

Belize’s Online Business Registry System (OBRS) Receives Second WSIS Champion Award.

July 7, 2025, City of Belmopan, Belize. The Financial Services Commission (FSC), is proud to announce that the Belize Companies and Corporate Affairs Registry’s (BCCAR) Online Business Registry System (OBRS) has once again achieved international acclaim, earning a **WSIS Prize 2025 Champion Award** at the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), organized by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and its global partners.

The award was presented at the WSIS 2025 Champion Ceremony held today in Geneva, Switzerland, affirming Belize’s growing reputation as a leader in public sector digital innovation. OBRS was recognized under the **E-Business category** for its continued use of information and communication technology (ICT) to promote inclusive, transparent, and sustainable development.



This second consecutive WSIS win represents not only a prestigious honour, but also a powerful validation of the OBRS’ transformative impact. Since its launch in November 2022, the platform has modernised the business registration process by dramatically reducing turnaround times, offering 24/7 access to services, and eliminating unnecessary bureaucracy. The system has democratised business registration, enhanced transparency and data integrity and empowered a new generation of entrepreneurs. It has also set a foundation for smarter policymaking and increased investor confidence in Belize’s regulatory infrastructure.

The repeat recognition firmly positions Belize as a regional leader in e-governance and a model for digital reform, and highlights how small developing countries can successfully harness technology to modernise institutions, foster economic opportunity, and build more resilient economies.

“This second recognition from WSIS is a powerful testament to the enduring impact of OBRS and the unwavering commitment of our team,” said **Mr. Claude B.F. Haylock**, Director General of the FSC and Registrar of Companies.

Mr. Santiago Gonzalez, Deputy Registrar of BCCAR, echoed these sentiments: *“We are honoured to receive this global recognition again. It affirms the vision behind the OBRS and the collective effort to make business registration easier and more impactful for all Belizeans.”*

This year’s WSIS Prizes attracted over 1,000 project submissions from around the world. OBRS was selected as one of the top Champion projects, following a rigorous expert review and global public voting process. The WSIS Forum co-organized by ITU, UNESCO, UNDP, and UNCTAD remains the largest global gathering of the ICT for development community.



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ABOUT THE FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION OF BELIZE

The Financial Services Commission of Belize is the primary regulatory authority non-bank financial services in Belize, including securities and capital markets. Its mission is to foster a robust, fair, and transparent financial system while protecting investors and supporting capital market development.

More information: www.belizefsc.org.bz

ABOUT THE BELIZE COMPANIES AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS REGISTRY

The **Belize Companies and Corporate Affairs Registry (BCCAR)** is the official registry for all business entities operating in Belize. It maintains the registries for:

- Companies registered under the Belize Companies Act, No. 11 of 2022
- Business Names under the Business Names Act, Cap. 247
- Limited Liability Partnerships (LLPs) under the Limited Liability Partnerships Act, Cap. 258
- International Foundations under the International Foundations Act, Cap. 24:02
- Limited Liability Companies (LLCs) under the Limited Liability Companies Act, Cap. 270:10
- International Trusts under the Trusts Act, Cap 202
- Security rights for Moveable Collateral under the Moveable Property Security Rights Act No. 21 of 2024.

More Information: www.bccar.bz