

# Changes coming to legislation

**MINISTER of State in the Ministry of Finance, Telecommunications and Energy, Senator Darcy Boyce says that Government is looking to review the country's Telecommunications Act, so that they can make the necessary changes to that piece of legislation.**

Speaking yesterday morning at the start of a consultation workshop for the HIPCAR Project Enhancing Competitiveness in the

Caribbean Through the Harmonisation of ICT Policies, Legislation and Regulatory Procedures' at the Crane Resort, he said that over the last several years, efforts have already been made to introduce other pieces of pertinent legislation to help take the information and communications technologies (ICTs) sector to advance. He noted that in addition to the Computer Misuse Act, as well as Electronic Transactions Act, they are currently working on

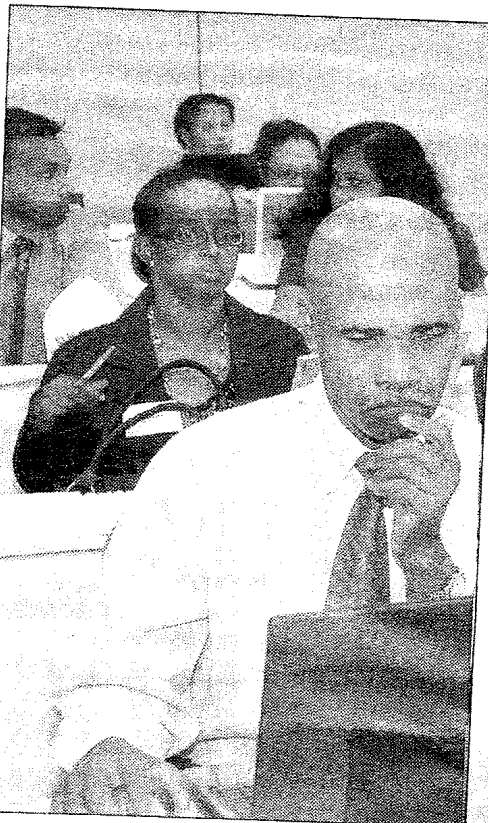


**From left: Simone Joseph, Information Technology Of Ministry of Finance, Telecommunications and Energy, and Selby Wilson, telecommunications specialist with**

Freedom of Information legislation.

He said that Barbados

is quite conscious of the opportunities for legislation to be developed, but



**Some of the participants at yesterday**

expressed that Government wants to make sure that the move forward is as a Caribbean community with harmonised legislation. While that is the case, he maintained that Government does not intend to lag behind if that is what the region wishes to do, because the matter is too urgent.

Senator Boyce, making reference to the public's access to the Internet, maintained that Government was of the belief that Barbados must move to a stage where broadband becomes more available, very accessible and very affordable in this country. This, he stated, would ensure that all persons living here are able to

tion that as they deliberate on the various areas associated with ICTs, they should also devote some time to spectrum management.

"It is something which has been concerning us here in Barbados. We have been spending quite a bit of time on it and I have asked the Permanent Secretary to get us some assistance, to make sure we do some work in our spectrum management. We need to optimise the allocation of spectrum.

"I suspect that the matter is not confined only to Barbados, but is a matter which goes throughout all of our countries... and then we have to manage that spectrum once it is

