

18/06/15/ # 8 of 8

Press Release

**Eastern Caribbean Telecommunications Authority (ECTEL)**

For Immediate Release



**CARCIP Project Countries Move Closer to Development of Legal and Regulatory Framework**

***Castries, Saint Lucia. June 18, 2015*** Three Eastern Caribbean Telecommunications Authority-ECTEL Member States, are moving closer to the development of legal and regulatory framework for Subsea Fibre, Retail Access and IXPs.

It's all part of the Caribbean Communications Infrastructure Project (CARCIP) that is being implemented in three ECTEL Member States-Grenada, Saint Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Joint Venture-The Great Village International Consultants (GVIC), Bird and Bird and JIDCOM have been contracted to provide consultancy services for the development of this component of the project.

The objectives of the consultancy are to improve the legal enabling environment to maximize the benefits of the infrastructure supported under CARCIP; strengthen the competitiveness of the telecommunications market in the medium term and provide support for capacity-building initiatives of ECTEL and the NTRs to draft, implement and enforce revised legislation. To this end, the consultancy will undertake an assessment of regulatory needs, recommend changes to the legal and regulatory framework and assist ECTEL with the consultation process.

The national components of CARCIP are being coordinated through specialized units, which have been established in departments responsible for ICT in the three countries. To date, the national activities which have been undertaken, include launching of Internet Exchange Points (IXPs), specialized training in the principles of regulating broadband and the design of national broadband networks.

The consultancy kicks off in Saint Lucia on Monday June 22, then on to St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Grenada, up to June 30. The consultants are expected to meet with representatives of ECTEL, the NTRCs, Telecom Providers and the Ministries of ICT and or Telecommunications in the CARCIP member states.

The CARCIP programme is an initiative funded by the World Bank that aims to leverage Information and Communications Technology (ICT) throughout the region. The Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU) is collaborating on the project, which will also benefit other ECTEL Member States, St. Kitts and Nevis and Dominica.

**-END-**

Contact: Mr. Embert Charles-Managing Director  
Ms Theresa Daniel-Corporate Relations and Communications Officer  
Mr. Winston George-CARCIP Project Officer  
ECTEL Headquarters  
Castries, Saint Lucia  
758 458 1701  
758 458 1698 (fax)  
[ectel@ectel.int](mailto:ectel@ectel.int)  
[www.ectel.int](http://www.ectel.int)