



**Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)**

Ref.: BDT/PKM/DM/215

Geneva, 17 July 2012

ITU Caribbean Administrations and Regulators,
HIPCAR Project Country Focal Points,
Members of the HIPCAR Steering Committee

Subject: **Availability of in-country assistance - HIPCAR Project Phase-out**

Sir, Madam,

Further to our letter of 24 January 2011 we offer a kind reminder that the ITU/EU-funded HIPCAR Project which commenced in 2008 is now reaching its final stages. The project will continue to support any requests received by 31 August 2012, which will be implemented up to September 2013.

The HIPCAR¹ project (Enhancing Competitiveness in the Caribbean Through the Harmonization of ICT Policies, Legislation and Regulatory Procedures) offers support in nine key ICT areas: *Information Society issues* including Electronic Commerce (Transactions and Evidence); Privacy & Data Protection; Interception of Communications; Cybercrime/e-Crimes; and Access to Public Information (Freedom of Information), and *Telecommunications matters* dealing with Universal Access/Service; Interconnection; and Licensing.

During its second stage, the project has been assisting countries in the Caribbean to transpose the model policy guidelines and legislative texts (developed in 2009-2010) into national ICT policies and legislation. To date, HIPCAR has responded to requests from nine countries. Of these, five countries have completed the development of national policies and/or legislation in one or more of the above nine areas, and have either enacted these policies and/or legislation or are in the process of doing so. Capacity building is also one of the elements of assistance.

Should you wish to make a request for HIPCAR support or wish to extend the scope of assistance, please address your correspondence to ITU no later than *31 August 2012*. For further information, please contact Mr. Sandro Bazzanella, ITU-EC-ACP Project Manager (Email: sandro.bazzanella@itu.int, Tel: + 41 22 730 6765) or Mr. Cleveland Thomas, ITU Area Representative for the Caribbean Region (Email: cleveland.thomas@itu.int, Tel: +1 246 431 0343/4).

¹ HIPCAR is part of a global ITU-EC-ACP project funded by the European Union at EUR 8 million and a complement of USD 500,000 by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). HIPCAR is implemented by the ITU in collaboration with the Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU) and with the involvement of other organizations in the region (see www.itu.int/ITU-D/projects/ITU_EC_ACP/hipcar/index.html).

I take this opportunity to thank you all for the active contributions from the region and I look forward to our collaboration in this second stage and phase-out of the ITU/EU-funded HIPCAR project.

Accept, Sir, Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

[Original signed]

Brahima Sanou
BDT Director