Safer and Smarter Nation, Today ---- 2020

Hon. Alvin DaBreo, Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Forestry, Fisheries & Environment, Grenada, delivering remarks on behalf of the Hon. Keith Mitchell, Prime Minister of Grenada

All Regional Government Ministers and Senior Government representatives
Members of the Diplomatic Corps
Heads and Representatives of Regulatory Boards
CANTO Chairman, Directors, Secretary General and Executive Staff
Sponsors, Specially Invited Guests, and Delegates

Good evening...

A warm welcome to all of you joining us at the 32nd Annual Conference and Trade Exhibition today. I especially would like to say “thank you” to the CANTO Chairman and his team for inviting me to say a few words.

Last year when I was in Miami, we discussed about the broadband. How broadband could help on nation’s economy and become a fully connected information society. Today I will share something steps forward. How are we going to utilize the infrastructure and information to build the safer and smarter nations in Caribbean, from Today to 2020”

First of all,
What is a “Safe Nation and smart nation”?
A Safe Nation makes people feel secured to work and to live, to travel and to attract investment in this Nation, by decreasing the crime rate, effectively respond to victims and strong case solving abilities. It has been proven globally that ICT is the major contributor in improving public safety level. Every policeman can be Sherlock Holmes with the proper use of ICT systems.
Base on a Safe Nation, it’s possible to build a Smart Nation.

Then What is a “Smart Nation”? 
A Smart Nation is not just a normal “information system”. It is a whole thing – a National comprehensive System that acts like a human body with different senses, but ONE brain to think and decide everything. A Smart Nation will break the silos between departments and regions, so the country will be more collaborative and efficient, providing better services to it’s people, enterprise and government
employees.

And why do we need a smart nation and what will the smart bring us?

Firstly, public Safety

- Crime happens less where surveillance cameras were built. People’s lives and properties are better protected where a proper Emergency Command System was built. Criminals captured faster when a case solving system is in place.
- “First Safe, then Smart”, Public Safety is the foundation of Smart Nation.

Secondly, Efficiency

- In a Smart Nation, all the Government Services will be online and people don’t have to travel and queueing, Smart services will make efficiency improved greatly.

Then, Prosperous

- In a Smart Nation, ICT will be greatly booming the local information Industry, new business and services, generate more jobs with local high educated talents. As a result, all the industries will be better served by ICT and the economy will grow in a higher speed.

The last but not less import, Equity and Convenience

- In a Smart Nation, one kid from rural place will join the same class as the one lives in the capital city, Learning from the same best teachers, Distance Learning will make Equity become a reality.
- Same stories will happen in Healthcare, environment protection, social security and every other perspective of our social life.

The question comes to:

- How do we achieve the “Smart Nation”?

Globally speaking, urbanization, digitalization and recent global unrests have become the driving force for a Safer and Smarter Nation. New technologies are reshaping the ICT infrastructure as security, social and economic risks have become a common problem on a Global basis.

As I mentioned before, “First Safe, then Smart”. It’s a better way to build a “Safer Nation” as the first Step to a “Smarter Nation”.

For Smart Nation, The key success factor is Collaboration in ONE Platform. A good combination of global
vision and local expertise. Huawei, as the global provider, our theme is to inspire ICT Innovation by Building an Ecosystem, by cooperating with local partners, by collaborating with local integrators to establish the smart nation in Caribbean area.

Case

I can share with you some examples of how deploying Smart Nation solutions has benefit countries’ security, economy and social services.

(Safety Case) In Kenya, after the deployment of Huawei’s Safe Nation solution in 2014, the Crime Rate in Public spaces has dropped by 46.12% in one year.

(Economy Case) In China, after the Information Transforming strategy was published in 1992, numerous new business and services were generated and more jobs are provided for local talents, pushing the economy growth by 10% every year in average.

(Social Case) In Singapore, Smart Nation brings much more Benefits to the society.
1. The smart traffic system greatly improved the traffic jam and saved almost 4% of Singapore GDP every year.
2. The E-Government system is providing more than 1600 online services and most of them are adapting to mobile platforms, achieved No.1 many times in E-Government global ranking.
3. The Smart Education, Healthcare, and Green Power systems dramatically improved the living standard and made Singapore “The most Livable city in Asia”.

What’s the target for Smart Nations in the Caribbean by 2020?

Today is the first time that we speak at Caribbean regional Conference on “Smart Nations to 2020”, and I believe it is only one step away from making a Safer and Smarter Nation in Caribbean.

Let’s imagine, by 2020, The Caribbean region will enjoy the highly secured society with higher GDP and employment rate, all government services will be available online, equal access to everyone to achieve the sustainable growth, and to live a more productive and better life - all by the benefits of the Smart Nation.

With all that I have talked, I am appreciated with CANTO for allowing us to share our vision here, and I warmly invite all guests to visit our booth during the next several days to explore further of our solutions.

I hope you find Huawei in 32nd Canto Annual Conference and Trade Exhibition insightful and interesting!

Thank you very much.