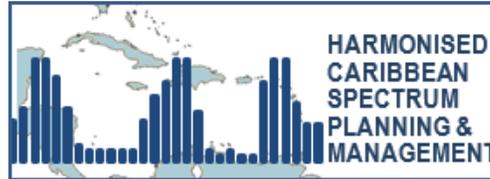




CARIBBEAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION



Spectrum Management Task Force (SMTF)

Action Plan 2025

[Endorsed by the Spectrum Management Steering Committee]

Final

Updated 2025-11-07

Spectrum Management Task Force Action Plan 2025

(Endorsed by the Spectrum Management Steering Committee)

The work of the SMTF will focus on the following thematic areas for 2025:

1. RFAT (Harmonisation of Priority Bands: IMT, Emergency Communications, IoT/Innovation bands e.g., Wi-Fi, DSA, TVWS etc. for bands NOT being addressed at WRC-27)
2. Harmonising spectrum management policies to facilitate new and emerging technologies and services for socio-economic development
3. Emergency Communications
4. Spectrum Pricing
5. WRC-27 Preparations
6. Planning Digital Broadcasting Switchover
7. Maintaining Current Information for Operational Coordination (to support Cross-border interference coordination and emergency communications)

Thematic Area	Initiative	Comments/Actions	Time Frame	Lead
1.0 Regional Frequency Allocation Table (RFAT)	1.1 Collation of National FATs in requested format at central location (CTU).	Jurisdictions to ensure that their current NFATs are communicated to the CTU Secretariat. Secretariat to maintain collection of current Caribbean NFATs as a resource on the CTU web site	Ongoing	SMTF Members
			Ongoing	CTU Secretariat

Thematic Area	Initiative	Comments/Actions	Time Frame	Lead
	<p>1.2</p> <p>Population of a software database with NFAT data from each jurisdiction</p>	<p>Agreed to evaluate the use of Spectrum-E software, CITEL and ITU resources for this purpose</p> <p>Report on evaluation of relevant database software</p> <p>Recommend database software appropriate to this application</p> <p>Plan and undertake database population work based on software recommendation and data availability</p>	<p>Q2 2025</p> <p>Q2 2025</p> <p>Q3 – Q4 2025</p>	<p>CTU Secretariat</p> <p>CTU Secretariat</p> <p>CTU Secretariat/SMTF Volunteers</p>
	<p>1.3</p> <p>Harmonisation of band planning for priority bands (those NOT being addressed on the agenda of WRC-27).</p> <p><u>Working Group</u> (addressing IMT & IOT/innovation bands e.g.,</p>	<p>Priority bands identified as those for IMT, emergency comms and IOT/innovation</p> <p>Development and consideration of harmonisation proposals for IMT and IOT/innovation bands:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status report on developments from working group discussions on priority bands 	<p>Q1 – Q4 2025</p> <p>Q2 2025</p>	<p>Working Group</p> <p>Working Group</p>

Thematic Area	Initiative	Comments/Actions	Time Frame	Lead
	Unlicensed, DSA, TVWS, NTN etc.): TATT (Lead), C&W, Belize, ECTEL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review ANFR Proposal for harmonization in TDD 3400 – 3800 MHz for 5G: Indicate ability/willingness to accommodate ANFR request/proposal Prepare harmonisation proposals/templates and address coordination challenges in TDD bands <p>Assessment of bands for regional authorisation (e.g., for auction or for unlicensed use) based on harmonisation recommendations</p>	Q2 - Q3 2025 Q3 2025 Q3 – Q4 2025 Q4 & Ongoing	Working Group SMTF Members Working Group CTU Secretariat & SMTF Members
2.0 Harmonising Spectrum Management Policies to Facilitate New and Emerging Technologies and Services for socio-economic development	2.1 Update the regional Spectrum Management Strategic Plan (2016-2018) to assure ongoing sufficiency and remedy policy gaps	<p>Review of existing strategic plan in light of the range of new and emerging technologies and services e.g., ESIMs, 5G/6G, NGSO services, IOT, HIBS, non-terrestrial networks (NTNs), system/services integration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of policy gaps (Workshop) and the scope of work for updating the strategic plan (2025-2028) 	Q2 2025	CTU Secretariat SMTF Members

