ITU Contribution to the Implementation of the WSIS Outcomes: 2012

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Background: This annual report reflects contributions from all the three Sectors and the General Secretariat on the activities implemented from October 2011 to December 2012 with reference to the WSIS implementation and follow-up.

Information on ITU activities related to the implementation of WSIS Outcomes may be referred to at www.itu.int/itu-wsis.
# Table of Contents

I. Introduction ......................................................................................................................... 1

II. Overview of ITU activities and projects undertaken since October 2011 till December 2012 in the context of the implementation of WSIS Outcomes ..................................................................... 3

(a) Lead facilitator (along with UNESCO and UNDP) in organizing the multistakeholder implementation of the *Geneva Plan of Action*. .............................................................................. 3

(b) Facilitator of the WSIS Action Lines C2, C5, C6 ................................................................ 5

    Action Line C2: Information and Communication Infrastructure .................................... 5

    Action Line C5: Building Confidence and Security in the use of ICTs ................................. 14

    Action Line C6: Enabling Environment .............................................................................. 21

(c) Co-facilitator of Action Lines C1, C3, C4, C7, C11 and Partners for C8 and C9 ............... 29

    Action Line C1: The Role of Public Governance Authorities and all Stakeholders in the Promotion of ICTs for Development and Action Line C11: International and Regional Cooperation .............................................................. 29

    Action Line C3: Access to Information and Knowledge ..................................................... 29

    Action Line C4: Capacity-Building ................................................................................... 31

    Action Line C7: ICT Applications (eHealth, eEnvironment, eScience and eGovernment) ................................................................................................................................. 33

    Action Line C8: Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content .......... 38

    Action Line C9: Media ...................................................................................................... 39

(d) United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS) (Para 103) ......................... 39

(e) Measuring the Information Society (paras 113-119 of TAIS) ........................................... 42

(f) Maintaining the WSIS Stocktaking Database (Para 120, Tunis Agenda) and a portal for best practices and success stories (Para 28, Geneva Plan of Action) ........................................ 45

(g) Emergency Telecommunications (Para 91 of TAIS) ........................................................ 49

(h) International Internet Connectivity (Para 77c.ii and 50d of TAIS) .................................... 50

(i) Connect the World Initiative .......................................................................................... 50

(j) World Telecommunication and Information Society Day .............................................. 50

(k) Bridging the standardization gap (Paras 26g and 90 of TAIS) ........................................ 52

(l) Internet Governance Forum ........................................................................................... 53

III. ITU Role in the Overall Review of the Implementation of the Outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society .................................................................................. 54

(a) WSIS+10 Process, WSIS Beyond 2015 ............................................................................. 54

(b) WSIS+10 at WSIS Forum 2012 ....................................................................................... 56

(c) WSIS and the Regional Commissions: ........................................................................... 57
IV. Forums, innovative initiatives and future actions .............................................................. 61
(a) Forums ............................................................................................................................ 61
    WSIS Forum 2012 ............................................................................................................. 61
    Council Working group on International Internet-related Public Policy Issues (CWG-
    Internet) .......................................................................................................................... 62
(b) WSIS Project Prizes ........................................................................................................ 63
(c) WSIS Stocktaking Portal ............................................................................................... 64
(d) The Global Cyber security Agenda (GCA) .................................................................... 65
(e) International Multilateral Partnership Against Cyber-Terrorism (IMPACT) & ITU ....... 65
(f) Child Online Protection Initiative (COP) ....................................................................... 65
(g) The Connect the World Initiative .................................................................................. 66
(h) Broadband Commission for Digital Development ....................................................... 69
(i) Roadmaps for WSIS Action Lines C2, C5, C6 .............................................................. 71
(j) Communication and Outreach ...................................................................................... 72
(k) Future Actions ................................................................................................................ 73
(l) WSIS Fund in Trust ........................................................................................................ 73
V. Final conclusions .................................................................................................................. 75
ANNEXURE: 1 ....................................................................................................................... 77
ANNEXURE: 2 ....................................................................................................................... 79
ANNEXURE: 3 ....................................................................................................................... 81
I. Introduction

1. As stated in the Strategic Plan of the Union (2012-2015), adopted by PP-10, the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) continues to be one of the priorities of the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

2. At the policy level, PP-10 strengthened the Union’s mandate in relation to the implementation of WSIS outcomes and agreed on the roadmaps for ITU’s activities in its role as the sole facilitator for WSIS action lines C2, C5 and C6 in the implementation of WSIS up to 2015. Roadmaps are detailed plans to guide progress towards achieving the WSIS goals. ITU Council 2012 modified Resolution 1334 thereby strengthening the ITU’s leadership and role in the WSIS+10 Process on the Overall Review of the Implementation of the Outcomes of the World Summit on the Information. In particular, the resolution resolved to support a high-level event on the Overall Review (WSIS+10) to be held in 2014 in conjunction with the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) and considered the possibility of holding additional meetings for regional views on the implementation of the WSIS outcomes.

3. The Council Working Group (CWG) on WSIS, created in 2002, continues to monitor and evaluate on a yearly basis the actions taken by ITU with respect to implementation of WSIS outcomes. The CWG facilitates inputs from membership on the ITU implementation of relevant WSIS outcomes through its regular meetings and circular letters, questionnaires or other appropriate methods of query and provides guidance to the membership regarding the actions to be performed by ITU in the implementation of WSIS outcomes. The CWG is also mandated to review the preparations of ITU for the review of the progress achieved in relation to the WSIS goals in 2015 and to prepare a roadmap for WSIS implementation up to 2015 within its core competencies.

4. A Council Working Group (CWG) on Internet related public policy issues was established as a separate group by Council Resolution 1336, in accordance with Resolutions 102 and 140 of the 2010 Plenipotentiary Conference. This CWG is limited to Member States, with open consultation to all stakeholders. Previously, this group was established as the Dedicated Group as an integral part of WG WSIS, open only to all Member States, in accordance with Resolution 75 (WTSA, 2008), and Council Resolution 1282 (Mod. 2008). Council 2012 Resolution 1344 decided the modality of the open consultation for the Group. 2009 Council Resolution 1305 invites Member States to recognize the scope of work of ITU on international Internet-related public policy matters, represented by the list of topics in Annex 1 which was established in accordance with decisions of ITU membership at the Plenipotentiary Conference, Council and world conferences; and to elaborate their respective position on each of the international Internet-related public policy issues referenced in the list of topics and to contribute actively to the work of ITU on these issues.

5. At the operational level, ITU has been carrying out the tasks assigned by the WSIS Outcomes Documents, in particular, in its capacity as:

a) Lead facilitator (along with UNESCO and UNDP) in coordinating the multistakeholder implementation of the Geneva Plan of Action.
b) Facilitator of Action Lines C2 (Information and communication infrastructure) and C5 (Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs); upon the UNDP’s request the ITU accepted to play the role of the Facilitator of Action Line C6 (Enabling Environment) on a temporary basis.

c) Co-facilitator of Action Lines C1, C3, C4, C7 and C11; and partner for C8 and C9.


e) Steering committee member of the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Measurement.

f) Facilitator of the WSIS Stocktaking process.

g) Implementation of other WSIS outcomes.

6. The three Sectors of the Union (Standardization, Radiocommunication and the Development Sector) and the General Secretariat have carried out several important activities and projects that enhance the WSIS outcomes and objectives.

7. Within the ITU, the effective coordination of ITU’s strategies and activities in relation to WSIS has been ensured by a **WSIS Task Force** that is chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General.

8. This document is divided into 5 sections, following the introduction the second one provides an overview of ITU activities and projects undertaken since October 2011 till December 2012 in the context of the implementation of WSIS Outcomes, the third section informs about ITUs Role in the Overall Review of the Implementation of the Outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, the fourth section highlights forums, innovative initiatives and informs about the planned future activities to ensure the full implementation of the WSIS outcomes. The final section provides conclusions of the report.
II. Overview of ITU activities and projects undertaken since October 2011 till December 2012 in the context of the implementation of WSIS Outcomes

(a) Lead facilitator (along with UNESCO and UNDP) in organizing the multistakeholder implementation of the Geneva Plan of Action.

9. In 2012, the ITU hosted the WSIS Forum 2012, from the 14 to 18 May, which was jointly organized by ITU, UNESCO, UNCTAD and UNDP. This event built upon the tradition of the annual WSIS May meetings, and its new format is the result of open consultations with all WSIS Stakeholders. The five day forum comprised of high-level panels, WSIS Action Lines meetings, thematic workshops, and various platforms for networking and initiation of partnerships.

With aim of ensuring inclusiveness in the preparatory process of the WSIS Forum 2012, the ITU, in close collaboration with the coorganizers, facilitated the launch of an Open Consultative Process on the thematic focus and format of the forum, please view all phases and outcome here: http://groups.itu.int/wsis-forum2012/OpenConsultationProcess/Overview.aspx

10. The WSIS Forum 2012 resulted in an Outcome Document that is available at: www.wsis.org/forum. A booklet capturing emerging trends in the 11 WSIS Action lines, both in terms of policy and technology, discussed by stakeholders during WSIS Forum 2012 has been produced as a byproduct of the WSIS Forum 2012 Outcome Document. This booklet provides all the WSIS stakeholders with guidance and a vision for the way beyond 2015.

11. In line with Paragraph 109 of the Tunis Agenda, ITU, along with UNESCO and UNDP, plays a lead facilitating role in the implementation of the Geneva Plan of Action. The annual meeting of Action Lines Facilitators was held on 18th of May 2012 as an integral component of the WSIS Forum, with four main objectives: 1) exchange of information among facilitators and other stakeholders; 2) identification of issues that needed improvement; 3) discussion of the modalities of reporting and the overall implementation process and 4) Listing of emerging trends and possible implications for the WSIS process beyond 2015.
12. Discussions on the WSIS Review process (WSIS+10) and the plan of action were initiated during the two WSIS+10 Plenary Sessions at the WSIS Forum 2012. Following the discussions, there was multistakeholder consensus on the following:

   a) preliminary indications for a vision beyond 2015

   b) WSIS+10: Template for Countries: 10–Year Country Reporting Template

   c) WSIS+10: Template for Action Line Facilitators: 10–Year Review Reports by all the WSIS Action Lines

13. These templates will establish the necessary framework for reporting on the ten-year achievements by WSIS stakeholders, as well as highlighting the remaining challenges to be addressed.

14. WSIS Forum 2013 is scheduled to be held from the 13-17 May at the ITU Headquarters in Geneva Switzerland. The Open Consultation Process on the Thematic Aspects and Innovations on the Format was launched on the 8th of October 2012. The Open Consultation Process is structured in 5 phases as follows:

   Phase I - 8 October 2012: Opening of the Open Consultations
   - Online Dialogues: www.wsis-community.org
   - Official Submissions Form:
     http://www.itu.int/wsis/implementation/2013/forum/ocp/submissions.html

   Phase II - 16 November 2013: First Physical Meeting
   - Main outcomes available here:
     http://www.itu.int/wsis/implementation/2013/forum/ocp/firstmeeting.html

   Phase III - 23 January 2013: Deadline for the submission of the Official Contributions and binding requests for Workshops
   - Official Submissions Form:
     http://www.itu.int/wsis/implementation/2013/forum/ocp/submissions.html

   Phase IV - 15 February 2013: Final Review Meeting

   Phase V - 16 April 2013: Final Brief
(b) Facilitator of the WSIS Action Lines C2, C5, C6

Action Line C2: Information and Communication Infrastructure

15. Within the framework of the existing resources and given mandate, as well as in line with the Geneva Action Plan, the ITU carries out several activities with regard to the WSIS Action Line C2. These are oriented toward six domains as follows (1) Promotion of National ICT-Strategies; (2) Harmonization of the ICT policies in different regions; (3) Development of regional and large-scale national initiatives; (4) Launch of global thematic ICT infrastructure initiatives; (5) Development of a virtual financing platform and (6) Deployment of an online tool for ICT development assessment.

16. The 7th Facilitation Meeting of the Action Line C2 was held in Geneva on 14 May 2012 as an integral part of the WSIS Forum 2012. Based on proposals received during the WSIS multistakeholder open consultation process, the theme for the Action Line Facilitation meeting was “Innovative Technologies and New Opportunities providing Access to ICT - Transition from Analogue to Digital Terrestrial TV and Digital Dividend”.

17. The Stocktaking Database is used as an effective tool for the exchange of information on the projects in relation to the implementation of Action Line C2. More information on WSIS Stocktaking can be found at WSIS Stocktaking Information System.

18. With the aim of mobilizing additional funds and new partnerships to attain the WSIS goals including the development of infrastructure, ITU initiated the Connect Summit series in 2007.

19. In year 2012, ITU organized two Connect Summits. The Connect Arab Summit (5-7 March) identified market opportunities worth over USD 46 billion for new projects, focused in the region, designed to enhance ICT access, applications and services throughout the region. The investment opportunities identified by the Summit focus around key priorities for the region, including building a regional Arab ICT highway, developing e-services, empowering local people through training and human capacity building, leveraging ICTs for youth job creation, strengthening cybersecurity, and protecting Arab heritage and culture. The Summit welcomed some 540 participants from 26 countries, including seven Heads of State or Government, 26 Ministers, and representatives from 18 international and regional organizations, 99 private sector companies and other stakeholders.
20. The Connect Americas Summit, the fourth in a series of ITU-led Connect Summits, was held in Panama City, from 17 to 19 July 2012. The Summit included some 654 participants from 36 countries, including 7 Heads of State or Government, 12 Ministers, 48 international and regional organizations and 158 private sector companies and other stakeholders. This Summit succeeded in its goal of helping to mobilize the human, financial and technical resources needed to connect the unconnected and to strengthen the role of ICT as the engine of economic prosperity and sustainable development, as well as poverty reduction in the Americas region. During this Summit, a number of projects valued at USD 53.4 billion were proposed by stakeholders with the aim of achieving these goals, including the projects for Haiti.

21. The Connect a School, Connect a Community initiative, within the framework of the Connect the World initiative, aims to improve access to broadband in schools and to enable them to serve as community ICT centers.

22. A 1,000,000 CHF project funded by a Swiss contribution is under implementation in Comoros, Lesotho, Sri Lanka, Sierra Leone and Tanzania. The project in Sri Lanka, for example, building on successful implementation in 2011 has already connected 25 schools in Akurissa, in the Southern Province of Sri Lanka. Through a ‘4P model’ (public/private/peoples’ partnership), ITU is working in close partnership with the Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka (TRCSL) to further extend the program across Sri Lanka. In addition, 33 primary and secondary schools all over the country have been targeted, each of which, will be provided with access to ICT and broadband Internet connectivity serving over 100 students per school by the end of 2012.

23. Through a 500,000 EUR donation by France to equip and connect schools as community ICT centers (Tanzania EUR200,000; Niger and Gambia EUR150,000 for each), ITU is connecting 25 model schools with community ICT centers in Tanzania and three sites each in Gambia and Niger. The preparations of sites are ongoing in Niger, and delivering of material is ongoing in Gambia. In Tanzania, an activity for training of trainers is ongoing. ITU has also provided assistance to Tanzania in developing a national school connectivity plan.

24. Similar projects are also being implemented in Suriname and Jamaica in the Americas Region with funds from ITU. In Suriname, a national school connectivity plan was developed where three schools, including a disabled school, are being connected with ICT equipment, including computers. In Jamaica, computer equipment was purchased for a small community center in a rural area.

25. In order to facilitate building wireless broadband in the developing and the least developing countries, ITU has been assisting countries in developing their own wireless broadband master plans which will eventually provide access to broadband supported services and applications at rates that are affordable and comparable to those in developed countries.
26. In the Asia Pacific countries, under the joint partnership of ITU and Korean Communications Commission (KCC), the project on “Master plan for Wireless Broadband in ASP” was launched in Q2, 2011. Based on responses to a set of questionnaires sent to countries in Asia Pacific Region, ITU selected four countries to develop Wireless Broadband Master Plan (Myanmar, Samoa, Nepal and Vietnam) where the government expressed interest for participation in this regional case study by ITU. Also, ITU received requests for technical assistance for preparing National Broadband Policies from Bhutan, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Cambodia and Indonesia and is currently preparing the National Broadband Policies for these countries this year.

