

CTU's 3rd International ICT Preparatory and Industry Watch Meeting

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Spectrum Management Task Force

26th June 2023

Background

The Spectrum Management Task Force ('SMTF') was formed in 2006 and is a multi-stakeholder technical group formed by the CTU to develop harmonised, regional spectrum management policies for Caribbean countries.

The SMTF is made up of the following stakeholders:

- Policy Makers and Spectrum Management Agencies of Caribbean countries;
- CTU secretariat;
- Representatives of Caribbean Telecommunications Operators;
- Academia;
- Broadcasters;
- Amateur Radio Operators and other stakeholders.

Oversight of SMTF is provided by a Spectrum Management Steering Committee ('SMSC'). The work of the SMTF is guided by the **Caribbean Spectrum Management Strategic Plan**. The meetings (in person and virtual) are facilitated by the CTU secretariat. SMTF tries to hold at least one meeting every quarter.

Key Goals of the SMTF

1. Regional harmonisation of national frequency allocations tables and band plans, including common frequencies and international protocols for disaster management and emergency telecommunications;
2. Minimisation of cross border interference;
3. Establishment of common approaches to digital broadcasting switchover, licensing approach of satellite operators and spectrum pricing.

SMTF Action Plan 2023

The Action Plan 2023 was approved by the SMSC in April 2023.

The work of the SMTF focuses on seven (7) thematic areas for 2023:

1. Regional Frequency Allocation Table includes Harmonisation of Priority Bands: IMT, Emergency Communications, IOT/Innovation bands such as Wi-Fi, TV White Space;
2. Harmonizing spectrum management policies to facilitate new and emerging technologies and services for socio-economic development;
3. Emergency Communications;
4. Developing Common Spectrum Pricing Policies;
5. Preparations for ITU World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-23);
6. Planning Digital Broadcasting Switchover; and
7. Maintaining current information for Operational Coordination.

Preparations for WRC-23

In the current WRC-23 cycle, the SMTF is holding several meetings (virtual and in person) to discuss and attempt to harmonise the positions of Caribbean countries on WRC-23 Agenda Items.



SMTF encourages the CTU countries to participate and follow CITEP PCCII preparatory meetings for WRC-23 especially the outcomes of CITEP PCC.II meetings.

CITEP PCCII has scheduled its last WRC-23 preparatory meeting for Ottawa in August 2023



SMTF also encourages CTU countries to participate and vote in the upcoming WRC-23 meeting to be held in Dubai in November 2023

SMTF Meeting Schedule

- There is a meeting of SMTF planned for Q3: late July 2023 or early August 2023;
- With the assistance of the CTU secretariat, the SMTF is ascertaining whether this meeting can be held in person or virtually;
- The upcoming SMTF will discuss the progress of the SMTF Action Plan 2023 as well as to try to coalesce CTU Member States' positions on the WRC-23 Agenda Items ahead of the last CITELE PCC.II meeting which will be held in Ottawa in August 2023.



Questions or Comments

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