International Institute of Communications

IIC Caribbean Chapter meeting: Caribbean FutureScapes: Regulation at the Intersection of Technology, Tourism and Finance

Date: 25th - 26th February 2026

Location: British Virgin Islands

Agenda: Wednesday 25 February

08:00: Ferry Transfer

08:30 - 09:00: Registration & Networking

09:00 - 09:30: Welcome & Introductions

Kenrico O. Wheatley, Jr. Territorial Song
Pastor Calvin Mills, Pastor, Church of God Holiness, Invocation
Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications
Guy L. Malone, Chief Executive Officer, Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (TRC), British Virgin Islands
The Honourable Dr. Natalio D. Wheatley, Premier and Minister of Finance, British Virgin Islands

09:30 - 09:45: Opening Remarks - Keynote Address

The Honourable Kye Rymer, Minister of Communications & Works, British Virgin Islands

09:45 - 10:45: Panel 1 – Islands as a New Digital Vault: Unleashing the Caribbean's Hidden Connectivity Potential

The Caribbean has long been viewed as a collection of small, isolated islands, but each island holds immense digital potential. This session explores how Caribbean nations can strategically leverage connectivity infrastructure, data hubs, submarine cables, and innovative regulatory approaches to become a digital vault for the region. Panelists will discuss identifying opportunities, unlocking value, and fostering collaboration across islands to maximize digital growth.
Moderator:

The Honourable Dr. Allyson Leacock OR, Barbados Broadcasting Authority; Director, National Transformation Initiative, Government of Barbados; Board Director, International

Institute of Communications, Barbados
Speakers:
Guy L. Malone, Chief Executive Officer, Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (TRC), British Virgin Islands
Rebecca Hunter, Director, Starlink Global Licensing and Market Activation, SpaceX
Ervin Williams, Chief Executive Officer, St. Kitts & Nevis Regulator, St. Kitts & Nevis
Cleveland Thomas, ITU Area Representative for the Caribbean at International Telecommunication Union

10:45 - 11:00: Networking Break

11:00 - 11:15: Future Node: Giga Project

Introducing the Giga and its benefits to governments and public administrations. Tangible examples of Giga's work in other countries, including the Caribbean.
Infrastructure deployment planning capabilities and the products developed, including schools and students gaining access to new levels of education.
Speakers:
Irene Kaggwa, Giga Programme Manager International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

11:15 - 12:15: Panel 2 – AI as a Regulator of Regulators: Innovation, Oversight & the Future of Caribbean Governance

A deep multidisciplinary conversation on:

- AI tools for monitoring compliance
- Automated regulatory analytics
- Ethical governance
- Strengthening regulatory capacity through technology

Moderator:
Gerry George, Commissioner, National Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (NTRC), St Lucia
Speakers:
Craig Ramlal, Executive Director, Artificial Intelligence Innovative Centre, The University of the West Indies, Trinidad & Tobago
Jennifer Potter, Head of Operations, Risk & Compliance at George Henry Partners LP, British Virgin Islands
Kevin Green, Senior Director, Public Policy and External Relations, Somos

12:15 - 13:30: Networking Power Lunch

13:30 - 13:45: Future Node: The Rise of Satellite Services: Expanding Access & Managing Competition

A focused update on LEO/MEO systems, competition issues, resilience benefits, and regulatory considerations.
Rebecca Hunter, Director, Starlink Global Licensing and Market Activation, SpaceX

13:45 - 14:45: Panel 3 – Unlocking the Undersea Advantage: How Small States Can Maximise Submarine Cable Benefits

Topics include:

- Cable landing strategies
- Optimizing redundancy
- Monetizing infrastructure
- Balancing regional access and demand
- Policy frameworks for fair competition

Moderator:
Felipe Olchenski, Business Development, Cullen International
Speakers:
Melissa Farara-Jelusic, Economics Manager, Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (TRC), British Virgin Islands
Vance Lewis, Chief Executive Officer, CB Romney Pier Park, British Virgin Islands
Gerry George, Commissioner, National Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (NTRC), St Lucia

14:45 - 15:00: Future Node Utilizing AI as an Agent for Regulators in the Modern Era

A high-level thought-leadership talk on agile, forward-looking regulation.
Christopher Roberts, Digital Transformation Specialist, ADG Pro AI

15:00 - 15:15: Networking Break

15:15 - 16:15: Panel 4 – 5G Across the Caribbean: Lessons Learned & Pathways for Future Deployments

- Deployment readiness
- Use-cases for tourism, finance, and emergency services
- Spectrum allocation strategies
- Investment challenges and opportunities

Moderator:
Lasse Nagel, Manager, Frontier Economics
Speakers:
Gregory Nelson, Chief Spectrum Officer, Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (TRC), British Virgin Islands
Averad Penn JD. MBA, Chief Executive Officer, BVI Cable TV/Caribbean Cellular Telephone, British Virgin Islands
Vance Lewis, Chief Executive Officer, CB Romney Pier Park, British Virgin Islands
Anisa Duncan, Policy and Research Officer, Telecommunications Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (TATT)
Maria DeGrads, Country Manager, FLOW BVI, British Virgin Islands

16:30: Close of Day One

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications

17:00 - 19:00: Networking Reception

Details to follow shortly

19:15: Ferry to the mainland

Agenda: Thursday 26 February

08:00: Ferry Transfer

08:30 - 09:00: Registration & Networking

09:00 - 09:15: Welcome & Introductions

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications

09:15 - 10:30: Panel 1 – Tourism Powered by Technology: Enhancing Visitor Experience & National Competitiveness

