



# INTERNATIONAL SUBMARINE CABLE RESILIENCE SUMMIT 2026

Porto, Portugal



## | Porto Summit – Key issues

- The Second International Submarine Cable Resilience Summit, which will take place in Porto, Portugal, on 2–3 February 2026.
- Hosted by Prof. Sandra Maximiano, Chair of the Board of Directors of the National Communications Authority - Portugal (ANACOM) and Co-Chair of the International Advisory Body on Submarine Cable Resilience (IAB).
- Building on the outcomes of the successful Abuja Summit 2025 and its resulting Summit Declaration, this high-level international forum will bring together governments, regulatory authorities, industry leaders, submarine cable operators and experts, international organizations, and key stakeholders.
- Together, participants will address the evolving challenges facing global submarine telecom cable systems critical infrastructure that carries over 99% of the world's data traffic and underpins the global digital economy.

### **What to expect:**

- Presentation of the three IAB Working Group recommendations, including concrete and actionable measures to enhance global submarine cable resilience.
- Four high-level panels with international experts addressing timely deployment and repair, risk mitigation, connectivity and geographic diversity, regulatory practices, and future resilience strategies.
- A dedicated Investment Breakfast, enabling direct engagement between governments, project developers, and financial institutions.

# Porto Summit – Registration

<https://www.itu.int/digital-resilience/submarine-cables/events/about-porto-summit/>



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## International Submarine Cable Resilience Summit 2026

Porto, Portugal

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The Second International Submarine Cable Resilience Summit will take place on 2–3 February 2026 in Porto, Portugal. The International Submarine Cable Resilience Summit 2026 will feature high-level sessions, and expert panels, with interactive discussions aimed at enhancing the resilience of this vital infrastructure. The event offers a unique platform for Member States and stakeholders to share experiences, explore innovative solutions, and help in collaboratively shaping strategies to bolster the resilience of global connectivity infrastructure.

The Summit will be hosted by the Government of Portugal and supported by ITU and the International Cable Protection Committee (ICPC), the Summit will bring together governments, regulatory authorities, industry leaders, investors, submarine cable experts, international organizations and other stakeholders to continue to address the pressing challenges surrounding submarine telecom cable systems.

### What to Expect at the 2026 International Submarine Cable Resilience Summit

- The **2026 Porto Summit** will build on the momentum of the [2025 Abuja Summit](#) and advance the international discussions on submarine cable resilience. The



Photo courtesy of ASN



# | Porto Summit Agenda

## **Day 1: Monday, 2 February 2026**

### **08:30 – 09:00: Registration and Networking**

- Welcome refreshments and participant check-in (open all day)

### **09:00 - 12:00: Meeting of the International Advisory Body on Submarine Cable Resilience**

Close session for IAB Members

# | Porto Summit Agenda

## Day 1: Monday, 2 February 2026 (cont.)

12:00 – 14:00: Lunch (all Summit Participants)

### 14:00 – 15:00: **Summit Opening Session**

Welcome Address: Minister of Communications, Portugal (TBC)

Opening Remarks: Doreen Bogdan-Martin, Secretary-General, ITU

### **From Abuja to Porto: Fireside chat with the IAB Co-Chairs** (30 mins):

Prof. Sandra Maximiano, Chair of ANACOM's Board of Directors, Portugal

H.E. Minister Bosun Tijani, Minister of Communications, Innovation and Digital Economy, Nigeria

### 15:00 – 15:30: **Setting the Scene**

TBC

15:30 – 16:00: Coffee Break

### 16:00 – 17:30: **Panel 1 –Accelerating Cable Repairs: Reducing Delays Through Smarter Processes**

Best practices and case studies for rapid response and recovery from disruptions

18:00: Gala Dinner

# | Porto Summit Agenda

## Day 2: Tuesday, 3 February 2026

### 07:30 – 9:30: **Investment Matchmaking breakfast roundtable**

This breakfast discussion will explore funding and partnership opportunities in the submarine cable sector that can advance digital connectivity in traditionally underserved markets.

### 09:30 – 10:45: **Panel 2 – Anticipating and Mitigating Risks Along the Global Subsea Network**

Exploring improvements in cable route design, monitoring technologies, and cable protection methodologies.

### 10:45 – 11:15: Coffee Break

### 11:15 – 12:30: **Panel 3 – Legal and Regulatory Tools to Reduce Risks and Strengthen Resilience**

Examining how legal and regulatory approaches at international and national levels can reduce risks and bolster the resilience of submarine cable systems.

### 12:30 – 14:30: Lunch

### 14:30 – 15:45: **Panel 4 – Resilient Subsea Infrastructure for Underserved Regions**

- Making the economic case for submarine cables in underserved regions
- Identifying opportunities and resources to support connectivity

# | Porto Summit Agenda

**Day 2: Tuesday, 3 February 2026** (cont.)

**15:45 – 16:15: Coffee Break**

**16:15 – 17:00: Closing Session**

**Closing Session:** Key Takeaways. Mr. Tomas Lamanauskas and Mr. Kent Bressie, IAB Co-Executive Secretaries

**Call to Action:** H.E. Minister Bosun Tijani, Minister of Communications, Innovation and Digital Economy, Nigeria

**Closing Remarks: Summit Declaration:** Prof. Sandra Maximiano, Chair of ANACOM's Board of Directors, Portugal



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the world*



Thank you for your participation  
and inputs



Questions

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