



Report on



*Reflections, Current Priorities and Projections for
Caribbean Internet and Digital Governance*

*21st - 23rd August 2024
Pegasus Hotel, Georgetown Guyana
&
Via Zoom Videoconferencing*



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Acknowledgments

As convenor of the 20th Caribbean Internet Governance Forum (CIGF) and the 3rd Caribbean Youth Internet Governance Forum (CYIGF), the Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU) extends its grateful thanks to our host, the Government of Guyana, represented by the Telecommunications Agency, who enabled the CIGF to return to the location of its inaugural session for this 20th Anniversary milestone. Thanks as well to the Global Forum for Cyber Expertise (GFCE) who facilitated our Day 2 programme and to all speakers, participants and support staff who facilitated a successful three days of events.

We also gratefully acknowledge and appreciate the invaluable material and intellectual support of our perennial partner organisations, the American Registry for Internet Numbers (ARIN), the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), the Internet Society (ISOC) and the ISOC Foundation, the Latin American and Caribbean Internet Addresses Registry (LACNIC) and the United Nations (UN) Internet Governance Forum (IGF) Secretariat as well as the contributions of the Trinidad and Tobago Multistakeholder Advisory Group (TTMAG).

On this special occasion, we reflect on the accomplishments of the past two decades and look forward with optimism to continuing and enhancing our collaboration with all stakeholders to foster a sustainable, inclusive and secure digital future for the Caribbean.



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Introduction and Overview

The Caribbean Internet Governance Forum (CIGF) is a regional, non-hierarchical, multi-stakeholder forum initiated by the Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU) and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat in 2005 to coordinate a regional approach to Internet Governance (IG), initially focussed on the proceedings of the United Nations' World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). The CIGF has since met annually and has delivered significant and pioneering benefits to the region including formulation of a Caribbean Internet Governance Policy Framework; the proliferation of Internet exchange points (IXPs); capacity building in IG Principles and best practices; and growth in Caribbean influence in international IG fora. The CIGF is the longest running Internet Governance Forum in the world.

This year the 20th CIGF returned to the Pegasus Hotel in Georgetown, Guyana, where it was launched in 2005. It was staged in-person but with remote participation via online videoconferencing under the auspices of the CTU and the Government of Guyana. There were 153 attendees, with 76 present in-person, from over 29 countries in attendance over the three days, 21st to 23rd August 2024. Most attendees were members of the private sector (24%), government (21%), civil society (including academia) (24%) or technical community (18%) stakeholder groups with an overall 56:44 male to female gender mix. In addition to reviewing achievements over the years, the Forum addressed various facets of Internet Governance of current import to the Caribbean including UN initiatives to adopt a Global Digital Compact in September 2024 and undertook a 20-year review of WSIS-initiated activities in 2025 (WSIS+20 Review); to enhance the reach, resiliency and sustainability of critical digital infrastructure in the Caribbean; fostering adoption and growth of our digital economies in a trusted and secure manner; and harnessing the benefits of emergent technologies (e.g. AI) while minimising attendant risks. The 3rd Caribbean Youth Internet Governance Forum (3rd CYIGF) was also hosted during the time of the 20th CIGF.

Objectives

- Consider Internet governance policies and initiatives for priority attention and regional consensus to facilitate accelerated digital transformation in the Caribbean
- Elicit the voices and develop the capacity of Caribbean youth in Internet governance by facilitating the 3rd Caribbean Youth Internet Governance Forum
- Build national and regional capacity and systems in IG to enable, support, strengthen and sustain socio-economic development and effective Caribbean participation and representation at regional and global Internet Governance fora

This year's Forum fostered regional consensus on internet governance policies to accelerate digital transformation, particularly through addressing cybersecurity challenges like DDoS attacks and improving rural internet access. Youth participation was highlighted and encouraged with calls for youth to not only continue participating in the CYIGF but to join and support the CTU's Caribbean Internet Youth Network, a youth-driven initiative. The capacity-building workshop offered a comprehensive approach to enhancing both national and



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regional capacity. And finally, with discussions on inclusivity and collaboration across linguistic divides, the push for a national IGF in Guyana, key contributions were made toward strengthening Caribbean participation in global Internet governance fora.

The full agendas of the 20th CIGF and 3rd CYIGF are given in Appendix 2 and the list of attendees in Appendix 3 hereto.

Summary of Proceedings

The 20th CIGF and 3rd CYIGF provided an invaluable opportunity for attendees of Guyana to participate in the forums' discussions reflecting not only on the CIGF but on IG in Guyana as well. The host, Ms. Jennifer Persaud-Boodhoo, welcomed all attendees, both in-person and those participating remotely, introduced the sessions and moderated the question-and-answer segments, as needed.

CIGF Day 1

Opening Ceremony

The 20th CIGF began with an opening ceremony with remarks from Mr. Rodney Taylor, Secretary-General, CTU, who emphasized the CIGF's resilience, dedication and forward-thinking approach to internet governance in the Caribbean. Secretary-General Taylor reflected on the early 2000s and the region's digital development crossroads, highlighting the CIGF's pioneering role in shaping the digital landscape. Noting the CIGF's significant achievements, including the development and adoption of the Caribbean Internet Governance Policy Framework, he also acknowledged the contributions of various organizations, such as the Regional Internet Registries (RIRs), the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Internet Society (ISOC) and the United Nations Internet Governance Forum (UN IGF) Secretariat, in supporting the CIGF's efforts. Secretary-General Taylor emphasized the importance of ongoing research, dialog and the involvement of a broader range of stakeholders, including youth, in addressing emerging technologies like AI, Blockchain and quantum computing and highlighted the collaboration with other small island developing states (SIDS) and the recognition of the Caribbean Youth IGF as a National Regional Initiative (NRI) by the United Nations IGF. Emphasizing the need for continued collaboration and leadership in digital inclusion, ensuring access to the internet for all citizens regardless of age, gender, or socioeconomic status, he called for addressing of the affordability and accessibility of digital services, advocated for universal internet access to bridge the digital divide, highlighted the importance of strengthening cybersecurity measures and fostering a culture of cybersecurity awareness among the public.

This was followed by the greetings from the partner organisations who all offered congratulations to the CIGF on reaching its 20th year. Mr. Albert Daniels, Senior Manager, Stakeholder Engagement – Caribbean, ICANN expressed his pleasure in being in Guyana for the 20th anniversary of the CIGF and highlighted its importance in shaping the digital



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landscape. He went on to discuss ICANN's initiatives, including the next round of new generic top-level domains (gTLDs) and the Applicant Support Program (ASP) to support qualifying applicants, emphasizing the importance of collaboration with regional partners and the ICANN strategic plan 2026-2030, which aims to strengthen partnerships and address digital challenges. Mr. Chengetai Masango, Head of Office, UN IGF Secretariat congratulated the CIGF on its 20th anniversary and highlighted the importance of the Caribbean's contributions to global Internet Governance. He noted the challenges faced by SIDS and the potential in human capacity and innovative solutions for bridging the digital divide, stated that the region is excellently positioned to navigate towards a sustainable digital future. Ms. Paula Otegy, Multistakeholder Engagement Coordinator, Latin American and Caribbean Internet Addresses Registry (LACNIC) offered congratulations on behalf of LACNIC on two decades of significant contributions to regional Internet governance. She encouraged all participants to familiarize themselves with LACNIC's programs and initiatives that promote a stable, open Internet in Latin America and the Caribbean, particularly those focusing on capacity building, Internet governance and youth engagement. On behalf of Guyana, the country in which the CIGF was first launched, Mr. Andre Griffith addressed the forum highlighting the importance of the National Toshias Conference in Guyana, emphasizing the need for communication access in remote indigenous communities. Reflecting on Internet governance, he noted its evolution from domain management to a broader concept involving governments, the private sector and civil society. Mr. Griffith also discussed the challenges posed by regulatory issues in Internet governance and stressed the importance of continued policy development, particularly in Guyana, where legislative efforts, including digital identity and data protection laws, have been advancing. The opening ceremony concluded with a vote of thanks by Mr. Nigel Cassimire, Deputy Secretary-General, CTU.

Introduction to Internet Governance & Reflections @ CIGF 20

Mr. Nigel Cassimire, in this session, reflected on the past 20 years of the CIGF, providing a brief review of CIGF's development, highlighting the role of the Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU), which, as a CARICOM institution, advises regional governments on ICT policy. Over time, the CTU's role expanded from telecommunications policy to ICT policy. Key CTU activities included harmonizing policy formulation across the Caribbean, building capacity and coordinating regional ICT projects funded by international organizations.

The first CIGF was held in 2005, prior to the final session of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) organized by the UN. The CTU and CARICOM Secretariats, brought together various stakeholders—government, private sector, academia and civil society—to develop harmonized Caribbean positions on internet governance. The event focused on priority issues such as infrastructure, which has remained a significant concern, particularly in larger countries like Guyana.

Since 2005, the CIGF has driven internet development and use across the Caribbean by fostering regional policies, infrastructure buildout and improving the capacity of stakeholders. The forum, the longest running of its kind globally, maintained a multi-stakeholder, non-

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hierarchical approach, allowing all participants to contribute equally. Over the years, it played a crucial role in shaping regional internet governance and its policy recommendations were used to guide national policy development, such as in Barbados.

The CIGF also influenced global discussions, particularly through its participation in UN-led internet governance dialogues. The forum strengthened ties with other regional IGFs and the UN's IGF, maintaining the Caribbean's leadership in multi-stakeholder internet governance approaches.

After sharing a highlight video of the CIGF from 2005 to 2019, Mr. Cassimire focused on the 15th CIGF, held in Trinidad and Tobago, where the efforts of several persons from the Caribbean were recognized, which included someone from Guyana Mr. Lance Hinds, who contributed to both civil society and government sectors.

Mr. Cassimire highlighted that the 20th CIGF marked a key milestone and, notably, that the third Caribbean Youth IGF, a more recent initiative aimed at engaging younger generations, was planned for the afternoon session. Additionally, the Caribbean Internet Governance Policy Framework had been updated, with its fourth edition available on the CTU website.

Mr. Cassimire acknowledged the strong partnerships the CIGF had fostered, including collaborations with key organizations such as ISOC, American Registry of Internet Numbers (ARIN), ICANN and LACNIC as well as a 2014 collaboration with the South School on Internet Governance, an initiative focused on building capacity in the region. Internet exchange points had also grown significantly, from none to between 14 and 18 across the Caribbean, which contributed to local content development.

Regarding challenges, Mr. Cassimire noted that visibility of internet governance at the national level remained an issue, particularly the need for greater governmental participation. He emphasized the CTU's goal to develop metrics for measuring the effectiveness of the CIGF and to address the lack of capacity in internet governance across the region. The CTU sought to expand participation and improve coordination among partners, especially through national-level initiatives such as local Internet Governance Forums (IGFs).

Looking ahead, Mr. Cassimire explained that the CIGF aimed to evolve by fostering a multi-stakeholder organizing committee, involving representatives from various sectors and continuing to build partnerships with national and regional IGFs. The development of metrics to gauge CIGF's success was a key priority. He concluded by encouraging greater participation in internet governance, noting that individuals, not just corporations, could have a significant impact on the region's internet policies.

National, Regional and Global IG Concepts

Reports from the National, Regional and Global IGFs were given with respect to their activities for the last year and planned upcoming activities.



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Mr. Tracy Hackshaw reported on the work of the Trinidad and Tobago Multistakeholder Advisory Group (TTMAG), which held the 2024 Trinidad and Tobago Internet Governance Forum (TT IGF) from January 25-26, 2024, in a hybrid format. The forum centred on fostering a trust-driven digital economy, with discussions focusing on privacy, data protection, cybersecurity and digital transformation. Participants highlighted key challenges, including the need to strengthen data protection laws, enhance national cybersecurity strategies and address the digital divide by improving meaningful access and connectivity, particularly in terms of affordable devices. The forum underscored the importance of capacity building in digital literacy and collaboration among stakeholders to improve internet-related policies and infrastructure. Moving forward, TT MAG plans to enhance multi-stakeholder collaboration and create a detailed roadmap with timelines and metrics to guide the implementation of internet governance policies. Preparations for the 2025 TT IGF, scheduled for January 30-31, have already begun, with a webinar planned to invite regional participation and shape the event's agenda.

Ms. Stéphanie Joseph, President ISOC Haiti, emphasized the importance of youth participation in shaping IG, recognizing their role as innovators, content creators and digital leaders. She underscored the need for investment in digital infrastructure, education and training, which has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Joseph called for increased collaboration between regional and international partners, as well as public and private sectors, to enhance digital inclusion and security. The forum also highlighted successful initiatives like community networks in remote areas and stressed the importance of tailored national strategies to protect user against cyber threats. The upcoming Haiti IGF 2024 will continue these discussions, focusing on connectivity, security and digital inclusion, with the aim of advancing Haiti's digital transformation through collaboration and policy development.

Ms. Nia Nanan, CTU, reported on the recently held 2nd SIDS IGF, which was hosted as a side event during the SIDS 4 Conference in Antigua and Barbuda over two days. The 2nd SIDS IGF, under the theme "Leveraging Digital Governance for Resilient Prosperity in SIDS.", featured a two-part format, with a virtual session on its first day, with 145 participants from 32 countries and an in-person session on the second day, with 30 attendees. Experts from the Caribbean, Asia-Pacific and international organisations shared insights on national strategies for digital inclusion, the role of ICTs in SIDS' sustainable development and the importance of governance and policy for resilient digital future. Takeaways emphasized transitioning SIDS to "Smart Island Developing States", the integration of ICTs for sustainable development, economic growth through digital cooperation and the need to close the digital divide. The forum set the stage for ongoing collaboration among SIDS to address current digital challenges and capitalise on future opportunities.

Ms. Lilian Chamorro Rojas, Coordinator, Latin America and Caribbean IGF (LAC IGF) informed that the LAC IGF, which is annually held each year since 2008, has transitioned to an online format. In 2021, new bylaws were established, leading to structural changes in 2023, including

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the creation of a multi-stakeholder committee and a workshop selection committee. These bodies ensure the forum's smooth operation and diversity of topics, drawing participants from private, government, civil society and technical communities. Key outcomes from the LAC IGF 2023, held in Bogota, Colombia, included a focus on expanding participation across sectors and enhancing discussions on emerging technologies and digital governance. The multi-stakeholder dialogue and intersessional working groups were strengthened, with more involvement from the technical community and private sector. Fifteen scholarships were awarded to participants from various countries and the event's materials were made available online. Next steps involve preparations for the 2024 LAC IGF, which will be held in Santiago, Chile, on November 7–8. This edition will feature translation in three languages, sessions proposed by the community and a "Day of Youth" to engage younger participants. Topics for 2024 will include artificial intelligence, human rights, cybersecurity, universal access and digital literacy, with session proposals evaluated based on relevance, public policy impact and diversity.

As the first representative from the SIDS and Caribbean appointed by the UN Secretary-General as Chair of the IGF Multi-stakeholder Advisory Group (MAG), Ms. Carol Roach, UN IGF MAG Chair, highlighted her commitment to ensuring the voices of small island developing states are heard in global discussions. She praised NRIs (National and Regional Initiatives) for their role in promoting inclusive, multi-stakeholder internet governance and emphasized the Caribbean IGF's exemplary contribution to global stakeholder engagement. She challenged the Caribbean IGF and the global IGF to increase the number of national IGFs in the region, noting that some countries, including the Bahamas, lacked their own IGF. She invited Caribbean stakeholders to participate in the upcoming 19th IGF in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, from December 15-19, 2023 and encouraged them to engage in shaping the event's key messages. Additionally, Ms Roach urged the Caribbean IGF to remain informed about the ongoing negotiations on the Global Digital Compact (GDC) and participate actively in the Summit of the Future in September 2024. She called on Caribbean stakeholders to voice their positions through CARICOM, government agencies and UN missions. She also mentioned the upcoming WSIS+20 process in 2025 and invited the Caribbean IGF to contribute to shaping the future of the global IGF.

Ms. Anja Gengo of the UN IGF Secretariat followed and congratulated the CIGF on its 20th session and reflected on the significance of the event, recognizing the evolution of internet governance over the past two decades. She emphasized the growth and increasing global recognition of National and Regional Initiatives (NRIs), noting that there are now over 172 NRIs worldwide. Gengo praised the active involvement of Caribbean NRIs in shaping discussions for the upcoming IGF in Riyadh, particularly in areas such as disinformation, multilingual inclusion and emerging technologies governance. She highlighted the importance of the multi-stakeholder model and encouraged participation in the IGF, either in person or online, urging stakeholders to apply for travel support. She also expressed excitement about the Youth Caribbean IGF and acknowledged the hard work of the youth coordinators in preparing their program.



