

***“Seeing how our work was empowering Sri Lankan lives and enterprises fuelled my passion for the organisation and thus began this amazing journey.”***

### *Supun Weerasinghe*

Director/Group CEO, Dialog, 2017 – present

CEO and MD, Robi, 2014 – 2016

Group Chief Strategy Officer, Axiata Group Berhad, 2013 - present

Served in various roles at Dialog, 1999 – 2012



The Dialog story begins in 1995, a story empowered by Malaysian Foreign Direct Investment and Sri Lankan talent, bringing together a single vision to make the power of mobile communications affordable and available to every Sri Lankan. So was born the fourth entrant to Sri Lanka's mobile telecommunications sector.

Seeing how our work was empowering Sri Lankan lives and enterprises fuelled my passion for the organisation and thus began my amazing journey. When I joined Dialog 20 years ago, almost straight out of university, I had no industry experience. With Dialog being a fledgling last entrant to Sri Lanka's infant mobile industry, this decision came with its fair share of risks and uncertainty. However, by the year 2000 we had redefined Dialog's business model and began transforming Sri Lanka by taking mobile telephony to the masses.

By 2005, Dialog had become the undisputed market leader and was ready for Sri Lanka's biggest IPO to date. During my first decade at Dialog, it evolved into a quad play telecommunications giant, and I grew from a fresh graduate into a business leader. Dialog has given me many opportunities to thrive, driving my potential. Axiata extended its support with the challenge of leading the strategy function as the Group Chief Strategy Officer in 2013, and as CEO of Robi Axiata in Bangladesh in 2014. In Bangladesh we transformed Robi into a strong number-two player through a challenging merger with Airtel, and transformed Bangladeshi cricket into a global leading force by sponsoring its national team.

It was a great honour and a privilege to assume Dialog's leadership mantle from my mentor, Dr. Hans Wijayasuriya in 2017. While it was overwhelming to step into leading Sri Lanka's largest connectivity provider, I was confident, thanks to the continuous guidance and support from the Board, my colleagues on the Senior Management team and everyone in the Api Dialog Family.

Axiata, led by Tan Sri Jamaludin, is the largest foreign investor to Sri Lanka, having invested approximately LKR299 billion (USD2.5 billion) since 1994. Axiata is also recognised as the first company to invest USD1 billion in Sri Lanka with its investments being deployed towards making 'available' advanced connectivity solutions at 'affordable' prices to all Sri Lankan citizens.

Two decades ago, critics were vocal about Dialog's business viability, and its focus on technology leadership as a sustainable strategy. Nevertheless, we have defied all odds. Dialog has become Sri Lanka's most valuable brand and we are at the forefront of building a digital Sri Lanka through affordable yet world-class connectivity solutions.

We are honoured to serve over 15 million Sri Lankans and to be a part in some way, large or small, of every Sri Lankan home and enterprise. Today, we are at the cusp of the 4th Industrial Revolution. We will continue to play an empowering role in Sri Lankan life – igniting and sharing the passion of this great nation, empowering our champions and delivering the future. Today, in the lives of every Sri Lankan citizen and enterprise, we continue to create the next chapter of the Dialog story....