Thematic Area	Initiative	Comments/Actions	Time Frame	Lead
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formulate/update implementation plan and schedule Complete plan update 	Q3 2025 Per schedule	SMTF Members CTU Secretariat
	2.2 Develop regulatory frameworks for emerging technologies and services	Assess feasibility of common approaches to market access, licensing and coordination e.g., <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Framework for broadband and direct-to-device satellite services Blanket licensing to manage NGSO and GSO systems Framework for non-terrestrial systems/services Authorisation of ATC services 	Q1 – Q4 2025	SMTF Chair
3.0 Emergency Communications	3.1 Country status dashboard for emergency communications	Maintain a dashboard of emergency communications policy best practices showing the status for each country (e.g., national emergency telecoms	Ongoing	CTU Secretariat

Thematic Area	Initiative	Comments/Actions	Time Frame	Lead
		<p>plans (NETPs), Tampere and IARP Conventions etc.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include a repository of Caribbean NETPs and relevant ITU documents or templates 		
	3.2 Accession to the Tampere Convention	<p>Sustain awareness campaign to encourage universal sign on to Tampere Convention. (Concerns of potential signatories to be addressed)</p> <p>Identify and highlight implementation considerations re the Convention</p> <p>Formulate a resolution of the CTU's GC and draft a Cabinet brief advocating accession to the Convention for coordination with Foreign Affairs Ministers</p> <p>Advocate for Caribbean countries to accede to Tampere Convention</p> <p>Foster coordination among CDEMA and stakeholders like CANTO.</p>	<p>Q1 – Q4 2025</p> <p>Q1 - Q3 2025</p> <p>Q2 – Q3 2025</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>CTU Secretariat</p> <p>CTU Secretariat</p> <p>CTU Secretariat</p> <p>CTU Secretariat / SMTF Members</p> <p>CTU Secretariat</p>

Thematic Area	Initiative	Comments/Actions	Time Frame	Lead
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Target awareness-building programmes for Q1 and Q2 annually <p>SMTF members to work with local Disaster Management offices to promote initiative</p>	Ongoing	SMTF Members
	<p>3.3</p> <p>Adoption of IARP (Advocated by the IARU for mobilising and expediting telecom relief efforts in disaster response)</p>	<p>Foster universal acceptance and adoption of amended IARP via an awareness campaign.</p> <p>Call on Caribbean countries to accede to amended IARP Convention, which is open for signing at the OAS.</p> <p>Formulate a resolution of the CTU's GC and draft a Cabinet brief advocating accession to the amendment to the IARP Convention</p>	<p>Q1 – Q4 2025</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Q3 2025</p>	<p>IARU and CTU Secretariat</p> <p>IARU, CTU Secretariat, SMTF Members</p> <p>CTU Secretariat</p>
	<p>3.4</p> <p>Harmonisation of Band Plans for Emergency Communications</p>	<p>Establish list of bands used in each jurisdiction (To be used to inform international /regional agencies);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Survey instrument (include CDEMA requirements) 	Q1 2025	ECTEL, TATT

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	<p><u>Working Group:</u> ECTEL (Lead), TATT, SMA, UWI St. Aug and NTRC Grenada</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ECTEL to circulate a paper discussing harmonization options <p>Examine bands available and make harmonisation recommendations accordingly</p> <p>Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems Repository: Collect and centralize resources on early warning systems for member states' reference</p> <p>Emergency Communications Advocacy: Engage regional broadcasters and agencies e.g., CBU, CDEMA, to enhance disaster preparedness.</p>	<p>Q2 – Q4 2025</p> <p>Q2 – Q4 2025</p> <p>Q2 – Q4 2025</p> <p>Q2 – Q4 2025</p>	<p>Working Group</p> <p>Working Group</p> <p>Working Group / CTU Secretariat</p> <p>SMTF Members / CTU Secretariat</p>
	<p>3.5</p> <p>Baseline data gathering on emergency communications in the maritime bands</p>	<p>Encourage List IV Notification by CTU Member States, if only through SMTF members</p> <p>Track the number of List IV submissions by CTU Member States as at January/ February 2025</p>	<p>Q1 2025 and ongoing</p> <p>Q1 2025</p>	<p>UWI St Aug / CTU Secretariat / SMTF Members</p> <p>SMTF Members, UWI St Aug/CTU Sec</p>

