



GSR17

RA MEETING REPORT

12 JULY 2017, 09:00-12:00



The meeting was chaired by Mr. Ansord Hewitt, Organization of Utilities Regulation (OOCUR) chair and Director General of the Office of Utilities Regulation (OUR), Jamaica, in the presence of Mr. Brahim Sanou, ITU BDT Director, and Mr. Bruno Ramos, Head of the ITU Regional Offices for the Americas. Mr. Hewitt thanked the Regulatory Associations (RA) for their active participation in this year's annual Regulatory Association Meeting organized during the Global Symposium of Regulators GSR-17 and invited Mr. Sanou to give welcome and remarks. BDT Director Mr. Sanou recognized the importance of such associations, reminding them of their unique role and position to make a difference. ITU, he noted, is a neutral platform where we can discuss cooperation and share information between various regulatory associations across different regions.

This year, more than 60 participants from 12 Associations (ARCTEL, AREGNET, ARTAC, ATU, CTO, CTU, EACO, EMERG, FRATEL, OOCUR, REGULATEL, SATRC) attended the meeting.

There were two items on the agenda.

Item 1: Presentation of the main projects and activities of each Regulatory Association

Interventions were made from the Regulatory Associations providing information on activities and projects, and highlighting in particular activities of the different RAs on connectivity, digital agenda, spectrum management and International Mobile Roaming. RAs also shared experiences on their training and information exchange programmes. All presentations will be available on the RA 2017 web-page.

ITU projects and initiatives on collaborative regulation, affordable access to international infrastructure, IMR, and Universal service in particular were presented, highlighting knowledge exchange mechanisms, best practice guidelines and the ITU strategic dialogues and events that could be of interest to RAs and their membership.

Item 2: Discussion on potential areas of collaboration and in particular focusing on affordable access to ICTs

Noting the importance of avoiding duplication, exchanging best practices, and enhancing collaboration between RAs and ITU, participants discussed possible areas of interest which included global and regional approaches to new players, including OSPs and OTTS, universal access and service, international mobile roaming, access to international infrastructure and digital agenda objectives and projects. Underscoring their interest in learning from each other's experiences, participants proposed that the RA webpage should not only gather presentations made at the 2017 RA meeting, but could continue to be enriched between meetings, so that the valuable exchange that takes place at each meeting continues over the year. ITU was encouraged to create a portal for the RAs which could include presentations at RA meetings as well as reports and links to reports and activities of the RAs.

RAs also suggested that ITU could consider assisting regional regulators to develop regional responses to issues which would allow for greater creativity. Regions could then exchange notes at the next GSR meeting to see the variety of approaches being adopted. Participants thanked ITU for organizing a successful and fruitful meeting where many views and information were exchanged, providing all greater insight on key topics that are creating a global impact on the Telecommunication/ICT industry and the promotion of a collaborative working environment.