- Smart ports and marinas
- Digital visitor services
- Real-time data for tourism planning
- Connectivity as a competitive advantage

Moderator:
Ervin Williams, Chief Executive Officer, St. Kitts & Nevis Regulator, St. Kitts & Nevis
Speakers:
Rhodni A. Skelton, Director of Marketing & Business Development, British Virgin Islands, Finance
Miles Sutherland-Pilch, General Manager, Nanny Cay Resort & Marina, British Virgin Islands
Natasha Chalwell, Deputy Director of Tourism, BVI Tourist Board & Film Commission, British Virgin Islands
Sharon Flax-Brutus, Founder, White Oleander Destinations

10:30 - 10:45: Networking Break

10:45 - 11:00: Future Node: Universal Connectivity by 2040

A concise expert presentation on:

- Fibre mapping
- Affordability
- Rural and underserved area strategies
- Narrowing the digital divide

George Lewis, Chief Operations Officer, Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (TRC), British Virgin Islands

11:00 - 12:00: Panel 2 – Resilient by Design: Strengthening Caribbean Communications Against Climate Change

Cross-sector perspectives on:

- Climate-proof infrastructure
- Network redundancy
- Emergency communications
- Partnerships between regulators, operators, and disaster agencies

Moderator:

Gerry George, Commissioner, National Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (NTRC), St Lucia
Speakers:
Dr. Maria Myers-Hamilton, Managing Director, Spectrum Management Authority (SMA), Jamaica
Jasen H. Penn, Director of the Department of Disaster Management (DDM), British Virgin Islands
Kwan Wilson, Director of Spectrum Engineering, Spectrum Management Authority (SMA), Jamaica
Charles Grant, Director, QC Grant Ltd, Dominica

12:00 - 12:30: TRC/SMA Collaboration Presentation

12:30 - 14:00: Networking Power Lunch

14:00 - 14:15: Future Node: Financial Services in a Digital Era: Security, Compliance, and Innovation

A solo expert talk on digital trends, fintech oversight, and cybersecurity relevance to small island economies.

Sherri Ortiz, CEO and Managing Director of Sterling Group BVI Limited, British Virgin Islands

14:15 - 15:15: Panel 3 – Who controls the Narrative? Attention, Misinformation, and the Future of Caribbean Media

Globally, misinformation and disinformation are repeatedly cited as leading short-term risks, and the Caribbean's high digital and social usage makes the region especially exposed, while ad markets increasingly favour platform-driven targeting and distribution.

• Adopt a Caribbean accountability framework for algorithmic amplification, online harms, and mis/disinformation, with clear role separation between editorially controlled broadcasters and UGC platforms.
• Commit to a regional rapid-response and transparency protocol (risk reporting, crisis coordination, complaints/appeals, and baseline safety standards) to strengthen audience protection and trust.

Moderator:
Natalie Hodge, BVI Film Commissioner, BVI Tourist Board & Film Commission, British Virgin Islands
Speakers:
Dr. Erica Smith, Director, Business Barbados Intellectual Property Office
Birchfield Lettsome, FUZE VI, British Virgin Islands
Nekita Turnbull, Chief Information Officer, Department of Information and Public Relations, Government of the Virgin Islands

15:15 - 15:30: Future Node: Securing Small Island Developing States: Continuous Threat Exposure Management for a Connected Caribbean

Cyber threats in the Caribbean are increasing in frequency, sophistication, and regional impact. Traditional vulnerability management, checking boxes once or twice per year, is no longer enough. Threat Exposure Management (TEM) and its evolved form, Continuous

Threat Exposure Management (CTEM), give organizations a proactive, always-on approach to identifying, prioritizing, and reducing cyber.
Charles Grant, Director, QC Grant Ltd, Dominica

15:30 - 15:45: Networking Break

15:45 - 16:45: Panel 4 – Considerations for a Harmonised Caribbean Communications Regulatory Region

The topic explores the potential for a unified or harmonised telecommunications regulatory framework across the Caribbean to improve regulatory efficiency, attract investment, strengthen spectrum management, and support regional digital development. It also considers key challenges, including governance, national sovereignty, and the practical steps required to move toward a shared regulatory approach.
Topics include:

- Benefits of regulatory harmonisation for investment, competition, and service quality across the region
- Spectrum management coordination and efficiencies in a shared regulatory framework
- Legal, sovereignty, and governance considerations in establishing a regional authority
- Impact on digital transformation, emerging technologies, and regional connectivity goals
- Practical transition pathways from national regulators to a unified or harmonised model

Moderator:
Kevin C. Smith, Procurement Manager, BVI Electricity Corporation, British Virgin Islands
Speakers:
Gary Kalloo, Caribbean Telecommunications Union, Trinidad & Tobago
Guy L. Malone, Chief Executive Officer, Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (TRC), British Virgin Islands
Ervin Williams, Chief Executive Officer, St. Kitts & Nevis Regulator, St. Kitts & Nevis
Sharo-Ann Chisholm, Legal & Regulatory Director, DIGICEL Group, Jamaica

16:45: Closing Remarks & Close

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications
Guy L. Malone, Chief Executive Officer, Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (TRC), British Virgin Islands
Vote of Thanks:
Denise Stoutt-Johnney, Human Resources Manager, Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (TRC), British Virgin Islands

17:30: Ferry to the mainland