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3rd Caribbean Youth Internet Governance Forum (CYIGF)

The 3rd Caribbean Youth Internet Governance Forum (CYIGF) was hosted in the afternoon of 21st August 2024. It included a number of sessions comprising presentations and panels, on topics such as involving youth in internet governance, monetizing Caribbean content, and bridging the digital divide. It also focused closely on current hot topics in the ICT sector, such as artificial intelligence and cybersecurity. Participants were invited to provide live feedback during the open mic session at the end, and positively rated the 2024 CYIGF, and identified areas to consider for future work.

These recommendations included taking tangible action towards discussing means for breaking the barriers to monetizing Caribbean content, through multistakeholder consultations with regulators, service providers and regulators. Furthermore, given that many of the youth on the ground had never been to an internet governance forum before, future work is needed to increase the awareness and visibility of the CYIGF throughout the Caribbean. This will ultimately improve participation of youth in future fora of this nature, and ultimately strengthen the region through improved capacity, awareness and multi-stakeholder collaboration.

A more detailed report on proceedings of the 3rd CYIGF (2024) is given in Appendix 1.

CIGF Day 2 - the Global Forum Cyber Expertise – Internet Infrastructure Initiative (GFCE Triple-I Workshop)

The second day of the CIGF focussed on capacity building, in partnership with the Global Forum Cyber Expertise – Internet Infrastructure Initiative (GFCE Triple-I), who facilitated a workshop. Secretary-General Taylor introduced the facilitator for the day, Mr. Maarten Botterman, who introduced the Global Forum for Cyber Expertise (GFCE). GFCE was established about 10 years ago by countries and major global players to support capacity building in internet security. The Triple I initiative, which focuses on enhancing justified trust, aims to create a robust, transparent and resilient internet infrastructure. The initiative emphasizes the importance of modern internet standards, which now include security features and involves collaboration with both global and regional experts. The forum operates through three key areas: promoting better use of existing internet standards, sharing best practices and developing action plans for a more trusted internet.

I-Better Use of today's open internet standards

The use and usefulness of Open Internet Standards such as Domain Name System Security Extensions (DNSSEC), Transport Layer Security (TLS), DNS-based Authentication of Named Entities (DANE), Resource Public Key Infrastructure (RPKI), Route Origin Authorization (ROA), Domain-based Message Authorization, Reporting and Conformance (DMARC), Domainkeys

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Identified Mail (DKIM), Sender Policy Framework (SPF) and Internet Protocol version 6 (IPv6) were discussed and their uptake in the region was explored.

Section 1: DNS Security (DNSSEC, TLS and DANE)

Mr. Nicolas Antonello, Regional Technical Engagement Manager at ICANN, discussed DNS security, outlining his role as a technical liaison between ICANN and various stakeholders. He explained the structure of the internet, where devices are uniquely identified by IP addresses, much like phone numbers in a telephone system. To simplify navigation, the Domain Name System (DNS) was developed, allowing domain names to be linked to numerical IP addresses.

Antonello highlighted the original vulnerabilities of the DNS, which was not designed with security in mind. As the internet grew, security threats emerged, leading to the creation of protocols like DNSSEC (Domain Name System Security Extensions). DNSSEC adds security by digitally signing information exchanged between authoritative DNS servers (which store DNS data) and recursive servers (which search for this data), ensuring that responses are authentic and not tampered with by attackers.

In practical terms, DNSSEC helps prevent attacks where users are redirected to fraudulent websites, especially in scenarios like online banking. Antonello emphasized the importance of deploying DNSSEC and related protocols to address security and privacy concerns, ensuring a safer and more reliable internet experience for all users.

Section 3: Email Security

Mr. Hovsep Hajarian, EasyDMARC, introduced three key email security protocols: SPF, DKIM and DMARC, explaining their roles in preventing email spoofing. Sender Policy Framework (SPF), introduced in 2003, allows domain owners to create a whitelist of servers or IP addresses that can send emails from their domain. It uses DNS records to store this information and supports mechanisms like "include" and "MX" to simplify administration, though it can be limited by its inability to authenticate the visible "From" address in an email header, making it vulnerable to spoofing.

DomainKeys Identified Mail (DKIM) focuses on maintaining the integrity of an email by ensuring that it hasn't been altered during transmission. It uses a pair of cryptographic keys: a private key on the sending server and a public key stored in the DNS. Emails are signed with the private key and the recipient server uses the public key to verify the message's integrity by comparing hash values. This prevents tampering, but like SPF, DKIM alone does not protect against spoofing the "From" address.

Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting and Conformance (DMARC) builds on SPF and DKIM by ensuring alignment between the domain in the "From" address and the authenticated domain in the SPF or DKIM records. It also provides reporting capabilities, allowing administrators to monitor email traffic and enforce policies such as quarantine or rejection of suspicious emails. DMARC closes the gap left by SPF and DKIM, providing a more

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comprehensive solution to email security by preventing spoofing and offering detailed reporting for further analysis.

When asked about the challenges to implement DMARC Mr. Hajarian explained that implementing DMARC can be relatively straightforward for smaller infrastructures with a few platforms that support SPF and DKIM configuration, often taking a week or two to finalize configurations and review reports. However, challenges arise with larger organizations or those with a global presence, where different departments might use various email service platforms (ESPs) that aren't always known or centrally managed. In such cases, it becomes essential to audit and verify all legitimate email sources to avoid mistakenly approving a spoofing source. The complexity of DMARC implementation largely depends on the organization's infrastructure and ESP support.

Section 4: IPv6

Mr. Kevin Swift, LACNIC, discussed the critical importance of IPv6 adoption in the Caribbean. LACNIC, one of two regional internet registries serving the Caribbean, manages internet numbering resources like IPv4, IPv6 and ASNs. Mr. Swift explained that while IPv4, developed in the 1970s, offered only 4.2 billion IP addresses, IPv6 provides an exponentially larger supply, sufficient for the growing needs of today's internet. He emphasized the importance of IPv6 in accommodating global internet expansion, particularly with the rise of connected devices in smart cities and the Internet of Things.

Mr. Swift highlighted the security benefits of IPv6, including improved traceability of online activities, which helps mitigate cybercrime. However, the transition to IPv6 has been slow in the Caribbean, with countries like Trinidad and Tobago and Guyana making strides, while others, such as Belize and Cuba, remain behind. Despite a 2012 policy by LACNIC that automatically provides IPv6 resources alongside IPv4, many operators in the region continue to rely on IPv4, using techniques like CG-NAT, which causes performance and security challenges.

To address these issues, Mr. Swift outlined best practices for accelerating IPv6 adoption, stressing the importance of collaboration among governments, the private sector and academia. He encouraged governments to incentivize IPv6 use by incorporating it into procurement practices and public infrastructure projects, ensuring the region is prepared for the future of the internet.

During the discussion that followed it was noted that during the pandemic, Guyana made significant progress in IPv6 adoption, turning on its IPv6 traffic for the first time. Mr. Swift noted that while local websites in Guyana may not yet be fully utilizing IPv6, international content delivery networks (CDNs) such as Google and Akamai are already deploying content using both IPv4 and IPv6. The "Happy Eyeballs" protocol ensures that equipment prioritizes IPv6 over IPv4 when available. Before the pandemic, Guyana's IPv6 usage was at zero, but the situation has drastically improved, with both Guyana and neighbouring Suriname experiencing significant growth in IPv6 deployment during that time.

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Section 2: Routing Security (PKI and ROA)

Mr. Antonello briefly summarized the roles in DNSSEC and routing security. For DNSSEC, end users were not required to perform specific tasks. The responsibility lay with administrators of authoritative and recursive servers. Those managing authoritative servers needed to sign their DNS data to provide digital signatures, while operators of recursive servers had to enable DNSSEC validation, a simple task that did not add significant operational burden.

He also discussed resources for understanding DNS and routing standards. A map he presented illustrated over 100 IETF standards related to DNS, highlighting the complexity of the DNS standards ecosystem. To aid in this, he mentioned the "Kindness" program, which provides a central repository of best practices for DNS server operators, including configuration examples and self-assessment tools. He compared this with the "Manners" program, which offers similar best practices for routing operations, suggesting these programs as essential resources for technicians managing DNS and network configurations.

II Part 1 – Inspiration from Good Practice Actions

In Part 1 of this topic, three areas were focussed on to demonstrate/highlight the importance of managing Internet resources in good practice, while learning from global Internet practices.

- a. Ms. Nancy Quirós and Mr. Dan York from ISOC provided insights into the Internet Resilience Index (IRI) and the Pulse platform, which are essential for assessing and prioritizing internet resilience in areas such as infrastructure, performance, security and market readiness.

Ms. Quirós introduced Pulse, a platform launched in December 2020, which centralizes and curates internet measurement data from trusted sources. Pulse aggregates existing metrics to offer a comprehensive view of internet health, aiding stakeholders such as policymakers and researchers in evaluating internet resilience. Key features include the Internet Exchange Point (IXP) tracker and upcoming tools like Post 5050 for measuring local traffic and improving historical data usability. For more details, participants were encouraged to visit the Pulse website.

Mr. York discussed Pulse's focus on enabling technologies like IPv6, DNSSEC and TLS 1.3 and how it tracks these technologies' deployment and integration. The IRI, available at pulse.internet-society.org/resilience, assesses around 30 public data sets across four pillars: infrastructure, performance, security and market readiness. Using Guyana as an example, he highlighted its lower scores in areas such as cable ecosystems and mobile connectivity. For Guyana, the IRI report shows that the country scores 30% for market readiness, with sub-scores of 45% for market structure and 16% for traffic localization. The platform also addresses challenges in data collection and encourages feedback to enhance data accuracy and utility.

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- b. Mr. Andrei Robachevsky, Global Cyber Alliance gave the rationale, development and deployment of Mutually Agreed norms for Routing Security (MANRS) in the region, building on global experience, focusing on enhancing the security and stability of the internet's routing system. The routing system, consisting of around 76,000 Autonomous Systems (ASes), relies on the Border Gateway Protocol (BGP) to exchange routing information. However, BGP's lack of built-in security features poses risks as incorrect or malicious routing data can disrupt internet operations. MANRS addresses this issue by establishing widely accepted security practices and promoting collective action among network operators.

Founded by the ISOC and now supported by the Global Cyber Alliance, MANRS promotes four key actions for network operators: filtering routing announcements, implementing anti-spoofing measures, coordinating incident responses and maintaining accurate routing registries. The initiative also extends to Internet Exchange Points (IXPs), Content Delivery Networks (CDNs), cloud providers and network equipment vendors, aiming to secure various aspects of the routing ecosystem.

In the Caribbean, MANRS participation is currently low, with only three active participants. The region's performance shows variability, particularly in RPKI deployment and anti-spoofing practices, indicating a need for improvement. Network operators are encouraged to join MANRS to enhance their security, align with industry standards and contribute to global routing stability. For more information and to participate, interested parties can visit the MANRS website.

When asked, Mr. Robachevsky indicated he was not aware of any IXP policies prohibiting members from connecting if they are not compliant, however, some IXPs promote MANRS in their community and possibly provide incentives.

- c. Mr. Nicolas Antonello and Mr. Albert Daniels, ICANN informed on Knowledge-Sharing and Instantiating Norms for DNS and Naming Security (KINDNS) a new initiative by ICANN designed to enhance DNS operational best practices, which will help keep the DNS space secure. Following the success of the MANRS framework for routing security, ICANN recognized the need for a similar resource focused on DNS servers. KINDNS provides a structured platform to guide DNS operators in implementing best practices related to security, privacy and overall DNS server operation.

The KINDNS program categorizes DNS server operations into two main groups: authoritative servers and resolvers. Authoritative servers are further divided into top-level domains (TLDs) and critical zones, while resolvers are segmented into closed and private, shared private and public resolvers. Each category has specific best practices tailored to its operational characteristics. For instance, authoritative servers for TLDs must implement DNSSEC, while resolver practices vary based on accessibility and use case.

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The program includes various tools and resources, including a self-assessment tool on the KINDNS website. This tool allows operators to evaluate their adherence to best practices and provides configuration examples and recommendations. Organizations meeting the best practice criteria can join the Kindness program, showcasing their commitment to DNS security and operational excellence. The initiative aims to bolster the resilience and security of the global DNS infrastructure, ultimately contributing to a more reliable internet ecosystem.

Mr. Daniel's ended by mentioning that in the Caribbean, ICANN, through its partner CANTO, has been providing capacity building and training. This initiative helps technicians and engineers from ISPs understand and utilize the KINDNS self-assessment tools effectively. The program is available to all Caribbean territories and interested groups can contact ICANN via email for assistance and support.

II Part 2 – Inspiration from Good Practice Actions

Part 2 of the Good Practice Action segment focused on:

- a. Mr. Thijs van den Hout, SIDN, The Netherlands detailed the Dutch Anti-DDoS Coalition's multi-stakeholder approach to combating Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attacks. Formed in response to a rise in significant DDoS attacks targeting critical infrastructure, such as banks and government agencies, the coalition includes 20 organizations like ISPs and government bodies. It operates with a democratic governance model, supported by five working groups focused on legal affairs, communication, exercises, intelligence and the DDoS Clearinghouse.

The DDoS Clearinghouse, developed through the Horizon 2020 Concordia project, is a key tool for mitigating DDoS attacks. It facilitates the sharing of attack data among coalition members by capturing and standardizing attack information. This collaborative effort helps members improve their defences and better prepare for future attacks by providing access to a comprehensive database of DDoS attack fingerprints.

The coalition's efforts also include organizing large-scale DDoS simulation drills through the Exercises Working Group and collaborating with law enforcement in the Intel and Attribution Working Group to analyse and attribute attacks. These activities, along with the creation of the "DDoS Clearinghouse Cookbook," demonstrate the coalition's successful collaborative model. Mr. van den Hout suggested that similar approaches could benefit other regions, including the Caribbean, by enhancing collective resilience against DDoS threats.

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- b. Mr. Brian Cute, Global Cyber Alliance, spoke on the Capacity and resilience toolkits for small enterprises, emphasizing the importance of community in enhancing cybersecurity for underserved groups. Since 2015, the Alliance has developed various cybersecurity toolkits for small businesses, nonprofits, election officials, journalists and individual users. These toolkits are designed to address basic cyber hygiene and are globally accessible. They guide users through identifying risks and implementing free tools to protect their networks, a critical resource for those who lack the budget for commercial cybersecurity solutions.

The Alliance's approach involves collaborating with local organizations and funders to distribute these resources effectively. For example, they work with on-the-ground organizations in regions like the Caribbean to deliver these toolkits. They also partner with standards bodies to ensure their resources are up-to-date and effective. By building a network of stakeholders, the Alliance aims to make cybersecurity tools visible and accessible to small businesses and NGOs, helping them defend against cyber threats and minimize disruptions.

In addition to these toolkits, Global Cyber Alliance curates and provides free threat intelligence services to governments with limited budgets. They offer guidance on using these services effectively to build defenses against threats. The central challenge remains connecting with local organizations and creating a collaborative network to enhance the impact of these resources. The Alliance's experience highlights the need for a community-based approach to address cybersecurity gaps and improve digital resilience.

- c. Mr. Dan York and Prof. Nicole Starosielski, University of California at Berkeley presented on Avoiding Disconnection – Understanding the resilience of subsea cable infrastructure, particularly in the context of recent disruptions in Africa. They presented an analysis of a significant incident from March, where multiple subsea cables in Western Africa were damaged, leading to widespread connectivity issues. The incident was traced to a rock slide affecting several cables simultaneously. This disruption highlighted the vulnerability of subsea cables to physical damage and underscored the importance of network resilience.

The resilience of subsea cables varies significantly depending on regional infrastructure. For instance, South Africa's connectivity was less impacted due to its higher density of infrastructure and multiple routes, as opposed to Western Africa, where fewer cables meant greater disruption. This was further supported by the presence of robust internet exchange points (IXPs) and local content caching, which mitigated some effects of the outages. The contrast between the two regions demonstrates the critical role of infrastructure diversity and local content in maintaining connectivity during disruptions.

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Looking forward, factors such as climate change, including rising sea levels and extreme weather, are becoming increasingly important in assessing subsea cable resilience. Emerging risks include new shipping routes potentially impacting cable routes due to ice melt. It's essential for regions dependent on subsea cables to understand their infrastructure and implement strategies to enhance resilience. The presentation emphasized the need for continuous monitoring, investment in infrastructure and collaboration with local technical communities to improve overall network reliability.

