

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Sarah Hayes – Chief Economist**

**July 16, 2014** - The Telecommunications Regulatory Commission stands firmly behind all hiring of its employees irrespective of nationality for the benefit of a better BVI and to foster a proficient and professional regulatory telecommunications body. In response to an article on Virgin Islands News Online “White Expat in! Locals shut out for the TRC post!” some clarification ought to be made.

Ms. Sarah Hayes was employed by the TRC in June 2010 and has over 15 years of experience in telecommunications. She is a Regulatory Economist with a Masters in Economic Regulation and Competitive Policy.

Ms. Sarah Hayes was hired on the basis of setting up the much needed frame work of Economic Regulation which covers the Market Review program and the need to investigate anticompetitive behavior in the British Virgin Islands.

The TRC has exercised due care to hire two BVI Islanders, ensuring that a series of understudying and sufficient training could take place where eventually a candidate will be looked at as our local Chief Economist. To the best of the TRC’s knowledge, there are no local economists in the BVI currently with telecoms experience that have applied for the position as several ads were placed in the past which were void of qualified local applicants.

Chairman of the TRC, Ms. Ayana Hull states that Ms. Hayes has met the organization’s expectations and further added that she feels comfortable knowing that the TRC has taken the necessary steps to encourage qualified BVI Islanders to apply for the post and that the TRC is taking progressive steps to prepare all its employees with local and international training to fill vacancies as the appropriate opportunity arises.

All interested and qualified BVI Islanders wishing to apply for the post of Chief Economist are invited to forward their resume to the TRC where it will be assessed and actioned at the appropriate time.

#### **Note to Editors:**

The Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (TRC) is a statutory body responsible for regulating the telecommunications sector of the Virgin Islands, protecting interests of users of telecommunications services, ensuring fair competition among operators of telecommunications networks and providers of telecommunications services,

promoting the development of telecommunications throughout the Virgin Islands and advising the Minister of Communications and Works on telecommunications policies.