



Ministry of Information Communication Technologies (ICTs), Utilities and Energy

Executive Office
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St John's, Antigua

Strengthening Cyber Resilience in the Eastern Caribbean: A Focused Workshop on Cyber Governance Collaboration



Participants

St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda | March 23, 2026 —The Government of Antigua and Barbuda, in partnership with the Organization of American States (OAS) and with the support of the Government of the United Kingdom, has officially launched a two-day sub-regional workshop titled “**Cyber Governance Collaboration in the Eastern Caribbean.**”

The workshop brings together policymakers, technical experts, legal professionals, diplomats, and cybersecurity practitioners from across the Caribbean to strengthen national and regional cyber resilience through enhanced coordination, communication, and collaboration.

Delivering opening remarks, Director of Cyber Security within the Ministry of ICTs, Utilities and Energy, Mrs. Gordina Hector-Murrell, emphasized the urgency of collective action: “Cybersecurity is no longer a question of if, but when. Our ability to detect, respond, and recover—together—will define the resilience of our nations.”

She highlighted the importance of preparedness, particularly for Small Island Developing States (SIDS), and the need for coordinated responses at both national and regional levels.



Speaker-Geraldine White

Ms. Geraldine White, Administrative Technician at the Office of the Organization of American States (OAS) General Secretariat in Antigua and Barbuda, underscored the importance of coordination, noting that effective response — not just prevention — determines impact. She emphasized the need for clear communication channels, defined roles, and proactive planning.

His Excellency John Hamilton, MBE, United Kingdom High Commissioner highlighted the growing complexity of cyber threats within the context of global “hybrid threats,” where cyber incidents can quickly escalate into broader economic and national security challenges. He noted that strong coordination enhances deterrence and minimizes disruption.

Representing the Hon. Melford Nicholas Minister of ICTs, Utilities and Energy,

Permanent Secretary Ms. Olivette Williams reaffirmed that cybersecurity must be treated as a national strategic priority. She stressed that sustained collaboration—locally, regionally, and internationally—is essential to effectively combat cyber threats.

The workshop aims to enhance cyber resilience by focusing on:

- Strengthening coordination between policy, technical, and operational stakeholders
- Protecting Critical Infrastructure (CI) and Critical Information Infrastructure (CII)
- Establishing effective information-sharing mechanisms
- Improving national and regional incident response frameworks
- Promoting international cooperation and diplomatic engagement in cybersecurity

Participants will examine international best practices, including the United Kingdom's cyber incident management approach, as a model for strengthening national systems. Discussions will focus on core cyber resilience concepts, identifying vulnerabilities, national response structures, and governance frameworks to support effective decision-making during incidents. Emphasis will also be placed on practical response, including incident detection, escalation, inter-agency coordination, and information sharing.

This initiative represents a significant step towards strengthening cybersecurity resilience in the Caribbean through collaboration, knowledge sharing, and sustained partnerships