BACKGROUND

Total Population: 324,000

Internet users, percentage of population: 31.70%
(data source: ITU Statistics, December 2013)

1. CYBERSECURITY

1.1 LEGAL MEASURES

1.1.1 CRIMINAL LEGISLATION
Specific legislation on cybercrime has been enacted through the following instruments:
- None.

1.1.2 REGULATION AND COMPLIANCE
Specific legislation and regulation related to cybersecurity has been enacted through the following instruments:
- Electronic Transactions Act
- Electronic Evidence Act.

1.2 TECHNICAL MEASURES

1.2.1 CIRT
Belize does not have an officially recognized national CIRT.

1.2.2 STANDARDS
Belize does not have an officially approved national or sector specific cybersecurity framework for implementing internationally recognized cybersecurity standards.

1.2.3 CERTIFICATION
There is no cybersecurity framework for the certification and accreditation of national agencies and public sector professionals.

1.3 ORGANIZATION MEASURES

1.3.1 POLICY
The Ministry of National Security – specifically the focal point for CICTE-OAS is presently working on establishing an ICT Steering Committee within the Ministry, with the dual aims of developing a national cybersecurity strategy and reviewing and strengthening the legislative framework regarding cybercrime.

1.3.2 ROADMAP FOR GOVERNANCE
There is no national governance roadmap for cybersecurity in Belize.

1.3.3 RESPONSIBLE AGENCY
The Ministry of National Security and the Belize Police Department (BPD) are the agencies responsible for cybersecurity in Belize.

1.3.4 NATIONAL BENCHMARKING
There is no benchmarking or referential to measure cybersecurity development in Belize.
1.4 CAPACITY BUILDING

1.4.1 STANDARDISATION DEVELOPMENT
There is no national or sector-specific research and development program or project for cybersecurity standards, best practices and guidelines in Belize.

1.4.2 MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT
The BPD’s IT Unit undertakes an annual countrywide “ICT Road Show” to promote increased awareness of internet and cybersecurity-related issues among the general public.

1.4.3 PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION
Belize does not have the exact number of public sector professionals certified under internationally recognized certification programs in cybersecurity.

1.4.4 AGENCY CERTIFICATION
Belize does not have any government and public sector agencies certified under internationally recognized standards in cybersecurity.

1.5 COOPERATION

1.5.1 INTRA-STATE COOPERATION
There is no framework for sharing of cybersecurity assets across borders or with other nation states.

1.5.2 INTRA-AGENCY COOPERATION
Belize does not have an officially recognized national or sector-specific program for sharing cybersecurity assets within the public sector.

1.5.3 PUBLIC SECTOR PARTNERSHIP
Private sector institutions are not legally required to report cyber incidents to national authorities; the BPD has worked to establish cooperative relationships with many private sector entities, and has provided support and assistance when it has been requested.

1.5.4 INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
Belize is a member of the ITU-IMPACT initiative and has access to relevant cybersecurity services. Belize participates in the CICTE-OAS.

2. CHILD ONLINE PROTECTION

2.1 NATIONAL LEGISLATION
Specific legislation on child online protection has been enacted through the following instruments:
-None.

2.2 UN CONVENTION AND PROTOCOL
Belize has acceded, with no declarations or reservations to articles 16, 17(e) and 34(c), to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Belize has acceded, with no declarations or reservations to articles 2 and 3, to the Optional Protocol to The Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography.

2.3 INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT
There is no agency that is responsible for child online protection in Belize.
2.4 REPORTING MECHANISM
There is no website or hotline to report incidents in Belize.

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