27. In addition, ITU has been implementing the “Master plan for Wireless Broadband Accessing Africa” project since January 2012, which covers 4 to 6 countries in the African region.

28. As a follow-up to the Connect Africa Summit, the ITU/Craig and Susan McCaw Broadband Wireless Network project for Africa is implementing broadband wireless networks and developing ICT applications to provide free or low cost digital access for schools and hospitals, and for underserved populations in rural and remote areas in selected countries. The Broadband Wireless Network is Operational in Burundi, Ongoing in Djibouti, Burkina Faso, Mali and Rwanda.

29. In Burundi, 13 Local engineers were able to assist in the installation of the Broadband Wireless network in Burundi with the supervision of an expert from McCaw foundation in close collaboration with the engineers of Codium, on the equipment and software supplier.

H.E Pierre Nkurunziza President of Burundi and Dr. Hamadoun I. Touré, the ITU Secretary General during the official ceremony in Ngozi province to launch the network operation in Burundi.

After the training, the following main activities were carried out in Bujumbura city:

- **Supervision of radiofrequency equipment installation** including all the equipment, software and ancillaries. The sites were ready-for-Installation before installation. Onatel took care of all tasks related to civil works/site conditioning, and all aspects related to access to the site including licenses, permits, etc.

- **Radiofrequency Commissioning and Implementation** per site including: Installation Certification, System Commissioning and Configuration.
30. The areas shown in blue color on this map of Burundi are connected: 3 sites in Bujumbura Capital City, and 1 site in each of the following cities in the country: Ngozi, Bururi, Mwaro Gitega, and Muramvya. The network is operational and 212 PCs and other related equipment for local area network in schools and hospitals were provided.

31. ITU continues to encourage the agencies responsible for development aid and assistance to attach importance to ICTs in the development process and to accord a high priority for resource allocation to this sector. To this end, ITU approaches potential donors to encourage them to join ITU’s connectivity initiatives.

32. ITU, together with partners, organized the Pacific Broadband Forum 2012 in Fiji from 26-28 July 2012. The Forum welcomed 103 participants including representatives of governments and regulators, private companies, international and regional organizations, NGOs and academic institutes. The meeting noted that the objective of the Forum was to provide a platform for dialogue among policy makers, regulators, industry, and international and regional development agencies particularly in broadband infrastructure service and application development.

33. Regional Forum for Europe on Broadband for Socio-Economic Development was held in Albania, Tirana in September 2012. It brought together more than 100 high-level representatives of
policy makers, regulators, private sector, and others. It resulted in identification of the key challenges that the central and eastern European countries face while developing the ICT ecosystem with broadband in its central point. A set of recommendations were developed to serve as a food for thoughts for programming of necessary actions to respond to the needs. The Forum offered an opportunity to present the set of ITU country case studies on broadband, in particular, on Albania, Romania, and TFYR of Macedonia.

34. ITU has kept organizing ITU Regional Development Forums, a platform where decision-makers from ITU Member States, Sector Members, and various partners meet, review, discuss and recommend the priority areas of telecommunication/ICT development programs and initiatives. In 2012, ITU held 6 Regional Development Forums, one for each region.

35. ITU through its training programs including Centers of Excellence built human capacity in countries to support infrastructure development in areas such as broadband network planning, transition from analogue to digital broadcasting, spectrum management, effective deployment of IPv6, quality of service, cloud computing amongst others (details available at ITU Academy).

36. Digital broadcasting has been identified as one of the regional initiatives in all regions, and ITU members have recognized the importance of managing the transition smoothly.

37. For roadmap preparations for Digital Broadcasting Transition, since 2010, ITU and the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy (DBCDE), Australian Government have carried out digital broadcasting project to assist Bhutan.

38. ITU, in cooperation with the Korea Communications Commission (KCC), Republic of Korea, under an ITU project to provide a transition road map for Asia and the Pacific, a region-wide survey was undertaken to assess the situation. Guidelines were developed and have been revised and updated. Also ITU-KCC have provided further assistance to countries such as Cambodia, Mongolia, the Republic of Nepal, Sri Lanka and Tonga for the roadmap on transition from analogue to digital terrestrial television broadcasting and for the introduction of mobile television. Currently, the ITU-KCC project has extended further assistance to Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, Myanmar, Philippines, and Thailand. Also, with the support of KCC, assistance is provided to Gabon.

39. In cooperation with the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC), Japan, ITU has also extended assistance to two countries each in Africa and Asia and the Pacific, including the updated guidelines on digital broadcasting taking into account new developments in the area of DTTB & MTV implementation, convergence, while adding sections on IPTV, Satellite TV, etc.

40. ITU, in cooperation with the Communication Administration of Republic of Belarus, realized the project on “Establishment of an Advisory and Methodical Center in Minsk, to help RCC member states during analog to digital TV transition, development of interactive multimedia applications for terrestrial digital radio broadcasting, training of specialists in digital TV and radio broadcasting”. The Center has started working and is providing
methodical assistance to CIS specialists on transition to digital broadcasting, as well as training CIS specialists.

41. ITU, in cooperation with the Alippe.TV private company and the Communication Administration of Kyrgyzstan, realized a project on digital broadcasting for education purposes in Kyrgyzstan. By the realization of the project (40 teachers employed and newly created infrastructure: several digital studios, base station, alternative power supply sources etc.) school children has an opportunity to learn online different subjects.

42. In 2012, ITU donated monitoring van to facilitate evaluation of the quality of broadcasting services provided to the Serbian citizens. In addition, following the evaluation meetings, detailed project document has been elaborated in order to raise awareness of the global community on the country needs.

43. In addition the ITU carries out several activities as implementer of the WSIS Action Line C2, through its programs and projects.

- For Next Generation Network (NGN) planning, ITU has published Best Practices Guidelines for Implementation of NGN in India, Sri Lanka, and Philippines. Technical assistance was also provided to BTCL (Incumbent operator in Bangladesh) on “Migration from Legacy to NGN Networks.”

- ITU prepared a report on “Broadband for Rural Areas”, which summarizes the experience of several countries and discusses the options for expansion. ITU also prepared a study on “Innovative Services and Mobile Access to Drive Broadband in Rural India”. The report analyses services such as mobile banking, agriculture, rural healthcare and enterprise solutions using mobile telephony.

- ITU continues to accompany countries in development of the ICT infrastructure. In 2012, ITU accompanied Albania in development broadband strategy, numbering plan, tender documents for the spectrum monitoring center.

- ITU provided assistance in Bhutan, in development of mobile applications for four key priority areas of Government to Citizen (G2C) services and a comprehensive report / ITU Publication was prepared. These applications include Mobile Agriculture, Mobile Health, Mobile Banking and Mobile Disaster Communications applications. ITU is also assisting in developing actual applications in coordination with respective Ministries for Bhutan.

- ITU designed with COMTELCA (Comisión Técnica de Telecomunicaciones) and the involved administrations and is executing the project “Non-ionizing electromagnetic emissions and human exposure to electromagnetic fields” since May 2011 with El Salvador, Honduras and Panama as beneficiary countries. The project aims to analyze the difficulties in the deployment of mobile networks and their associated infrastructure in Central America due to the social apprehension to electromagnetic radiation.
• ITU has designed and is implementing a project to improve HONDUTEL (Honduras) revenue assurance, a precondition to better use existing and to install new infrastructure.

• In cooperation with MCIT / Egypt, represented by Center for Documentation of Cultural and Natural Heritage (CULTNAT), ITU started the project “Memory of the Arab World Project,” documenting and collecting the Arab heritage in addition to making it available on the internet.

• ITU-D has made available a computer program to assist the Administrations of developing countries in performing their spectrum management responsibilities more effectively. This program is known as SMS4DC (Spectrum Management System for Developing Countries). ITU has kept updating this program and SMS4DCv4 is the present version available for the users.

• Also, direct assistance was provided to Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Timor Leste, and South Sudan in areas of spectrum management.

• ITU in cooperation with the Communication Administration of the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Moldova, and Tajikistan realized the projects, in each nation, on establishing broadband public access points to Internet (PAPI) in rural areas. By the realization of the projects, ICT infrastructure was implemented using broadband facilities in rural areas of each nation, reparation of the placements, procurement and installation of required hardware and software, access to the Internet for population, email, rendering public electronic services, and training of population in PC and ICT use (directly and online).

• Please see Annexure 1 for a list of all BDT Projects initiated since September 2011 in the area of action line C2.

44. Furthermore, as mandated by its Membership within the framework of the Regional Initiatives, ITU develops a number of the large scale regional projects focusing on 28 regional initiatives facilitating development of the information and communication infrastructure in Africa, Arab, Asia-Pacific, Americas, Commonwealth of Independent States Regions and Europe. More information on these projects as well as the other projects can be found ITU-D Projects webpage.

45. In the implementation of Action Line C2, ITU continues to be at the forefront of providing global standards for telecommunication. Since 1 Nov. 2011, ITU-T approved 386 ITU-T Recommendations (263 Recommendations, 99 amendments/corrigenda and 24 Supplements).

46. ITU standardization activities related to Next Generation Networks (NGN) continues on signaling protocols for QoS resource control, security, multimedia services over NGN, fixed-mobile convergence, service level requirements and architectural framework to provide new services based on Internet Protocol Television (IPTV). A key ITU-T Recommendation outlining objectives and design goals for future networks was approved in May 2011. Few more new Recommendations defining different facets of Future Networks were approved in January 2012. A work on software defined networks has started in SG 13 since February as part of the package on service aware networking study.
A new Resolution on the topic has been approved by WTS-12 on 28 November to foster these studies in SG 13. New elements including mobility, content delivery, access, for service providers and identity management services were added to a key NGN architecture Recommendation. ITU-T SG 13 continues its work in the field of security for NGN and in February 2012 new Recommendation on requirements for deep packet inspection in Next Generation Networks was approved by WTSA. Since February 2012 SG 13 has started to be very active in the cloud computing domain that covers cloud computing vocabulary, ecosystem, reference architecture, inter-cloud infrastructure, desktop as a service and resource management. In addition to the technical work started on cloud computing, a coordination panel called JCA-Cloud was established in January 2012. It is developing a roadmap which analyses the gaps in standardization efforts across cloud computing industry.

47. ITU-T Study Groups focused on several subjects directly relevant to ICT infrastructure development, including the following: transport and access networks; external plant installation, maintenance and safety; optical fibers, cables, components and systems; security; home networks, cloud computing; and emergency telecommunications. A Global Standards Initiative on Internet of Things (IoT-GSI) will act as an umbrella for IoT standards development worldwide. Three new Recommendations: ITU-T Y.2060 “Overview of Internet of Things”, ITU-T Y.2061 “Requirements for support of machine-oriented communication applications in the NGN environment” and ITU-T Y.2069 “Terms and definitions for Internet of Things” were approved in June 2012. An IoT-standards roadmap [JCA-IoT Deliverable 2 Rev.4] is maintained by the Joint Coordination activity on Internet of Things. A new ITU-T Focus Group on Smart Cable Television (FG SmartCable) was established by ITU-T SG 9 in May 2012. The FG objective is to foster development of global Smart Cable Television future standards, including requirements, use cases, technical methods, etc. A new ITU-T Focus Group on Machine-to-machine service layer (FG M2M) was established by ITU-T TSAG under the parentship of SG 11 in January 2012. The FG objective is to progress work on M2M APIs and protocols to support M2M services and applications, with an initial focus on E-health.

48. ITU-T developed new standards that will enable cost-effective smart grid applications such as distribution automation, smart meters, smart appliances and advanced charging systems for electric vehicles. These standards include G.hnem suite of standards for narrowband powerline communication (NB-PLC) which includes wireless access component (G.wnb) being developed in collaboration with ITU-R and Narrow-band OFDM power line communication transceivers (G.9903). G.hn suite of standards for broadband home networking has been further enhanced adding MIMO technology (G.9963). To facilitate collaboration with ITU-R on PLC emission issues, a new Recommendation ITU-T G.9964 was approved specifying the power spectrum limits for G.hn.

49. The Focus Group on Smart Grid held nine meetings from June 2010 and December 2011. It successfully concluded with five deliverables to be used for standardization by Study Groups. As a means to facilitate cooperation, Joint Coordination Activity on Smart Grid and Home Networking (JCA SG&HN) was established in January 2012. It is responsible for the stimulation and coordination of all network aspects of Smart Grid and Home Networking standardization activities across the ITU and other relevant bodies (e.g., SDOs, forums, regional/national organizations, and academia) in this standardization area.
50. WTSA-12 revised, among others, Resolution 76 on Conformance and Interoperability testing to help in increasing probability of interoperability and to ensure all the countries to benefit of ICTs. ITU-T organized other two events: E-health Interop event, Dubai, UAE, 18-20 November, 2012 and NGN Interop Event organized by HATS (Japan) and supported by ITU, Tokyo, Japan, 11-13 July, 2012 in addition to the five interop events already organized in 2010 and 2011 worldwide. Conformance and interoperability testing (CIT) activities continue in SG 16. Coverage of conformance checking for IPTV standards has been extended by one new spec for testing ITU-T H.761 Ginga/NCL. Various SG 16 Questions agreed to add a specific clause on CIT in applicable Recommendations.

51. WTDC-10 approved Resolution 47 on enhancement of knowledge and effective application of ITU Recommendations in developing countries, including conformance and interoperability testing of systems manufactured on the basis of ITU Recommendations. A result of a questionnaire to collect information from ITU Members on the status of Conformance and Interoperability of Equipment and Systems has been published by the BDT and is available here. Based on the result of the questionnaire, a set of guidelines on building testing labs for conformance and interoperability of equipment and systems in developing countries has been developed and made available through the web. The guidelines include the following topics: the process required for building testing labs; a site analysis (e.g. existing testing labs, knowhow); an economical analysis; financing opportunities; collaboration mechanisms; best practices; reference standards and ITU Recommendations. Also, ITU has organized 5 regional forums on Conformance and Interoperability testing centers. During these forums, key issues were discussed highlighting the relevance of accreditation and certification, including mutual recognition agreements and arrangements to increase confidence in conformity assessment and decreasing the need of repeated testing. Training on EMC for experts from Africa and Arab regions was organized in the premises of CERT laboratories in Tunisia. Guidelines for building Test Labs for conformance and interoperability of equipment and systems in developing countries were distributed, during the forums and the training courses.

52. Resolution 176 (Guadalajara, 2010) instructed the Directors of the three Bureaux to collect and disseminate information concerning exposure to electromagnetic fields (EMF), including on EMF measurement methodologies, in order to assist national administrations, particularly in developing countries, to develop appropriate national regulations. In this regard, ITU-T Study Group 5 – ITU’s lead Study Group on electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) and electromagnetic effects – approved Recommendation ITU-T K.91: Guidance for assessment, evaluation and monitoring of the human exposure to radio frequency electromagnetic fields (RF EMF). Recognizing that a significant part of the infrastructure needed to bridge the digital divide involves wireless technologies, the K.91 guide was created in response to developing nation concerns with the risks of human exposure to RF EMF and local communities’ growing resistance to the deployment of radio installations in their surrounds.

53. With regard to radiocommunications, ITU has recently established global standards for the radio interfaces for the future International Mobile Telecommunication (IMT) family of systems able to provide wireless broadband access; along with this, there will be additional radio frequency spectrum to meet the growing requirements and the timely deployment of mobile broadband networks.
Action Line C5: Building Confidence and Security in the use of ICTs

54. A fundamental role of the ITU, following the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and the 2006 ITU Plenipotentiary Conference, is to build confidence and security in the use of ICTs.

55. Cybersecurity and Countering Spam Activities:

a) The Global Cybersecurity Agenda (GCA) provides a framework within which an international response to the growing challenges to cybersecurity can be addressed. Resolution 130 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) clearly endorses the GCA as the ITU-wide strategy on Cybersecurity.

b) Within ITU, the GCA shows the complementary nature of existing ITU work programmes and facilitates the implementation of BDT, TSB and BR activities in this domain. The GCA is built upon five strategic pillars or work areas around which this report is organized: (1) Legal Measures, (2) Technical and Procedural Measures, (3) Organizational Structures, (4) Capacity Building and (5) International Cooperation.