Ms. Quirós discussed a project led by the SubOptic Foundation, funded by the ISOC Foundation in 2023, focusing on enhancing the strategic resilience of subsea cables in the Caribbean. The initiative aims to develop a comprehensive study, map and strategic plan to improve the resilience of subsea cable infrastructure in the region. Subsea cables, which handle over 99% of international data traffic, are crucial due to their superior speed, security and cost-effectiveness compared to Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellites. The project addresses a significant gap: the lack of a holistic evaluation of the Caribbean's subsea cable resilience, considering technological, social, environmental and political factors. Key findings indicate a pressing need for additional cables, as existing ones are aging and insufficient for current and future demands. Challenges include high costs and limited private investment in resilient infrastructure, as well as poor information circulation between local stakeholders and the subsea cable industry. The strategic resilience framework advocates for developing best practices, creating incentives for cable development, exploring funding options and promoting collaboration among providers. The project also seeks to involve youth through paid positions to support the development of a resilient subsea network.

When asked, it was stated that a lot of investment has been seen by the global tech companies in subsea cables, especially Google and there are interesting new routes being developed as part of their resiliency plan, however, new routes have not been set up across the Caribbean. It was noted that while these investments contribute to overall network resilience, there is a concern about whether they enhance the global public Internet or merely create private networks interconnecting their own data centres. The general consensus is that having more cables is beneficial, but it remains unclear whether these cables will route traffic for the global public Internet or serve as separate networks for private use.

- d. Mr Shernon Osepa spoke on Promoting Caribbean Internet Resilience: The DNS Observatory Project. He emphasized the importance of defining DNS abuse, which includes harmful activities such as malware, phishing, botnets and website content abuses like child exploitation, hate speech and intellectual property violations. Mr. Osepa highlighted that the Caribbean region faces significant cyber threats, with over 144 million attempted cyberattacks in six months. He also referenced notable cases,

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such as cyberattacks on the state telecom of Trinidad and Tobago and the national emergency declared in Costa Rica due to similar threats.

The DNS Observatory will monitor these threats, focusing on two key areas: government portals and country code top-level domains, both of which are essential to the region's digital infrastructure. Mr. Osepa outlined the Observatory's phased approach, starting with defining goals, key focus areas, data sources and tool selection. The project aims to provide data that policymakers can use to address vulnerabilities. Stakeholders, including ICANN's regional chapters and ICT organizations in Trinidad and Tobago, will support the project. The CTU will coordinate efforts and the final results are expected to be presented in a few weeks.

In addition to monitoring DNS abuse, the Observatory will analyze the health of government portals, IPv6 usage, DNSSEC adoption and RPKI route security. Preliminary findings show that only 2.3% of domain names are DNSSEC-enabled, which increases the risk of cyberattacks. Mr. Osepa stressed the need for more robust security measures, especially considering that 53.5% of the region's internet traffic is currently insecure. Capacity building, policy enforcement and collaboration across sectors are critical to tackling these challenges in the Caribbean.

- e. Prof. Patrick Hosein, nic.tt and Ms. Kroopa Shah, Identity Digital provided Good Practices for Secure and Resilient Operations of ccTLD registries. In her presentation, Ms. Shah, head of the registry services team at Identity Digital, outlined key practices for ensuring the secure and resilient operation of country code top-level domain (ccTLD) registries. She emphasized the critical role of Registry Services Providers (RSPs) in maintaining reliable, cloud-based infrastructure, offering services like DNSSEC, DDoS protection and 24/7 support. Shah also highlighted the growing threats of cybercrime, particularly in the Caribbean, stressing the importance of a robust abuse management program to protect ccTLDs from phishing and other cyberattacks. Effective abuse detection, quick mitigation and collaboration with registrars are essential for safeguarding domain reputation and trust.

Ms. Shah further explained the importance of resilient DNS infrastructure, ensuring no single point of failure and the role of RSPs in fostering innovation to help ccTLDs grow. She stressed that partnerships with RSPs provide access to registrars managing over 90% of global domain names, enhancing visibility and adoption. By implementing advanced security measures and business intelligence tools, ccTLDs can drive revenue while ensuring secure, continuous operations, which is crucial for their long-term sustainability and success in a competitive market.

Mr. Hosein highlighted that while Trinidad is vulnerable to connectivity issues due to hurricanes and other factors, they have maintained stability by using both internal and external resources, such as Anycast infrastructure. Importantly, TTNIC has chosen to manage the .tt domain locally, developing its own in-house platform in the early

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1990s, which remains robust and cost-efficient. Despite limited resources, the system is largely automated, requiring minimal staff and has been continuously refined over the years to address security threats and meet the specific needs of the country.

Additionally, Mr. Hosein discussed the role of TTNIC in supporting local organizations, including schools, universities and technical research groups, by providing free domains and hosting. He also underscored the importance of community engagement, citing their collaboration with the Trinidad and Tobago Multistakeholder Advisory Group (TTMAG) in shaping policies. Mr. Hosein noted that their approach to domain name approval includes a manual review process to prevent misuse or embarrassment for the country. In conclusion, he expressed a willingness to assist other small islands in developing similar systems, including helping with registration processes, price optimization and the formation of advisory groups.

During the discussion, Mr. Patrick Hosein acknowledged the long-standing challenge of encouraging local organizations in Trinidad and Tobago to choose the .tt domain over the more widely recognized .com. Despite efforts to incentivize the use of the local domain by offering reduced pricing—locals pay half the amount foreigners pay for a .tt domain—many still prefer .com. Mr. Hosein mentioned that TTNIC has implemented advertising campaigns to promote .tt, but it remains a cultural tendency for organizations to default to .com and only later consider registering a .tt domain.

Mr. Albert Daniels highlighted the ongoing challenge of fostering collaboration and sharing best practices among Caribbean ccTLD managers. He recalled an early effort in 2007, initiated by Dr. Patrick Lee at ICANN 29 in San Juan, Puerto Rico, which aimed to build relationships among Caribbean ccTLD managers for the exchange of knowledge and experiences. This effort continued at subsequent events, including a CTU and ICANN collaboration in the Bahamas, but the intent to create a strong, collaborative network of Caribbean ccTLD managers has not fully materialized. Mr. Daniels emphasized that similar efforts, including an attempt by Ms. Jacqueline Morris of TTMAG to form a Caribbean organization akin to Lac TLD for Latin America and the Caribbean, have faced similar challenges. He noted that there is now another critical opportunity to encourage Caribbean ccTLD managers to unite and he expressed hope for concrete action moving forward.

III – Action Planning for increasing justified trust, together

Mr. Botterman facilitated this session, a brainstorm, based on the input discussed earlier in the day and an introduction on a possible way forward, leveraging the “justified trust in the use of the Internet and email” throughout the region, with relevant project proposals.

The key points can be summarized as follows:

1. **Collaborative Action Plans:** Mr. Botterman emphasizes incremental steps to enhance internet resilience in the Caribbean, including the possibility of expanding the DNS

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Observatory to measure internet standards adoption. The need for collaborative regional efforts is highlighted.

2. **Community-Based Practices and Roadshows:** Roadshows and community engagement initiatives, such as Brazil's Safer Internet Action Plan, were discussed as models to raise awareness and provide technical training. Mr. Nigel Cassimire and Mr. Albert Daniels supported revitalizing roadshows in underserved areas, focusing on technical standards adoption.
3. **Energy and Infrastructure Concerns:** Mrs. Deidre Williams, Mr. Dan York and Ms. Carol Roach expressed concerns about the energy consumption of emerging technologies like AI and quantum computing. The aging infrastructure in the Caribbean was identified as a challenge to sustainability and resilience.
4. **Data Measurement and Localized Information:** Mr. Albert Daniels and others stressed the importance of gathering localized data to guide decisions on internet connectivity and resilience. Incentive programs, such as those in Trinidad and Tobago, were suggested to encourage faster adoption of cybersecurity standards.
5. **Economic Development:** Participants called for exploring how internet-related projects could contribute to regional economic development, emphasizing the link between technological growth and broader socioeconomic benefits.
6. **Coordination Among Regional Organizations:** Mr. Rodney Taylor highlighted the need for better coordination between regional bodies like CARIBNOG, CARPIF and CIGF to maximize limited resources and increase efficiency in addressing common challenges.
7. **Engagement and Participation Challenges:** Mr. Lance Hinds and others participants discussed the struggle to increase regional participation in internet governance, noting that while the Caribbean excels in end-user platforms, engagement in technical and policy areas is weak. Monetization was suggested as a potential solution to boost participation.
8. **Tailored Communication:** Mr. Albert Daniels explained that different stakeholder groups, such as government representatives, at-large structures and technical communities, require tailored approaches for engagement and communication to foster more effective collaboration.
9. **Sustainability and Volunteering:** The decreasing prevalence of volunteers and the need for new mechanisms to support regional efforts were discussed. Participants emphasized reporting and follow-up to ensure the long-term impact of meetings and initiatives.
10. **Global and Local Coordination:** A strong focus was placed on connecting global discussions and frameworks, such as those from the IGF, with local Caribbean actions to enhance internet governance and capacity-building efforts.

The discussion concluded with calls for continued collaboration, active participation and strategic planning to ensure progress and effective use of resources in the Caribbean's digital development.

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Data for Good

Mr. Alex Pompe, from Meta's *Data for Good* program, presented a range of data sets designed to aid crisis response and humanitarian efforts. The key data sets are population density estimates, poverty and wealth distribution and mobility data, all of which help answer vital questions during crises. These data sets are particularly useful in low and middle-income countries, providing granular demographic insights and helping policymakers track human mobility during emergencies, such as the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Pompe also highlighted how mobility data, including whether people are adhering to evacuation orders, can help improve disaster response efforts by offering real-time insights into population behavior.

During crises, Meta activates features like Safety Check, while in the background, data is being generated and shared with humanitarian organizations. The data sets reveal changes in population density, mobility patterns and network connectivity at high spatial and temporal resolutions, informing responders about where people are moving and where outages might be. For example, during hurricanes or earthquakes, this data helps determine the most affected areas and guides resource allocation, such as determining where shelters might need more supplies based on the influx of people. Meta also provides economic activity indicators, showing how businesses in affected areas are functioning during crises.

Mr. Pompe shared specific examples of the program's use in the Caribbean, such as the analysis during Hurricane Barbel and the 2021 Haiti earthquake. Through collaboration with organizations like Direct Relief and Harvard's CrisisReady, Meta's data is triangulated with traditional data sources to provide situational reports that inform operational responses. Mr. Pompe emphasized that Meta's goal is not to reinvent workflows but to empower humanitarian actors by making complex data accessible and usable. Meta's *Data for Good* initiative offers various resources, including tutorials, to help organizations leverage this data effectively for crisis response.

CSAM Status and Policy Actions UN's Draft Convention on Cybercrime

Ms. Maria De Lourdes Gutierrez Ortiz Monasterio, of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), presented key information on the current state of child sexual abuse material (CSAM) and ongoing policy actions. She emphasized the global and regional work done by UNODC to combat cybercrime, with a focus on the Caribbean and Central America. The office provides technical assistance and capacity-building support to member states, helping them address cybercrime threats through collaboration with legal and digital forensic experts, cybersecurity specialists and prosecutors. UNODC's efforts span a range of activities, including investigating cyber-enabled crimes like trafficking and drug smuggling, which increasingly leverage digital platforms for coordination and distribution.

A significant portion of the presentation focused on the status of child sexual exploitation online, including the use of platforms for sharing CSAM. Ms. Gutierrez noted that the United States-based National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) recorded 36 million CSAM-related reports in 2023, illustrating the growing challenge for law enforcement. In the

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Caribbean, countries like Trinidad and Tobago and Guyana have also seen a rise in CSAM reports, though a slight decrease was noted in recent years as offenders shift to less-regulated platforms. She also explained the importance of international cooperation, mentioning tools such as Interpol's databases and child protection systems that assist in tracking and rescuing victims. Additionally, she discussed how criminals often use virtual private networks (VPNs) to obscure their activities, complicating police investigations.

Ms. Gutierrez also highlighted the progress of the UN's Draft Convention on Cybercrime, which is expected to be submitted for approval to the UN General Assembly in December. This convention, once ratified, would create global policies to enhance cybersecurity, tackle cyber-enabled crimes and specifically address offenses such as illegal access, data interference and online child exploitation. It includes provisions for greater cooperation between international authorities and service providers for data preservation and sharing, which is vital for tracking IP addresses and prosecuting cybercriminals. She called on stakeholders to support this convention and emphasized the need for regulatory frameworks to protect children online and ensure swift cooperation in criminal investigations.

CIGF Day 3

CTU/ARIN/LACNIC Policy Forum

The final day of the 20th CIGF began with a policy forum chaired by representatives of the CTU, ARIN and LACNIC. The policy forum sought to inform and discuss the advancements of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the Caribbean and the wider SIDS, enhancing resilience and initiatives for the digital economy of the region.

In his remarks, Mr. Bevil Wooding, representing the American Registry for Internet Numbers (ARIN), expressed gratitude to the Caribbean Telecommunications Union, the Government of Guyana and the organizers of the 20th Caribbean Internet Governance Forum (CIGF). He emphasized the increasing challenges faced by the Caribbean, particularly climate-related disasters and cyber threats, which are impacting not only businesses and governments but also critical public institutions and citizens. Mr. Wooding underscored the importance of building digital resilience and addressing cybersecurity as a matter of national security. He also highlighted the growing impact of artificial intelligence (AI), pointing out both its potential benefits and challenges, such as ethical concerns and job displacement. He called for proactive, collaborative efforts to develop policies that address current and future digital threats, stressing the urgency of the decisions being made at the forum for the region's long-term future.

Mr. Kevon Swift, representing LACNIC, expressed gratitude to the CTU for 20 years of leadership in convening the Caribbean Internet Governance Forum, including the youth and public policy forums. He emphasized LACNIC's commitment to promoting inclusive Internet governance discussions, highlighting their "Leaders" program, which mentors and funds internet governance researchers across the Caribbean. He noted strong participation from countries like Haiti, Trinidad and Tobago and St. Vincent. Mr. Swift stressed the importance

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of addressing key issues such as the proactive use of artificial intelligence and protection against cyber threats, emphasizing that these discussions are vital for shaping future internet policy. He encouraged an interactive, bottom-up process, engaging both experts and those working directly on internet development challenges.

Mr. Nigel Cassimire noted that this is the fifth CTU ARIN LACNIC Policy Forum, highlighting its focus on key Internet governance topics like artificial intelligence, strategic cybersecurity and digital resilience, along with policy ideas for developing the Caribbean's digital economy. He introduced the next session which included presentations from UNESCO on the Caribbean AI Policy Roadmap, initially drafted in 2021 and updated this year.

Caribbean AI Policy Roadmap 2024

Ms. Erica Simmons, UNESCO, presented on the AI roadmap. She highlighted UNESCO's ongoing work to support AI policy development in the Caribbean, which began in 2017 and emphasized the importance of ethical AI deployment. The presentation covered the global AI policy framework, which includes UNESCO's **Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence**, adopted by 193 member states. This framework sets out 11 key areas to develop ethical AI policies. To assist member states, UNESCO has provided tools such as the **Readiness Assessment Methodology** to evaluate AI adoption maturity and the **Ethical Impact Assessment** to assess the risks of AI use cases.

Ms. Simmons also discussed the **Caribbean AI Policy Roadmap**, which was initially published in 2021 and has since been updated to reflect recent advancements, including the emergence of generative AI technologies like ChatGPT. UNESCO's survey conducted in late 2023 revealed that 91% of respondents were unfamiliar with regional AI laws and policies and 98% felt the need to raise awareness about AI in the Caribbean. Although 79% recognized AI's potential to bring development, there was concern about the lack of robust frameworks to govern AI's responsible use.

The roadmap outlines four key pillars for AI policy development in the Caribbean:

1. **Culture and Creativity:** The need for policies that protect and exploit the Caribbean's cultural and creative sectors, while addressing weak intellectual property laws and safeguarding data privacy.
2. **Governance and Transformation:** Establishing governance frameworks to ensure ethical AI deployment and safeguard public services.
3. **Upskilling and Education:** Addressing potential job losses due to AI by focusing on educational programs and reskilling.
4. **Resiliency and Sustainability:** Leveraging AI to tackle climate change, improve disaster response and enhance government services.

Ms. Simmons concluded by emphasizing the importance of **assessing AI readiness, promoting AI research** and **enhancing data governance policies**. UNESCO plans to continue holding town halls and will officially launch the updated roadmap on **September 28**, the International Day for Universal Access to Information.

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Needs Assessment survey on Artificial Intelligence Digital Transformation and Open Data in Small Island Developing States (SIDS)

Dr. Bhanu Neupane's presentation focused on the findings of a two-year needs assessment survey conducted by UNESCO on Artificial Intelligence (AI), digital transformation and open data within Small Island Developing States (SIDS). The study aimed to evaluate the current state of AI knowledge, policy development and application across these countries, identifying gaps, challenges and opportunities for improvement.

