



SG3RG-LAC MEETING
NASSAU, BAHAMAS

NET NEUTRALITY
22ND APRIL, 2015

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Outline

- Definition of Net Neutrality
- Position of International Bodies
- Trinidad and Tobago's Proposed Position on Net Neutrality

Definition

- What is net neutrality?
- Network (net) Neutrality is the term used to describe networks that are open to equal access for all.
- It is the principle that all electronic communication passing through a network is treated equally.
- All communication treated equally means that it is treated independent of
 - content
 - application
 - service
 - device



International Bodies: ITU

- What are international bodies saying about net neutrality:
 - the “Best Practice Guidelines for Enabling Open Access” issued by ITU’s Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR) in 2010, recommended that Regulators should only allow differentiation of Internet traffic when it is objectively justifiable.



International Bodies: ECTEL

- ECTEL is of the view that the internet must be open and as such believes that all electronic communication that passes through a network must be treated equally.
- If ECTEL were to advocate the position that the blocking of content and throttling of speeds by telecommunications providers was acceptable, it would be acting **contrary** to its mandate to promote a ubiquitous state of the art communications environment.



International Bodies: FCC

- The FCC has long been committed to protecting and promoting an Internet that nurtures freedom of speech and expression, supports innovation and commerce, and incentivizes expansion and investment by broadband providers.
- America's broadband networks must be fast, fair and open.



T&T's Position

- At present we have not yet published our position on net neutrality
- However arising from the outcome of the NETmundial meeting, GoRTT has directed that:
 - ‘An internal policy model and external relations addressing the public policy aspects of the Internet should be formalized.’



T&T's Position

- GoRTT has identified pillars aimed at developing and sustaining the economy of Trinidad and Tobago, one of which the ICT sector plays a significant role in its development.
- Pillar No. 4 identifies a key role for ICTs for ‘Connecting Trinidad and Tobago and Building the New Economy’:
 - Focuses on the need for a more connected society and the development of supporting infrastructure to facilitate connectivity to the Internet.



T&T's Position: GoRTT

- The GoRTT medium term policy:
 - ICT infrastructure and services should be made universally available and accessible at affordable prices to encourage the building of a knowledge-based information society;
- Our SmarTT (National ICT Plan) promotes the development of pervasive broadband infrastructure throughout Trinidad and Tobago to facilitate access to the Internet;
- Based on these statements, it is the understanding that Trinidad and Tobago supports the position of an 'open and free Internet'.



T&T's Position: Stakeholder View

- In a statement released by the Trinidad and Tobago Computer Society (TTCS), the Internet Society Trinidad and Tobago Chapter (ISOCTT) and the IEEE Trinidad and Tobago Section (IEEETT), the following views were expressed:
 - In general, users expect Internet traffic to be conveyed in a manner that is independent of its source, content or destination and in a manner that respects their privacy.
 - Choice and transparency are at the heart of a user's Internet experience, enabling them to remain in control of their Internet experience, and thereby allowing them to benefit from, and participate in, the open Internet.



T&T's Position: Stakeholder View

- To seek to solicit views from the public on net neutrality, the following statement has been added in TATT's OTT Consultation Paper:
 - The concept of a “free and open” Internet should be applied in the treatment of OTT services, therefore there should be no blocking of lawful content.
 - What are your views on this statement?
- We will use the feedback received to address our position on net neutrality



Thank you

Questions?

For more information on the work of the
TATT, visit our website: www.tatt.org.tt

