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# Privacy and Personal Data Protection Bill Under Review

*HIPCAR hosts stakeholder consultation workshop*

By R. Wilson



Ophelia Blanchard giving HIPCAR workshop participants an overview of the project.

Apr. 30 -- The rights of individuals to access information that organizations hold about them as well individuals' right to access information held by public organizations is the focus of a two-day HIPCAR workshop.

The Legislation and Regulatory Procedures Stakeholder Consultation Workshop on Privacy and Data Protection and Freedom of Information is being hosted by the Caribbean Harmonization of ICT Policies (HIPCAR) and the Government of St. Kitts and Nevis.

The workshop began Monday (April 29) and discussions focused on the privacy and personal data protection aspect. Attending the workshop were representatives from governments departments, regulators, service providers, civil society, private sector, regional and international organizations involved in ICT.

The Objective of the workshop is to review and propose amendments to the Privacy and Personal Data Protection Bill 2012.

ICT Policy Advisor Pierre Bowrin said the attendees would be engaged in an exercise in democracy, sharing and debating of views regarding persons' rights to know what information companies were sharing about them, to whom they were sharing it, in addition to having access to information on said companies.

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Information Technology Kurt Lewis gave remarks on behalf of Minister Hon. Glenn Phillip, speaking to the impact of consideration for information on national development.

Attorney General Hon. Jason Hamilton gave remarks pertaining to the government's legislative agenda on the issues.

Ophelia Blanchard, HIPCAR Project manager gave an overview of the regional project while Prof. Dr. Gilberto Martins de Almeida, ITU Consultant delivered a presentation on Comparative Analysis Focus on International Best Practices.

HIPCAR Local Legal Consultant Israel Mukasa addressed important areas of policy with an overview of Privacy and Personal Data Protection.

The participants then engaged in open discussions with the presenters.

Tuesday's session centered around gathering participants' views on proposed Freedom of Information legislation.

Source: St. Kitts & Nevis Observer. 02 May 2013. <http://www.thestkittsnevisobserver.com/2013/04/26/privacy-bill.html>