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ITU-EC HIPCAR Project

Enhancing Competitiveness in the Caribbean through
the Harmonization of ICT Policies, Legislation and
Regulatory Procedures

Presentation at the

First Consultation Workshop for Working Group 1

Saint Lucia, 8-12 March 2010

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Agenda

- Overall description of the HIPCAR project
- HIPCAR Working Group 1:
 - Preparatory activities to date
 - First Consultation Workshop
 - Workplan for the future

HIPCAR Project objective

- To assist CARICOM/ACP countries in the Caribbean to harmonize their ICT policies, legislation and regulatory processes, and create an enabling environment for ICT development and connectivity
 - Aim: to enhance competitiveness and socio-economic and cultural development in the Caribbean region

Harmonization involves promoting the development of consistent and coherent ICT policies, legislation and regulations across the Caribbean that facilitate market integration, foster investment in improved ICT capabilities and services, and enhance the protection of ICT consumers' interests across the region.

Background

- An effectively functioning ICT sector is a key driver for development, growth and employment
- Global ITU/EC project: Support for the establishment of harmonized policies for the ICT market in the ACP group of States
- Composed of *3 regional sub-projects* addressing specific needs:

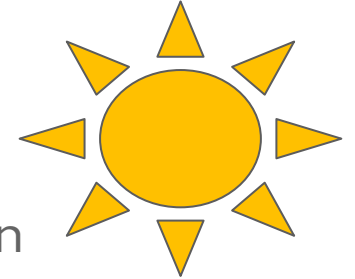
Sub-projects	Acronym	Duration
1. Support for harmonization of the ICT Policies in Sub-Sahara Africa	HIPSSA	3 years
2. Enhancing competitiveness in the Caribbean through the harmonization of ICT Policies, Legislation and Regulatory Procedures	HIPCAR	3 years
3. Capacity Building and ICT Policy, Regulatory and Legislative Frameworks Support for Pacific Island States	ICB4PIS	2 years
<i>Project management (ITU HQ, Geneva)</i>		<i>4 years</i>

- Caribbean context: Caribbean Single Market & Economy (CSME)
 Liberalization of services sector
 CARICOM Connectivity Agenda
 WSIS and MDGs



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Main project partners currently active...



Country-level organisations

- Bodies responsible for ICT policy, legislation and regulation
- Organisations representing the ICT service industry & ICT consumers
- Organisations responsible for ICT capacity development (CoEs, etc.)

Regional & international organisations

- CARICOM Secretariat
- Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU)
- Caribbean Centre for Development Administration (CARICAD)
- Caribbean Association of National Telecommunications Organizations (CANTO)
- Eastern Caribbean Telecommunications Authority (ECTEL)
- European Commission



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Project implementation – two phases

Phase I - **Development of regional models**

(based on int'l best practices & country experiences)

- a) ICT policy guidelines
- b) Draft model legislation to support these policies

Phase II - **Country implementation**

Transposition of these models into national policies, laws & regulations, including implementation assistance & capacity building

Working Groups

WG 1 – ICT Legislative Framework
(Information Society Issues e.g.,
eCommerce, Cybersecurity, etc.)

WG 2 – Telecommunications Acts
(Universal Service)

WG 3 – Telecommunications Acts
(Interconnection & Licensing)

WG 4 – eGovernment



HIPCAR Working Group 1

Preparatory activities to date:

- Involvement of some members in the Project Planning Meeting (Grenada, 15-16 December 2008)
- Constitution of the Working Group & hiring of experts
- Preparation of draft Assessment Reports on the current situation in the Caribbean relating to the WG's six work areas:
 - e-Commerce (Transactions)
 - e-Commerce (Evidence)
 - Privacy and Data Protection
 - Interception of Communications
 - Cybercrime
 - Access to Public Information (Freedom of Information)

HIPCAR Working Group 1

Preparatory activities to date cont'd:

- Preparation of proposals for draft Policy Guidelines in these six work areas (on which later drafting of Model Legislation will be based)
- Work undertaken by five experts:
 - regional expert: Pricilla Banner
 - international expert: Marco Gercke
 - international expert: Gilberto Martins de Almeida
 - regional expert: Kwesi Prescod
 - regional expert: Karen Stephen-Dalton

... with thanks to those of you who provided comments & suggestions on the first drafts

HIPCAR Working Group 1

1st Consultation Workshop

(Saint Lucia, 8-12 March 2010)

Objectives:

With the support of all of you alongside the Project team of international and regional experts...

- Review and discuss the Assessment Reports for the Caribbean on:
 - (a) e-Commerce (Transactions)
 - (b) e-Commerce (Evidence)
 - (c) Privacy & Data Protection
 - (d) Interception of Communications
 - (e) Cybercrime
 - (f) Access to Public Information

- Review and finalize the ICT Policy Guidelines in these areas



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HIPCAR Working Group 1

1st Consultation Workshop

(Saint Lucia, 8-12 March 2010)

Objectives cont'd:

- Promote a better understanding by participants of the issues and options relating to ICT policy development in the region, and a sharing of this understanding with other stakeholders and interested parties in the Caribbean

HIPCAR Working Group 1

1st Consultation Workshop

(Saint Lucia, 8-12 March 2010)

Modus operandi:

- Introductory presentations by the experts
- Discussions on specific topics by sub-groups and preparation of suggestions
- Plenary discussion of sub-groups' suggestions and agreement on final proposals
- At each stage: **Q&A, comments** - your involvement is essential
- After the event: finalization of the documents by the experts taking account of your comments & suggestions



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Your workplan for the future – key elements:

- **Follow-up to the current workshop:** disseminate the proposals in your countries to promote understanding & support, particularly by your relevant senior country authorities (who will later participate in a project meeting to discuss and agree on the models for the region)
- **Participate in the next WG consultation workshop** aimed at developing the model legislation & the guidelines for transposition to country policies, laws & regulations
- **Support & participate in the country transposition process** during Phase II of the project

THANK YOU

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