

## ITU DSO SEMINAR BARBADOS 2011

### NEXT STEPS **(indicative only)**

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#### **1. National Steering Committee**

**Purpose:** hub for strategic planning and co-ordination of the national effort towards Digital Switchover. It will, among other things:

- discuss and make proposals on the key strategic issues;
- develop or contribute to a draft policy document on Digital Switchover;
- commission and/or supervise a feasibility study from a commercial, technical, spectrum management, regulatory, cultural and consumer-centred standpoint;
- Establish and oversee any full-time project team;
- arrive at final decisions or proposals based on reports from specialist groups e.g. covering technical issues, spectrum planning, market preparation and consumer information, regulatory issues, specific government responsibilities (e.g. environmental issues), and any pilots;
- review and endorse the policy recommendations to be submitted to government for policy action; and
- facilitate and interface with a Stakeholder Forum, open to any party with a legitimate interest, and where a wide range of issues and concerns can be voiced.

**Composition:** Private and public sector grouping with cross-sectoral representation

- Ministry responsible for of Information and Communications
- Cabinet Office/OPM
- Regulators (Broadcasting, Telecommunications, ICTs, Competition, Consumer Affairs)
- Electronic Media Associations
- Public Service Broadcaster
- Telecommunication Operators Associations
- Cable Operators Associations

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- Transmission/Distribution Facilities Operators
- Equipment Suppliers
- Retailers of Radio, TV and other Appliances
- Environmental Specialists
- Content providers/aggregators
- Selected Technical Specialists - e.g. IEEE
- Regional/Global Partners (CTU/ CBU/ /CTO/ ITU/UNESCO).

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**2. Feasibility study: Preliminary TOR:**

- Commercial
- Technical
- Spectrum Management
- Regulatory
- Cultural
- Consumer-centred

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**3. Projectise Switchover?**

- Full-time project team seconded from different organizations with professional project management experience
- Specialist groups with appropriate expertise:
  - Spectrum Planning
  - Technical
  - Regulatory Issues and governmental responsibilities
  - Market preparation and customer/consumer/citizen information

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**4. Establish Stakeholder Forum:**

- Open to any party with a legitimate interest, especially the disabled

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## **TASK**

Describe briefly the next steps which should be taken in planning DSO, taking into consideration factors such as:

- *How digital switchover relates to Television and radio*
- *The technical implications of digitization*
- *The impact on and benefits to Consumers and broadcasters*
- *Whether you believe that Caribbean needs a government/regulatory policy on digital television switchover or just to leave it to the market*
- *The inter-relations with telecommunications, ICTs and Spectrum policy*
- *Whether the implementation model should be phased or immediate*
- *The main issues of concern to you, on which you want the Government and the Regulator to focus e.g.*
  - i. An island-wide switch off date*
  - ii. Continuous dialogue with stakeholders*
  - iii. The responsibility of the consumer*
  - iv. Support for the small operators*
  - v. Subsidy*
  - vi. Spectrum allocation*
  - vii. The transition process*
  - viii. No Monopoly*
  - ix. Costs, convenience and legislation*
  - x. Charging broadcasters spectrum fees?*
  - xi. Protection of the vulnerable (e.g. children and disabled*
  - xii. Environmental concerns*
  
- Any special features of the broadcasting market which you think might require a different policy here from those adopted by other countries e.g.
  - i. Spectrum auction*
  - ii. Single regulatory framework*
  - iii. Single regulatory and policy entity similar to the FCC in the United States*
  - iv. Number of analogue cable providers v. analogue terrestrial providers*
  - v. Market size*
  - vi. Economic Circumstances*

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