1) Legal Measures

56. As part of Programme 2 of the Hyderabad Action Plan (HAP), ITU is assisting Member States in understanding the legal aspects of Cybersecurity, through its ITU Cybercrime Legislation Resources in order to harmonize their legal frameworks. This activity also takes into account the ITU-D Q22/1 report on best practices for a national approach to cybersecurity and building blocks for organizing national cybersecurity efforts. It highlights that the establishment of appropriate legal infrastructures is an integral component of national cybersecurity strategy.

57. Following the MoU between ITU and UNODC aimed to collaborate globally on assisting Member States to mitigate the risks posed by cybercrime, a strategy has been designed consisting of four activities: assessment, review of legislation, technical assistance and capacity building. Joint events and workshops have been organized, in order to ensure effective implementation of the strategy.

58. Within the framework of the ITU/EC project, ITU has assisted countries in the Caribbean, Sub Saharan Africa and Pacific Islands in harmonizing ICT regulations and legislations, including cybercrime legal frameworks.

59. Based on the Model Law on Computer Crime and Cybercrime developed within the ITU/EC project, ITU has offered inputs to the draft of the African Union Convention on Cybersecurity.
2) Technical and Procedural Measures

60. In order to identify cyberthreats and countermeasures to mitigate risks, ITU-T has developed Recommendations of security requirements, guidelines and specifications for ICT and IP-based systems. ITU-T also provides an international platform for the development of the protocols, systems and services that protect current and Next Generation Networks (NGN). ITU-T’s work on secure communication services, reviews enhancements to security specifications for mobile end-to-end data communications and considers security requirements for web services and application protocols.

61. ITU-T Study Group 17 (SG 17) is the lead study group on security and identity management with its role being reinforced by WTSA-12 Res. 50 and 52. SG 17 is also working on the implementation of WTSA-12 Res. 58 to “Encourage the creation of national Computer Incident Response Teams, particularly for developing countries” and is following Resolution 130 of the Plenipotentiary Conference. Since April 2010, Study Group 17 has been instrumental in studying and standardizing Recommendations in the area of cybersecurity, anti-spam, identity management, X.509 certificates, information security management, ubiquitous sensors networks, telebiometrics, IPTV security, virtualization security towards cloud computing security, and security architecture and application security, often in cooperation with external SDOs and Consortia. Since April 2012, Study Group 17 has approved thirteen Recommendations related to cybersecurity, among them ITU-T X.1524 on common weakness enumeration which provides a structured means to exchange information security weaknesses that provides common names for publicly known problems in the commercial or open source software used in communication networks, end user devices, or any of the other types of information and communications technology (ICT) capable of running software, ITU-T X.1528 subseries on common platform enumeration which provides a structured method of describing and identifying classes of applications, operating systems, and hardware devices present among an enterprise's computing assets, ITU-T X.1541 on incident object description exchange format, ITU-T X.1580 and X.1581 on real-time inter-network defense and corresponding transport, and several more ITU-T Recommendations related to security. Six new Supplements were approved that complement existing ITU-T Recommendations on security X.1245. Six new supplements to the X-series Recommendations were approved that provide complementary material on Cybersecurity and anti-spam, as well as one new Recommendation on identity management (X.1254) with an entity authentication assurance framework.

62. Several new correspondence groups were established on subjects including providing confidence and security in the use of telecommunication/ICT within industrial systems (CG-SACO), on SAML, on XACML, cloud computing security, and on mobile identity management. The Joint Coordination Activity on Identity Management (JCA-IdM) is continuing actively, a new Joint Coordination Activity on Child Online Protection was started.

63. ITU-R’s work in radiocommunication standardization continues, matching the constant evolution in modern telecommunication networks. ITU-R established clear security principles for IMT-2000 (3G) networks (Recommendation ITU-R M.1078, M.1223, M.1457, and M.1645). It has also issued recommendations on security issues in network management architecture for digital satellite systems (Recommendation ITU-R S.1250) and
64. As part of ITU’s collaboration with the International Multilateral Partnership Against Cyber Threats (IMPACT), the Global Response Centre (GRC) plays a pivotal role in realizing the GCA objective of putting technical measures in place to combat new and evolving cyber threats. ITU is working with IMPACT to bring this capability to interested Member States as part of a broader strategy to assist them in their efforts against cyber threats.

3) Organizational Structures

65. The absence of institutional structures to deal with cyber incidents and attacks resulting in fraud, the destruction of information and/or the dissemination of inappropriate content, is a genuine problem in responding to cyber threats. ITU is working with Member States to provide concrete assistance in this area. ITU in partnership with IMPACT is deploying capabilities to build capacity at regional and international levels. As of today, 144 countries have joined the collaboration, and have access to the GRC. ITU-IMPACT, with the aim of increasing capacity and capabilities provides training sessions (on-site and online) to its Member States.

66. Coordination is underway with several Member States and regions on specific assistance to be provided for the establishment of national Computer Incident Response Teams (CIRTs). Technical assessments to evaluate the preparedness for the establishment of CIRTs and activate the necessary actions have already been undertaken by ITU-IMPACT in 42 countries. At the request of Member States, ITU-IMPACT is planning to conduct assessments in South America and South East Asia. The activities will be concluded in 2012. Ten countries have signed cooperation agreements and provided a financial contribution to BDT for the establishment of CIRT, making use of IMPACT as executing agent.

67. In November 2011, together with IMPACT, ITU performed the first cross-border drill exercise by a United Nations agency. The Cyber-Drill was launched by ITU-IMPACT, known as ALERT (Applied Learning for Emergency Response Team). It comprised of simulated cyberattack response linking the Computer Emergency Response Team/Computer Incident Response Teams (CERT/CIRT) of Cambodia, Lao P.D.R., Myanmar and Vietnam. This exercise was conducted in cooperation with multinational cybersecurity partners such as Trend-Micro and F-Secure.

68. In July 2012, ITU-IMPACT organized an Arab region cybersecurity workshop, in Jordan. More than ten Arab States participated in the workshop. It addressed key topics such as botnets, Child Online Protection (COP) and mobile security. The third day of the event featured the ITU-IMPACT ALERT (Applied Learning for Emergency Response Team) cyber drill, which involved teams from six Arab countries, along with ITU-IMPACT’s own cybersecurity experts. The teams took part in a simulated and coordinated exercise to assess the cybersecurity emergency readiness of each country and their incident response capabilities in mitigating and countering cyber-attacks.
69. In October 2012, ITU-IMPACT organized the first UN-backed cross border cyber drill for Europe and CIS countries in Bulgaria. The Forum, organized within the framework of the ITU-IMPACT endeavor, aimed to provide a platform for cooperation, information sharing, and discussion on cybersecurity and with particular focus on CSIRT/CIRT/CERT policies, procedures, best practices, challenges and opportunities among participants from all over the Europe and CIS Region. On the last day of the workshop featured the ITU-IMPACT ALERT featuring eight CIRT teams participating from Europe and CIS region.

4) Capacity Building

70. Within the framework of GCA, ITU facilitates in the implementation and deployment of cybersecurity capabilities that is necessary to combat cyberthreats.

71. The ITU National Cybersecurity Strategy Guide has been finalized and made available to Member States.

72. ITU organizes on a regular basis regional cybersecurity forums for all ITU regions, using these as a capacity-building vehicle for different ITU-D programmes and activities, as well as an operational platform for cooperation at the regional and international level.
73. ITU-IMPACT’s Training and Skills Development Centre continues to build capacity and conducts high-level briefings for the benefit of representatives of Member States, providing invaluable exposure and privileged private sector insight on latest trends, potential threats and emerging technologies. Results obtained include:

a) trained over 900 cybersecurity professionals and practitioners;
b) deployed 300 scholarships to over 43 Member States globally;

5) International Cooperation

74. The GCA is based on international cooperation and strives to engage all relevant stakeholders in a concerted effort to build confidence and security in the use of ICTs.

75. Further reinforcing ITU’s efforts in this area, ITU’s work and relations with IMPACT continue to gain momentum. ITU-IMPACT is a cooperative global venture to make available cybersecurity expertise and resources to enable interested Member States to detect, analyse and respond effectively to cyberthreats.

76. ITU has also started to develop relationships and partnerships with various regional and international Cybersecurity-related organizations and initiatives, including the Commonwealth Cybercrime Initiative, the CyberLympics, ENISA and FIRST. Regarding ENISA and FIRST, discussions are currently underway, to be finalized through the establishment of formal agreements.

77. In line with its long tradition of public-private partnership, and following the MoU signed with Symantec in May 2011, ITU started the release of Threat Intelligence Reports, complemented with a technical executive summary, aimed at informing Member States and increasing their understanding and readiness on cyber threats and risks. Moreover, ITU is discussing with Kaspersky Lab on how to make available the company’s resources and expertise to Member States.

78. During the WSIS Forum 2012, several sessions were organized around the AL C5. These included, a high level dialogue on Governance of Cyberspace and Cyberpeace and thematic workshops.

79. At its 22nd session, the High Level Committee on Programmes (HLCP) of the United Nations Chief Executive Board for Coordination (CEB) discussed the outcomes of the first Meeting of UN Focal Points on Cybercrime and Cybersecurity, led by ITU and UNODC; the main objectives of the meeting were to develop a harmonized policy framework for the UN system to combat cybercrime and ensure cybersecurity, and to elaborate a possible establishment of one stream of work under the CEB, or a dedicated working group on policy issues.

80. The HLCP endorsed the proposal of setting up one single group, the United Nations Group on Cybercrime and Cybersecurity, and agreed that ITU, in collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, would refine further its terms of reference. The second meeting of the United Nations Group on Cybercrime and Cybersecurity took place on 31 January 2012, with the participation of around 30 UN agencies. A draft UN harmonized policy was elaborated and submitted to the HLCP in March 2012.
81. In October 2012, at its 24th session, the UNODC and ITU briefed the HLCP on the status of the work done by the UN Group on Cybecrime and Cybersecurity and presented the direction of the draft policy. The HLCP will receive the revised version of the draft UN-wide policy at its 25th session in the first half of 2013.

82. Cybersecurity was one of the key topics debated at ITU Telecom World 2012, and continues to be one of the game-changing factors revolutionizing the ICT sector and driving change on a truly global scale. The cybersecurity track spotlighted on the critical, wide-ranging and truly global nature of the security issues the world is facing - and how the international community can best deal with them. A COP session has also been organized and focused on protecting the privacy of children in the online world.

83. Within the framework of the GCA, the Child Online Protection (COP) Initiative was established by ITU as an international collaborative network for action to promote the online protection of children worldwide.

84. ITU-D developed and distributed a survey questionnaire, which addressed a broad range of issues connected to policy and practice in the field of child online safety. As of December 2011, 95 Member States completed the COP National Survey and the comprehensive survey result is available on the COP website.

85. ITU-D developed a National Case Study in Costa Rica, in February 2012, to show and share best practices in building up a national framework on COP. The aim is to replicate this exercise in other countries in order to enable the development of global policies related to COP.

86. ITU has been working on a new promotional deliverable, the COP Special Envoy, a group of prominent individuals willing to contribute to ITU’s efforts to raise awareness of the objectives and priorities of protecting children online and to do their utmost to support children’s online safety. Ms. Deborah Taylor Tate, the former US FCC commissioner and 2009 WITSD Laureate on COP, has been appointed by the ITU Secretary General as the first COP Special Envoy.

87. ITU has been raising awareness on COP issues through the organization of workshops, strategic dialogues and regional forums, and several workshops at different international conferences. With the goal to realign the work developed during these years, ITU organized a virtual meeting with all COP partners at the beginning of 2012. A physical meeting took place in Geneva during the WSIS Forum 2012. During this meeting, participants highlighted the need to continue working together and strongly supported ITU and its activities related to the COP Initiative. As an outcome of the dialogues, ITU and FOSI (Family Online Safety Institute) initiated discussions to support the current GRID developed by FOSI, to be used as the global authoritative source on Child Online Protection. Furthermore, ITU and the IWF (Internet Watch Foundation) decided to collaborate on developing a model of assistance for Member States, who are willing to establish hotlines.
The Child Online Protection (COP) Global Initiative

88. ITU has entered into a second phase of the COP Global Initiative, launched by the ITU Secretary-General together with a new COP patron, H.E. Laura Chinchilla, President of Costa Rica, in November 2010. Through this Initiative, high-level deliverables are planned based on the five GCA/COP strategic pillars to be achieved by ITU in collaboration with COP members.

89. As one of the deliverables of the COP Global Initiative, in April 2012, the Authority for Information and Communications Technology Industry (AITI) of Brunei Darussalam with the support of International Telecommunication Union and International Multilateral Partnership Against Cyber Threats, ITU-IMPACT, organized a Child Online Protection (COP) Framework Workshop with a primary objective to develop a sustainable Action Plan to be executed in the country for a period of 12 months. The framework is in phase of implementation at the national level. The COP National Strategy Guide was developed for use by countries with no internet safety framework and countries who are in the process of developing a national framework.

90. A Joint Coordination Activity on child online protection (JCA-COP) was approved and established in April 2012 under the parentship of SG17. The scope of JCA-COP is to coordinate the ITU-T child online protection (COP) work amongst the ITU-T study groups, and to liaise with ITU-R and ITU-D as well as with the Council Working Group on Child Online Protection. JCA-COP brings together various stakeholders with the purpose to learn activities and best practices, but also to identify gaps and develop roadmap towards future COP standards. The JCA-COP successfully conducted its inaugural meeting on 30 August 2012, where the JCA-COP identified individuals, organizations, and forums to be contacted for future participation.

91. In June 2012, as an outcome of the ITU Regional Workshop on Legal Aspects of Child Online Protection in the Arab Region, the Arab administrations decided to create a regional working group in order to develop a regional legal framework on COP for the Arab region.

92. Since October 2012, ITU is working in partnership with the Commonwealth Telecommunication Organization (CTO) to facilitate the establishment of COP National Frameworks for 6 countries - Nigeria, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Gambia, Mauritius and Cameroon. This high level process will consist of 5 phases: Assessment phase, Definition of Country Plans, Finalization of Country Plans, Implementation Phase and Monitoring & Evaluation.

93. As the Patron of the Global CyberLympics, ITU Secretary-General Dr. Hamadoun Touré invited all Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia to participate to a series of ethical hacking games involving both offensive and defensive security challenges. The Games involved 220 teams and brought together 1200 participants from 51 countries.
94. Finally, ITU is organizing important events to raise awareness:

a) Following the growing interest within the African continent on COP related issues, and in response to requests from countries to provide assistance, ITU and COP Partners are organizing an Africa Child Online Protection (ACOP) Summit, which will be held in June 2013.

b) Under the Patronage of the President of Costa Rica in September 2013, ITU will organize the Global Youth Summit focusing on ICT access and bringing youth from all corners of the globe together. The event will span upon the following themes: Women and ICTs, ICT Health, Youth Employment & Education, and Child Online Protection.

Action Line C6: Enabling Environment

95. Recognizing the strong commitment of ITU’s work towards bridging digital divide in the area of the enabling environment, UNDP officially handed over the lead facilitation role on WSIS Action Line C6 to ITU in May 2008. Since then, ITU has been acting as the sole facilitator for this Action Line building upon its regular work carried out within the framework of the ITU-D Programme 3: Enabling environment.

96. Following tradition, ITU organized the 7th meeting on WSIS Action Line C6 on 15 May 2012, on the theme “Smarter regulation of the information society: ICTs as an enabler for better governance”. The meeting was organized as an interactive panel discussion, involving multiple stake-holders including national governments, regulators, industry, civil society and international organizations.

97. ITU continues to assist Member States and Sector Members in developing a pro-competitive policy and regulatory framework for telecommunications. More specifically, through Programme 3: Enabling environment, the ITU has undertaken numerous activities that foster the development of an enabling environment worldwide including information sharing, creation of tools for effective regulation, national and regional assistance, and creation of training materials and opportunities. Some of these ongoing activities include:

98. World Radiocommunication Conference 2012 was held from the 23 January to 17 February 2012. WRC-12 addressed some 30 agenda items related to frequency allocation and frequency sharing for the efficient use of spectrum and orbital resources, thus ensuring high quality radiocommunication services for mobile and satellite communications, maritime and aeronautical transport as well as for scientific purposes related to the environment, meteorology and climatology, disaster prediction, mitigation and relief. Over 3000 participants, representing 165 out of ITU’s 193 Member States attended the four-week Conference, braving the extreme winter conditions prevailing in Geneva. Over 100 Observers from among ITU’s 700 private sector members along with international organizations also attended WRC-12.

