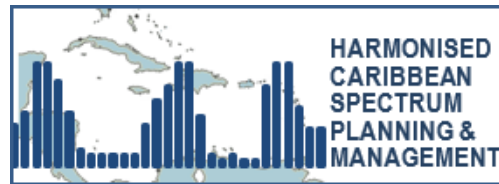




**Caribbean Telecommunications Union**



**Spectrum Management Task Force (SMTF)**

**Action Plan 2022 [Draft for Approval]**

**25<sup>th</sup> February 2022**



# Spectrum Management Task Force Action Plan 2022

(To be endorsed by the Spectrum Management Steering Committee)

Plan for work of the SMTF with focus on the following thematic areas:

1. RFAT (Harmonisation of Priority Bands: IMT, Emergency Communications, IOT/Innovation bands e.g. Wi-Fi, DSA, TVWS etc.)
2. Cross-Border Interference and Operational Matters
3. Emergency Communications
4. Spectrum Pricing
5. WRC-23 Preparations
6. Planning Digital Broadcasting Switchover

Thematic Area	Initiative	Comments/Actions	Time Frame	Lead
1.0 Regional Frequency Allocation Table (RFAT)	1.1 Collation of National FATs in requested format at central location (CTU).	National FAT updates are in train to also incorporate changes required following WRC-19. Jurisdictions to ensure that their current NFATs are communicated to the CTU Secretariat.	Ongoing	SMTF Members
		National FATs to be converted into agreed electronic format	Q3 2022	SMTF Members

Thematic Area	Initiative	Comments/Actions	Time Frame	Lead
	1.2 Population of a software database with NFAT data from each jurisdiction	Establish a technical statement of need for the automated database to describe <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Field structure</li> <li>• File structure</li> <li>• Functionality</li> </ul> Research and recommend database software appropriate to this application  Plan and undertake database population work based on software recommendation and data availability	Q2 2022   Q3 2022   Q4 2022	CTU Secretariat / NTRC SVG   SMA Jamaica / CTU Secretariat   CTU Secretariat
	1.3 Harmonisation of priority bands.  <u>Working Group</u> (addressing IMT & IOT/innovation bands e.g. Wi-Fi, DSA, TVWS etc.):  <b>TATT</b> (Lead), C&W, Belize, ECTEL	Priority bands identified as those for IMT, emergency comms and IOT/innovation  Development and consideration of harmonisation proposals  Review ANFR Proposal for harmonization in TDD 3400 – 3800 MHz for 5G:  Indicate ability/willingness to accommodate ANFR request/proposal	Ongoing      Q2 2022	Working Group      SMTF Members

Thematic Area	Initiative	Comments/Actions	Time Frame	Lead
		Survey of SMTF members to collect info on current assignments and plans for identified priority bands (Consider CITELE template)	Q2 2022	Working Group
		Approach ITU for providing assistance in regional 5G Band harmonization	Q1 2022	CTU Secretariat
		Assessment of bands for regional authorisation (e.g. Auction) based on harmonisation recommendations	Ongoing	CTU Secretariat & SMTF Members
2.0 Cross-Border Interference and Operational Matters	2.1 Focal Contact Points	Identify annually and as required, contact info for functional/technical and higher level (Ministerial) coordinators/ key contacts	Ongoing	SMTF Members
		Compile list of the contacts received and those outstanding for general reference; post on a special SMTF partition on the CTU web site	Q2 2022	CTU Secretariat
		Obtain focal points for Cuba, Haiti & Dominican Republic	Q2 2022	CTU Secretariat

Thematic Area	Initiative	Comments/Actions	Time Frame	Lead
	2.2 Frequency Registration	Seize opportunities for capacity building and practice on frequency reporting.  Member States to provide status updates on their progress with registrations on the MIFR	Ongoing  At SMTF meetings	SMTF Members  SMTF Members
	2.3 Coordination Agreements	Member States share their frequency agreements  CTU to establish a centralised record of regional agreements	Ongoing  Q2 2022	SMTF Members  CTU Secretariat
	2.4 Address operational coordination matters arising	Common approach to coordination with satellite service operators	Q2 and ongoing	SMTF Chair
3.0 Emergency Communications	3.1 Focal contact points for emergency communications	Maintain database of current contacts, reaching out to CTU Member States beyond Task Force/ Steering Committee members for contact info  Post contact list on a new SMTF partition on CTU web site	Ongoing  Q2 2022	CTU Secretariat

