

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## TECH BEACH RETREAT 2017 INNOVATES WITH LEADERS IN I.C.O.

Twitter co-founder and CEO Jack Dorsey, among world-class business leaders, entrepreneurs, global shapers, and influencers scheduled to attend

**KINGSTON, JAMAICA, November 22, 2017** - The second annual Tech Beach Retreat, a nexusfor the global tech ecosystem to connect with the Caribbean's best tech-based entrepreneurs and organizations, will take place at The Iberostar Grand Rose Hall Resort in Montego Bay, Jamaica from November 30 to December 2, 2017. The three-day retreat features a series of panels, networking sessions and speakers from around the world to create an immersive experience with an international community of like-minded tech entrepreneurs, investors, executives, global shapers, and influencers.

This year's theme is 10X S.C.A.L.E. (Strategy, Capital, Access, Leadership and Execution) and Tech Beach founders Kirk-Anthony Hamilton, Phin Mpofu and Kyle Maloney have lined up an I.C.O. (Initial Coin Offering) Panel that brings Silicon Valley to Montego Bay. A few of the world-class business leaders that comprise the list of speakers and participants at this year's event, include:

- Jack Dorsey, co-founder and CEO, Twitter and Square
- Matt Terrell, global lead of developer circles, Facebook
- Nancy Douyon, UX research lead, Uber
- Lloyd Carney, CEO, Brocade (sold to Broadcom for US\$6 billion this year)
- Pilar Manchon, director of cognitive interfaces, Amazon
- Nic Brathwaite, founding general partner, Riverwood Capital (US\$2.2 billion growth equity fund)
- Rodney Williams, co-founder and CEO, LISNR (best funded African American startup)

Last year's Tech Beach Retreat successfully brought to Jamaica over 200 investors, entrepreneurs and innovators from Africa, Europe, North America and the wider Caribbean.

"We are thrilled to partner with Tech Beach again this year to continue the momentum of positioning Jamaica, not only as a top tourism destination, but also as a world-class business destination," said Donnie Dawson, Jamaica's Acting Director of Tourism. "Tourism is our main economic driver and is heavily dependent on the use of technology. There has been significant investment in ensuring that available technology enhances the visitor experience: from prebooking research to booking to the delivery of an unforgettable vacation."

"Each year we look for what's new and noteworthy in the tech industry and what synergies we see to empower, influence or disrupt our Caribbean markets," said Kirk-Anthony Hamilton, Tech Beach co-founder. "Then we head out across the globe to meet with these companies and leaders of innovation to put the Caribbean back in the global ecosystem and elevate its position as a business destination, with immersive opportunities and innovative minds."

For more information about Tech Beach, visit www.techbeach.net.

## About Jamaica Tourist Board

The Jamaica Tourist Board (JTB), founded in 1955, is Jamaica's national tourism agency based in the capital city of Kingston. TripAdvisor® ranked Jamaica #12 Best Destination in the World in 2017 and top three island in the world in 2016. The JTB was declared the Caribbean's Leading Tourist Board by the World Travel Awards (WTA) from 2006 to 2016.

In 2016, Jamaica earned the WTA's vote for the Caribbean's Leading Destination and the Caribbean's Leading Cruise Destination for the tenth consecutive year. Additionally, Ocho Rios was named the Caribbean's Leading Cruise Port; Sangster International Airport was voted the Caribbean's Leading Airport; Club Mobay was named the Caribbean's Leading Airport Lounge; Dolphin Cove was voted the Caribbean's Leading Adventure Tourist Attraction; the Montego Bay Convention Center was named the Caribbean's Leading Meeting & Conventions Center; and GO! Jamaica Travel was named the Caribbean's Leading Tour Operator.

JTB offices are located in Kingston, Montego Bay, Miami, Toronto and London. Representative offices are located in Berlin, Barcelona, Rome, Amsterdam and Mumbai.

For details on upcoming special events, attractions and accommodations in Jamaica go to the JTB's Web site at <u>www.visitjamaica.com</u> or call the Jamaica Tourist Board at 1-800-JAMAICA (1-800-526-2422). Follow the JTB on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, <u>Pinterest</u> and <u>YouTube</u>. View the JTB blog at <u>www.islandbuzzjamaica.com</u>.

## About Tech Beach

Tech Beach is produced by the Destination Experience, a platform designed to attract global wealth, innovation, leadership and media to connect with the Caribbean business ecosystem on a mission to help elevate the image of the Caribbean as a business destination, driving entrepreneurship, investments, partnerships and innovation in the market. Tech Beach Retreat provides a nexus for the global tech ecosystem to connect with the best companies in the Caribbean with the goal to build bridges yielding increased investment, partnership and mentorship in the Caribbean, unlocking the full economic potential of the region through identifying industries ripe for profitable disruption to elevate the Caribbean out of emerging market status. Tech Beach was founded by Kirk-Anthony Hamilton, founder and CEO of The Infiniti Partnership, Phin Mpofu, Chairman of Global Symbiotic Partnerships, and Kyle Maloney, Director of F1RST.com.

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