Telecommunication Development Sector



3nd Private Sector Chief Regulatory Officers Meeting Manama, Bahrain, 2rd June 2014

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Report of the 3RD Private Sector Chief Regulatory Officers' Meeting

Monday, 2 June 2014, 15:00 - 17:30

1. Opening of the meeting:

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed the participants.

2. Opening remarks by the BDT Director

The BDT Director stressed the importance of the ITU-D membership and of its participation in the implementation of the Dubai Action plan adopted at the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) held in Dubai from 30 March to 10 April 2014 providing direction and guidance for the work programme of the Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) over the next four-year period.

The BDT Director assured the participants that the BDT will continue to provide platforms for high-level industry executives, such as the Private Sector Chief Regulatory Officers' (CRO) meeting, to encourage discussion and information sharing.

He put particular emphasis on BDT's willingness to receive suggestions or recommendations from the participants on ways in which BDT can better serve the ITU-D membership and how participation of ITU-D members could be enhanced within ITU-D activities.

The BDT Director also thanked Dr Robert Pepper for accepting to chair the CRO meeting for the third and last time – a new chair being appointed following the principle of geographical rotation.

3. Opening remarks by the Chair

Dr Pepper, Chairman of the meeting, indicated his satisfaction with regard to the high number of participants which was increasing edition after edition, showcasing the importance of the ITU-D activities for the private sector and of providing a platform where the membership can meet and share views.

The Chairman emphasized the importance of being an ITU-D sector member and the great opportunities for the membership to participate in the work of ITU-D, in particular with regards to the implementation of the Dubai Action Plan adopted at the WTDC-14.

He noted that suggestion of topics for the next GSR would also be discussed during the CRO meeting.

Finally, the Chair thanked the BDT Director for his support in his meeting's chairmanship while indicating that is now time for him to have a successor following the principle of geographical rotation.

4. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was approved.

5. Review of 2nd Private Sector Chief Regulatory Officers meeting (CRO 2013) Outcome

The Chairman noted that the meeting had not been very active since its last edition held in Warsaw, Poland (2nd July 2013). He stressed the importance of being more focused and of ensuring follow-up of the meeting more actively for proper development of the agenda for following year.

In line with recommendation of last year's meeting on the set up of a Case Study Library on best practices, BDT made a presentation on the ITU-D Study Groups Case Study Library, which allows

ITU members to submit, store and consult case studies on topics study in ITU-D Study Groups. Meeting's participants were encouraged to submit their case studies to the library.

6. WTDC-14 Agenda Opportunities for Sector Participation

The Chairman recalled the importance for the ITU-D sector Membership to participate in the work of the Development Sector together with the Governments, NGOs and other stakeholders and on the opportunities offered in this regard by the Plan of Action adopted at WTDC-14.

An overview of the Dubai Action Plan was made by BDT, showcasing the priority topics for the Development Sector that could be considered as areas of interest for the ITU-D membership. Discussion was held on ways and means for the ITU-D members to be more involved in the Development Sector's work in partnership with the BDT (i.e. projects, joint initiatives, study groups). The BDT Director proposed that the Dubai Action plan be packaged in a way that could understood by a broader audience. The meeting participants supported this proposal.

7. GSR-15 Agenda Issues to Raise

As per last year's meeting, participants of the CRO meeting were invited to identify relevant topics that could be proposed for BDT's consideration as input to the next GSR agenda. The following proposals were adopted:

- Impact of regulation on investments for infrastructure. (e.g. need for predictability and stability to attract investors, Public Private Partnerships)
- Impact of taxes on sector's products and services implication/coordination with entities in charge of taxation (e.g. Ministries of Finance)
- Spectrum management (e.g. timely allocation of the digital dividend, frequencies harmonization)

8. Introduction of next CRO Chair:

Following the principle of geographical rotation for the selection of the Chairpersons, adopted at the 1st Private Sector Chief Regulatory Officers' meeting, Dr Pepper was chairing the CRO meeting for the last time. The BDT Director thanked him for his personal engagement and very able chairmanship since the creation of the CRO in 2012.

As recognition of his commitment, dedication, invaluable support and leadership, Dr Pepper received from the BDT Director a certificate of appreciation on behalf of ITU.

The proposal to have Ms Gabrielle Gauthey, President Global Government Sector, Alcatel-Lucent France as next CRO Chairperson for the meeting was approved by acclamation.

9. Other Business

The two following proposals were raised for brainstorming for the next CRO meeting:

- Specific services that could be provided by BDT for ITU-D Membership (e.g. dedicated and password protected website posting specific information of interest of the sector members); and
- Additional opportunities for ITU-D sector membership to meet during other ITU events.

10. Closing of the meeting

The Chairman and the BDT Director thanked the participants for their contribution and support.

The meeting was adjourned.

Robert Pepper Chairman, 3rd CRO meeting