Thematic Area	Initiative	Comments/Actions	Time Frame	Lead
4.0 Spectrum Pricing	4.1 Fostering common pricing guidance for advice to regional regulators <u>Working Group:</u> SMA Jamaica (Lead), Belize PUC, TATT and Digicel	<p>Consider appropriate interim pricing arrangements and recommend appropriate approaches for emerging broadband mobile and satellite applications, e.g., 5G, HAPS & LEO services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collect and analyse regional pricing data to facilitate benchmarking (IMT, backhaul, satellite, broadcast bands) Explore experiences/strategies for successful auctions <p>Coordinate with ITU, SMTF and others to provide capacity building seminar(s) and activities.</p>	<p>Q2 – Q4 2025</p> <p>Q1 – Q3 2025</p> <p>Q2 - Q4 2025</p> <p>Q2 – Q4 2023</p>	<p>Working Group</p> <p>Working Group</p> <p>CTU Secretariat</p> <p>CTU Secretariat</p>

Thematic Area	Initiative	Comments/Actions	Time Frame	Lead
5.0 WRC-27 Preparations	5.1 Identifying priority WRC-27 agenda items of Caribbean relevance • <u>Working Group:</u> Dominica, Jamaica, C&W, T&T, Grenada, The UWI, CMO (with Industry support – ACES, GSMA et al)	Build knowledge and understanding of WRC-23 outcomes and major issues for WRC-27 (Conferences, workshops, meetings) • CITEC PCC-II • Caribbean SM Conference • ITU RRS • SMTF Meetings Working Group discussions and proposals on WRC agenda items for priority focus Agree primary items for Caribbean attention	Q1 – Q3 2025 Jun, Nov 2025 May 2025 Jun 2025 May/Aug/Nov 2025 Q1 – Q4 2025 Q1 – Q4 2025	SMTF Chairman / SMTF Members Working Group SMTF Chair & Members

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<p>6.0 Planning Digital Broadcasting Switchover</p>	<p>6.1 Develop and promote harmonised approaches to digital transition</p>	<p>Collaborate with CITEL’s work to establish best practice guidelines to assist countries in DSO strategy planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal document for SMTF consideration <p>Collaborate with broadcasting sector (e.g., the CBU et al) to undertake regional awareness campaign and facilitate harmonised approaches</p>	<p>Q1 2025 & ongoing</p> <p>Q2 – Q3 2025</p> <p>Q2 – Q4 2025 & ongoing</p>	<p>SMTF Members</p> <p>TATT/SMA Jamaica / Broadcaster?</p> <p>CTU Secretariat / SMTF Members</p>
<p>7.0 Maintaining Current Information for Operational Coordination (to Support Cross-Border Interference Coordination and</p>	<p>7.1 Focal Contact Points for Cross-border Frequency Coordination</p>	<p>Identify annually and as required, functional/technical level contact info and higher level (Ministerial) coordinators/ key contacts</p> <p>Compile list of the contacts received and outstanding; post on a special SMTF partition on CTU web site</p>	<p>Q1 annually</p> <p>Q2 annually</p>	<p>SMTF Members</p> <p>CTU Secretariat</p>

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Emergency Communications)		Obtain focal points for Cuba, Haiti, Dominican Republic & Venezuela	Q1 2025 & annually	CTU Secretariat
	7.2 ITU MIFR Frequency Registration	Member States to give status updates re their MIFR registrations	At SMTF meetings	SMTF Members
	7.3 Coordination Agreements	Member States to share their frequency agreements CTU to maintain a centralised record of regional agreements shared	Ongoing Ongoing	SMTF Members CTU Secretariat
	7.4 Focal contact points for emergency communications	Maintain database of current contacts, reaching out beyond Task Force/ Steering Committee members for contact info Post contact list on a new SMTF partition on CTU web site	Ongoing Ongoing	CTU Secretariat