Key points from the presentation include:

1. **Survey Scope and Participation:** Out of 48 SIDS, 28 responded, with 12 Caribbean countries actively contributing (e.g., Guyana, Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago). Despite difficulties in gathering responses—due to factors such as COVID-19 disruptions—these contributions helped shape the overall understanding of AI readiness across SIDS.
2. **Findings on AI Awareness and Policy:** While some nations demonstrated exemplary AI comprehension, many countries indicated limited knowledge in both policy development and application. Governments across the region have shown varied levels of involvement in AI initiatives, with approximately one-third having formal measures in place, while others lack comprehensive strategies.
3. **Digital Transformation and Educational Gaps:** The survey revealed significant gaps in the availability of AI-related educational materials and training. Only six countries out of the 28 have developed AI learning resources. Furthermore, there is a shortage of scholarships and grants to support AI education and capacity building.
4. **Government Engagement and Strategy:** Caribbean countries displayed different levels of engagement in AI, with only four incorporating AI into their national development strategies. In contrast, others have not prioritized AI in their development objectives, suggesting a need for more targeted strategies and government involvement.
5. **Challenges in Data Infrastructure:** A key takeaway was the necessity of improving data ecosystems, as AI cannot advance without robust data governance. Many countries reported considerable infrastructure gaps that hinder AI development, reinforcing the need for enhanced data collection, management and analysis capabilities.
6. **Recommendations for Capacity Building:** Dr. Neupane emphasized the importance of educational initiatives, capacity building and institutional support to help SIDS bridge the AI knowledge gap. He encouraged collaboration with UNESCO, which stands ready to provide guidance on AI and data governance and invited countries to engage in pilot projects for data governance.
7. **Broader SIDS Context:** The survey findings align with recommendations from recent SIDS conferences, such as the call for evidence-based policymaking, data governance improvement and capacity building in science, technology and innovation (STI). These efforts are essential for promoting AI and digital transformation as part of the development agenda for SIDS.

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In conclusion, Dr. Neupane highlighted the need for a stronger AI and data infrastructure in SIDS, advocating for UNESCO's continued support in policy advice, educational development and resource mobilization.

Fostering Caribbean AI Entrepreneurship – A Case Study from the Justice Sector

Mr. Kevin Khelawan began by highlighting that AI is poised to have a greater and more rapid global impact than the internet, potentially disrupting 90% of jobs, as indicated by a joint Oxford Cognizant study. He emphasized that while AI brings both positive and negative implications, the Caribbean is particularly vulnerable to being marginalized if it does not quickly embrace AI's potential across societies and economies.

Mr. Khelawan stressed the need for the Caribbean to not only acknowledge the significance of AI but also to take practical steps toward leveraging the technology to avoid being left behind. He also pointed out the importance of education and preparing the next generation to engage with AI, as discussed in earlier presentations.

He then discussed "intelligent applications"—software solutions augmented by AI capabilities. These applications, which evolve and adapt, will increasingly automate decision-making processes and enhance their quality over time. Mr. Khelawan warned that building these applications requires more than just integrating AI models; additional work is needed to ensure they deliver value to society.

In the second part of his presentation, Mr. Khelewan introduced two AI-driven solutions developed by the Caribbean Agency for Justice Solutions (CAJS):

1. **Judy** – An AI-powered court document generation application that processes case-related data and produces draft documents for review. This tool has reduced the time needed to create court documents from weeks to minutes, thereby speeding up the justice process. It was first deployed in a court in the Bahamas.
2. **ADA** – A natural language-based research tool that allows justice sector stakeholders to conduct domain-specific research. Using conversational queries, ADA helps users extract insights from legal data. For example, it can narrow search results to specific types of cases, such as civil cases and generate summaries of research sessions.

Mr. Khelewan concluded by reaffirming the importance of intelligent applications like Judy and ADA in transforming work processes, scaling economies and driving innovation. These AI-based tools represent a significant advancement in the Caribbean's justice sector and demonstrate the broader potential of AI to transform industries across the region.

During the 'Question and Answer' a participant stressed the importance of embracing AI to enhance creativity and innovation, emphasizing the need for improved digital access and using Sandals' AI integration as a model for the private sector. He also recommended exploring the "Global Index for Responsible AI" to understand responsible AI practices globally

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and in the Caribbean. In response to a question about ensuring accurate and complete data for AI algorithms, Mr. Kevin Khelawan explained that their applications rely on data provided directly by organizations, ensuring data specificity and reliability. Ms. Erica Simmons emphasized the need for the Caribbean to develop its own data repositories and governance policies to avoid risks from using general-purpose data, while Dr. Paul Hector mentioned UNESCO's readiness and ethical impact assessment tools as measures to address data quality concerns.

Strategic Cybersecurity and Digital Resilience

Mr. Kevon Swift's presentation centred around the importance of strategic cybersecurity and digital resilience in the Caribbean. He highlighted the need for a national-level approach to cybersecurity, which extends beyond organizational efforts to encompass broader community and governmental roles. Mr. Swift emphasized that cybersecurity threats are often transnational, requiring a coordinated vision and collaboration among various stakeholders, including governments, private organizations and citizens. He introduced a comprehensive definition of cybersecurity as a collection of tools, policies and actions designed to protect the integrity, availability and confidentiality of national assets, including digital infrastructure.

The presentation outlined three key points for a national cybersecurity initiative:

1. It must reflect high-level objectives and priorities.
2. It should provide an overview of the stakeholders involved and their responsibilities.
3. It must describe the steps and programs necessary to protect national cyber infrastructure and enhance resilience.

Mr. Swift discussed the need for clear governance, cross-sectoral cooperation and dedicated resources for cybersecurity efforts. He differentiated between cybersecurity and cybercrime, noting that cybersecurity focuses on ICT trust, resilience and reliability, while cybercrime involves offenses affecting data integrity. He also stressed the importance of aligning national and international cybersecurity standards, highlighting that attacks are often transnational, necessitating formal and informal international cooperation.

Mr. Swift further delved into cybersecurity governance, emphasizing the need for high-level government support and a dedicated authority to oversee national initiatives. He acknowledged the challenges of intergovernmental coordination and emphasized the importance of involving private sector actors, including telecommunications companies and internet service providers, in national cybersecurity efforts.

He discussed risk management, incident response and the importance of continuous skills development and research in cybersecurity. Mr. Swift also stressed the need for updated cybercrime legislation, data protection regulations and international collaboration. He concluded by noting that cybersecurity should be treated as a foreign policy imperative and that efforts to criminalize malicious online behaviour should be harmonized across borders to address transnational threats effectively.

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Mr. Swift closed by highlighting the need for dynamic and agile cybersecurity strategies that can adapt to evolving threats and emphasized the importance of regional leadership in the Caribbean for strengthening cybersecurity frameworks.

Digital Economy Initiatives: Next Round of gTLDs and the Applicant Support Programme.

Mr. Albert Daniels' presentation on Digital Economy Initiatives highlighted the next round of **generic top-level domains (gTLDs)** and the associated **Applicant Support Programme**. He emphasized that ICANN, while often seen as a staff-driven organization, is in fact a global multi-stakeholder ecosystem. This ecosystem involves end-users, government representatives and technical operators, with local examples from Guyana and the Caribbean participating in ICANN's decision-making bodies.

Key points include:

1. **gTLD Program Overview:** The new round of gTLD registrations, starting in 2026, builds on the 2012 round. It seeks to make the internet more inclusive by offering more diverse top-level domain names, including non-Latin scripts (internationalized domain names), to better reflect various regions and languages globally.
2. **Caribbean Participation:** In the last round, there were no gTLD applications from the Caribbean. The focus this time is on changing this by encouraging participation from the region through outreach and engagement.
3. **Applicant Support Programme:** The programme offers financial and technical support, particularly to underserved regions, with a fee reduction of 75-85% for eligible applicants. The support is intended for non-profits, intergovernmental organizations, indigenous groups and micro/small businesses. There is an evaluation process to ensure applicants can sustain their operations after receiving support.
4. **Outreach and Engagement:** ICANN is deploying a variety of media to spread awareness about the gTLD program and encourage participation, especially in regions that were previously underrepresented. The goal is to help new communities and businesses establish their presence online through gTLDs.

The presentation concluded with a call for the Caribbean community to help identify potential applicants for this program and to support outreach efforts to increase regional participation in the digital economy.

Following the presentation Mr. Hinds, a participant, stressed the need for greater education on the importance and application of generic top-level domains (gTLDs) for small businesses and non-profit organizations in the Caribbean. He noted that many in the region might not fully understand the value of gTLDs, requiring more local engagement and clarity on how to use them. Additionally, he pointed out that, despite the 75% fee reduction under the Applicant Support Programme, there may still be additional costs throughout the registration process that need to be communicated effectively.

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He also raised concerns about the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO), which had previously invested large amounts in gTLDs and feared the Applicant Support Programme might devalue existing domains. Hinds was uncertain if these concerns had been resolved but emphasized that they must be addressed as the program progresses to ensure smooth implementation and stakeholder support.

Mr. Daniels appreciated Mr. Hinds' suggestion for more education on gTLDs, acknowledging the need to reach broader communities beyond the usual ICANN participants. He invited Mr. Hinds and his network in Guyana and the Caribbean to help organize educational outreach, offering ICANN's support in engaging new individuals and organizations that could benefit from the Applicant Support Programme (ASP). Regarding fees, Mr. Daniels explained that beyond the initial 75% reduction in application costs, there is also the possibility of further reductions or waivers for ongoing registry operator fees. He assured that these efforts are part of the ongoing ASP and mentioned the specific timeline, noting that the program will run for a year and the window for new gTLD applications will open in April 2026. Additionally, Mr. Daniels confirmed that discussions about these issues have been addressed in relevant ICANN bodies like the GNSO.

Guyana Focus Session

Status of Internet Infrastructure

Mr. Andre Griffith began his session by emphasizing the need for an interactive discussion, noting the absence of representatives from major telecommunications companies like GTT, Digicel and i-Net, though their input would have been valuable. The session aimed to focus on the facts of coverage in Guyana without endorsing or condemning any specific provider. Griffith emphasized that the primary goal is to ensure widespread access to services like mobile and fixed broadband, as these discussions hold no real meaning if people do not have access. He presented 10 slides to frame the discussion and introduced key topics like population density and its impact on service coverage, highlighting the economic challenges in serving sparsely populated areas.

Mr. Griffith also reviewed Guyana's increasing coverage from 2018 to 2023, attributing growth to both the liberalization of the telecommunications sector and the pandemic, which drove demand. He illustrated the shift from DSL to fibre technology and expressed concern about the flattening of growth in fixed broadband subscriptions. Similarly, mobile broadband subscriptions showed an upward trend but flattened out as well. He posed critical questions about the standards of coverage, particularly for mobile networks, asking what it truly means to be "covered." He then opened the floor for feedback, especially from those in Guyana, to share experiences and practices for serving sparsely populated or hard-to-reach areas.

The discussion focused on mobile connectivity, affordability, reliability and policy challenges in Guyana, touching on comparisons between global standards and local realities.

Key Points of the discussion are listed below:

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1. **Prepaid vs. Postpaid Subscribers:** Mr. Rodney Taylor raised concerns about the differences between prepaid and postpaid mobile internet users. Prepaid customers often allow plans to lapse, affecting connectivity patterns. Mr. Andre Griffith acknowledged the need to track these differences, suggesting that meaningful data collection should expand to include more indicators over time.
2. **Affordability:** Mr. Mortimer Hope highlighted the high cost of services in Guyana compared to other regions like South Africa, noting that many people lack mobile data for apps like WhatsApp when outside their homes. Mr. Griffith responded that while affordability isn't currently tracked in detail, international standards suggest that broadband should cost less than 2% of GNI per capita. In Guyana, the cost is slightly below this benchmark, but there is room to refine this standard based on local conditions.
3. **Comparisons with Global Standards:** The participants debated the value of comparing Guyana's broadband penetration with that of countries like the U.S. and Germany. Mr. Griffith pointed out that such comparisons are often unhelpful due to vastly different contexts, though Participant A argued that to remain globally competitive, Guyana must meet international access levels.
4. **Reliability of Service:** The conversation also covered the reliability of mobile services, with Mr. Griffith acknowledging that while coverage may seem sufficient on paper, signal strength in rural and interior areas is often poor. Defining reliable service using measurable standards, such as signal strength thresholds, was suggested as a way forward.
5. **Rural Connectivity:** Mr. Shernon Osepa asked about policies to connect rural and hinterland areas. Mr. Griffith and Ms. Jennifer Persaud-Boodhoo, explained that the government is directly providing satellite-based services to unserved areas, using funds from avoided deforestation projects. These services are crucial for low-density, economically unviable regions and programs are in place to roll out hundreds of such connections.
6. **Number Portability:** The timeline for number portability was raised, but Mr. Griffith stated that this issue is managed by the Public Utilities Commission and he couldn't provide a specific timeline.

The discussion reflected the complexities of aligning Guyana's ICT development with global standards while addressing local challenges such as affordability, rural access and service reliability.

Measuring the Information Society

Ms. Nia Nanan, Senior Research Analyst at the Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU), discussed a collaborative initiative between the CTU and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) to develop an ICT indicators framework for the Caribbean. The initiative, spanning over a year and a half, focused on advancing the region's capacity to measure digital development through ICT indicators, aligned with national ICT strategies. Key activities included a workshop in 2022, a follow-up workshop in 2023 and a survey of 25

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experts from 14 Caribbean countries to assess data collection systems and capacity-building needs.

The survey identified ten priority areas for ICT measurement: pricing and affordability, quality of service, meaningful and universal connectivity, inclusivity, digital skills, cybersecurity and trust, governance, digital economy, usage and local content and sustainability. Some areas, like affordability, had clear indicators, while others, such as inclusivity and cybersecurity, lacked well-defined metrics. Significant challenges were found in measuring governance, quality of service and sustainability, partly due to definitional issues and resource constraints.

Capacity-building needs were highlighted, including training in data collection and analysis, as well as regional technical workshops. Five priority areas for ICT measurement were identified: cybersecurity and trust, affordability, the digital economy, governance and digital skills, but measuring these remained challenging due to the lack of clear indicators. Ms. Nanan stressed the importance of continued collaboration among Caribbean countries to refine ICT indicators and improve data collection frameworks. A final report from the study, to be published by ECLAC, will be made available to the public.

Ms. Viviana Umpierrez, ITU, delivered a presentation on the importance of measuring the Information Society, focusing on bridging data gaps to achieve universal and meaningful connectivity. She introduced the concept of meaningful connectivity, which aims to provide a safe, productive and affordable online experience for all users. This concept is a key component of ITU's 2030 framework, developed in collaboration with the United Nations, to guide digital inclusion efforts worldwide.

Ms. Umpierrez highlighted two major gaps in ICT measurement: the "coverage gap," referring to areas without broadband infrastructure and the "usage gap," where individuals with access do not use the Internet due to barriers like affordability or lack of digital skills. The ITU framework addresses these challenges by focusing on two dimensions—universality, which measures connectivity across people, households and communities and enabling factors such as infrastructure, affordability, device access and digital skills. These dimensions are essential for understanding and addressing the disparities in digital inclusion.

Ms. Umpierrez emphasized the need for standardized ICT indicators and consistent data collection across regions to inform evidence-based policies. She also underscored the importance of collaboration between data producers and users, noting ITU's efforts in supporting countries with developing indicators and providing technical assistance. She encouraged the Caribbean to engage actively in ITU's initiatives, such as regional workshops and to utilize ITU's freely available resources like reports and handbooks to address local digital development challenges.

In response to the presentations, Mr. Maarten Botterman stressed the importance of measurement in ensuring security and trust in Internet use, particularly through assessing the robustness of Internet infrastructure. He emphasized that adopting modern Internet

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standards is crucial for enhancing security and suggested that this aspect should be included in any measurement frameworks. While connectivity is vital, Botterman argued that high-quality, secure connections with justified trust are equally important, not only in the Caribbean but globally. This focus on both connectivity and security is key to fostering trust in digital systems.

Mr. Tariq Mohammed raised a question to Ms. Nia Nanan regarding the gaps and challenges identified in the study on ICT indicators, specifically whether the CTU (Caribbean Telecommunications Union) would provide technical support to member states in addressing these issues. He clarified that this support would not necessarily involve direct data collection but rather assistance through technical expertise. He also noted that Guyana was not included in the survey results and invited further commentary on that. Ms. Nanan responded by confirming that the CTU's intention is not to stop at identifying gaps but to engage with member states to address these challenges. The CTU plans to provide technical assistance and capacity-building support through workshops in partnership with ECLAC (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean), which will likely occur periodically over the next year.

