# Regional Development Forum 2008
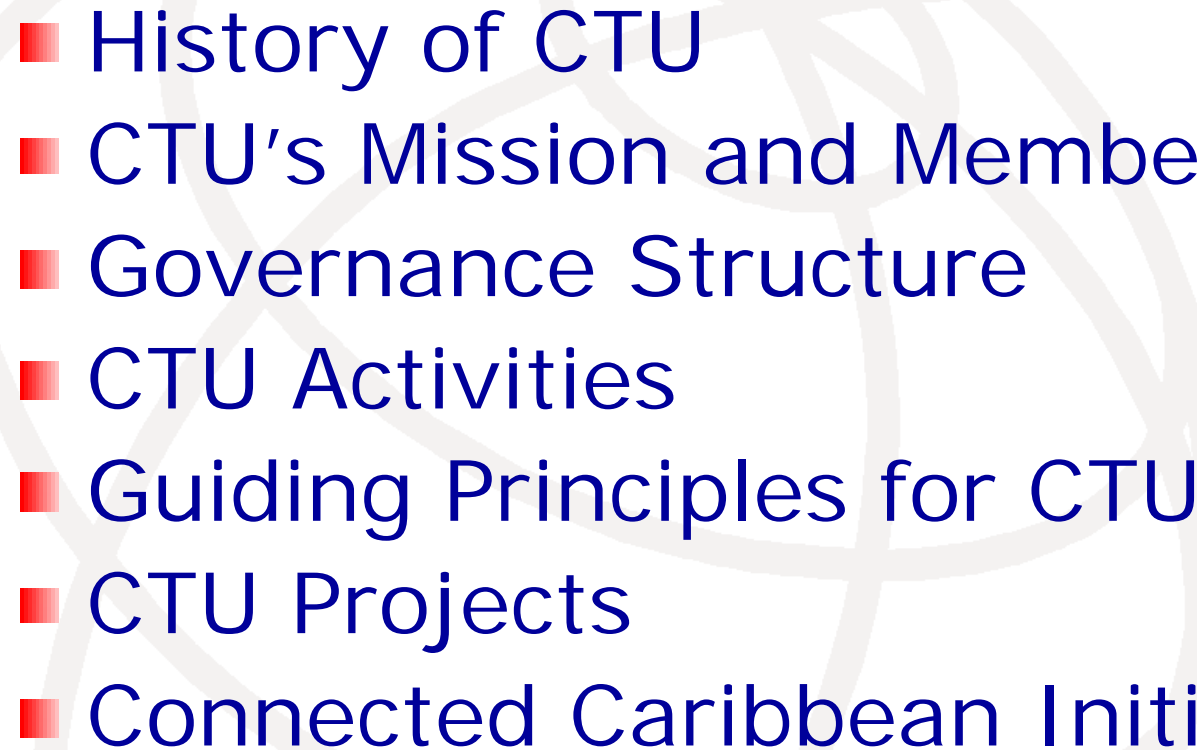
"Bridging the Standardization Gap in Developing Countries"

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# Overview of
# Caribbean Telecommunications Union:
# Caribbean ICT Development Projects

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# Overview

- History of CTU
- CTU's Mission and Members
- Governance Structure
- CTU Activities
- Guiding Principles for CTU activities
- CTU Projects
- Connected Caribbean Initiative

# History of the CTU

- Established in 1989 in Nassau, The Bahamas by Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Ministers responsible for Telecommunications, to be the inter-governmental telecommunications policy instrument for the Caribbean

- 2003: Defined a new strategic direction to address issues of information and communications technologies (ICT)

- 2004: Expanded Membership to include Private sector organisations

# Mission and Members

- **Mission:**
  - To create an environment in partnership with members to optimize returns from ICT resources for the benefit of stakeholders.
- **Members:**
  - 19 - State Members
  - 1 - Associate State Member
  - 5 - Non-State Members

# Governance Structure (1)

- General Conference - Ministers
  - Specifies the direction of the Union.
  - Convenes meets annually.

- Executive Council - *Permanent Secretaries and Technical Officers*
  - Develops work plans for the Union
  - Convenes Executive Council Meets bi-annually.

# Governance Structure (2)

- Technical Conference (Ad Hoc)- *Technical Experts*
  - Considers technical ICT issues

- The Secretariat
  - Implements work plan and directives issued by Executive Council

# CTU Activities

- Policy Formulation -
  - Internet Governance.
  - Spectrum Management.
  - Other areas in ICT.
- Capacity Development -
  - Caribbean Centre of Excellence:
    - ICT Training Programmes, Technical Assistance, Caribbean ICT information.
- Representation at International Fora
  - ITU, ICANN, ARIN, LACNIC et al.

# Guiding Principles for CTU Activities

- Caribbean Single Market and Economy (CSME)
  - Single Market Established in January 2006
  - Single Economy scheduled for 2008

- Full realization of CSME objectives requires
  - Establishment of ICT standards for the Caribbean.
  - Harmonization of regional policies and legislation.
  - Promotion of greater utilization of information and communication technology.

# CTU Projects (1)

- Caribbean Spectrum Management Policy Reform -
  - Reform and harmonisation of existing practices and policies to reflect the evolution of wireless technologies and the needs of the Member States.

- Internet Governance -
  - Development of a policy framework for Caribbean Internet Governance.

# CTU Projects (2)

- EU/ITU Caribbean ICT Harmonisation
  - Phase 1: Development of policies and guidelines (2008 – 2009).
  - Phase 2: Submission to sub regional organizations (2009 - 2010).
  - Phase 3: Implementation at the national level (2010 – 2011).

# CTU Projects (3)

- Caribbean Centre of Excellence -
  - ICT Training.
  - Technical Assistance.
  - Information Services.
  - Network of Experts.

# CTU Projects (4)

- Connected Caribbean Initiative (CCI) -
  - To foster a Functional Caribbean Integration;
  - To connect and strengthen organizations, communities and individuals working on or in support of a Functional Caribbean Integration;
  - To facilitate inter-working of Regional Governments;
  - To provide a framework to foster development, integration and expansion of regional stakeholder groups; and
  - To support Caribbean Governments in achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

# CTU Projects (5)

- CCI Scope of Works:
  - Data Gathering
  - Mobilization of Stakeholders – Allocation of Responsibilities
  - Development of Standards
  - Regional harmonisation
  - Education and Public awareness
  - Demonstration Projects.

# CCI Implementation (1)

- Phase 1 -
  - Survey and analysis of Caribbean ICT Initiatives and identification of best practices in the Region.
  - Development of standards to facilitate a Functional Caribbean integration.
  - Harmonisation of policies and legislation for the Caribbean ICT Sector.

# CCI Implementation (2)

- Phase 2 -
  - Facilitating inter-working of Caribbean Government Ministries.
  - Public awareness, education and ICT training.
- Phase 3 -
  - Government, Business and community-based applications and services.
  - Public awareness, education and ICT training.

# The CTU is committed to fostering Functional Caribbean Integration in a seamless regional space through the effective use of ICT



Shaping Caribbean Communications

# Thank You