99. WRC 2012 concluded its deliberations with the signing of the Final Acts that revise the Radio Regulations, the international treaty governing the use of radio-frequency spectrum and satellite orbits.
100. **World Conference on International Telecommunications (WCIT-12)** was held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, from 3-14 December 2012. This landmark conference reviewed the current **International Telecommunication Regulations (ITRs)**, which serve as the binding global treaty designed to facilitate international interconnection and interoperability of information and communication services, as well as ensuring their efficiency and widespread public usefulness and availability.

101. During the two-week conference, around 1,800 delegates from ITU Member States debated revisions to the current treaty to help it better meet the needs of 21st century networks and users. The treaty sets out general principles for assuring the free flow of information around the world and promoting affordable and equitable access for all.

102. World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly 2012 was held in Dubai, UAE from the 20-29 November 2012. WTSA-12 was the best-attended WTSA yet, attracting over 1000 participants from 101 countries. The Assembly appointed four new Chairs and more than fifty new Vice-chairs to ITU-T’s expert groups. Deliberations took into account over 240 documents in over 30 different working groups.

103. ITU members revised and adopted a Resolution first agreed at 2008’s WTSA in Johannesburg: Resolution 69, Non-discriminatory access and use of Internet resources.

104. ITU’s membership adopted a Resolution inviting ITU Member States to refrain from taking any unilateral and/or discriminatory actions that could impede another Member State from accessing public Internet sites and using resources, within the spirit of Article 1 of the Constitution and the WSIS principles.

105. ITU’s membership has called on ITU’s Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) to expand its work on e-health, software-defined networking (SDN) and e-waste. In addition, members have called for the establishment of a Review Committee to ensure that ITU-T’s structure continues to meet the needs of the continually evolving and convergent ICT landscape, particularly as collaboration with vertical markets increases. This will help to enable such innovations as e-health, intelligent transport systems, smart grid, mobile money and e-learning. Alongside adopting six new Resolutions and revising 49, the Assembly also revised seven of the A series Recommendations that guide ITU-T’s work, and in addition approved six new ITU standards including two Recommendations on MPLS-TP which are required by operators to increase network efficiency and reduce costs. A key Recommendation on management of network access devices was also approved.

106. A side event on ‘ICT Innovation’ launched the ICT Innovation Application Challenge which will award a cash prize of USD 5,000 to the app developer producing the most innovative app targeting mobile health, mobile money, e-learning, e-government or intelligent transport systems. The app challenge is open to individuals as well as corporations.

107. The second **Global Standards Symposium** took place one day prior to WTSA-12, on 19 November 2012 – in the same venue. The GSS was a one-day event where ministers,
regulators, heads of other international, regional and major national standards bodies, and industry from the different regions of the world discussed global ICT standards challenges, with a focus on the intersection of the ICT sector with other vertical sectors such as health care, utilities, and transport. The Chairman of the GSS will presented the conclusions of the GSS to the first Plenary meeting of the WTSA.

108. During GSS 12 government ministers, private-sector executives and the standardization community urged ITU to create standardization mechanisms to serve the needs of ‘vertical markets’ that are becoming increasingly dependent on information and communication technologies (ICTs). In addition, participants encouraged ITU’s Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) to provide leadership in driving standards education and ICT innovation in developing countries. ICT now cuts across all industries via the common platform of the IP-based network. But technology is applied in different ways by different sectors. To accelerate innovation in areas like e-health, intelligent transport systems and smart grids, GSS-12 participants encouraged ITU to create effective, flexible mechanisms that allow the ICT sector to more effectively collaborate with vertical-market standards makers and industry players.

109. GSS-12 also offered further support for ITU’s efforts to bridge the ‘standardization gap’, whereby most technical standards are developed in a handful of highly industrialized markets. Improving the standardization capabilities of emerging markets would leverage the network effects of large populations to stimulate the spread of game-changing ICT innovation in developing regions.

110. In addition to calling on ITU to ensure that international standards reflect the best of innovations rooted in developing countries, GSS-12 proposed the establishment of national standardization secretariats able to define a country’s standardization requirements and channel participation in regional and international standardization work.


112. In 2012, a new series of thematic reports was developed and launched comprised of masterpieces on hot or ground-breaking topics produced within shorter timeline, thus increasing the relevance of the materials and keeping up with the rapid changes in the broadband economy. The first series of six ITU Broadband Reports deal with the Impact of broadband on the economy, Exploring the value and economic valuation of spectrum, Regulation of global broadband satellite communications, Regulating broadband prices, Developing successful Public-Private Partnerships to foster investment in universal broadband networks, and Competition and regulation in a converged broadband world. In addition, a series of 8 case studies was launched on the implementation of broadband in Albania, Mauritius, Nigeria, Panama, Philippines, Romania, Sri Lanka, and FYROM Macedonia. The series is available free of charge from the ITU Broadband universe portal. This is the new one-stop-shop for ITU’s activities and resources on broadband.
113. The **ICT Regulation Toolkit**, developed by ITU in partnership with the World Bank/infoDev, assists regulators in developing effective regulatory frameworks by sharing information on key regulatory issues and best practices. In 2012-2013, the content management system of Toolkit and the design will be modernized while enhancing the navigation and interactivity of the web platform.

114. The **12th Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR)** was held from 2 to 4 October 2012 in Colombo, Sri Lanka, in collaboration with the Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka (TRCSL). The theme of the event was *Why regulate in a global network society?* GSR approved best practice guidelines on the theme “Regulatory approaches to foster access to digital opportunities through cloud services”. The first two days of the GSR incorporated the Global Industry-Regulators Dialogue (GRID). This year’s GSR was preceded, on 1st October 2012, by two Workshops respectively organized by ITSO and by the GSMA, and by the meeting of the Regulatory Associations.

115. The 2013 edition of the Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR) will take place in Warsaw (Poland) from 3 to 5 July 2013, in collaboration with the Ministry of Infrastructure of the Government of Poland.

116. The **13th Forum on Telecommunication/ICT Regulation and Partnership in Africa (FTRA-2012)** was held in Libreville (Gabonese Republic) from 18 to 20 June 2012 under the theme of: Analogue to digital television migration: sharing experiences, migration strategies and digital dividend.

117. The **14th Forum on Telecommunication/ICT Regulation and Partnership in Africa (FTRA-2014)** will be held in Zimbabwe in June 2013.

118. The **ITU/BDT Regional Seminar on Economic and Financial aspects of Telecommunications/ICTs for Latin America and the Caribbean** was held in conjunction with the ITU-T Study Group 3 Regional Group for Latin America and the Caribbean (SG3RG-LAC), in Asunción, Paraguay (13-16 March 2012). The seminar treated subjects such as: pricing regulation in a converged environment, preparation of the National Broadband Plan, the economic and social impact of the deployment of mobile Broadband. A session on the ITRs and the World Conference on International Telecommunications (WCIT) was organized as well to discuss the main concerns of the region. The 2013 edition of this Seminar and Meeting will be organized in Mexico in March.
119. The **ITU Regional Seminar on Cost and Tariffs for Asia and Oceania** was held in conjunction with the ITU-T Study Group 3 Regional Group for Asia and Pacific (SG3RG-AO), in Bali, Indonesia (28-31 May 2012). Discussions focused on: Charging, accounting, and economic issues of the use of next-generation networks (NGN) in a Broadband environment; international mobile roaming (IMR) and tariff issues for cross-border connectivity for mobile; numbering misuse and fraud. A session on the ITRs and the World Conference on International Telecommunications (WCIT) was organized as well to discuss the main concerns of the region. Japan will host the 2013 edition of these events from 8 to 10 April 2013.

120. The **ITU Regional Seminar on Costs and Tariffs for African countries** was held in conjunction with the ITU-T Study Group 3 Regional Group for Africa (SG3RG-AFR). It was organized in Benin (8-11 May 2012). It focused on International Internet Connectivity (IIC), pricing of Broadband services, telecommunication services taxation; taxation of international outgoing traffic. A session on the ITRs and the World Conference on International Telecommunications (WCIT) was organized as well to discuss the main concerns of the region. The 2013 Seminar and Meeting for Africa will be organized in Cairo, Egypt from 4 to 7 February.

121. A series of regional meetings, workshops, training events and direct assistance activities on topics related to regulatory and financial issues were organized in 2011 and 2012.

- ITU continues to maintain the World Telecommunication/ICT Regulatory Database, which can be accessed from the [ICT Eye](https://icteye.itu.int), as well as the [TREG website](http://www.tereg.org) and the [Global Regulators’ Exchange (G-REX)](http://www.g-rex.org), a password-protected online discussion forum reserved for regulators and policy makers. ITU also manages the [ICTDec](http://ictdec.itu.int) regulatory decisions clearinghouse, a one-stop access point to decisions originating from ICT decision making bodies developed in partnership with the World Bank. The ICTDec platform allows decision making bodies from around the world to upload directly their decisions in the database. The system is available in all six ITU working languages.

- ITU maintains the Tariffs Policies database, which focuses on trends related to pricing, cost and tariff models, interconnection rates, price control of different services, charging issues related to International Internet Connectivity and taxation of telecommunication services. This database can also be accessed from the ICT Eye.

- In 2012, the [ITU Broadband Atlas](http://www.itubroadbandatlas.org/), an interactive online 3D data visualization tool was upgraded and new data was added to visualize the market and regulatory landscape across the regions. The Atlas allows users to explore ICT indicators and regulatory data in a meaningful and accessible way. The tool could be used to mix and match multiple data sets, thus creating a systematic framework for understanding of the complex and multi-factor relationships between regulation and market realities. The tool will be further enhanced in the coming year.
Over the past year, ITU undertook various capacity-building activities, training and seminars to promote an enabling environment. Through a project funded by the EC, ITU led an initiative to support an integrated ICT market in West Africa, resulting in the adoption of a harmonized ICT legal framework currently being transposed into national law by 15 West African States. Building on the success of the West Africa project, ITU and the EC continued implementation of new projects to harmonize ICT frameworks and build capacity in the field of policy and regulation in sub-Saharan Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific Island States.

ITU has also undertaken an Assessment on Regulatory Auditing and Cost Modeling in sub-Saharan Africa in the framework of a project funded by the EC. The results from this assessment will be disseminated in the region throughout a series of Costing and Regulatory Auditing workshops to be organized in 2013 for French and English speaking countries. This project is paying particular attention to allow all the ICT stakeholders to share their view and vision regarding these issues so as to have an up-to-date overview of their situation, identify the main issues and concerns, understand the underlying reasons, highlight best practices and how they were achieved.

Following a recommendation of FTIRA 2011, (Kigali, Republic of Rwanda, from 13 to 15 June 2011), ITU conducted a study on cloud computing in Africa. The study constituted an in-depth analysis of the political, regulatory and technical issues of relevance to governments, regulators and the industry in Africa.

In 2012, ITU carried out an important study on policy reform in the Arab region to update the Arab Book published in May 2002. The draft report gives a comprehensive assessment of the reforms conducted in the region and includes the policy, regulatory and technological trends as well as recommendations and guidelines for an enabling regulatory framework for ICT development.

The ITU Workshop on Apportionment of revenues and International Internet Connectivity (IIC) was jointly organized by the BDT and the TSB Study Group 3 in Geneva, Switzerland (23-24 January 2012). This workshop presented and discussed the current situation with respect to apportionment of revenues, including international Internet connectivity and the possible application of the concept of network externalities, and considered proposals for the future.

The ITU workshop on Origin Identification and Alternative Calling Procedures was organized at ITU Headquarters, Geneva, from 19 to 20 March 2012. This workshop was jointly organized by the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) and the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB). The goal of this workshop was to present and discuss the current situation with respect to origin identification (including numbering misuse/misappropriation) and alternative calling procedures (including call-back, refile, and “IP telephony”).
A number of trainings were carried out in coordination with the ITU Centre of Excellence Network initiative to ensure the enabling environment on policy & regulation and economic & financial issues (including costing and pricing) worldwide.

BDT Programme 3 has also supported the work of the ITU-D and ITU-T Study Groups on regulatory, economic and financial aspects of telecommunications.

Under the category of research and development of tools, studies such as the 1) Strategies for the deployment of NGN and NGA in a broadband environment – regulatory and economic aspects; 2) ITU Study on Taxation of telecommunications/ICT services: an overview; and 3) Update of the Case studies on the development of Next Generation Networks (NGN) 2012; have been prepared.

Other Regional activities: the Regulatory and Market Environment Division (RME) addressed direct assistance on topics such as: Market Analysis, Cost modeling and pricing, Elaboration of framework for Tariff Regulation, Policy and Regulations, Roaming, ICT National Plan.

ITU also assists its Members to develop policies and regulatory measures to ensure accessible ICTs in line with Article 9 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). On the occasion of the United Nations Conference on States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities on 12 September 2012, ITU and its partner G3ict published the Making Mobile Phones and Services Accessible report. This latest resource describes the accessibility features required by the 1 billion people living with disabilities. New screen readers, for example, can make mobile phones easily usable for the blind, those with low vision and the illiterate. Visual or vibrating alerts, relay services and hearing aid compatibility devices are making mobile phones accessible for the deaf and hard of hearing, while features such as voice recognition and auto text are proving a boon to those with physical disabilities. Examples of pioneering solutions highlighted in the report include special text-only billing plans for the deaf and hard-of-hearing so that subscribers pay only for messaging and data; a new SMS-to-Avatar translation system being developed by the University of Tunis which converts typed text into real-time, online interpretation in sign language with the help of a dictionary of words and signs; and new GPS-based devices and services that help blind and partially sighted people navigate streets using an interface that announces the nearest points of interest and the user’s current location, with links to Braille readers over Bluetooth. The report also urges policy makers and regulators to take action to ensure accessible mobile handsets and services are widely available and affordable for persons with disabilities. The partners have also developed an online e-Accessibility toolkit to share best practices with policy makers and regulators on promoting accessible ICTs for persons with disabilities as well as the Making TV Accessible report which identifies the kinds of access services required by a range of persons with disabilities, along with different
accessibility options. These include closed captioning and signing for the deaf, audio
description and audio captions for the visually impaired, and accessible remote control
devices for the elderly and those with reduced dexterity. The Making Mobile Phones and
Services Accessible and the Making Television Accessible report join a wealth of resources
already available on the e-Accessibility toolkit and on the ITU website at
http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/sis/PwDs/index.phtml.
(c) Co-facilitator of Action Lines C1, C3, C4, C7, C11 and Partners for C8 and C9.

Action Line C1: The Role of Public Governance Authorities and all Stakeholders in the Promotion of ICTs for Development and Action Line C11: International and Regional Cooperation

123. In accordance with its mandate, the ITU continues to foster international and regional cooperation on a broad range of activities. ITU conducted several meetings, conferences and symposiums to provide a platform to broaden international dialogue on innovative means in harnessing ICTs for advancing development. In 2012 ITU organized a number of events, e.g. the Global Symposium for Regulators, the Global Regulators-Industry Dialogue, and Chief Regulatory Officers Meeting (October, 2012, Colombo, Sri Lanka), the ITU Telecom World 2012 (Dubai, UAE, October 2012). Series of regional meetings on private-public partnerships as a solution to address the needs of regions for digital technology deployment, were organized (e.g. Mexico, April 2012; Kyrgyzstan, August 2012; Geneva, November 2012). ITU also partnered with Tunisia on ICT4All Forum and Exhibition (Hammamet, Tunisia, September 2012).

Action Line C3: Access to Information and Knowledge

124. ITU continues to promote universal access with equal opportunities for all, to scientific knowledge and the creation and dissemination of scientific and technical information. In 2011/12, ITU held numerous workshops, conferences and symposia, making extensive materials freely and widely available on the web. In addition, a number of online resources have been made available, including web-based information portals, practical ICT toolkits, and online databases, while existing resources were updated.