Ms. Anelia Bacchus, a child rights ambassador and law student at the University of Ghana, raised concerns about the perceived lack of sufficient legislation and governing bodies for ICT in her country. She highlighted existing laws, including the Cyber Crime Act of 2018 and the Telecommunications Act, which address cybersecurity and broadcasting regulations, respectively. Ms. Bacchus pointed out that while these laws exist, implementation remains a significant issue. She questioned what specific measures could be taken if discussions on ICT governance were introduced in Parliament, emphasizing the need for actionable solutions.

Mr. Andre Griffith responded by highlighting that multiple pieces of legislation exist, including the Broadcasting Act and the recently passed Data Protection and Digital Identity Acts. However, he stressed that the real challenge lies in capacity development, as having laws alone is insufficient without the necessary infrastructure, staffing and budget to enforce them. Both speakers underscored the importance of coordinated efforts to address gaps in legislation and implementation within the ICT sector, advocating for direct solutions to improve governance and accountability.

A participant raised concerns about the Cyber Crime Act in Guyana, suggesting it is being used to suppress free speech. They compared the situation to South Africa, where citizens freely express opinions without fear of legal repercussions, even when making strong accusations against public figures. The participant expressed frustration that in Guyana, people seem overly sensitive to such remarks, leading to potential abuse of the legislation.

In response, Mr. Andre Griffith stated that laws are established by Parliament, which represents the people's interests. He emphasized that if citizens disagree with existing laws, it is their responsibility to advocate for change through democratic processes. Griffith

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refrained from expressing personal opinions on the law's appropriateness, reinforcing the idea that differing views on legislation are a normal part of governance.

Examining the Global Digital Compact (GDC)

Mr. Shernon Osepa, as the moderator, introduced the session by outlining its focus on the Global Digital Compact (GDC). He mentioned that the session would feature several speakers, beginning with Mr. Maarten Botterman, who would provide an overview of the GDC. Following Mr. Botterman's presentation, the discussion would also address the high-level advisory body on artificial intelligence, with contributions from Dr. Craig Ramlal and Ms. Jimena Viveros.

GDC Overview and Context

Mr. Maarten Botterman discussed GDC within the context of the UN's summit of the future, emphasizing the need for enhanced global governance amidst current challenges. He highlighted that the GDC aims to foster multilateral cooperation and formulate actionable commitments centred on inclusion, human rights and multistakeholder engagement. The compact seeks to establish guiding principles for digital governance, emphasizing the importance of creating a secure and inclusive digital space.

Mr. Botterman also noted the critical role of industry stakeholders in shaping the GDC and pointed out the necessity for international cooperation to address emerging technologies, such as artificial intelligence. He expressed concern that the multistakeholder approach may not be fully embraced in the final GDC document, urging for broader input from various stakeholders, including academia and industry. Overall, he viewed the GDC as a promising initiative for advancing digital governance and fostering dialogue among diverse parties, advocating for continued engagement and collaboration in this process.

UN G's High Level Advisory Board Briefing Session AI and the Global Digital Compact

Dr. Craig Ramlal addressed the ongoing global digital divide, emphasizing that despite an increase in internet connectivity—reaching 5.3 billion users—significant disparities remain across regions, genders, income levels and age groups. He pointed out that many low-income areas face unaffordable costs for smartphones and data, hindering their access to the internet and digital skills. Additionally, he highlighted concerns about the concentration of economic benefits from digital innovations, which tend to favour a small number of large platforms, leaving many developing countries at a disadvantage, often providing raw data while incurring costs for the services derived from it.

Dr. Ramlal outlined the motivations behind the Global Digital Compact (GDC), which is part of the Global Digital Cooperation Framework. The GDC aims to create an inclusive global framework with five key initiatives, including closing digital divides, expanding access to the digital economy, fostering a safe and secure digital space that upholds human rights, promoting responsible data governance and enhancing international AI governance for the benefit of humanity. Currently, the GDC is in its third revision and will see its recommendations launched at the upcoming Summit of the Future in September. The session

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will focus on discussing the principles and guidelines for the international governance of AI, contributing to a comprehensive approach to the challenges posed by rapid technological advancements.

Ms. Jimena Viveros, a member of the UN High-Level Advisory Body on AI, presented an overview of their work since the body's launch in October. She highlighted the publication of their interim report and the extensive global engagement it has generated, including over 250 written inputs from 150 organizations, consultations with over 350 experts and analysis of more than 100 papers. These efforts aim to inform the final report draft, which will be released in September, ahead of the upcoming Summit of the Future. Ms. Viveros emphasized the importance of a unified and holistic approach to AI governance, citing a significant governance gap that must be addressed to ensure equitable access and benefits from AI technologies.

Ms. Viveros outlined seven key recommendations focused on three common areas: understanding, ground and benefits. These include establishing an international scientific panel to facilitate knowledge sharing, creating a platform for intergovernmental dialogue on AI governance and promoting a global data framework to ensure inclusivity in AI training. Additionally, she proposed the establishment of a Global Fund for AI to support local talent and ecosystems. Ms. Viveros concluded by advocating for the creation of an AI office within the UN to enhance coordination and address the global AI governance deficit, fostering a more effective and efficient international governance landscape.

The discussion that followed centred around the importance and implications of the Global Digital Compact (GDC) in relation to existing frameworks like the IGF. Mr. Shernon Osepa emphasized the need for clarity on the GDC, which many find confusing, particularly in the context of the upcoming Summit of the Future.

Key Points from the discussion were:

1. **Need for the GDC:** Mr. Osepa questioned whether the GDC is necessary, given that many topics could also be addressed at the IGF. Mr. Maarten Botterman responded that digital advancements are fundamentally changing society, necessitating new frameworks like the GDC to ensure effective governance in a world where not all countries engage equally.
2. **Inclusivity and Multistakeholder Engagement:** There was a consensus on the importance of involving diverse stakeholders, including NGOs and civil society, in discussions about AI and digital governance. Ms. Jimena Viveros noted that while international commitments are state-based, the realities of AI development require a broader, inclusive approach.
3. **Regional Considerations:** Mr. Lance Hinds raised concerns about the GDC's complexity and its applicability in regions like the Caribbean, which are still developing their digital frameworks. Dr. Craig Ramlal highlighted the University of the West Indies' efforts to prepare students for the AI landscape, underscoring the need for context-specific governance that supports innovation.

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4. **UN's Role in Governance:** Mr. Rodney Taylor questioned whether the UN is the appropriate body to govern such transformative technologies, suggesting specialized institutions might be better suited. Ms. Viveros defended the UN's position, citing its global reach and binding commitments from 193 member states, which could foster effective governance.
5. **Closing Remarks and Recommendations:** As the Summit of the Future approaches, panellists emphasized the urgency for Caribbean nations to unify their positions and make their voices heard. Dr. Ramlal suggested that policymakers need to articulate what they want from the GDC process, while Ms. Viveros encouraged ongoing engagement and awareness-raising.

Overall, the discussion highlighted the complexities of global digital governance and the necessity for inclusive, context-aware approaches as nations prepare for significant international dialogues on these pressing issues.

Forum Discussion: Looking forward for the CIGF

The recent discussions surrounding the CIGF have centred on enhancing its effectiveness, inclusivity and relevance as it celebrates its 20th anniversary. Mr. Nigel Cassimire opened this session by reflecting on past achievements and advocating for a dynamic future that actively incorporates feedback from participants. He emphasized the importance of establishing national Internet Governance Forums (IGFs) and adopting a multi-stakeholder approach that includes governments, the private sector and civil society in regional policy formulation.

Mr. Tracy Hackshaw highlighted the potential for the CIGF to become a flagship digital event in the Caribbean, urging the inclusion of decision-makers not just as speakers but as active participants in discussions. He proposed creating specialized tracks for high-level officials to engage meaningfully on pressing digital governance issues, thereby ensuring that CIGF outputs inform broader regional dialogues.

Various participants echoed the need for grassroots education on Internet governance, with Mr. Lance Hinds advocating for educational initiatives in academic institutions. Mr. Rodney Taylor called for more national IGFs to raise awareness about technology's impact, while Mr. Tariq Mohammed stressed the importance of continuous engagement, especially among youth.

Additionally, participants discussed the necessity of enhancing the CIGF's digital presence and engagement strategies. Ms. Diedre Williams and Ms. Carol Roach both emphasized the role of technology in facilitating ongoing dialogues and knowledge transfer. The importance of inclusivity, particularly for younger participants and diverse stakeholder groups, was a recurring theme, with Mr. Vidya Kissum advocating for a sectoral approach that addresses key development issues.

In the context of youth involvement, Mr. Cassimire reiterated the importance of engaging Caribbean youth in Internet governance discussions to build a knowledgeable future



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generation. He proposed initiatives tailored for young audiences and encouraged the evaluation of the CIGF's impact on a regional and national scale.

Overall, the discussions underscored a collective commitment to transforming the CIGF into a more strategic, inclusive and impactful platform for digital governance in the Caribbean, fostering collaboration across multiple sectors and enhancing stakeholder engagement.

Open Microphone

Mr. Nigel Cassimire then introduced the open mic segment, encouraging attendees to share their thoughts on the Caribbean Internet Governance Forum (CIGF) and internet governance in the region.

Lance Hinds praised the CTU for its resilience and ongoing policy efforts. Ms. Amelia Bacchus, a young participant, urged older generations to actively mentor youth, advocating for structured mentorship programs to bridge generational gaps. Mr. Rodney Taylor acknowledged the importance of youth involvement in internet governance, suggesting that initiatives should be youth-driven with support from the CTU. He mentioned efforts to establish a youth arm within the CTU and highlighted available internship opportunities.

Participants raised concerns regarding internet access in rural areas, with Mr. Andre Griffith detailing a government initiative to provide access points in underserved communities. Mr. Griffith emphasized the need for a mix of technologies, including fibre, fixed wireless and satellite, for such initiatives to succeed. The conversation also touched on existing mentorship initiatives through organizations like the UN's IGF (mentioned by Ms. Carol Roach, the MAG Chair), ICANN and ISOC and potential collaborations with the ISOC Foundation for training programs, aiming to prepare youth for participation in global forums.

Cybersecurity was another focal point, particularly in light of a rise in Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attacks since June. Mr. Cassimire noted that these attacks often originate from outside the Caribbean, stressing that local addressing systems alone would not suffice for protection. Mr. Maarten Botterman supported this, advocating for modern internet standards and best practices to enhance cybersecurity.

Mr. Albert Daniels emphasized the necessity for inclusivity in internet governance discussions, especially for French territories in the Caribbean, which are often marginalized in dialogues. This sentiment was echoed by others, highlighting the importance of engaging non-English-speaking stakeholders in governance initiatives. Mr. Rodney Taylor also addressed ongoing efforts to combat DDoS attacks through the Caribbean Internet Resilience Project and the need for improved standards across the region.

Ms. Deidre Williams raised concerns about harmful online content and the impact of local legislation on human rights, particularly in the context of the Cyber Crime Act. The importance of civic engagement in legislative discussions was emphasized, with a call for vigilance in protecting freedoms and rights.



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Conclusions & Next Steps

As the session drew to a close, there was a collective call for increased engagement, particularly regarding the establishment of a national IGF in Guyana. Participants recognized the necessity for ongoing collaboration, improved data collection and active participation from all Caribbean territories, including those with diverse linguistic backgrounds. The event concluded with expressions of gratitude to all attendees, staff and stakeholders, setting a positive tone for future engagements and the next IGF.

To view the recording of the 20th CIGF and 3rd CYIGF visit the following link:
<https://bit.ly/cigf2024live>

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Appendix 1 - 3rd Caribbean Youth Internet Governance Forum (CYIGF)

The 3rd CYIGF began with opening remarks from the CTU Secretary-General, Mr. Rodney Taylor, and Mr. Tariq Mohammed, CYIGF Chair. Secretary-General Taylor, in his opening remarks, noted that the CTU wanted young people to take the lead in organizing the event, choosing their own topics and speakers, rather than having the CTU plan it for them. He highlighted the initiative as a precursor to, and part of, the upcoming Caribbean ICT Youth Network (CIYN), aimed at nurturing the next generation of ICT leaders, within the region. Taylor encouraged youth participation, urging them to engage actively and share their perspectives during discussions, noting that the event was meant to provide a platform for young voices. Mr. Mohammed shared the origin of the CYIGF, which began in Rwanda in 2022 while Caribbean youth were attending the inaugural ITU Youth Summit conference. There, they were engaged by the CTU to undertake the planning and execution of the inaugural CYIGF, designed by youth, for youth; this was later held in August 2022. He emphasized that the forum is intended to address issues faced by young people and stimulate discussion, not just presentations. He also announced that CYIGF had successfully registered as an official National and Regional Initiative (NRI) with the UN IGF, allowing for broader global engagement. He encouraged attendees to stay involved and contribute to the discussions actively.

Empowering Youth and Addressing Challenges in Global Internet Governance: Navigating the Future of Digital Policy

Mr. Maarten Botterman, Chair of GFCE Working Group on Emerging Technologies emphasized the significance of youth in shaping the future of the internet, highlighting that they are the ones who will determine its use, potentially in ways not anticipated. He reflected on the constant change in technology, stressing that choices made today will shape the internet of tomorrow. He envisioned a future by 2035 where the internet would be faster, more secure, accessible, and collaborative, offering limitless possibilities. He traced the evolution of the internet from its early days in the 1970s, through the introduction of telework in the 1990s, to the rise of remote work during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2019. Mr. Botterman discussed the global growth of internet users, noting a significant shift from North America to Asia, and predicted that future growth would come from regions like South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa. He also encouraged attendees to explore the diverse ways in which different regions influence the development of the internet, referring to the perspectives outlined in the book *Four Internets*.

Empowering Caribbean Youth: Driving the Global Compact and SIDS Agendas into Action

This panel discussion was moderated by Ms. Celester Pereira, ITU Youth Envoy, who highlighted the panel's focus on the proactive role of Caribbean youth in advancing the principles of these international agendas. She posed questions to the panelists, Mr Shergaun Roserie, CEO of Orbtronic Ltd, Mr. Filippo Pierozzi, Associate Expert, United Nations, Office of the Envoy on Technology, Ms. Nancy Quirós, Senior Community Engagement Manager at Internet Society (ISOC) and Ms. Jael Goddard, External Relations Associate at the Ministry of Digital Transformation for Trinidad and Tobago, the first of which asked about the relevance

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of the GDC and the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda to the Caribbean region and the key priorities the region should focus on.

Mr. Roserie responded first by stating that the policies highlighted the Caribbean's urgent need to adapt to the digital age, noting that the region faced both internal and external challenges, partly due to underdevelopment in technology. He expressed his belief that for the many problems there are many potential solutions, and the rich human capital Caribbean is well-positioned to create technological solutions and stressed the importance of focusing on digital infrastructure, digital inclusion and upskilling to empower the region, to build an ecosystem of problem solvers. Mr. Pierozzi followed, acknowledging that while he is not a youth or from the region, elaborating on the Global Digital Compact (GDC) based on his experience at the UN Secretariat in New York, agreeing with Mr. Roserie on the importance of digital infrastructure and upskilling, noting thematic issues and methodology opportunities for the region's youth. Thematically, he highlighted the importance of digital skills, human rights, and connectivity, particularly local initiatives, networks, and satellite connectivity. Methodologically, he emphasized strengthening a multi-stakeholder model, allowing young people to contribute and ensuring all countries' opinions are represented. He also pointed to artificial intelligence (AI) as an area where youth can play a role in governance, aligning with Mr. Botterman's earlier speech.

Ms. Goddard highlighted that, as digital natives, youth have a unique advantage in advancing the regional ICT agendas due to their deep understanding of technology. She emphasized the need for youth to be well-informed about regional alignments and how they align with existing efforts in the Caribbean. Youth were encouraged to actively seek information, participate in discussions, and provide feedback, while leveraging their networks and digital platforms to boost engagement. She also advocated for youth inclusion, civic engagement, and sharing resources, such as opportunities for skill development, mentorship, and knowledge on digital advancements. These actions were seen as vital in empowering others and contributing to a sustainable future in the Caribbean. When asked, she identified several challenges to youth driven research agendas, such as limited access to resources, difficulties organising events like social media campaigns and youth forum due to lack of funding and resistance from institutions in supporting and elevating youth perspectives. She suggested continued advocacy, collaboration and consistency in efforts to mitigate these challenges, believing that this will ultimately open doors and contribute to the creation of a more sustainable future. Following Ms. Goddard, Mr. Roserie highlighted the need to innovate and creating an environment conducive to innovation for youths, where they can and are encouraged to participate.

