Strengthening Submarine Fibre Optic Cable Resilience in the Caribbean

Virtual Meeting
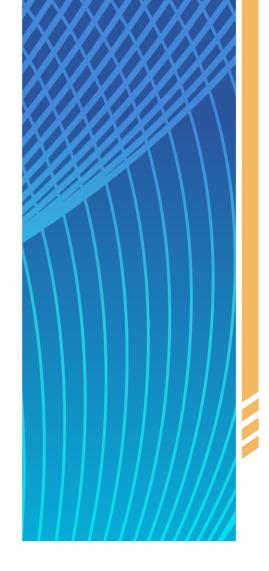
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Deputy Secretary-General

Actionable Recommendations and Next Steps

Infrastructure & Policy Improvements

➢Cable Risk identification and mitigation (human and natural causes)

➢Diverse routes and landings

➢Timely restoration and repair procedures

➢ICPC's Government Best Practices for Protecting and Promoting Resilience of Submarine Telecommunications Cables

➢ICPC & UNEP-WCMC Report on Submarine cables and Marine Biodiversity

➢Policies re cable system aging / retirement?

➢Focus on strategic resilience and the human dimensions (relationships, communication, education, coordination)

➢Quantify the value of resilience

➢Foster a shared and unified narrative

➢A sharable database of regional system infrastructure

Infrastructure & Policy Improvements (Cont'd)

➢ From open discussion:

➢ Defining "end of life" for submarine cables (technical, commercial, economic factors)

➢ ICPC has limited guidelines re cable protection in shipping ports

Funding Mechanisms & Investment Opportunities

Items

➢Consortia

➢PPPs?

➢Incentives?

➢Commercial enablers and constraints

➢Coordination and collaboration in financing
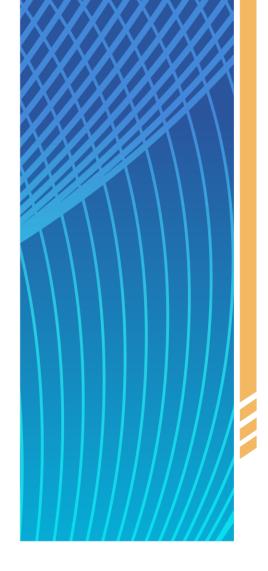
Roadmap for Ongoing Collaboration

Items

➤ Improved Caribbean participation in ICPC (International Cable Protection Committee)

➤ SubOptic Foundation of the SubOptic Association

➤ ITU's International Advisory Body

➤ Current participation: Meeting evaluation form (link in the Chat)

So, let's move forward!

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Caribbean Context: Single ICT Space

- Roadmap for the CARICOM Single ICT Space was approved at the Twenty-Eighth (28th) Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) on 16 February 2017 in Georgetown, Guyana

- "an ICT-enabled borderless space that fosters economic, social and cultural integration for the betterment of Caribbean citizens"

- an ecosystem of regionally harmonised ICT policies, legislation, regulations, technical standards, best practices, networks and services.

- Regionally harmonised ICT policy, legal and regulatory regimes;

- Robust national and regional broadband infrastructure;

- Common frameworks for Governments, ICT service providers and consumers;

- Effective, secure technology and management systems.

- ***Hence a subsea cable policy harmonisation thrust!***