125. A workshop under the auspices of the World Standards Cooperation (WSC) on "Accessibility and the contribution of International Standards “was held to review and examine the standards needed for facilitating the development of accessible solutions around the world. Three other workshops led by ITU_T are worth mention. The "Telecommunications Relay Services for Persons with Disabilities" workshop focused on the Relay services which are a key important mechanism to provide equal access for persons with hearing disabilities, where an intermediary typically provides a conversion typically between voice and text or sign language. related to accessibility to audiovisual media were organized in 2012. An “ITU Tutorial on Audio Visual Media Accessibility” organized in India offered a depth insight of topics and measures to improve the accessibility of audiovisual media. Later in the year, another ITU Workshop “Making Television Accessible – From idea to reality” was organized in Japan. It focused on emergency alert services that also take into consideration senior persons and with hearing or cognitive impairments. To make audiovisual media accessible for persons with disabilities, an ITU-T Focus Group on Audiovisual Media Accessibility (FG AVA) was established and have had its meetings Europe, Asia and North America. All these complement the ICT & telecommunication accessibility work currently carried out in the various ITU Study Groups, noticeably ITU-T Question 26/16 and ITU-D Question 20/1.
126. PP-10 created a new category of membership for academia, universities and research institutes, and 50 members have joined ITU since. Building upon the success of the four ITU Kaleidoscope events held in 2008 in Geneva, 2009 in Argentina, 2010 in India, 2011 in South Africa, the fifth Kaleidoscope academic conference will take place at the University of Kyoto, Japan, 22-24 April 2013. K-2013, themed “Building Sustainable Communities”, called for original academic papers offering innovative and bold approaches in research and development to build smart, ethical, and sustainable communities. The accepted papers will be presented during the event, published in the proceedings and in IEEE Xplore. The authors of the award winning papers will share the prize fund of 10,000 USD.

127. Recognizing the admission of academia, universities and their associated research establishment into the work of the ITU under Resolution 169 (PP-10), the 2012 Radiocommunication Assembly (RA-12) approved a new Resolution ITU-R 63 which laid out their conditions of participation in the activity of the Radiocommunication Sector.


129. ITU Members passed resolutions on promoting accessible ICTs for persons with disabilities at both our Plenipotentiary Conference and the World Telecommunication Development Conference. ITU has provided technical assistance to create accessible multi-purpose community telecentres (MCTs) for persons with disabilities in Armenia, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Sri Lanka and Mali and developed a text-to-speech engine in the Mongolian language to enable screen readers for blind people to use the Internet.

130. On International Day of Persons with Disabilities, ITU-D released the BDT Thematic report, Making TV Accessible, published jointly with ITU-D Sector Member, the Global Initiative for Inclusive ICTs (G3ict). The ITU Secretary General opened the M-Enabling Summit, organized by G3ict, in cooperation with ITU and the US Federal Communications Commission, on 5-6 December 2011 in Washington, DC, it was an excellent occasion to distribute and spread the content of the report which was written by the chairman of the ITU-T Focus Group on Audiovisual Media Accessibility. ITU-D and G3ict issued a draft version of their forthcoming report on Making Mobile Phones and Services Accessible, which was finalized and launched by BDT in 2012. This report is a key reference one more time for ITU-T FG AVA and to inform and make devices and in general, mobile communications accessible for persons with disabilities. the same FG AVA groups of experts dealing with Mobile and handheld devices.

131. In 2012 more than 200 indigenous people were trained through a tailor-made capacity building programme which includes three (3) online courses provided in partnership with Fondo Indigena, an organization to support the indigenous peoples of Latin America and
the Caribbean. The curriculum of the courses were developed on topics required by the beneficiaries (Project Management including planning, implementation and follow-up).

132. In addition, ITU has reinforced its internal coordination mechanism for a unified action in the area of accessibility. The new ITU Accessibility Task Force will focus in making ITU a fully accessible organization and in mobilizing further resources and partners to increase accessibility to ICTs through ITU activities.

**Action Line C4: Capacity-Building**

133. Within the framework of its mandate as co-facilitator for Action Line C4 ITU organized 7th facilitation meeting of AL C4 which took place during the WSIS Forum 2012. This year the Action Line C4 facilitation meeting was jointly organized with UNESCO Action Line: C7 ICT Applications, E-Learning and the topic was Cellphones, tables, digital textbooks and what more? The meeting provided an opportunity to discuss and debate different innovative ways of leveraging the mobile learning platforms for the benefit of Human Capacity Building.

134. The ITU has set up the ITU Centres of Excellence are institutions sharing expertise, resources and capacity-building know-how in telecommunications and ICTs training/education, distributed around the world. Designed to offer continuous education to ICT managers in the public and private spheres through face-to-face or distance learning programmes, the Centres serve as regional focal points for professional development, research, and knowledge sharing, as well as providing specialist training services to external clients.

135. Support from multilateral and regional organizations, educational institutes and government donors assists ITU in establishing and supporting these Centres. CoE networks have been established in a number of regions including Africa, Africa Spanish/Lusophone countries, the Americas, Arab States, Asia-Pacific, Caribbean, Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and Europe. Under the umbrella of ITU Academy, these regional networks are now being joined together into a single global network sharing training curricula, resources and expertise.

136. ITU organized many workshops and seminars since around the world, some in collaboration with all sectors, on implementation of relevant ITU decisions, bridging the standardization gap, standardization activity related to climate change, cybersecurity, NGN and accessibility.

137. In May 2012 ITU Hosted a Workshop on ICT Competencies Development. ITU Capacity Building Division and ITU Regional office in Africa organized a Regional workshop on ICT Competencies Development in the Telecommunication and Education Sectors in Africa. The workshop was held in Bujumbura, Burundi and was officially opened by the first Vice President of Burundi.

138. In June 2012 the ITU Launched E-Learning Platform for Spanish and Portuguese Speaking Countries in Africa. A milestone has been reached in the development of human capacity.
for the ICT community within the Spanish and Portuguese speaking countries in Africa with the official launch of its own dedicated e-learning platform.

139. The ITU through the Harare ITU Area Office for Southern Africa, and Postal and Telecommunications Regulatory Authority of Zimbabwe (POTRAZ), conducted jointly a workshop on telecommunications network cost analysis and modeling in Harare from 11-15 June 2012.

140. ITU hosted a successful distance learning course on Future Internet. The course was delivered by the Faculty of Electrical Engineering in Skopje, Macedonia under the ageist of the ITU Centre of Excellence for EUROPE. This course was focused on the Future Internet including technologies, regulation and business aspects June 2012 Workshop on Telecommunications Network Cost Analysis and Modeling.


142. In August 2012 a VSAT Systems workshop was held. The workshop provided participants with in-depth understanding of VSAT systems and protocols, provide a comprehensive introduction to VSAT concepts, satellite communications systems, technologies and protocols, and allow delegates to understand and assess VSAT systems for deployment into corporate wide area network solutions.

143. In line with Action line C4(g), C6(l) and C7 (19), ITU supports its Members to organize Girls in ICT day events on the 4th Thursday of each April, including through a project with the Republic of Serbia. Through this project, ITU-D has actively supported nearly 90 stakeholders organizing national and local International Girls in ICT Day events on 26 April 2012 empowering over 30,000 girls worldwide with the knowledge that they can have a bright future with a career in ICTs. Fifteen stakeholders were invited to showcase their event during the 2012 WSIS Forum on 16 May 2012. ITU-D also launched the ITU Girls in ICT Portal, housing over 500 programmes to support women and girls in the ICT sector, profiles of successful women in ICTs and the BDT thematic report A Bright Future in ICTs: Opportunities for a New Generation of Women.

144. Revised Resolution 55 (approved by WTSA-12 on 28 November 2012) calls upon the encouragement of ICT education for girls and women and preparation them for a career in ICT standardization sector.
145. By October 2012, the ITU - Telecentre.org Foundation “Telecentre Women Digital Literacy Campaign had succeeded in training 384,803 to become digitally literate. More information about joining the campaign is available at http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/sis/Gender/digital_literacy.html

146. The Global ICT Forum on Human Capacity is a biennial global conference dedicated to building human capabilities and skills that are ready for the digital economy and digital society. The theme of the 2012 ICT Forum was “Digital Inclusion: Transition from analogue to digital broadcasting”. The event was held in Cape Town, South Africa, from 22 to 25 October 2012. The Forum was co-organized with the Department of Communications of the Republic of South Africa and its e-Skills Institute, in close collaboration with Telkom South Africa. The Forum was held jointly with the second South African national e-Skills Summit 2012. Full documentation of the Global ICT Forum, including the final agenda and all presentations, is available on the website at http://academy.itu.int.

147. The Global ICT Forum Report presents the summary of the Sessions carried out during the three-day event and provide information on the main issues raised during each Session. The report also encompasses forum outcomes, Action Plan and Final Recommendations.

**Action Line C7: ICT Applications (eHealth, eEnvironment, eScience and eGovernment)**

148. ITU is one of the co-facilitators together with UNESCO, UNDESA and Regional Commissions, ILO, ITC, FAO, UPU, UNEP, WMO, UNCTAD, WHO, etc. for the eight areas of ICT applications that are covered by WSIS Action Line C7. Within the framework of its mandate as co-facilitator for Action Line C7 ITU co-organized and participated in several facilitation meetings and thematic workshops which took place during the WSIS Forum 2011 such as the e-government workshop on “Future Government: A Global Perspective in Connection to Open Government Data and Citizen Engagement” jointly organized with UNDESA and WSIS C7 Facilitation meeting on e-Health jointly organized with WHO.

149. ITU’s role in relation to the use of ICTs for the protection of the environment (e-environment action line) was reinforced during PP10 with the approval of Resolution 182 (Guadalajara, 2010), “The role of telecommunications/information and communication technologies on climate change and the protection of the environment”, which further defined the key action lines to be further developed by ITU in this subject over the upcoming years. A complete summary of ITU’s activities on this area is available at www.itu.int/climate. ITU-T approved Recommendation F.747.2 on deployment guidelines for ubiquitous sensor network (USN) applications and services for mitigating climate change.

150. As a result of this strengthened mandate, ITU has raised notably its profile in the co-facilitation...
of action line C7 e-environment by coordinating for WSIS Forum 2012, together with UNEP, WMO and the Secretariat of the Basel Convention, a full day of activities around this action line. The e-environment activities at WSIS Forum 2012 included one high level dialogue on Advancing the Green Agenda, thematic workshops on Climate change monitoring and disaster risk reduction and e-waste, respectively, and an action line facilitation meeting, which took place in an innovative round table format. The activities also included releases of publications and several networking opportunities for the participants.

151. Key activities promoted by ITU since the approval of Resolution 182 has been the organization of the 6th ITU Symposium on ICTs, the environment and climate change that took place in Accra, Ghana in July 2011 and endorsed the “Accra Call to Action” as well as the 7th Symposium that was held in Montreal, Canada in May 2012 and concluded with the Montreal Declaration.

152. At the global level, ITU has been very active in the UNFCCC climate change conferences, providing the role of the information society as a solution to address the causes and effects of climate change. On this regard, ITU has been taking part in the UN Climate Change Conferences since 2008. Further information about ITU’s participation at the 2011 and 2012 conferences, is available at www.itu.int/climate.

153. In the area of Green ICT standards, ITU-T Study Group 5, approved eight new Recommendations: Recommendation ITU-T L.1400 (Overview and general principles of methodologies for assessing the environmental impact of information and communication technologies), L.1410 (Methodology for environmental impact assessment of information and communication technologies goods, networks and services), L.1420 (Methodology for energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions impact assessment of Information and Communication Technologies in organizations), L.1300 (Best Practices for Green Data Centers), L.1310 (Energy efficiency metrics and measurement for telecommunication equipment), L.1000 (Universal power adapter and charger solution for mobile terminals and other hand-held ICT devices), L.1100 (Procedure for recycling rare metals in information and communication technology goods) and L.1200 (Direct current power feeding interface up to 400 V at the input to telecommunication and ICT equipment) were approved. For further information refer to the website of ITU-T Study Group 5.

154. Other relevant events organized by ITU include the 2nd ITU Green Standards Week, held in Paris, 17-21 September 2012 which concluded with the Paris Declaration and a Call to Action on Smart Sustainable Cities.

155. ITU-T published sixteen new reports, inter alia, on smart grids, green ICT procurement, greening ICT supply chains, climate change mitigation and adaptation that aim to facilitate the move to greener ICTs as well as ICTs to enable greener practices across different industry sectors. These publications are also available for free at www.itu.int/climate.
156. A session on Powering Sustainable Energy through Green ICT Standards, was held during Melecon 2012 in Yasmine Hammamet, Tunisia, on 26 March 2012, as well as an *Information and Training Session on ITU Methodologies for Assessing the Environmental Impact of ICT*, was held on 12 April 2012 in Geneva. Complete information about these and other upcoming ITU’s activities on this area are available at the following link. In support of

“International Year for Sustainable Energy for All” ITU together with Telefonica announced two challenges to uncover innovative ICT approaches towards achieving this goal. First the Green ICT Hackathon, 28-29 February 2012, was held during the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona and the 2nd Green ICT Application Challenge, a global competition to find the best and most innovative ideas to help promote sustainable energy for all. The winning application “SocialElectricity” is a Facebook application that allows people to compare their electricity footprint with their friends locally and nationally. The application aims to help people become aware of their electricity consumption and manage it more rationally.

157. ITU, UNEP/ Secretariat of the Basel Convention and the United Nations University (UNU), in collaboration with the Solving the E-waste Problem (StEP) Initiative and the Center for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE), lunched a joint survey on e-waste to promote exchange of information and future cooperation in the field. In addition, in March 2012 ITU and UNEP/ Secretariat of the Basel Convention signed a Memorandum of Understanding to tackle the issue of e-waste and ITU joined the SteP Initiative in April 2012.

159. ITU-T in partnership with over 50 ICT companies, UN agencies, environmental organizations, and research institutes produced a Toolkit on Environmental Sustainability for the ICT sector.

160. The Toolkit provides detailed help on building sustainability into the management and operations of ICT companies through the application of international standards and best practices. The toolkit provides a standardized method to report on sustainability performance, which is increasingly required by customers, investors, governments and other stakeholders. It will also enable companies to manage and improve their own sustainability performance.

161. A 1st Workshop on Submarine Cables for Ocean/Climate Monitoring and Disaster Warning: Science, Engineering, Business and Law” took place in September 2011 and closed with the adoption of a Call to Action inviting ITU, UNESCO IOC and WMO to establish and coordinate a Joint Task Force to explore the potential of a submarine climate monitoring and disaster warning system. To follow up on the Call to Action, ITU, UNESCO/IOC and WMO organized a 2nd Workshop that took place in September 2012 and concluded with an Action Plan.

162. ITU-T created a Global Portal on ICTs, the Environment and Climate Change. This website provides references to external resources: background papers, reports, case studies and statistics on ICTs and the environment including information on climate change, conflict minerals, e-waste and other sustainability issues.

163. Other relevant activities undertaken by ITU in this area include the launch of the report “The Broadband Bridge: Linking ICT with Climate Action”, produced by the Broadband Commission for Digital Development, a multistakeholder high-level advocacy group launched by ITU and UNESCO to promote the role of ICTs as a fundamental tool to accelerate progress towards the achievement of the MDGs by 2015. The report highlights the use of broadband as a tool to assist in the transition towards a low-carbon economy.

164. As a follow up to this report, ITU and the Broadband Commission launched in September 2012 the case study “A review of environmental sustainability in national broadband policies - global overview and case studies on Australia and Rwanda”. This case study looks at the potential and existing contributions broadband is making towards the achievement of MDG7, which targets environmental sustainability. It presents a global overview of the inclusion of references to environmental sustainability in national broadband policies. Of the 193 countries reviewed, 119 were found to have a broadband policy, 34 per cent of which contained a reference to environmental sustainability. The final two chapters of the study review two country cases: Australia and Rwanda.
166. ITU also had an active role in promoting the role of ICTs as a key enabler of sustainable development at the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20). The conference concluded with the adoption of “The future we want”, the outcome document of the conference, which recognizes the key role of ICTs and broadband in sustainable development. All action line facilitators will be invited to contribute to the follow up to this conference and to the definition of the post 2015 international development agenda.

167. ITU, in collaboration with WHO, has recently published the “National eHealth Strategy toolkit”: a comprehensive, practical guide that provides a strategic framework and method for the development of a national eHealth vision, action plan and monitoring and evaluation framework.