When asked about the future of Caribbean youth Ms. Nancy Quirós highlighted the importance of action in shaping the future of Caribbean youth, emphasizing that while opportunities and support exist, real progress comes through collaboration and belief in making change. Drawing from her 10 years at the ISOC, she cited the success of a local chapter that built over 10 community networks in two years, showcasing what collective efforts can achieve. She urged youth to take small but meaningful steps, like joining ISOC and donating

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time, stressing that anyone can contribute regardless of expertise. Nancy's vision is for youth to believe in their potential and take action to drive positive change. Echoing Ms. Quirós sentiments, Mr. Pierozzi encouraged youth to participate in local IGF chapters and bring their local experiences to global platforms, highlighting the significance of representing local issues in international discussions, mentioning the upcoming UN Summit of the Future in September, particularly the youth action day on the 20th, as a key opportunity for youth involvement. He assured that the UN is working to provide space for youth voices and urged them to engage, regardless of expertise, as local perspectives hold global relevance.

The panellists were unanimous on Caribbean youth contribution to the GDC and SIDS agenda, encouraging youths raise awareness of and seize the opportunities and resources available to them, to network and collaborate in their communities for change and continue the work that has already begun.

Securing our Digital Future: Tackling Cyber Threats and Protecting Privacy in the Caribbean

This panel discussion was jointly moderated by Ms. Renasha Cassar and Mr. Tyler Seudath, CYIGF. The highly qualified panellists included Mr. Kevon Swift, Head of Public Safety Affairs, LACNIC, Mr. Michael Thomas, Guyana Computer Incident Response Team at the National Data Management Authority (NDMA), Mrs. Candy Saunders-Alfred, Cyber Analyst, CARICOM Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (IMPACS) and Mr. Shernon Osepa, CTU.

Mrs. Saunders-Alfred, responding from a regional perspective, stated that education and awareness are critical for helping individuals understand phishing attacks, how to identify them, and how to mitigate their effects. She emphasized the importance of using anti-phishing tools and software to aid in prevention. Additionally, she highlighted the need for youths to be aware of their digital footprint, as it plays a key role in providing attackers with information used to initiate phishing attacks.

Mr. Thomas emphasized the need for governments and organizations to enforce policies that protect young people's data., noting that mishandling of data by organizations often leads to young people's information being sold, which can put them at a disadvantage when trying to access services. To address this, he suggested that penalties should be applied when these policies are violated. Additionally, he stressed the importance of raising awareness among youth about the benefits of privacy and data protection, advocating for stronger enforcement and educational efforts from Caribbean governments and organizations.

Mr. Osepa emphasized the importance of preparation and education in cybersecurity, using the analogy of jumping into the deep Demerara River unprepared to highlight the dangers of navigating cyberspace without the right knowledge. He stressed the need to be trained in cybersecurity, especially in the context of growing threats like AI-powered malware and phishing attacks, which have become more sophisticated. He pointed out that while cybercriminals are well-prepared and funded, defensive technologies such as threat detection, response systems, and intrusion detection can be used to protect against these threats. Additionally, Mr. Osepa called for Caribbean nations to implement national

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cybersecurity strategies, noting that few countries currently have such policies in place. These strategies are essential to addressing the region's cybersecurity challenges.

Mr. Swift noted the fragmented nature of data protection policies in the Caribbean, where many countries still follow older OECD principles. However, there is growing recognition of the need to adopt the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) framework, particularly its focus on data minimization and breach notification. He emphasized that data, as an asset, retains its value with use and should be better protected through measures like informing individuals about data collection practices, breach notifications, and reporting breaches to state entities. He also called for more consultations and discussions in the Caribbean to adopt GDPR principles and create a functional ecosystem for addressing data vulnerabilities, tracking breaches, and ensuring proper follow-up and justice for affected individuals. Mrs. Saunders-Alfred reinforced Mr. Swift's statement indicting there is a pressing need for legislative harmonisation across the region, highlighting the issue of cross-border crimes, which emphasises the importance of regional cooperation. She indicated that the fragmented legal frameworks make it difficult to address such issues effectively and therefore, establishing standardized laws would better protect youths and their privacy across the Caribbean.

When how Caribbean educational institutions can encourage students to pursue as well as better prepare for careers in cyber security, Mr. Swift indicated that while traditional educational institutions may not offer enough in this field, individuals can enter the cybersecurity profession from various backgrounds by leveraging online upskilling programs as many roles in cybersecurity do not require deep technical expertise. He stressed the need for greater integration of cybersecurity with legal frameworks in the Caribbean to help create a more robust policy and enabling environment. Mrs. Saunders-Alfred encouraged youth to focus on a specific area within the broad field of cybersecurity, emphasizing the importance of specialization due to the rapidly evolving nature of the field. She advised becoming proficient in one area before exploring others, suggesting that building a strong foundation in a specific aspect of cybersecurity or cybercrime is crucial for long-term success. Mr. Thomas suggested introducing cybersecurity awareness in secondary schools to familiarize students with concepts like phishing, social engineering, and other cybersecurity topics, noting that students often lack understanding of these areas but become excited when they learn about the opportunities available. He suggested that universities and institutions should enhance existing computer science and IT courses by incorporating more cybersecurity content, or even create specialized courses, to build on this foundation, providing both theoretical knowledge and practical experience, such as forensic analysis or incident response training, would help guide students towards careers in cybersecurity. Mr. Osepa rounded out the discussion by reinforcing the previous statements highlighting the need for a balance between traditional education and industry-specific certifications, noting that while bachelor's, master's, and PhD programs are valuable, they can take too long to complete in a fast-moving field like cybersecurity. He emphasized the importance of pursuing relevant, targeted certifications that can address immediate real-world challenges. While long-term

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academic paths are still valid for some, he encouraged focusing on practical solutions to pressing cybersecurity issues, as attackers are constantly evolving, and time is of the essence.

All panellists agreed that there is a need for a multi-faceted, multi-stakeholder approach to cybersecurity. This involves governments developing informed laws and policies based on real-time data, technical teams like CSERTs responding to incidents, HR teams with strategies for cybersecurity hiring, and fostering a "culture of cybersecurity" at the organizational and individual levels.

Bridging the Digital Divide: Ensuring Inclusive Access for Caribbean Youth, Person with Disabilities and Vulnerable Populations

This panel, jointly moderated by Ms. Naomi Padmore and Ms. Shanelle McPherson, CYIGF consisted of two panellists, Mr. Kirk Sookram, Deputy CEO, Telecommunications Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (TATT) and Mr. Keeghan Patrick, Youth Envoy, ITU Generation Connect.

Mr. Patrick emphasized the importance of addressing digital literacy in the Caribbean, highlighting that while youth have gained greater access to devices, they often lack the necessary skills to effectively use them for learning, entrepreneurship, and employment. He pointed out that economic barriers persist, especially in rural areas where families cannot afford the latest devices, leaving many young people at a disadvantage in the global digital economy. To address this, he advocates for public-private partnerships to make devices more affordable.

Mr. Sookram shared that his organization's biggest challenge is speed, as they strive to move quickly and efficiently, often running into delays when collaborating with larger entities that have more bureaucratic processes. He emphasized the importance of understanding the different perspectives of his organization, their mission, and the stakeholders involved. Building strong relationships is crucial to overcoming these challenges and finding champions who can help move initiatives forward. He acknowledged that partnerships can be inherently difficult, but aligning everyone around a shared mission, whether from the private sector, government, or larger corporate entities, is key to creating impactful outcomes that benefit many people, including through corporate social responsibility initiatives.

Mr. Sookram discussed TATT's regulatory and policy initiatives aimed at bridging the digital divide and keeping up with evolving global technology. He highlighted three key objectives: the orderly development of the telecommunications sector, promoting public access to affordable and high-quality services, and ensuring universal access for all citizens. To achieve this, they have created a Universal Service Fund, which supports initiatives to connect underserved communities and marginalized groups, such as persons with disabilities. Specific actions include providing accessible smartphones and subsidizing broadband-enabled tablets for students, especially during and after the pandemic. Mr. Sookram emphasized the importance of reducing barriers to entry for new technologies, such as drones, while continuously adapting to increasing broadband demands. These efforts aim to ensure all citizens can benefit from digital resources and global connectivity.

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Mr. Sookram highlighted the importance of transitioning youths from consumers to creators through targeted initiatives and outreach programs. Regulatory bodies identified a digital skills gap in addition to the digital divide concerning access and affordability of services. To address this, they established youth-focused programs, such as "Girls in ICT" and "Boys in ICT," aiming to enhance digital skills. These programs began with basics like internet safety and have progressed to teaching youths how to develop mobile apps and utilize the internet for entrepreneurship. This year's focus for the girls was on using AI for leadership and entrepreneurship, while the boys' program similarly emphasized entrepreneurship using internet resources. Additionally, the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, through the Ministry of Digital Transformation, launched a "Developer's Hub" post-pandemic to foster local software and app development and train local talent for future needs. This initiative included competitions to solve real government and public sector problems, thus encouraging practical application and public demonstration of solutions. These targeted efforts are aimed at empowering youths to become creators rather than mere consumers.

Mr. Partick indicated that it is challenging to quantify equal opportunities. He stated when considering how to ensure equal access for individuals from diverse backgrounds within any industry, it's crucial to balance giving opportunities to everyone and maximizing revenue by recruiting the best talent available. He noted that currently, opportunities are not distributed equally, and more efforts are needed to reach everyone. Organizations must balance meritocracy with equality, ensuring diverse opinions contribute to their products and services. For example, hiring someone with accessibility issues is not just about ticking a diversity box but about recognizing the essential value they bring in improving products and increasing engagement, which ultimately benefits the organization. Thus, the goal is to balance increasing social impact with organizational sustainability and growth.

Mr. Sookram noted that opportunities may not be equal for marginalized groups, such as persons with disabilities and at-risk youth. In Trinidad and Tobago, there are programs to help upskill these groups and provide them with opportunities. For instance, the Ministry of Digital Transformation launched a digital skills program aimed at youth and individuals in underserved areas, enhancing their abilities and exposing them to ICT opportunities. Currently, discussions are ongoing between TATT, the ITU, and the Ministry of Digital Transformation to expand this program to include persons with disabilities and at-risk youth. ICT jobs, often being desk-based, present a viable career path for these marginalized groups, offering them greater chances to participate in the workforce.

To maximise accessibility to his programs, Mr. Patrick indicated that his organisation uses a hybrid format, which involves identifying rural areas and utilizing ICT centres in those communities to host programs. They offer video recordings and live sessions for those who can't attend in person but can participate virtually. One recent initiative, in partnership with the local government, is the establishment of an innovation hub in St. Lucia. This co-working space aims to bridge the digital divide by providing young people access to new tools, such as Oculus devices, Mac PCs for developing Apple apps, and other advanced technologies. The

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hub will help young developers gain skills and create their own products, promoting digital education and innovation.

Turning clicks into cash: overcoming challenges and advancing monetization for Caribbean content creators

The content creator panel was moderated by Ms. Shanelle McPherson of the CYIGF, and consisted of Mr. Kyle Maloney, Co-founder, Director, Tech Beach Resort and Mr. Keron Rose, Digital Strategist, The Digipreneur Company.

Mr. Rose began by indicating that he hadn't faced difficulties with monetisation due to how he began his business, highlighting that there are different ways to monetise beyond being paid for views, such as creating content that drives traffic to your products or services that leads to purchases. After closing his physical store, he launch an e-commerce platform, monetising by driving traffic through his website. He indicated that many Caribbean content creators face challenges due to focusing on platform-specific monetisation like through Instagram or TikTok which have geo-restrictions. Learning about diverse monetization streams can help person in the region start earning sooner, and when platform-specific options become available, it will simply add to the existing revenue streams.

Mr. Maloney indicated that his focus is on leveraging global partnerships to benefit Caribbean creators and businesses, fostering community growth. Unlike many regional creators who aimed for local brand partnerships, he emphasized the importance of thinking globally and expanding content appeal to the broader Caribbean and its diaspora. By building a robust personal and company brand, he indicated one could align more with global opportunities. He highlighted the importance of productizing one's brand, much like global icons, to capture more value rather than relying solely on monetizing views or limited brand partnerships.

Mr. Rose indicated that content creators must shift their mindset to view their brand as a business and that merely using social media for followers and likes without a strategic approach will limit their success. He recommended resource is the book *Content Inc.* by Joe Pulizzi, which provides guidance on building a successful content strategy. He noted that the key is to grasp business of content, which involves creating value beyond popularity. He also suggested getting an intellectual property lawyer to assist with licensing content and defining how, where and for how long one's content will be used.

AI in Action: boosting efficiency and cutting costs in the Caribbean private sector

Mr. Leslie Lee Fook, Director of AI, Automation and Analytics, Incus Services Limited delivered a concise capacity building session on leveraging artificial intelligence (AI) to unite regions for greater impact. He covered the essential aspects of AI. He briefly introduced AI, its implementation framework, and discussed the impact of automation on jobs, bringing understanding AI's role at a high level, which is crucial for leaders to implement it effectively and remain competitive post-COVID.

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He indicated that his journey emphasized that one doesn't need a technical background to succeed in AI. During COVID, he developed narrow AI solutions, significantly boosting productivity by automating repetitive tasks. This led to inadvertently creating a "robot army" that scaled operations. Mr. Lee Fook believe AI's role in the future workforce is exponential; for every human employee, organizations should have multiple AI systems to stay competitive. He concluded that current circumstances don't define future potential, AI and hyper-automation will impact everyone, and mastering AI is crucial for an unbreakable career and business.

Closing

The session was closed by Mr. Tariq Mohammed, CYIGF Chair and Coordinator, and Ms. Gabrielle Johnson, also CYIGF coordinator. Mr. Mohammed provided a recap on the CYIGF's proceedings, including a summary of the panels and key outcomes. He invited audience members to share what was most enjoyed and what further interventions were required. Members of the audience took the floor, and expressed positive feedback on the Forum. Ms. Johnson concluded the session with a vote of thanks to the speakers and participants, and brought the CYIGF 3 to a close.

Next Steps and Action Items:

This year's CYIGF yielded fruitful discussions across stakeholder groups and topics, such as youth in internet governance, bridging the digital divide, cybersecurity, AI, and monetizing Caribbean content. In taking things one step further, there are a number of action items to continue work on over the next year, leading to CYIGF 4 in 2025. These include, but are not limited to:

1. Having multi-stakeholder consultations among Caribbean content creators and the service providers to fill gaps in monetization of Caribbean content
2. Increasing the awareness and visibility of internet governance, particularly amongst youth
3. Increasing the participation of youth in future CYIGFs
4. Considering a continuous stream of activities for youth in internet governance, leading up to the 2025 CYIGF

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Appendix 2 – 20th CIGF Agenda

DRAFT PROGRAMME OUTLINE AT A GLANCE

Time	Day 1 – Aug 21 20 th CIGF & 3 rd CYIGF	Day 2 – Aug 22 20 th CIGF	Day 3 – Aug 23 20 th CIGF
AM	Opening Ceremony (CTU, CCS, ARIN, LACNIC, ICANN, ISOC, UNIGF, Guyana)	Opening Remarks / Day 1 Review Capacity Building: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding and Adopting Open Internet Standards for DNS, Routing and e-Mail Security 	ARIN/LACNIC/CTU Policy Forum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global IG Developments AI Cybersecurity and Digital Resilience Digital Content
AM	Introduction to Internet Governance & CIGF @ 20 Reviewing CIGF Vision and Mission National, Regional & Global IG Contexts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reports from National IGFs (T&T, SVG, Haiti et al) Report from LACIGF UN IGF and support for National & Regional Initiatives (NRIs) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good Practice Actions and Projects for Enhancing Resilience of Caribbean Infrastructure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DNS Observatory Internet Resilience Index MANRS KINDNS 	Guyana Focus Session Status of Internet Infrastructure Measuring the Information Society
PM	Caribbean Youth IGF Session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leveraging UN’s GDC and ABAS Cybersecurity Monetising Caribbean Content Digital Inclusion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion / Workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Platform(s) for regional action on implementing Internet standards, DDOS mitigation and IoT security 	Session with UN Diplomats Internet Governance, the Global Digital Compact and Promoting Multi-stakeholder Processes
PM	Caribbean Youth IGF Session (Cont’d)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitating a more trusted Internet 	Open Microphone Conclusions and Next Steps
Evening	Networking Reception		



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20th Caribbean Internet Governance Forum

