data Analytics, and the need for different thinking to drive the next wave of the ICT Industry. At the event, IFIP IP3 is running a session on [The Development of the Global ICT Profession](#), which will include case studies from various national societies.

The GIC 2020 Skills Assessment report can be downloaded [here](#).