168. Following the launch of the “National eHealth Strategy toolkit”, ITU and WHO have organized a Workshop on “eHealth strategy Development Country Experience and Next Steps”, 25-26 July 2012, Geneva, WHO Headquarters gathering representatives from Ministries of Health and ICT from 15 countries around the world to learn from their experiences, gain their commitment and mobilize resources to support them towards initiating national eHealth planning processes.

169. A Joint ITU-WHO Workshop on e-Health Standards and Interoperability was held in Geneva, 26-27 April 2012. This workshop helped taking stock of efforts to date, discuss barriers to adoption, and contribute to an ITU-WHO developed roadmap to guide future action.

170. In the context of the Commission on Information and Accountability for Women and Children’s Health, ITU is currently, in collaboration with other partners, developing a report on “How ICT can support the implementation of Commission on Information and Accountability for Women and Children’s Health Recommendations” to improve Accountability for Women and Children’s Health.

171. In the same context, ITU is also developing with WHO a database of eHealth projects especially in the area of Maternal and Children’s health.

172. ITU has launched during the ITU Telecom in Dubai with WHO a joint Workplan to use mobile to address Non-communicable Diseases (NCDs) burden through scalable mHealth solutions. The workplan will target 8 countries in 4 years in areas of Prevention, Treatment and Policy Enforcement.

173. In the context of the European Regional Initiative, an “Experts Group Meeting” on "M-Health: Towards Better Care, Cure and Prevention in Europe" was organized in Geneva on 25-26 September 2012 bringing key mHealth experts from Europe. The main aim of this meeting was to share, amongst European experts, best practices in the implementation e/m-health, while addressing an urgent need to focus on challenges (policy, regulatory, technical and business related) arising from a rapid growth of the mobile health services.

174. A Background Paper on “Filling the Gap: Legal and Regulatory Challenges on mHealth in Europe” is being prepared to provide an analysis of the primary legal problems faced by Europe with the development of medical information services, patient health care or follow-up services, accessible over mobile terminals (telephones, PDA, tablets, and dedicated equipment).
175. ITU in collaboration with UNDESA has organized a capacity building workshop entitled “Future Government: A Global Perspective in Connection to Open Government Data and Citizen Engagement”, that took place in Geneva, Switzerland, on 16-17 May 2012, during the WSIS Forum 2012.


**Action Line C8: Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content**

177. ITU actively facilitates access to and use of ICTs by Indigenous Peoples to contribute to their digital inclusion, social and economic development and preservation of their heritage and cultural legacy through the use of ICTs. In line with this goal ITU Members adopted Plenipotentiary Resolution 184 (Guadalajara, 2010) regarding facilities to provide fellowships to indigenous persons seeking to attend ITU events, workshops, training etc.

178. The ITU actively participated in the 2012 WSIS Session on Action Line C8.

179. In accordance with the decision of WTDC-02, endorsed by WTDC-06 Resolution 46 within the framework of the Special Initiative “Assistance to Indigenous People” the BDT develops actions and projects dedicated to indigenous communities targeting to use the ICTs as a tool to achieve the integration into the Information Society of these communities.

180. BDT included the relevant provisions in the activities of its Operational Plan with a view to support Member States in addressing special needs of indigenous people for creating dedicated actions and projects as regards to equitable access, use and knowledge of information communication technology (ICT’s), based on the preservation of their heritage and cultural legacy.

181. BDT develops activities targeting to achieve the goal of digital inclusion, enabling universal, sustainable and affordable access to ICT’s for All, including disadvantaged, marginalized and vulnerable groups, as well as indigenous people.
Action Line C9: Media

182. Number of recommendations relevant to providing access to ICTs through terrestrial and satellite radiocommunication and broadcasting infrastructures have been established, and are under study currently, broadcasting infrastructures are particularly relevant in developing countries and/or underserved areas such as remote and sparsely populated areas.

183. Moreover ITU carried out various studies for Internet Protocol TV (IPTV) that will enable enhanced, media rich delivery of content to users around the world, as well as Next Generation Networks (NGN) to reduce international imbalances affecting the media, particularly as regards infrastructure and technical resources. ITU-T is also working to enhance accessibility features of audio-visual media through the FG AVA, and has organized two IPTV Application Challenges to promote innovative IPTV applications, and motivate experts across the broad IPTV ecosystem to develop original and creative IPTV applications based on ITU’s suite of IPTV Recommendations.

184. ITU is in the process of implementing a project on Transition from Analogue to Digital Broadcasting aiming to assist the developing and least developed countries to smoothly shift to digital terrestrial broadcasting in all regions starting with the African Region, followed by Asia-Pacific, Central-Eastern Europe, CIS and the Caribbean ones.

185. World Radiocommunication Conference 2012 was held from the 23 January to 17 February 2012. WRC-12 addressed some 30 agenda items related to frequency allocation and frequency sharing for the efficient use of spectrum and orbital resources, thus ensuring high quality radiocommunication services for mobile and satellite communications, maritime and aeronautical transport as well as for scientific purposes related to the environment, meteorology and climatology, disaster prediction, mitigation and relief. Over 3000 participants, representing 165 out of ITU’s 193 Member States attended the four-week Conference, braving the extreme winter conditions prevailing in Geneva. Over 100 Observers from among ITU’s 700 private sector members along with international organizations also attended WRC-12. WRC 2012 concluded its deliberations with the signing of the Final Acts that revise the Radio Regulations, the international treaty governing the use of radio-frequency spectrum and satellite orbits.

(d) United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS) (Para 103)

186. UNGIS was endorsed by the CEB in April 2006 and it serves as an interagency mechanism to coordinate substantive policy issues facing the United Nations system’s implementation of the Geneva Plan of Action and Tunis Agenda for the Information Society adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society, thereby contributing to improving policy coherence in the UN system, as requested by the 2005 World Summit.

187. In May 2012, within the framework of the WSIS Forum 2012, ITU hosted Eighth Meeting of UNGIS consisting of a High Level Segment and a Working Level Meeting. During this meeting ITU handed over its Chairmanship of the Group to UNCTAD.
As the Chair for 2011-2012, ITU successfully performed its duties and coordinated with all the vice chairs ensuring the implementation of the UNGIS Work Programme 2011-2013. The UNGIS Work Plan mandated ITU to follow up on several UNGIS activities, including, WSIS+10, Rio+20, UNDAF, Joint Initiative on Mobile for Development, Stocktaking Process, etc. During the UNGIS working level meeting ITU made a presentation on the strengths and weaknesses of other United Nations interagency mechanisms to improve/ assist the UNGIS working methods. This exercise allowed the UNGIS members to compare.

188. The WSIS outcomes and the UN General Assembly Resolution 60/252 decided to conduct an overall review of the implementation of the Summit outcomes in 2015. The ITU Plenipotentiary Resolution 172 (PP-10) on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the WSIS, including the possibility of holding a high-level event in 2014/2015 has requested ITU Secretary General to initiate the preparatory process at the UN Chief Executive Board (CEB). Consequently CEB tasked UNGIS, under ITU leadership, to prepare, on the basis of an open consultation, an Action Plan to organize high-level meeting on the WSIS Review. The Action Plan was presented to the CEB meeting in April 2012, and would take into consideration the strong support of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development served by UNCTAD.

189. The results of the open consultation including all the Formal Submissions received and the draft Plan of Action are available at www.ungis.org.


191. In the CEB spring session, April 2012, the ITU presented the Plan of Action. During this session it was decided that ITU should play managerial role for WSIS+10.

192. During WSIS Forum 2012, discussions on the WSIS +10 process were held during the Ministerial Round table, the two plenary sessions on WSIS +10 and the Action Line facilitator’s meeting. The WSIS + 10, Plenary I was held on the 15 May 2012 and the Plenary II was held on 18 May 2012.

193. Stakeholders actively shared their vision of the WSIS Process beyond 2015, and made their contributions reemphasizing the need to strengthen the reporting mechanisms for the 10-year implementation of WSIS related activities and identifying the new developments and challenges that have emerged by way of reporting templates.

194. There was Multistakeholder consensus on the following:

- 10 Year templates for the reports of the lead facilitators on the Action Lines
- 10 year templates for the national self-evaluation reporting on the implementation of the WSIS outcomes
195. Further to the request of the ECOSOC Resolution (31) on the Assessment of the Progress Made in the Implementation of and Follow-up to the Outcomes of WSIS, the Secretary General, ITU reported to the 15th Session of the CSTD that during the WSIS Forum 2012 Multi-stakeholder consensus was achieved on the 10 year reporting templates.

196. In response to the ITU Council resolution that instructs the ITU SG to report to the United Nations General Assembly, the ITU SG made a contribution to the General Assembly in November 2012 and provided an update on the preparations initiated towards the 10 year review of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS).

197. Following up on the recommendations of its 7th meeting, under ITU’s leadership, UNGIS presented a joint contribution to the preparatory process of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (RIO+20). In response to the call for contributions by the RIO+20 secretariat, UNGIS prepared and submitted a contribution highlighting the relevant aspects of ICTs and Information Society to help achieve a green economy and sustainable development.

198. The UNGIS Contribution to the Rio+20 preparatory process makes concrete proposals and welcomes the establishment of international sustainable development goals as tools to measure progress towards sustainable development with the aim of promoting access to ICTs and the transformational potential they encompass in achieving equitable, secure and sustainable societies. This important contribution ensures linkage between the principles of the World Summit on the Information Society and the sustainable development process. Click here to read the official UNGIS submission to the UNCSD Secretariat. The contribution to the RIO+20 Preparatory Process is available here: http://www.ungis.org/ThematicMeetingsActivities/JointContributiontotheRio20Process.aspx.

199. UNGIS actions on UNDAF: a letter cosigned by ITU, Secretary-General and UNDP Administrator was issued by UNGIS on incorporating ICT for Development into the UNDAF Process. On behalf of the United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS) a request was made for good co-operation to follow through on the commitments made in ECOSOC Resolution 2009/7 "Assessment of the Progress Made in the Implementation of and Follow-Up to the Outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society”.

200. The Resolution calls for the 'inclusion of a component in the UNDAF on information and communication technologies for development (ICTD)', and urges coordinated action to implement the Tunis Agenda, as agreed at the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) in 2005.

201. ITU continues to collect best practices through the WSIS Stocktaking Platform:

- best practices on innovative concepts
- best practices on the frameworks and substantive policy issues
202. During preparation of WSIS Stocktaking Report 2012, the UNGIS secretariat contacted facilitators on a bilateral basis to collect information on the latest activities in their respective Action Lines for period 2010-2012. The 4th edition of WSIS Stocktaking Report reflects more than 1000 latest WSIS related activities each emphasizing the efforts undertaken by stakeholders involved in the WSIS process, out of the projects submitted, 25% were by international organizations, mainly by UNGIS members. The WSIS Stocktaking Report 2012 was released on 15th May at the WSIS Forum 2012.

203. ITU continues to provide secretariat support to UNGIS and maintains the official UNGIS webpage www.ungis.org.

(e) Measuring the Information Society (paras 113-119 of TAIS)

204. ITU continues to monitor the development of the digital divide, through appropriate benchmarks and indicators. The ITU maintains the World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database, which is updated regularly, disseminated widely and which can be accessed online through the ICT Eye. To improve data availability and comparability, ITU works closely with its member states, particularly the Ministries in charge of telecommunication, regulatory agencies, and national statistical offices.

205. In 2011-12, more than 100 statistical indicators from over 200 economies worldwide were collected through four annual questionnaires. The data were disseminated through the website (ICT Eye on line portal), CD-ROM, electronic download and printed publications such as the 37th edition of the Yearbook of Statistics, and the 15th and 16th editions of the World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators (WTI) database. In October 2011, ITU published “The World in 2011: ICT Facts and Figures” featuring estimates for key ICT indicators for the current year. In March 2012, ITU published the report “ICT Adoption and Prospects in the Arab Region”, as a background document to the ITU Connect Arab Summit. The report provides an overview of the latest progress made on ICT development in the region and highlights areas where further action is required.

206. ITU is an active member of the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development and together with UNCTAD and ECLAC, one of the three members of its Steering Committee. At the end of 2011, a core set of indicators on e-government was finalized and launched at the ITU World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Meeting (WTIM) in Mauritius. The indicators will be added to the Partnership core list of ICT indicators developed in 2005 and updated regularly. A revised and extended core list of indicators was presented to the UN Statistical Commission (UNSC) in March 2012, at its forty-third session. The UNSC fully endorsed the list of indicators and asked for its wide circulation so that it can be used as a reference. The UNSC also agreed with the recommendations by the Partnerships on approaches to enhance ICT statistics, asked the Partnership to continue
reviewing the indicators in light of rapid technological advances and widespread use of ICT technology, recognized the importance of capacity building activities, welcomed the activities of some development partners in this area and urged other development partners to provide assistance in this regard. In December 2011, at the ITU WTIM in Mauritius, it was announced that the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development is expanding with a new member: the UNEP Secretariat of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposals (UNEP/SBC). During the WSIS Forum 2012, the Partnership organized two sessions, on “Measuring the WSIS Targets”, led by ITU, and on “Measuring E-waste”, led by UNEP/SBC, with the participation of ITU.

The Partnership has presented its planned activities for the WSIS+10 review during the WSIS Forum 2012 and the World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Meeting (WTIM) 2012. Coordinated by the Partnership’s Task Group on Measuring the WSIS targets (TG WSIS, led by ITU), a meta-data questionnaire has been developed to collect information on data availability in countries for the WSIS target indicators. The questionnaire, which is based on the Partnership document “Measuring the WSIS Targets - A statistical framework”, has been sent to all WSIS country focal points in November at the end of 2012 by the UN Regional Commissions.

207. The 9th World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Meeting (WTIM) took place in Mauritius from 7-9 December 2011. The meeting attracted around 200 participants from over 70 member states, public and private companies and regional and international organizations. The meeting focused on five main topics: measuring global development targets; ICT infrastructure and access indicators (in particular the review of definitions and discussions on broadband capacity, mobile broadband subscriptions and tariffs, and speed and quality of service); investment and revenue in the telecommunication/ICT economy; e-waste; and household ICT surveys. Two sessions were organized jointly with the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development. The WTIM was preceded by a two-day meeting of the ITU Expert Group on Telecommunication/ICT Indicators (EGTI). At the WTIM, the ITU Handbook for the Collection of Administrative Data on Telecommunications/ICT 2011 was launched. The Handbook was developed in close collaboration with the EGTI, and includes 81 indicators on telecommunications/ICT, definitions and standards, as well as examples of national experiences on the collection of these indicators.

208. The 10th World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Meeting (WTIM) took place in Bangkok, Thailand, from 25-27 September 2012. It was hosted by the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology (MICT) of Thailand. The Meeting attracted around 300 participants from 70 Member States, 14 public and private organizations (including academia) and 13 regional and international organizations. The meeting focused on the measurement aspects of the following main topics: ICT infrastructure and access; revenue and investment; quality of service; data traffic; wireless broadband; digital broadcasting; the WSIS+10 review; e-commerce; ICT household access and individual ICT use; and gender and ICT indicators. A high-level segment took place on the first day, focusing on the subject of national
coordination of ICT statistics. Two sessions were organized jointly with the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development. The WTIM was preceded by a two-day meeting of the ITU Expert Group on Telecommunication/ICT Indicators (EGTI).

209. On 11 October 2012, ITU launched the Measuring the Information Society (MIS) Report 2012, which includes ITU’s two authoritative benchmarking tools to monitor information society developments worldwide: The ICT Development Index and the ICT Price Basket. The ICT Development Index (IDI) ranks 155 countries’ performance with regard to information and communication technology (ICT) infrastructure and uptake. The ICT Price Basket (IPB) is a unique metric that tracks and compares the cost and affordability of ICT services in more than 160 countries globally. Both the IDI and the IPB combined are powerful measures for benchmarking and explaining differences among countries and within regions when it comes to ICT developments. This year’s edition of the report also features brand new data and analyses on revenue and investment in the ICT sector and proposes a new methodology to measure the world’s telecommunication capacity. The Report and key highlights are available at: [http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/idi/index.html](http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/idi/index.html).

(f) Maintaining the WSIS Stocktaking Database (Para 120, Tunis Agenda) and a portal for best practices and success stories (Para 28, Geneva Plan of Action).