DAY 1: Wednesday 21st August 2024

Pegasus Hotel, Guyana

Provisional Agenda

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKER
09:00	National Anthem	
09:03	Opening Prayer	Inter-Religious Organization
09:05	Opening Remarks	Mr. Rodney Taylor Secretary-General Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU)
09:10	Greetings from Partner Organizations	Mr. Albert Daniels Senior Manager, Stakeholder Engagement - Caribbean, ICANN. Ms. Paula Otegy Multistakeholder Engagement Coordinator, LACNIC. Mr. Chengetai Masango Head of Office, UN IGF Secretariat.
09:30	Feature Address	Mr. Andre Griffith Director of Telecommunications Telecommunications Agency, Guyana
09:45	Vote of Thanks	Mr. Nigel Cassimire Deputy Secretary-General, Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU)
09:50	OFFICIAL GROUP PHOTO	
10:00	COFFEE BREAK	
10:30	Introduction to Internet Governance & Reflections @ CIGF 20	Mr. Nigel Cassimire Deputy Secretary-General, Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU)
11:15	National, Regional and Global IG Contexts	Reports from National, Regional & Global IGFs Mr. Tracy Hackshaw – TT MAG Ms. Stéphanie Joseph - President ISOC Haiti - Haiti IGF Ms. Lilian Chamorro Rojas - Coordinator, LACIGF Ms. Nia Nanan – SIDS IGF Ms. Anja Gengo - UN IGF Secretariat and Ms. Carol Roach – UN IGF MAG Chair
12:15	General Discussion and Q&A	
12:30	LUNCH BREAK	



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3rd Caribbean Youth Internet Governance Forum
Wednesday 21st August 2024
Pegasus Hotel, Guyana
Provisional Agenda

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKER
13:30	3 rd CYIGF Opening Remarks	Mr. Rodney Taylor Secretary-General, CTU Mr. Tariq Mohammed , CYIGF Chair
13:40	Empowering Youth and Addressing Challenges in Global Internet Governance: Navigating the Future of Digital Policy	Mr. Maarten Botterman Chair of GFCE Working Group on Emerging Technologies
13:55	Panel Discussion: Empowering Caribbean Youth: Driving the Global Compact and SIDS Agendas into Action	Moderators: Ms. Celeste Pereira , ITU Youth Envoy Speakers: Mr. Shergaun Roserie Director of Orbtronics Ltd. Mr. Filippo Pierozzi Associate Expert, United Nations, Office of the Envoy on Technology Ms. Nancy Quirós Internet Society (ISOC) Ms. Jael Goddard External Relations Associate
14:20	Panel Discussion: Securing our Digital Future: Tackling Cyber Threats and Protecting Privacy in the Caribbean	Moderators: Ms. Renasha Cassar & Mr. Tyler Seudath , CYIGF Speakers: Mr. Kevon Swift , Head of Public Safety Affairs, LACNIC Mr. Michael Thomas , Guyana Computer Incident Response Team at the National Data Management Authority (NDMA) Mrs. Candy Saunders-Alfred , Cyber Analyst, CARICOM Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (IMPACS) Mr. Shernon Osepa , CTU
15:00	Panel Discussion: Bridging the Digital Divide: Ensuring Inclusive Access for Caribbean Youth, Persons with Disabilities and Vulnerable Populations	Moderator: Ms. Naomi Padmore & Ms. Shanelle McPherson , CYIGF Speakers: Mr. Kirk Sookram Deputy CEO, Telecommunications Authority of Trinidad and Tobago



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		Mr. Keeghan Patrick Youth Envoy, ITU Generation Connect
15:45	Panel Discussion: Turning Clicks into Cash: Overcoming Challenges and Advancing Monetization for Caribbean Content Creators	Moderator: Ms. Shanelle McPherson , CYIGF Jennifer Persad-Boodoo Keron Rose Kyle Maloney Co-Founder, Director Tech Beach Retreat
16:40	AI in Action: Boosting Business Efficiency and Cutting Costs in the Caribbean Private Sector	Mr. Leslie Lee Fook Director of AI, Automation and Analytics, Incus Services Limited
16:55	3 rd CYIGF Closing Remarks	Ms. Gabrielle Johnson , CTU Youth ICT Network Mr. Tariq Mohammed , CYIGF Chair



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20th Caribbean Internet Governance Forum

Global Forum for Cyber Expertise – Internet Infrastructure Initiative (GFCE Triple-I)

Workshop

Day 2 – Thursday 22nd August 2024

Pegasus Hotel, Guyana

Provisional Agenda

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKER
09:00	Welcome & Opening Remarks	Mr. Rodney Taylor, Secretary-General, CTU Mr. Maarten Botterman, GFCE Triple-I
09:15	<p>I - Better Use of Today's Open Internet Standards: the use and usefulness of Open Internet Standards such as DNSSEC, TLS, DANE, RPKI, ROA, DMARC, DKIM, SPF and IPv6. Reference the GFCE Triple-I Handbook at the GFCE Triple-I webpage and technical tests for the state of implementation at www.internet.nl.</p> <p>Section 1: DNS Security (DNSSEC, TLS and DANE) Section 2: Routing Security (PKI and ROA)</p> <p>Section 3: Email Security Section 4: IPv6</p> <p>We will discuss the WHY and WHAT of these open standards and explore the current state of uptake in the region, based upon a measuring using https://internet.nl. Real numbers on current uptake will help better understand where the region stands.</p>	<p>Mr. Nicolas Antonello, ICANN Mr. Kevon Swift, LACNIC</p> <p>Hovsep Najarian /EasyDMARC Mr. Bevil Wooding, ARIN/Mr. Kevon Swift, LACNIC, Mr. Shernon Osepa, CTU</p>
10:45	COFFEE BREAK	
11:00	<p>II Part 1 - Inspiration from Good Practice Actions:</p> <p>Next to technical modern Internet standards it is important to manage the Internet resources in a good practice way, learning from global internet practices. In Part 1 we will focus on:</p> <p>a- Internet Resilience Index: Insight in the local Internet resilience in terms of infrastructure, performance, security and market readiness is key when policies are to be developed and prioritized where it is most needed</p> <p>b- MANRS: rationale, development and deployment of Mutually Agreed Norms for Routing Security in the region, building on global experience</p> <p>c- KINDNS: Knowledge-Sharing and Instantiating Norms for DNS and Naming Security will help keep the DNS space secure</p>	<p>Ms. Nancy Quirós & Mr. Dan York – Internet Society (ISOC)</p> <p>Mr. Andrei Robachevsky - Global Cyber Alliance</p> <p>Mr. Nicolas Antonello, Mr. Albert Daniels - ICANN</p>

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12:30	LUNCH	
13:30	II Part 2 - Inspiration from Good Practice Actions: a- “Cookbook” on DDOS attack mitigation (see https://www.concordia-h2020.eu/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/PREPRINT-D3-6_DDoS_Clearing_House_Cookbook.pdf), b- Global Cyber Alliance: Capacity and resilience toolkits for small enterprises (https://globalcyberalliance.org) c- Avoiding Disconnection – Understanding the resilience of subsea cable infrastructure d- Promoting Caribbean Internet Resilience: The DNS Observatory Project e- Good Practices for Secure and Resilient Operations of ccTLD registries	Mr. Thijs van den Hout – SIDN - The Netherlands Mr. Brian Cute – Global Cyber Alliance Mr. Dan York – Internet Society (ISOC) Prof. Nicole Starosielski - University of California at Berkeley Mr. Shernon Osepa - CTU Prof. Patrick Hosein - nic.tt Ms. Kroopa Shah - Identity Digital
15:30	COFFEE BREAK	
15:45	III - Action Planning for increasing justified trust, together: Facilitated brainstorm, based on the input discussed over the day and an introduction on a possible way forward leveraging the “justified trust in the use of the Internet and email” throughout the region. Relevant projects for this will be proposed to consider.	
16:15	Data for Good CSAM Status and Policy Actions UN’s Draft Convention on Cybercrime	Mr. Alex Pompe - Meta Ms. Maria De Gutierrez Ortiz Monasterio - UNODC
16:55	Conclusions and Closing Remarks	Mr. Nigel Cassimire - CTU
17:00	END OF DAY 2	

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20th Caribbean Internet Governance Forum
Day 3 – Friday 23rd August 2024
CTU/ARIN/LACNIC Policy Forum & Guyana Focus
Pegasus Hotel, Guyana
Provisional Agenda

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS
09:00	Opening Remarks	Mr. Rodney Taylor Secretary General - CTU
09:05	Welcome Remarks	ARIN
		Mr. Kevon Swift – Head of Public Safety Affairs, LACNIC
09:15	Feature Presentations and Q&A:	
	Caribbean AI Policy Roadmap 2024	Dr. Paul Hector and Ms. Erica Simmons - UNESCO
	Needs Assessment Survey on Artificial Intelligence, Digital Transformation and Open Data in Small Island Developing States (SIDS)	Dr. Bhanu Neupane - UNESCO
	Fostering Caribbean AI Entrepreneurship – A Case Study from the Justice Sector	Mr. Kevin Khelawan – Caribbean Agency for Justice Solutions (CAJS)
	Strategic Cybersecurity and Digital Resilience	Mr. Kevon Swift – LACNIC
	Digital Economy Initiatives: Next Round of gTLDs and the Applicant Support Programme	Mr. Albert Daniels - ICANN
	Interactive Discussion Segment	
11:00	COFFEE BREAK	
11:15	Guyana Focus Session: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Status of Internet Infrastructure Measuring the Information Society 	Mr. Andre Griffith – Telecommunications Agency, Guyana Ms. Viviana Umpierrez – ITU and Ms. Nia Nanan - CTU
12:15	LUNCH	
13:30	Examining the UN’s Global Digital Compact	
14:30	Forum Discussion: Looking forward for the CIGF. Framing questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is there a continuing role for a regional harmonisation mechanism such as the CIGF? - Given the transition from Internet governance to digital governance, what key challenges would the CIGF need to evolve to meet? - What good practices and practical lessons can we draw on to improve the effectiveness of the CIGF? - What priority actions can we identify towards advancing, strengthening and sustaining the CIGF? 	Seeding Discussants from Stakeholder Communities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Government - Private Sector - Academia - Civil Society - Technical Community



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15:30	COFFEE BREAK	
15:45	Open Microphone	
16:15	Conclusions and Next Steps	
16:30	END OF 20TH CIGF	

Appendix 3 – Listing of Attendees

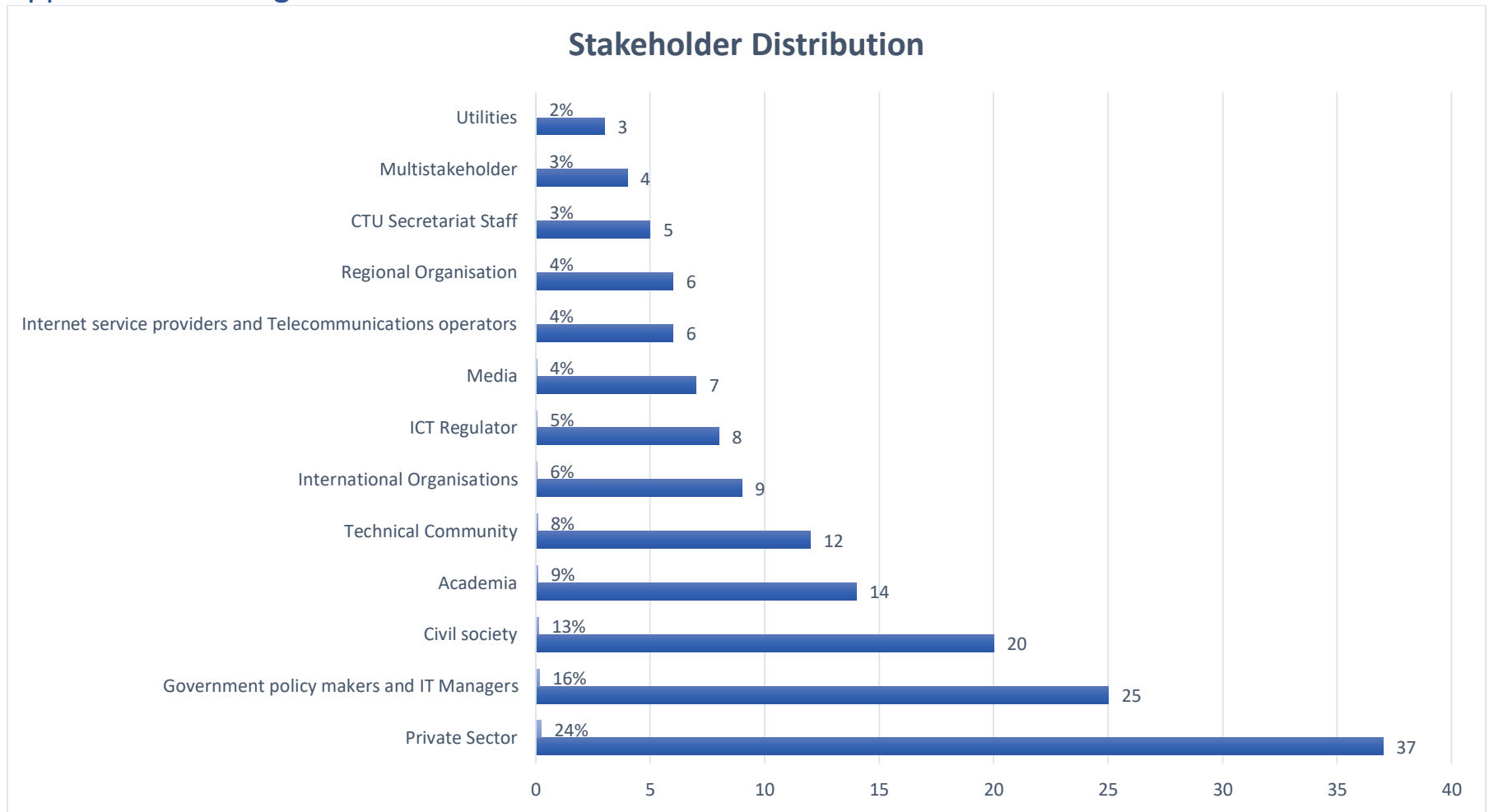


Figure 1 Stakeholder Distribution at 20th CIGF and 3rd CYIGF

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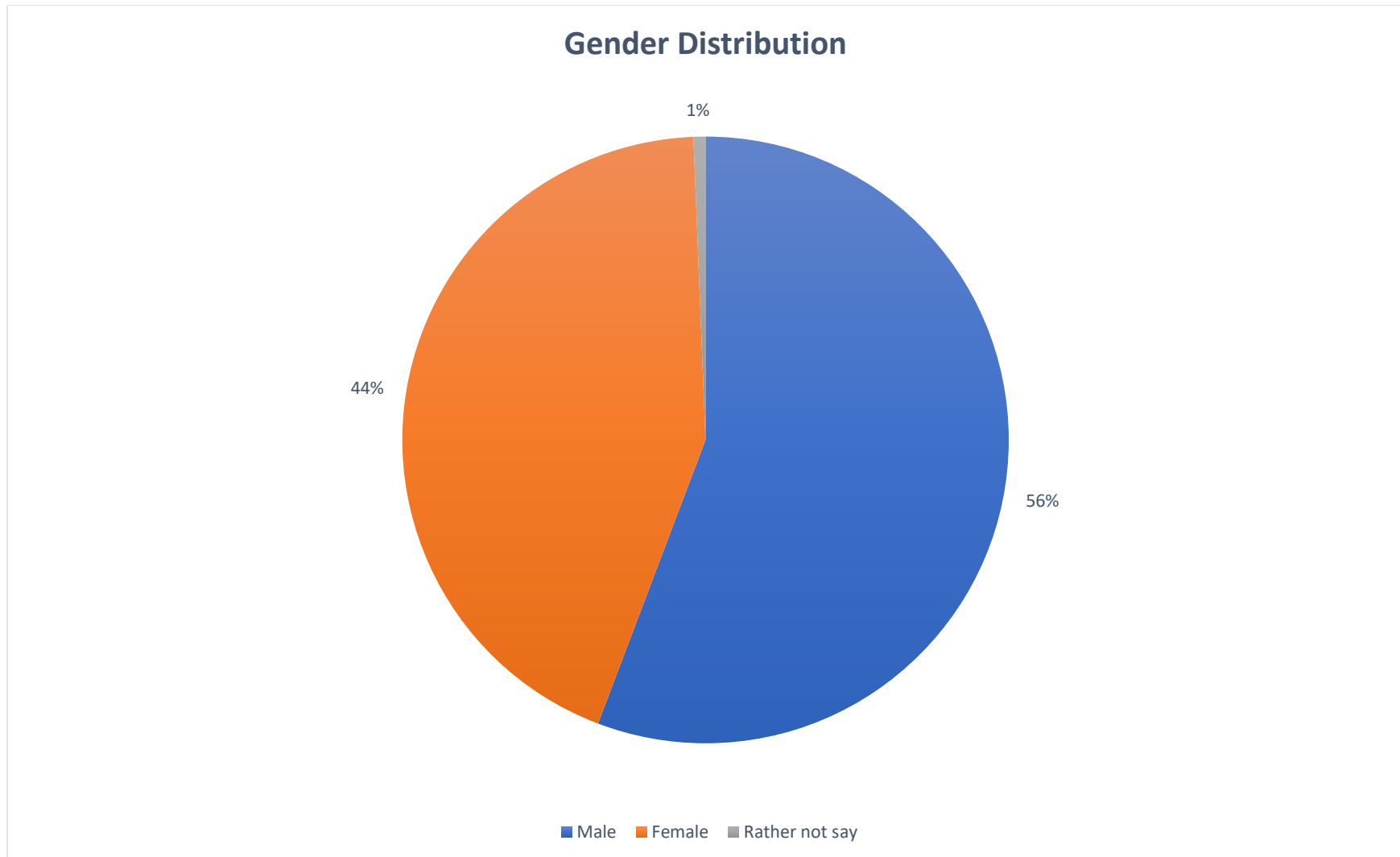


