43rd Meeting of the CTU's Executive Council

CTU Spectrum Management Update & Plans

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Guiding Principles for Caribbean Spectrum Management (2005 to Date)

- Truly regional in scope
- Responsive to changing technological environment
- Effectively functional governance structure
- Multi-stakeholder representation & participation
- Education of stakeholders
- Collaboration with regional and international ICT organisations
- Ensuring continuity and synergy among activities

Harmonisation Objectives

- Regional regulatory harmony
  - Consistent with Single ICT Space
- Regulatory certainty
  - Facilitate & sustain investment and viable competitive markets
- Enable economies of scale
  - Facilitate via multi-country operation
  - Facilitate cost effective roaming
- Minimise national resource requirements
  - Best practices sharing
  - Expertise and resource sharing/pooling

Harmonisation Challenges

- Different locations on the transition road
- Different goals, motivations, momentum to date
  - Work already done
  - Decisions already made
  - Implementations in train
- Assorted regulatory frameworks and institutions (single or multiple regulators, independent or not)
- Resources and funding
- Time constraints
  - national demands, windows of opportunity

CTU Spectrum Harmonisation Work

- Undertaken through the institutions of the:
  - Caribbean Spectrum Management Steering Committee (SMSC)
    - *5 Government policy-makers from 5 Member States*

  - Caribbean Spectrum ManagementTask Force (SMTF) *Multi-stakeholder*
    - *Policy-makers, regulators, service providers, academics, technology developers*

- Producing policy and technical guidelines NOT legal mandates

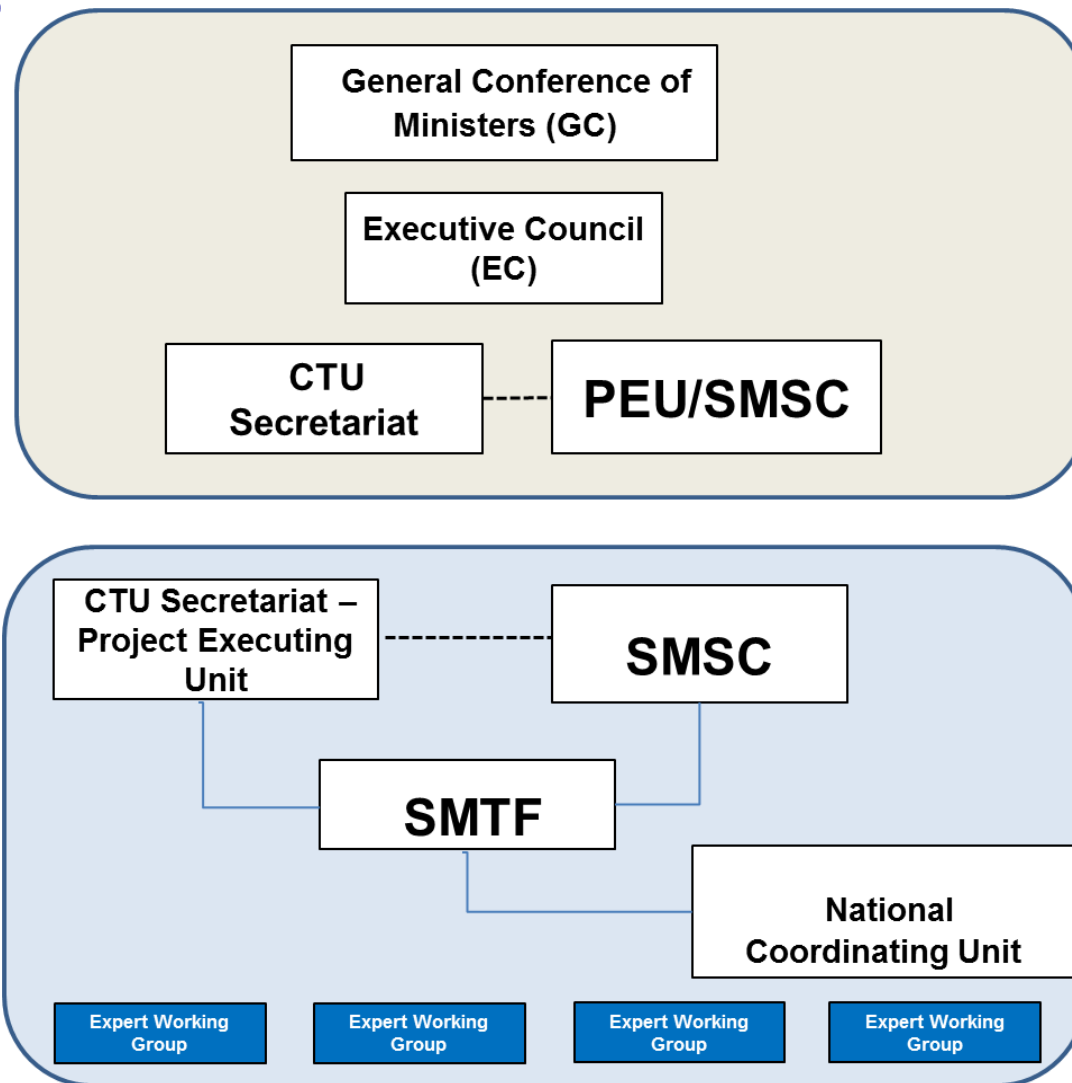# Strategic Vision & Mission for Caribbean Spectrum Management

Vision:

A globally influential, Caribbean spectrum management regime.

Mission:

To build a regionally cohesive, technically efficient and sustainable spectrum management regime that proactively meets the region's requirements for broadband and socio-economic development and supports the establishment of a Single ICT Space in the Caribbean.

Governance Framework

Executive Level

Working Level

Streamlined within the existing institutional structure of the CTU.

Status of SMSC and SMTF

- All 5 SMSC nominees for 2020-2022 are now clarified (JCA, T&T, SKN, BLZ, CYN)
  - Chair and Vice-Chair to be determined

- SMTF successfully reconstituted for 2020-2022:
  - Chair : ECTEL
  - Vice-Chair: Jamaica

Current Work Status (1 of 2)

- SMTF work now guided by annual Action Plans to address current/evolving priorities and incomplete aspects of the strategic plan 2016-2018

- 2 SMTF online meetings held so far for 2021
  - Feb 22 & 24 and Jun 29
  - A third planned for Nov 2021

- Executing SMTF Action Plan 2021

Current Work Status

- Action Plan 2021 addresses:
    1. Regional harmonization of national frequency allocation tables and of priority band plans e.g. 5G
    2. Cross border interference coordination agreements
    3. Emergency communications: policy initiatives and spectrum harmonization
    4. Spectrum pricing: Fostering common pricing approaches
    5. Preparations for WRC-23
    6. Planning the switchover to digital broadcasting

- Created Working Groups of the SMTF to address items 1,3 and 4 above

Future Plans

- Sustain the regional coordination via the Spectrum Management Task Force and Steering Committee
  - Convene meeting of the Steering Committee
  - Facilitate meetings and action plans of the Task Force
- Enhance efficiency of Task Force processes
  - Especially in the absence of project funding
- Promote implementation of strategic provisions nationally
- Sustain relevant valuable collaborations
  - e.g. with ITU, CANTO, CITEL, technology researchers & developers, users and other stakeholders

Thank You.

The CTU is committed to