Caribbean Telecommunications Union

Advancing Caribbean Internet Governance

43rd Meeting of the CTU's Executive Council

20th Sep 2021

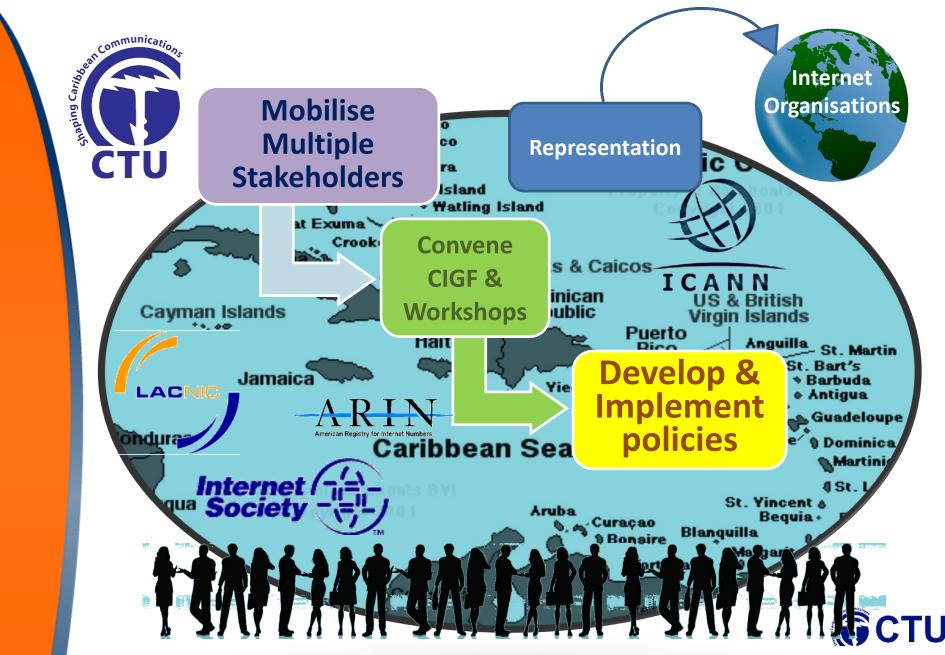**Nigel Cassimire**
Telecommunications Specialist

CTU's Goals for IG (since 2005)

- 2005: Requested to address IG issues in the context of the Caribbean's input to WSIS

- Regional policy formulation and harmonisation

- Identify & focus on Caribbean priority issues

- Promotion/Acceleration of Internet development and use in the region
  - Project development
  - Capacity building

CTU

Mechanics of Caribbean Internet Governance

Caribbean Internet Governance: 2005-2021

- **17 Annual Caribbean Internet Governance Fora**

- **4 Caribbean Ministerial Seminars on IG**

- **Harmonised Caribbean Internet Governance Policy Framework – 3 issues (2009, 2013, 2016)**

- **23 Sessions on IG Technical and Policy Issues in 18 countries with ISOC, ARIN, ICANN, LACNIC, PCH, NIC.PR among others**

- **1 South School on Internet Governance**

- **Multiple Caribbean IXPs and 3 National IGFs to date**

- **On-line CIGF** www.ctu.int

- **18 IXP workshops in 14 Caribbean countries -** *continuing*

- **IPv6 Adoption** *on-going*

- **Indigenous Content Creation -** *on-going*

- **New Business models for the Internet economy -** *on-going*

CTU

Focusing on the Caribbean IG Policy Framework

Strategic Priority Areas (w/policy recommendations)

Infrastructure for Connectivity	Access, connectivity (broadband & narrowband, Fixed & wireless), QOS, regulatory matters
Internet Technical Infrastructure	Addressing, domain management, **critical Internet infrastructure,** technical standards
Legal Frameworks / Enforcement	National & regional structures for protecting users' safety, rights, property
Internet Content	Information management, local content
Public Awareness / Capacity Building	ICT4D, local and regional expertise development
Research	Measurement and status reporting

CTU

CTU's Current IG Action Priorities

- Updating the Caribbean IG Policy Framework document
  - Vision, Mission, Guiding Principles, Strategic Priorities, Policy Recommendations and Operational Considerations
- Growing and strengthening national IGFs & communities in the Caribbean:
  - to promote implementation of IG policy recommendations at national and regional levels
  - to enhance Caribbean capacity, participation and influence in global IG policy formulation
- Working to achieve <u>sustainable</u> multistakeholder arrangements for CIGF work e.g. CIDF
- Leveraging partnerships to advance achievement of objectives

CTU

Recent IG Events & Issues

- 70th & 71st Public Meetings of ICANN (ICANN 70 & 71)
  - 2021 March 22 – 25 & June 14 - 17
  - CTU participates in the proceedings of ICANN's Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) as an Observer Member where the main GAC issues include:
    - subsequent procedures for new gTLDs
    - RDS/WHOIS and data protection
    - DNS abuse mitigation

- Annual ARIN/CTU Policy Forum
  - 18th & 19th May 2021
  - Explored themes of connectivity, digital inclusion & digital transformation

- 17th Caribbean Internet Governance Forum (CIGF)
  - 24th & 25th August 2021 (Virtual for the 2nd straight year)

CTU

Current IG Actions Status

- 17th CIGF (2021):
  - Theme: Caribbean IG Priorities for Post-COVID-19 ICT-driven Development
  - progressed updating of the IG policy framework in areas of connectivity, cyber security and content management
  - also explored policies for affordable meaningful connectivity and digital identity systems

- Reestablished online discussion forum on CTU web site to facilitate inter-sessional work progress on:
  - Updating the Caribbean IG Policy Framework document
  - Routine operational issues e.g. re ICANN matters, policy debates, liaison issues, events etc.

- Re-evaluating the viability of the current CIGF strategy for achieving sustainable multistakeholder arrangements for CIGF work

CTU

Upcoming IG Events & Issues

- 72nd Public Meeting of ICANN (ICANN 72)
  - 2021 October 25 – 28, Los Angeles time zone
- Issuing the report of the 17th CIGF
- Stimulating and sustaining inter-sessional discussion and policy development progress via the online discussion forum to expedite Issue 4.0 of the Caribbean Internet Governance Policy Framework
- Contributing to the proceedings of the 16th UN IGF in December 2021 in Katowice, Poland

CTU

What Can You Do?

Our invitation to you:

- Get involved and make your voice heard:
    - **ALL** stakeholder views are invited and welcome
- Follow Internet Governance content and fora on CTU web site at http://www.ctu.int and on sites of the Internet organisations
- Actively participate the CIGF online forum
- Submit comments/feedback to CIGF@ctu.int

CTU

Caribbean Telecommunications Union
At your Service

Thank you

Please visit www.ctu.int