211. Maintaining the WSIS Stocktaking Database (Para 120) Pursuant to the outcomes of the Tunis Agenda (Para 120) ITU continues to work on the WSIS Stocktaking (www.wsis.org/stocktaking) as a valuable tool for assisting the WSIS follow-up, beyond the conclusion of the Tunis phase of the Summit.

212. The WSIS Stocktaking process was initiated in 2004, during the Tunis phase of WSIS and, with time, it has become an effective tool for the exchange of information on projects and initiatives related to the implementation of the 11 Action Lines. The principal role of the WSIS Stocktaking exercise is to leverage the activities of stakeholders working on the implementation of WSIS outcomes and share knowledge and experience of projects by replicating successful models. As of October 2012, over 5718 updated entries have been registered in the WSIS Stocktaking Database reflecting innovative activities including projects, programmes, WSIS thematic meetings, conferences, publications, training initiatives, guidelines and tool-kits. One entry may contain information on more than one project. Following Para 120 and 2012 ECOSOC Resolution on “Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society”, the ITU Membership is encouraged to continue to contribute information on their activities to this public database. All countries are invited to gather information at the national level with the involvement of all stakeholders, to contribute to the stocktaking process.

213. WSIS Stocktaking reporting is a bi- annual exercise that was launched in 2005 in order to highlight stakeholder’s progress in achieving the WSIS targets. The 2012 edition of the WSIS Stocktaking Report is the continuation of the WSIS Stocktaking Report series. (also please see the see previous editions of the report 2005, 2008, 2010).

214. The 4th edition of the WSIS Stocktaking Report was officially released during the WSIS Forum 2012. The report reflected more than 1000 latest WSIS related activities for the period 2010-2012, each emphasizing the efforts undertaken by stakeholders involved in the WSIS process. The publication is aimed at demonstrating the commitment of stakeholders towards building and establishing a global information society providing greater visibility to ICT related activities; sharing the innovative ideas to promote the use of ICTs and identifying the best practices towards building the Information Society in different countries. The reporting is based on the contributions of the stakeholders responding to the ITU Official Call 2010 and 2011 for update and new entries. The new call for the WSIS Stocktaking Report 2013 has been launched.

215. WSIS Stocktaking Platform, launched in February 2010, transformed the previous static database into a unique portal to highlight ICT-related projects and initiatives in line with WSIS implementation. The platform offers stakeholders exciting and interactive networking opportunities via Web 2.0 applications. In the framework of the WSIS
Stocktaking Platform, all types of stakeholders can benefit from “the global events calendar”, “the global repository”, “case studies” components. It provides the opportunity to stakeholder to network and create partnerships and adds value to projects at the local, national, regional and international levels. As of October 2012 WSIS Stocktaking Platform attracted 6418 members, from 143 countries and this number is rapidly growing.

216. With the aim of engaging the partners in the exchange of knowledge a series of online interviews with key WSIS stakeholders have been conducted since 2010. All interviews are available at www.wsis.org/stocktaking.

217. Following the recommendations of WSIS stakeholders and the ITU membership, with the aim of highlighting ICT-related projects and initiatives in context of WSIS implementation and follow-up, the electronic Version 1.1 of WSIS Stocktaking: Success Stories (http://www.wsis.org/stocktaking) was launched during the WSIS Forum 2011. The Success Stories publication provides examples of WSIS Implementation projects and facilitates transfer of experience and knowledge at global level. The publication aggregates several voluntary contributions from around the world that were collected from active members of the WSIS Stocktaking Platform during the period 2010 – 2011, and illustrates the key lessons drawn from the management of these projects. By sharing these case studies, stakeholders are intending to facilitate transfer of knowledge, experiences and models for project implementation. Success Stories 2011 aim at encouraging other stakeholders to share their experiences of the WSIS implementation.

218. WSIS Project Prizes is a unique recognition for excellence in the implementation of WSIS outcomes. The WSIS Project Prizes is the announcement that came in response to requests from participants at WSIS Forum 2011 for a mechanism to evaluate and reward individuals, governments, civil society, local, regional and international agencies, research institutions and private sector companies for the success of their efforts in implementing development-oriented strategies that leverage the power of ICTs.

219. The contest of WSIS Project Prizes is open to all stakeholders: governments, private sector, civil society, international organizations, academia and others. The contest comprises 18 categories that are directly linked to the WSIS Action Lines outlined in the Geneva Plan of Action.

220. In 2012, for the first time the ITU launched a series of prizes recognizing excellence in the implementation of projects and initiatives which further the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) goals of improving connectivity to information and communication technologies (ICTs), particularly within underserved communities. The winners were selected out of 170 submitted projects from 50 countries and were highlighted in the 2012 edition of the WSIS Stocktaking Report on Success Stories. For further information please visit www.wsis.org/stocktaking/prizes. On 14 May, ITU Secretary-General Dr Hamadoun Touré announced the winners of 18 WSIS Project Prizes, as part of the Opening Ceremony of the WSIS Forum 2012 event. The winners of the contest WSIS Project Prizes 2012 are the following: the Association for Progressive Communications (South Africa/international), the National Information Center (Sudan), Computers to Educate (Colombia), the Ministry of Administration and Digitization (Poland), Odessa National Academia of Telecommunications N.A. Popov (Ukraine), Rural Technology and Business Incubator (India), Network for Information & Computer...
Technology (India, The Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Oman), The Ministry of Education (Saudi Arabia), Cognizant Technology Solutions (USA/India), the Human Resources Development Fund (Saudi Arabia), ICVolunteers (Switzerland), e-Agriculture Community (Food & Agriculture Organization), University of La Punta (Argentina), Telecentre.org Foundation (Philippines), Video Volunteers (India), The Ministry of Information Society and Telecommunications (Montenegro) and the Technology Organization of Iran (ITO) and Iran University of Science, Technology and Information (Islamic Republic of Iran).

221. This initiative was appreciated by diverse stakeholders and it was encouraged to continue this initiative in 2013 with the same open approach allowing all stakeholders to participate in this transparent contest.

222. During WSIS Forum 2012, two interactive sessions were organized on the WSIS stocktaking process: WSIS Project Prizes Showcasing- Part 1 and WSIS Project Prizes Showcasing- Part 2 where winners were able to exchange the ideas, present and promote their projects at the international level, and learn about other best practices and models that exist. The winners were also highlighted in the 2012 edition of the WSIS Stocktaking Report on Success Stories.

223. The appreciation of Member States for WSIS Project Prizes was reflected in the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) resolution 2012/5 "Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society", it reiterates the importance of sharing the best practices at the global level, and while recognizing excellence in the implementation of the projects and initiatives which further the WSIS goals, encourages all stakeholders to nominate their projects to the annual WSIS Project Prizes, as an integral part of the WSIS Stocktaking process, while noting the report on the WSIS Success Stories.

224. WSIS Project Prizes 2013 was launched on 3rd September 2012 inviting all stakeholders governments, private sector, civil society, international organizations, academia and others to submit latest WSIS related activities. The format and structure of contest 2013 followed the same set-up as previous contest that was advised by stakeholders at WSIS Forum 2012. The initial deadline to submit projects was set up as 16 December 2012 however responding to the requests of several stakeholders, the deadline has been extended until 31 January 2013. The list of all submitted projects will be available online and will be introduced to stakeholders for their evaluation immediately once the submission phase is over. In addition, WSIS secretariat will prepare the booklet with all nominated projects in order to provide to WSIS stakeholders extra visibility and exposure. The WSIS Project Prize Ceremony will be held on 13 May 2013 during the WSIS Forum 2013, in Geneva, Switzerland awarding 18 winners. The new component of WSIS Project Prizes is the GALA dinner that will enable better networking opportunities and also give occasion for winners to showcase and brand its projects. The GALA dinner will be moderated by an expert in the ICT field. The winners of the previous contest will also be invited to the WSIS Gala Dinner in order to provide an update on their projects and future
developments. The WSIS Stocktaking: Success Stories 2013 will also be presented at the Gala evening. The additional value of this contest is identification of the success stories from grassroots level contributing towards socio-economic development.

225. Support to collection of information using the WSIS stocktaking database:

226. In 2012, Broadband Commission sharehouse was further developed with assistance of WSIS secretariat to facilitate collection of descriptions of the broadband related projects and automatic reporting to the WSIS process.

227. A similar approach was used for development of the e-health portal. There were several meetings held between ITU and WHO in order to share knowledge and technology of the WSIS Stocktaking platform for building a e-health portal. The e-health portal is initially built to collect information on the accountability processes in place for maternal and child health and tracking information on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) 4 and 5 to reduce child mortality and improve maternal health. The e-health portal could become the mechanism for future reporting that responds to the request for the resolution “WHO’s role in the follow-up to the high-level plenary meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on the review of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) (September 2010)” that notes the United Nations Secretary-General’s request that “WHO leads a process to determine the most effective international institutional arrangements for global reporting, oversight and accountability on women’s and children’s health, including through the United Nations system”.

228. In the future, the portal is expected to serve as a unique eHealth platform for knowledge management and sharing that will provide regular and updated information and reporting on eHealth through:

1. An e-Repository of eHealth projects and case studies implemented in Commission on Information and Accountability (COIA) countries, and later, in all countries.

2. An e-Roster of selected eHealth experts that have technical capacity for future cooperation.

3. An e-Library and online documentation space for policies and strategies for the National eHealth Strategies Toolkit.

4. The organization of regular webinars with Regional Offices and partners.

229. The engine of WSIS Stocktaking was used for the Cybersecurity Gateway as the tool to reinforce the reporting on the activities relevant to AL C.5 "Building Confidence and Security in the use of ICTs”.

230. The embeddable interface of WSIS Stocktaking can also be found on the e-agriculture platform and UNDESA website.

231. In the framework of WSIS Stocktaking, WSIS secretariat and ITU Climate Change team conducted an analysis on projects submitted to the WSIS stocktaking platform featuring the role of ICTs in promoting environmental sustainability (action line C7, ICT applications: e-environment). The results from this analysis will contribute to the work of ITU’s development sector, which has a line of work focused on the issues of climate change,
identifying ways and means in which ICTs can monitor climate change and reduce overall global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

(g) Emergency Telecommunications (Para 91 of TAIS)

232.ITU carried out various actions related to Emergency Telecommunications including:

- **Disaster Relief:** Assistance was provided to a number of countries. ITU has deployed satellite terminals for disaster relief operations in various countries such as Pakistan, Haiti, Indonesia, Malawi, Japan, among others.

- **Direct Assistance:** Assistance to countries in the areas of policy, regulation, technology and design of National Emergency Telecommunications Plans and drafting of Standard Operating Procedures, as well as disaster preparedness, early warning, dissemination of understandable warnings to those at risk, disaster relief/response and telecommunication network rehabilitation in the aftermath of disasters.

- **Promotion of regional and international cooperation:** For easy access to, and sharing of, information for disaster management, climate change and exploring modalities to facilitate participation of all countries.

- **Support:** Countries with appropriate technologies for monitoring climate change, disaster prediction, detection and mitigation using remote sensing and Geographical Information Systems.

- **Assist countries in considering:** The importance of environmentally sound disposal of ICT equipment.

233.ITU continues to define Recommendations in support of emergency communications specifying service definition, alert messaging, call prioritization for relief workers using multimedia and cable systems, telecommunications network management, and special functionality in signaling systems. ITU-T is continuing work on a Recommendation that defines service requirements for terrestrial mobile alerting broadcast capabilities and has begun work to provide guidelines for Member States who are in the process of selecting Message Identifier assignments to be used for such services. In addition work was completed on a document that provides an overview of standards development organizations (SDOs) and other industry organizations in support of emergency telecommunications. Also an ITU-T Recommendation indicating what features and mechanisms of a Next Generation Network (NGN) may be used to facilitate the requirements of emergency telecommunications was completed. Together with WMO, ITU held a [Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) Implementation Workshop](#).

234.**As mandated in Resolution 647 (Rev.WRC-12), ITU continues to maintain a database of frequencies used by its Member States for emergency communications; the availability of those frequencies in the database is intended to facilitate timely operations during disaster situations.**

235.**The October 2011 CTO (Chief Technology Officer) Group meeting called upon ITU-T urgently to study the development of standards for disaster relief systems and to establish a Focus Group to advance work on this critical subject, including the recovery and resilience of network infrastructure.** ITU-T established a Focus Group on Systems Network Resilience and Recovery (FG-DR&NRR) in January 2012 at its TSAG meeting. FG-DR&NRR will further address: (1) disaster relief for individuals (to notify the damage situation from
victims to their relatives, friends, or employers) and (2) disaster relief guidance (to show victims the routes to evacuation shelters, home, etc.). In addition, it will identify standardization requirements and issues in network resilience and recovery of infrastructure following disasters. The Focus Group held two meetings in Geneva (June and September 2012) inviting experts from various organizations such as UNDP, UNISDR as well as ITU-D, ITU-R and ITU-T. Hereafter, it will meet in countries that have experienced serious disaster, such as flood, hurricane, earthquake and tsunami, to learn and collect their experiences all over the world enabling participation of local experts.

(h) International Internet Connectivity (Para 77c.ii and 50d of TAIS)

236. ITU-T Study Group 3 continues to study this matter. BDT is providing assistance to East African Community (EAC) and South African Development Community (SADC) countries on the creation of national Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) and achieving efficient and cost effective Regional Internet connectivity.

(i) Connect the World Initiative

237. Within the framework of the Connect the World initiative, launched by ITU in 2005, the Union dedicates significant efforts further development of this multistakeholder platform, with aim to help mobilize the financial, human and technical resources needed to implement outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC).

238. As part of this effort, ITU continues to organize high-level events known as Connect the World Summits (www.itu.int/partners) in each region where Members have expressed an interest. Building on the success of the first event Connect Africa held in 2007, Rwanda, ITU and the second Connect CIS Summit in Minsk, Belarus 2009, ITU organized the Connect Arab States Summit in Doha, Qatar from 5-7 March 2012, with the aim to leverage the huge market potential, and to mobilize the human, financial and technical resources which would support the rapid move to a true information economy and society. Connect the Americas will took place in Panama City, Panama, from 17 to 19 July 2012.

239. In 2011/12 BDT continued to work on four global Connect the World flagship initiatives. The aim of these initiatives is to build upon and strengthen promising projects that start in one region or with one industry partner, by providing an attractive, open platform and brand that can be promoted to additional partners globally and/or in various regions. Wireless Broadband Partnership, Connecting Villages Initiative, Connect a School, Connect a Community, ITU Mobile Health Initiative, ITU-IMPACT Collaboration on Cybersecurity.

(j) World Telecommunication and Information Society Day

240. World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (www.itu.int/wtisday), celebrated each year on 17 May, marks the anniversary of the signature of the first International Telegraph Convention in 1865 which led to the creation of the International Telecommunication Union. This occasion was recognized as World Telecommunication Day in 1973. Following the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)
in 2005 and the 2006 ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in Antalya, Turkey, 17 May was designated as World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD).

241. The World Telecommunication and Information Society Day endeavors to raise awareness of the possibilities that the use of the Internet and other ICTs can bring to societies and economies, as well as of ways to bridge the digital divide. ICTs are increasingly in demand to meet the Millennium Development Goals. In the rural context, ICTs provide enhanced opportunities to generate income and combat poverty, hunger, ill health and illiteracy.

242. ITU marked the 147th anniversary of its establishment on 17 May this year by recognizing three eminent personalities who have contributed to the ongoing digital revolution in information and communication technologies (ICT). President of Argentina Ms Cristina Fernández de Kirchner, Chairman of Huawei Ms Sun Yafang, and Hollywood celebrity and advocate Geena Davis were be awarded the 2012 ITU World Telecommunication and Information Society Award in recognition of their leadership and dedication towards promoting ICTs as a means of empowering women and girls.

243. This year’s theme, ‘Women and Girls in ICT’ aims to ensure that there is equal opportunity for all and that women and girls can play a greater role within the ICT sector. ITU advocates the opening of fresh avenues of advancement to women at the highest echelons of decision making, and encourages young women to seek opportunities within the ICT sector.
244. The World Telecommunication and Information Society Award was presented in Geneva on 16 May 2012 and the ceremony was followed by a high-level panel discussion with the laureates and other distinguished speakers.