Figure 2 Gender Distribution of Attendees at 20th CIGF and 3rd CYIGF



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First Name	Last Name	Job Title	Organization	Country/Region Name	Indicate Sector
Aggrey	Marsh	Ceo and founder	Issachar and associates	Guyana	Private Sector
Albert	Daniels	Senior Manager, Stakeholder Engagement - Caribbean	ICANN	Saint Lucia	Technical Community
Alex	Pompe	Research Manager - Data for Good	META	United States	Private Sector
Andre	Freeman	Senior Technical Specialist	National Telecommunications Regulatory Commission	Saint Kitts and Nevis	ICT Regulators
Andre	Griffith	Director	Telecommunications Agency	Guyana	ICT Regulators
Andre	Griffith	Director of Telecommunications	Telecommunications Agency	Guyana	Government policy makers and IT Managers
Andrei	Robachevsky	Technical Director	Global Cyber Alliance	Amsterdam	Multistakeholder
Anja	Gengo	National and Regional IGF Initiatives Focal Point	UN IGF Secretariat	Geneva	International Organisations
Bevil	Wooding	Director Caribbean Affairs	ARIN	United States	Technical Community
Bhanu R	Neupane	Manager	UNESCO	France	International Organisations
Birhanu Niguse	Ayele	Pan African Youth Ambassador for Internet Governance	Pan African Youth Ambassadors for Internet Governance -PAYAIG	Ethiopia	Civil society
Brian	Cute	Director of Capacity and Resilience	Global Cyber Alliance	United States	Multistakeholder

Figure 3 Gender Distribution of Attendees at 20th CIGF and 3rd CYIGF



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Candy	Saunders-Alfred	Cyber Analyst	CARICOM Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (IMPACS)	Trinidad and Tobago	Government policy makers and IT Managers
Carol	Roach	IGF2024 Chair; Under Secretary	IGF and Govt Bahamas	Bahamas	Government policy makers and IT Managers
Cathrona	Samuel	CTO	APUA	Antigua and Barbuda	Internet service providers and Telecommunications operators
Celeste	Pereira	ITU Youth Envoy Digital Transformation Analyst	Ministry of Digital Transformation	Trinidad and Tobago	Government policy makers and IT Managers
Chengetai	Masango	Head of Office	UN IGF Secretariat	Geneva, Switzerland	International Organisations
Cheryl	Mc Clauren	ICT Manager	Department of Infrastructure, Ports, Energy & Transport	Saint Lucia	Government policy makers and IT Managers
Cleofoster	Spencer	Project Manager	The Caribbean Agency for Justice Solutions	Antigua and Barbuda	Regional organisations
Craig	Ramlal	Lecturer	University of the West Indies	Trinidad and Tobago	Academia
Cris	Seecheran	Managing Director	ICT Plus Limited	Trinidad and Tobago	Private Sector
Dan	York		Internet Society (ISOC)	Canada	Technical Community
David	Castillo	Consultant	UNESCO	France	International organisations
Deirdre	Williams	retired	independent	Saint Lucia	Civil society
Edmund	Burke	Digital/ICT Director	Government of Grenada	Grenada	Government policy makers and IT Managers
Erica	Simmons	Consultant	UNESCO	Jamaica	International Organisations
Eyob	Esatu	CEO	ISD AFRICA	Ethiopia	Civil society
Filippo	Pierozzi	Associate Expert	United Nations, Office of the Envoy on Technology	United States	International Organisations
Gabrielle	Johnson		CTU Youth ICT Network	Trinidad and Tobago	Government policy makers and IT Managers



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Gary	Campbell	Director of Technology	Office of the Prime Minister	Jamaica	Government policy makers and IT Managers
Hovsep	Najarian	Email Security Implementation Specialist	EasyDMARC	Armenia	Private Sector
Jael	Goddard	External Relations Associate	Ministry of Digital Transformation	Trinidad and Tobago	Government policy makers and IT Managers
Jen	Persaud	Senior Outreach Officer	OPM	Guyana	Government policy makers and IT Managers
Joly	MacFie		ISOC	United States	Technical Community
June	Parris	Research	ISOC Chapter	Barbados	Civil society
Junior	Mc Intyre	DNCDO	Min of Digital Transformation	Trinidad and Tobago	Government policy makers and IT Managers
Juvana	Mark	Admin	National Telecommunications Regulatory Commission	Grenada	ICT Regulators
Kathy	Smith	Legal Consultant	The Bahamas Government	Bahamas	Government policy makers and IT Managers
Keeghan	Patrick	Youth Envoy	ITU Generation Connect	Saint Lucia	Private Sector
Keron	Rose	Digital Strategist	The Digipreneur Company	Trinidad and Tobago	Private Sector
Kevin	Khelawan		Caribbean Agency for Justice Solutions (CAJS)	Trinidad and Tobago	Private Sector
Kevon	Swift	Head of Public Safety Affairs	LACNIC	Trinidad and Tobago	Technical Community
Kiran	Mossiah-Vellos	Executive Assistant	Solace LLP	Belize	Private Sector
Kossi	AMESSINOU	chef du service du suivi et d'accompagnement du secteur privé	Ministère de l'économie et des finances	Benin	Government policy makers and IT Managers
Kroopa	Shah	Senior Director, Registry Support and Management	Identity Digital	Canada	Private Sector

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Kyle	Maloney	Co-founder/Director	Tech Beach Retreat	Trinidad and Tobago	Private Sector
Lance	Hinds	Projects Director	DreamSpace	Guyana	Civil society
Lerone	Brathwaite	Transformation Specialist	CAJS	Trinidad and Tobago	Private Sector
Leslie	Nobile	Senior Director, Trust and Public Safety	ARIN	United States	Technical Community
Leslie	Lee Fook	Director of AI, Automation and Analytics	Incus Services Limited	Trinidad and Tobago	Private Sector
Lilian	Chamorro Rojas	Coordinator	LAC IGF	Colombia	Regional Organisations
Lisa	Wharwood	Senior Instructor	UTT	Trinidad and Tobago	Academia
Louella-Anne	Edwards	Manager - IT Services	Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago	Trinidad and Tobago	Government policy makers and IT Managers
Maarten	Botterman	GFCE Triple I Coordinator and Chair of GFCE Working Group on Emerging Technologies	GFCE	Netherlands	Multistakeholder
Maryam	Bacchus	Assistant ICT Engineer	National Data Management Authority	Guyana	Government policy makers and IT Managers
Matthew	Cowen	Consultant	Digital Futures	Martinique	Private Sector
Melissa	Buchoon	Journalist	Melissa journalism	Guyana	Media
Michael	Brehaspat	Network Technician	University of Guyana	Guyana	Academia
Nadine	Sooklal	Project Manager	Caribbean Agency for Justice Solutions	Trinidad and Tobago	Private Sector
Naomi	Padmore		CYIGF	Trinidad and Tobago	Government policy makers and IT Managers
Nia	Nanan	Senior Research Analyst	Caribbean Telecommunications Union	Trinidad and Tobago	CTU Secretariat Staff

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Nicolas	Antoniello	Technical Engagement Manager	ICANN	Uruguay	Technical Community
Nicole	Starosielski	Professor	University of California at Berkeley	United States	Academia
Nigel	Cassimire	Deputy Secretary-General	Caribbean Telecommunications Union	Trinidad and Tobago	CTU Secretariat Staff
Omar E	Santiago Lopez	CEO	OSL IT TECH	United States	Private Sector
OPAL	REID	ICT Law Student	University of Technology	Jamaica	Academia
Otis	Osbourne	Board Chair	Internet Society Jamaica Chapter	Jamaica	Civil society
Patrick	Hosein	CEO	nic.tt	Trinidad and Tobago	Technical Community
Paul	Hector	Advisor for Communication and Information	UNESCO	Jamaica	International Organisations
Paula	Otegy	Multistakeholder Engagement Coordinator	LACNIC	Uruguay	Technical Community
Rachel	Joseph	Marketing and Communications	Caribbean Telecommunications Union	Trinidad and Tobago	CTU Secretariat Staff
Renasha	Cassar		CYIGF	Trinidad and Tobago	Private Sector
Rene	Daniels	Communications Associate	Tagman Media	Guyana	Media
Rodney	Taylor	Secretary-General	Caribbean Telecommunications Union	Trinidad and Tobago	CTU Secretariat Staff
Shanea	Lewis	Policy Analyst	Caribbean Telecommunications Union	Trinidad and Tobago	CTU Secretariat Staff
Shanelle	McPherson		CYIGF	Jamaica	Civil Society
Shergaun	Roserie	Director	Orbtronic Ltd	Saint Lucia	Private Sector
Sidney	de Weever	Head of the Technical department	Bureau Telecommunications and Post	Sint-Maarten (Dutch)	ICT Regulators



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Stanley	West	Mentor	Jim Greaves Foundation (JG-IAA)	Trinidad and Tobago	Civil society
Stephanie	Joseph	president	ISOC Chapitre Haiti	Haiti	Civil society
Takim	Aymer	Brades	Government of Montserrat	Montserrat	Government policy makers and IT Managers
Tariq	Mohammed	Consultant		Trinidad and Tobago	Private Sector
Theo	Jones	Director, Legal Services	Caribbean Agency for Justice Solutions (CAJS)	Barbados	Regional organisations
Thierry	NAGAU van den	RSSI	DAUPHIN TELECOM	Guadeloupe	Internet service providers and Telecommunications operators
Thijs	Hout	Research Engineer	SIDN	The Netherlands	Technical Community
Tracy	Hackshaw	Director	TT MAG	Trinidad and Tobago	Multistakeholder
Tricia	Rajkumar	Legal Officer	GTT Inc.	Guyana	Internet service providers and Telecommunications operators
Tyler	Seudath		CYIGF	Trinidad and Tobago	Private Sector
Viviana	Umpierrez	Statistician, ICT Data and Analytics Division	ITU	Switzerland	International Organisations
Abigail	Rollox	Operations Manager	Global Compliance service	Guyana	Private Sector
Alia	Rafick	Student	The University of Guyana	Guyana	Academia
Alicia	Arthur	Assistant ICT Engineer	National Data Management Authority	Guyana	Government policy makers and IT Managers
Amrita	Ramnauth	Software Engineer	Guyana Power and Light Inc.	Guyana	Utilities
Andrei	Pierre	Video-producer	Sainte Rose WI	Trinidad and Tobago	Media
Anelia	Bacchus	Child Rights Ambassador	Rights of the child commission	Guyana	Civil Society
Asena	Marques	Cybersecurity Engineer	Guyana Revenue Authority	Guyana	Government policy makers and IT Managers
Bakedia	Clarke	Children Books	Truekids book World	Guyana	Private Sector



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Brandon	Scipio	Communications Manager	Logo Media	Guyana	Private Sector
Cassie	Beaton	Member	University of Guyana Robotics Club	Guyana	Academia
Chanecia	LaRose	Young Influencers	Ministry of human services and social security	Guyana	Government policy makers and IT Managers
Charles	Williams	Chairman	C T Williams Technologies.com	Guyana	Internet service providers and Telecommunications operators
Chenelle	Spooner	Communications Officer (Social Media)	CARICOM Secretariat	Guyana	Regional Organisation
Colleen	Osborne	Owner	White Gloves Janitorial and Maid Services and Busy Bees Errand Services	Guyana	Private Sector
Daimon	Deonarine	Chief Executive Officer	DEO Solutions	Guyana	Private Sector
Deborah	Doodnat	Founder	Interlink Business and Logistics Services	Guyana	Private Sector
Deodat	Persaud	President	Guyana Center for Civic Engagement	Guyana	Civil Society
Deyan	Kissoon	Citizen	None	Guyana	Civil Society
Diana	Ahmad	Fiber Logistics Coordinator	Enet	Guyana	Internet service providers and Telecommunications operators
Farida	Yussuf	Race director	Stride592	Guyana	Private Sector
Fatai	Akinode	CEO	Larrie King Travel & Tours Limited	Nigeria	Private Sector
Felicia	Bowman	Director	C T Williams Technologies Inc	Guyana	Internet service providers and Telecommunications operators
Fitzgerald	Yaw	Project Associate	Guyana Development Initiative	Guyana	Civil Society
Glenn	McKnight	Info Officer	Virtual School of Internet Governance	Canada	Private Sector
Harold	Destiné	Cameraman	UE	Haiti	Media
Jenesa	Campbell	Unemployed	N/A	Guyana	Civil Society

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Jennifer Britton	Deputy Programme Manager (ICT for Development)	CARICOM Secretariat	Guyana	Regional Organisation
Jervaunie Lionel	Brand/Visual Designer I	JKL Cartoons	Saint Lucia	Media
Joan McDonald	Retired Administrator	Not applicable	Guyana	Civil Society
Julius Simon	Owner	Ultimate Dimensions	Guyana	Private Sector
Kiefer Newton	Educator	Ministry of Education	Guyana	Government policy makers and IT Managers
Kirk Sookram	Deputy Chief Executive Officer	Telecommunications Authority of Trinidad and Tobago	Trinidad and Tobago	ICT Regulators
Krsna Mahangi	Technician 1	NDMA	Guyana	ICT Regulator
Leyland Lucas	Dean, SEBI	University of Guyana	Guyana	Academia
Malcolm Embleton	Director	Citizens Counselling and Mediation Services	Guyana	Private Sector
Marcelie Sears	IT Practitioner	-	Guyana	Private Sector
María de Lourdes Gutierrez	Regional Project Coordinator, Global Program on Cybercrime	United Nations on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)	Panama	International Organisations
Maynawattie Tiwari	Chairperson	KINGELLY BRAHN FARMER GROUP	Guyana	Private Sector
Melissa Buchoon	Journalist	Melissa Buchoon	Guyana	Media
Mendy Nicholson	Marketing and social media Manager	Guyana tv network	United States	Media
Michael Brehaspat	ICT Network Technician	University of Guyana	Guyana	Academia
Michelle Schuman	Teacher	St cuthbert's secondary school	Guyana	Academia
Mortimer Hope	CEO	GH Communications	Guyana	Private Sector
Nancy Quiros	Community Engagement Manager	Internet Society	Costa Rica	Technical Community



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Ngozi	Thomas	President	The University of Guyana Cybersecurity Club	Guyana	Academia
Philip	Inshanally	Network Administrator	GPL Inc	Guyana	Utilities
Randy	Baker	ICT Technician	National Data Management Authority	Guyana	ICT Regulator
Rayman	Khan	ccTLD Administrator	.gy ccTLD	Guyana	Technical Community
Riyad	Sattaur	Manager	National Data Management Authority	Guyana	Government policy makers and IT Managers
Ronald	Duke	Cybersecurity Compliance Officer	Guyana Power and Light Inc.	Guyana	Utilities
Samuel	Reid	Sales Engineer	Brava	Guyana	Private Sector
Sasha	Ramnauth	Student	University of Guyana	Guyana	Academia
shahad	husain	Engineering Technician	CYEN,UG,CCREEE,TeVt	Guyana	Academia
Shamar	Gallaway	Educator	Ministry of Education	Guyana	Government policy makers and IT Managers
Shan	Singh	Outreach officer	OPM	Guyana	Government policy makers and IT Managers
Shaundessa	Demetro	Self employed	Nil	Guyana	Private Sector
Theon	Alleyne	Managing Consultant	EICCIO Advisors	Guyana	Private Sector
Troy	Benjamin	Principal	Benjamin's Learning Centre	Guyana	Private Sector
Utica	Alves	Project Officer (ICT for Development)	CARICOM Secretariat	Guyana	Regional Organisation
Valmikki	Singh	Policy Analyst	Telecommunications Agency	Guyana	ICT Regulator
Vanita	Mahadeo	Student	University of Guyana	Guyana	Academia
Vindhya	Challu	Project Officer	Ministry of Human Service and Social Security	Guyana	Government policy makers and IT Managers
Vishwanauth	Ishwardin				
Jamal	Delph				



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Shariq	Husain
Richard	Stanton
Edwyn	Smith