Thematic Area	Initiative	Comments/Actions	Time Frame	Lead
	3.2 Country status dashboard for emergency communications	Develop and post a dashboard of emergency communications best practices showing the status for each country (e.g., national emergency telecoms plans, Tampere Convention, IARP Convention etc.)	Q2 2022	CTU Secretariat / UWI
	3.2 Accession to the Tampere Convention	<p>Sustain awareness campaign to encourage universal sign on to Tampere Convention. (Concerns of potential signatories to be addressed)</p> <p>Identify and highlight implementation considerations re the Convention</p> <p>Issue to be raised again at the CTU's GC for coordination with Foreign Affairs Ministers</p> <p>Advocate for Caribbean countries to accede to Tampere Convention</p> <p>Foster coordination among CDEMA and stakeholders like CANTO.</p> <p>SMTF members to work with local Disaster Management offices to promote initiative</p>	<p>Q2 – Q3 2022</p> <p>Q2 – Q3 2022</p> <p>Q3 2022</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>CTU Secretariat</p> <p>CTU Secretariat</p> <p>CTU Secretariat</p> <p>CTU Secretariat / SMTF Members</p> <p>CTU Secretariat</p> <p>SMTF Members</p>

Thematic Area	Initiative	Comments/Actions	Time Frame	Lead
	3.3 Adoption of IARP (Advocated by the IARU for mobilising and expediting telecom relief efforts in disaster response)	Foster universal acceptance and adoption of IARP via an awareness campaign.  Call on Caribbean countries to accede to amended IARP Convention, which is open for signing at the OAS.  Accession to the amendment to the IARP Convention to be raised at CTU Ministerial meetings	Q2 – Q3 2022  Ongoing  Q3 2022	IARU and CTU Secretariat  IARU, CTU Secretariat, SMTF Members  CTU Secretariat
	3.4 Harmonisation of Band Plans for Emergency Communications  <u>Working Group:</u> <b>ECTEL</b> (Lead), TATT, SMA, UWI and Grenada	Establish list of bands used in each jurisdiction (To be used to inform international /regional agencies);  Examine bands available and make harmonisation recommendations accordingly.	Q1 – Q2 2022  Q2 – Q3 2022	<u>ECTEL</u> , TATT  Working Group

Thematic Area	Initiative	Comments/Actions	Time Frame	Lead
	3.5 Network Resilience	Establish best practice policy recommendations for network resilience, including common approaches for the role of free-to-air broadcasters, to inform national policies  SMTF members to review the CCCR report on the CTU web site (Resources/Document Repository) and provide any feedback on policy recommendations	Q2 – Q3 2022  Q2 2022	SMTF Members  SMTF Members
	3.6 Baseline data gathering on emergency communications in the maritime bands  [Smart Seas Project in progress with the ITU in T&T with possible future benefit to the wider Caribbean.]	Conduct a survey of marine communications to include infrastructure and national Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) arrangements, relevant national policy and regulatory provisions, channel use, operations and associated capacity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop Survey instrument</li> <li>• Data gathering</li> <li>• Analysis &amp; presentation</li> </ul>	Q1 – Q2 2022  Q1 2022 Q2 – Q3 2022 Q3 2022	UWI / CTU Secretariat  UWI SMTF Members /CTU UWI / CTU Sec



Thematic Area	Initiative	Comments/Actions	Time Frame	Lead
4.0 Spectrum Pricing	4.1 Reassessment of spectrum pricing actions proposed in Strategic Plan 2016-2018	Review pricing thrusts from Strategic Plan 2016 - 2018  Agree revised strategic thrusts and determine specific actions to be taken in 2022	Q1 - Q2 2022  Q2 2022	SMTF Members  SMTF Chair
	4.2 Fostering common pricing guidance for advice to regional regulators  <u>Working Group:</u> <b>SMA Jamaica</b> (Lead), TATT and Digicel	Regulators to share current pricing methodologies  Consider appropriate interim pricing arrangements and recommend appropriate approaches for emerging broadband mobile and satellite applications, e.g. 5G, HAPS & LEO services.  Capacity building seminar(s) and activities.	Q1 – Q4 2022  Q2 – Q4 2022  Q2 – Q4 2022	SMTF Members  Working Group  CTU Secretariat
	5.0 WRC-23 Preparations	5.1 Identifying priority WRC-23 agenda items of Caribbean relevance	Group discussions and proposals on agenda items for priority focus  Agree primary items for Caribbean attention	Q1 – Q2 2022  Q2 – Q3 2022

<b>Thematic Area</b>	<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Comments/Actions</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>	<b>Lead</b>
	5.2 Formulating harmonised Caribbean positions for proposal to WRC-23	Identify item coordinators and vice-coordinators for relevant priority WRC-23 agenda items  Collaborate with Task Force members and engage with key stakeholder groups to inform the formulation of harmonised Caribbean positions  Liaise with CITEEL and ITU as appropriate to inform and advance harmonised Caribbean positions	Q2 – Q3 2022  Q1 – Q4 2022  Q1 – Q4 2022	SMTF Chair / SMTF Members  SMTF Members / CTU Secretariat  SMTF Members / CTU Secretariat
6.0 Planning Digital Broadcasting Switchover	6.1 Develop and promote harmonised approaches to digital transition	Establish best practice guidelines to assist countries in DSO strategy planning  Collaborate with broadcast sector (e.g. the CBU et al) to undertake regional awareness campaign and facilitate harmonised approaches	Q2 – Q3 2022  Q2 2022 & ongoing	SMTF Members  CTU Secretariat / SMTF Members