(k) Bridging the standardization gap (Paras 26g and 90 of TAIS)

245. ITU is working to implement PP-06 Resolution 123 on bridging the Standardization Gap between developed and developing countries.

246. In 2012, numerous ITU-T’s study groups saw increased participation, especially from developing countries. Remote participation tools are used for all ITU-T meetings. 15 workshops were held in developing countries in 2012 to promote the implementation of ITU-T Recommendations. Four handbooks were published (Security Manual, Future Networks, Impacts of MTC and Non-MTC Mobile Data Applications on Mobile Networks, Access Networks, and How To Video Conference with ITU-T H.323 using Free and Open Source software).

247. The Standards Q&A forum1 launched in 2011, has now been implemented. It is an open forum allowing anyone to ask questions concerning standardization work, moderated by TSB’s study group counsellors. It offers a unique opportunity to engage with the experts that develop the standards that underpin ICTs. The Forum also offers a platform where exchange of information between developed and developing countries on application of ITU-T Recommendations can be facilitated.

248. A mentoring programme for ITU-T Study Group members from developing countries has been introduced for the first time in August 2011 to provide more information to new delegates about the procedures of ITU-T meetings and to enhance the contribution from developing countries. It will feature now as a regular part of ITU-T study group meetings and TSAG. At the TSAG meeting in January 2012, a new Mentor role was created for ITU-T Study Groups. The mentor will be responsible for guiding delegates from developing countries and briefing them about the work of the study group to enhance contribution from developing countries.

249. The voluntary BSG fund to help bridge the standardization gap was established in August 2007. The Fund was used, inter alia, for supporting more events taking place in developing countries. Contributors are Nokia Siemens Networks, Microsoft, Cisco and the Korean Communications Commission (KCC). Funds were also used to provide fellowships.

250. In 2012, two regional Bridging the Standardization Gap workshops were held. 16 workshops were organized by TSB in collaboration with BDT and BR in developing countries in 2012 to disseminate information about standardization work ongoing at the level of ITU-T and capacity building on standardization.

251. A Focus Group bridging the gap: from innovation to standards was established in January 2012 to identify successful innovations in emerging economies, analyse the standardization gaps and recommend new standardization work for ITU-T Study Groups.

1 http://groups.itu.int/itu-t/StandardsQA.aspx
The Focus Group has already met three times in 2012 and is expected to conclude its work in mid 2013.

(I) Internet Governance Forum

252. Since the beginning, ITU has actively contributed to the Internet Governance Forum. ITU continued its active participation in the 7th IGF in November 2012 (Baku, Azerbaijan). Three Dynamic Coalition meetings and several workshops were organized or co-organized by ITU aimed at raising awareness of ITU initiatives in the areas of Internet and Climate Change, Accessibility and Disability, and Child Online Safety.

253. The Dynamic Coalition on Accessibility and Disability (DCAD) organized two events. The workshop on “The Sustainable Benefits of Inclusion on the Internet” focused the discussion on the reality that member states have to deal with when promote the access for persons with disabilities to new information and communications technologies and systems, including the Internet”. The second “Workshop on Remote Participation reality and principles” led by DiploFoundation with DCAD, discussed the current reality and need of remote participation.

254. Members of ITU’s delegation were also involved in relevant workshops and events, to provide ITU perspective on critical issues, including the issue of Spectrum. In addition, ITU co-hosted a High-level Ministerial Meeting with the Government of Azerbaijan, UN, UNESCO, ICANN and ISOC, took place on 5 November 2012 just prior to IGF 2012, to address the challenges of Hyperconnected World. The Secretary General of ITU, Dr. Hamadoun I. Touré, as the sole moderator of the Round Table Session, led the discussion for the Global Challenges of a Hyperconnected World: Long-Term Outlook into Broadband and Cyber security.
III. ITU Role in the Overall Review of the Implementation of the Outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society

(a) WSIS+10 Process, WSIS Beyond 2015

255. The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) outcome documents and the UN General Assembly Resolution 60/252 resolved to conduct an overall review of the implementation of the Summit outcomes in 2015. The ITU Plenipotentiary Resolution 172 (PP-10) on the Overall Review of the Implementation of the Outcomes of the WSIS; including the possibility of holding a high-level event in 2014/2015, requested ITU Secretary General to initiate the preparatory process at the UN Chief Executives Board (CEB). Consequently, in 2011 the CEB tasked UNGIS, under ITU leadership, to prepare, on the basis of an open consultation, an Action Plan for the WSIS Overall Review (WSIS+10). The Board requested UNGIS to present the Action Plan at its spring 2012 session. HLCP noted the plan and forwarded to CEB for endorsement. During the CEB Spring Session held at ITU Headquarters in April 2012, the plan was approved, and ITU has been identified to play a managerial role for the process. Further to the request of the ECOSOC Resolution (31) on the Assessment of the Progress Made in the Implementation of and Follow-up to the Outcomes of WSIS, the Secretary General, ITU reported to the 15th Session of the CSTD that during the WSIS Forum 2012 multi-stakeholder consensus was achieved on the 10 year reporting templates.

256. Following the Plan of Action, two plenary sessions on WSIS+10 were been organized during the WSIS Forum 2012. Comprehensive report on the outcomes have been provided by the ITU Secretary General to the 15th Session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development. Following 2012 ITU Council Resolution, the ITU Secretary General contributed to the 67th session of the General Assembly, providing an update on the Plan of Action as well as all activities related to the WSIS+10.

257. The following presents the Action Plan, including detailed information on events.

Plan of Action

Expected Final Outcomes of the Overall Review Process (WSIS+10)

1. Evaluation and Assessment Reports (adaptations possible in the lead-up to 2015)
   - WSIS+10 Progress Report (Quantitative Focus)
     (Initial Coordination by Partnership on the Measuring ICT for Development during the WSIS Forum 2012)
   - Review Reports by Action Line Facilitators (11 Action Lines)
     (Template to be prepared by WSIS Action Line Facilitators’ Meeting during the WSIS Forum 2012)
• Self-evaluation National Review Reports
  (Draft template to be prepared during WSIS Action Line Facilitators’ Meeting of the WSIS Forum 2012)
• WSIS+10 Stocktaking Report
  (International Telecommunication Union)
• IGF Secretariat Report
• UNGIS Review Report
• Contributions to the MDG Process

2. Forward looking outcome setting an agenda beyond 2015

Preparatory Process and Meetings within the Framework of the Overall Review up to 2015

Preparatory process will include virtual working methods as an integral part of the overall review.

2012:
• 15 May (Plenary I) and 18 May (Plenary II) Start of Preparations for the WSIS+10 Review during the WSIS Forum 2012, Geneva (2 days) to define
  o preliminary indications for the scope of the possible forward looking outcome, setting agenda beyond 2015
  o templates for the reports of the lead facilitators on the Action Lines
  o templates for the national self-evaluation reporting on the implementation of the WSIS outcomes
• 21 May: Report on the outcomes of the UNGIS Consultations on the WSIS+10 Review to the 15th Session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)
• October-December: UN General Assembly

2013:
• 25-27 February: Multistakeholder Event for the WSIS+10 Review (Towards Knowledge Societies for Peace and Sustainable Development)
  (3 days event, hosted by UNESCO in Paris, with a high-level component)
  o Review of emerging trends in the Information Society
  o Development of recommendations of relevance to the forward looking outcome.
• 13-17 May: Preparations to the WSIS+10 during WSIS Forum 2013
  (Geneva, 2-3 days)
  o Agreement on outline of the forward looking outcome
  o Discussion on text
2014:
- **April: Preparations to the WSIS+10 during WSIS Forum 2014**
  (Geneva, 2-3 days)
  - Finalization of the forward looking outcome
- **April: High-Level Meeting on the Overall Review (WSIS+10)**
  (Location to be determined based on hosting proposals)

2015:
- Report on the outcomes of the Overall Review Process to the 18th Session of CSTD
- UN General Assembly to endorse the forward looking outcome.
- Contribution to MDG Review Process

(b) WSIS+10 at WSIS Forum 2012:
258. The WSIS Forum 2012, mirrored the true multistakeholder and inclusive spirit of the WSIS process. During the Forum, topics related to WSIS +10, and WSIS Beyond 2015, were covered in the high level opening segment, 2 plenary sessions, a ministerial round table, action line facilitation meetings, thematic workshops and interactive sessions.

259. Many delegates emphasized the need to strengthen reporting mechanisms for the 10-year implementation of WSIS related activities and identify the new developments and challenges that have emerged.

260. This year, within the format of the WSIS Forum a Ministerial Roundtable was held, where more than 25 Ministers highlighted their country’s progress in the implementation of the WSIS goals, while drawing attention to many issues that still need to be addressed. The emphasis during the discussions at the Ministerial Roundtable was on Achievements, Challenges and the post 2015 agenda. They also emphasized the need to develop national strategies, national reporting and international collaboration towards WSIS +10.

261. Action Line Facilitators from various UN agencies, regional commissions, the private sector, governments and civil society reported their own efforts towards WSIS implementation and follow-up, and shared their future plans to achieve the targets set in the WSIS+10 plan of action.

262. Some of the topics raised in the WSIS+10 discussions during the week focused on: Interoperability, cybersecurity, child on-line protection, e-governance, e-health, youth inclusion, ICT and girls, broadband, cloud computing, protection of data, privacy issues, multilingualism, public private partnership, capacity building of citizens and government; and connectivity of the educational institutions.

UPDATE: Please note that the dates for both events have been updated following the guidance by the Member States, provided through the 2012 ITU Council Resolution 1334, more precisely the proposition of holding the High-Level Meeting on the Overall Review (WSIS+10) back to back with the ITU World Telecommunication Development Conference. Consequently it is planned that the WSIS Forum 2014 will be held in parallel with the High-Level Meeting on the Overall Review (WSIS+10), i.e. 14-18 April 2014.
Further to the request of the ECOSOC Resolution (E/2011/31) on the Assessment of the Progress Made in the Implementation of and Follow-up to the Outcomes of WSIS, the WSIS +10 Plenary sessions concluded with Multistakeholder consensus on the following:

- preliminary indications for a vision beyond 2015
- templates for the reports of the lead facilitators on the Action Lines
- templates for the national self-evaluation reporting on the implementation of the WSIS outcomes

These templates will establish the necessary framework for reporting on the ten-year achievements by WSIS stakeholders, as well as highlighting the remaining challenges to be addressed. The outcomes of the WSIS+10 discussions held during WSIS Forum 2012 will, of course, be highlighted in the WSIS Forum 2012 Outcome Document.

(c) WSIS and the Regional Commissions:

Regional Commissions are the regional outposts of the United Nations in their respective regions. They are also an integral part of their regional institutional landscape. Stationed in five regions of the world, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLAC), United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA).

Para 101 (b) of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society informs that at the regional level UN Regional Commissions, based on request of Member States and within approved budgetary resources, may organize regional WSIS follow-up activities in collaboration with regional and sub-regional organizations, with appropriate frequency, as well as assisting members states with technical and relevant information for the development of regional strategies and the implementation of the outcomes of regional conferences.

The ITU WSIS Secretariat has facilitated organization of the meeting of the Regional Commissions at the WSIS Forum 2012, that offered an opportunity to the commissions to present an update on series of activities related to the implementation of the WSIS outcomes.

In follow up to the discussions at the WSIS Forum 2012 the ITU WSIS Secretariat has offered regular updates to the Regional Commissions with the following objectives:

1. Regular update on WSIS+10 related activities with possible implications for the WSIS +10 Regional Preparatory Process;
2. Timeline for Collection of information using the WSIS+10, 10-Year Country Reporting Template.

Three briefs were held during 2012:

- 1st Regional Commissions Brief: 27/08/2012
- 2nd Regional Commissions Brief: 24/09/2012
- 3rd Regional Commissions Brief: 26/10/2012
Collection of data using 10-Year Country Reporting Templates

WSIS+10: OVERALL REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WSIS OUTCOMES

10-Year Country Reporting Templates

• Section I: Executive Summary

  • Introduction
  • Country at a Glance – Factsheet on various developments and ICT indicators including achievement of national targets for connectivity and access in the use of ICTs in promoting the objectives of the Geneva Plan of Action*

* For this section please refer to the questionnaire coordinated by the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development. A metadata questionnaire, to be sent in October 2012 to countries by the Regional Commissions, will collect information on data availability for the WSIS Target indicators as outlined in the Measuring the WSIS Targets - A statistical framework publication. A full data collection of the actual data for each of the WSIS Target indicators will be conducted in 2013. The data that will be collected in 2013 will be used to prepare the WSIS+10 quantitative report to be published in 2014.

Data will refer to the 10 WSIS Targets listed below:

– to connect villages with ICTs and establish community access points;
– to connect universities, colleges, secondary schools and primary schools with ICTs;
– to connect scientific and research centres with ICTs;
– to connect public libraries, cultural centres, museums, post offices and archives with ICTs;
– to connect health centres and hospitals with ICTs;
– to connect all local and central government departments and establish websites and email addresses;
– to adapt all primary and secondary school curricula to meet the challenges of the Information Society, taking into account national circumstances;
– to ensure that all of the world’s population have access to television and radio services;
– to encourage the development of content and to put in place technical conditions in order to facilitate the presence and use of all world languages on the Internet;
– to ensure that more than half the world’s inhabitants have access to ICTs within their reach.
• WSIS and MDG Implementation at National Level, including national ICT strategies towards and beyond 2015
• Financial mechanisms in place for meeting the challenges of ICT for development

• Section II: Reporting on Each Action line
  • C1 to C11

• Section III: Profiles of Progress – Select Case Studies
• Section IV: The Way Forward and the Vision Beyond 2015
WSIS+10: OVERALL REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WSIS OUTCOMES

Template for Action Line Facilitators

10-Years Review Reports by all the WSIS Action Lines

Action Line:
Lead Facilitator:
Co-facilitators:

1. Introduction
   (overall process, developments)

2. Review
   (action line objectives, most important achievements and areas not sufficiently addressed since 2005, gaps)

3. Developments and challenges
   (recent developments, current and future challenges, including a foresight dimension, emerging trends, possible new priorities)

4. Recommendations
   (possible revisions and new topics, improvements of the action line facilitation mechanisms, possibly for post-2015 goals and mechanisms)

5. Conclusion
IV. Forums, innovative initiatives and future actions

(a) Forums

WSIS Forum 2012

270. WSIS Forum 2012 was held from 14-18 May 2012 in Geneva, Switzerland. The Forum provided structured opportunities to network, learn and to participate in multistakeholder discussions and consultations on WSIS implementation. The Forum was hosted by ITU and jointly organized by ITU, UNESCO, UNCTAD and UNDP. The Forum took place at the ILO Conference Center. This event built upon the tradition of annual WSIS May meetings, and its new format is the result of open consultations with all WSIS Stakeholders.

271. The Forum has attracted more than 1300 WSIS Stakeholders from more than 140 countries. Several high-level representatives of the wider WSIS Stakeholder community graced the Forum, more than 35 Ministers and Deputies, Ambassadors, CEOs and Civil Society leaders contributed passionately towards the programme of the Forum. Among participants there were several C-level representatives of the private sector and civil society. Remote participation was an integral component of the WSIS Forum over 1000 stakeholders followed and contributed to the outcomes of the event in a remote manner from all parts of world. Onsite networking was facilitated by the imetYouatWSIS online community platform. More than 600 on-site participants have actively used the tool prior and during the event which has facilitated in fruitful networking leading to win-win partnerships. The Forum was followed on social networks - #wsis in Twitter and WSIS Process page on Facebook.

272. Action Line Facilitators from various UN agencies, regional commissions, the private sector, governments and civil society not only reported and assessed their own efforts towards WSIS implementation and follow-up, but also shared their future plans to achieve the targets set in the WSIS+10 plan of action in the WSIS Outcome documents. Programme of the Forum consisted of more than 150 sessions structured in 20 different types of meetings in 7 parallel streams:

- 5 High Level Sessions and Dialogues
- WSIS+10: 2 Plenary Sessions, High Level Opening Session
- Ministerial Round Table
- 17 Interactive Action Line Facilitation Meetings
- 6 Interactive Sessions
- Action Line Facilitators Meeting
- 52 Thematic Workshops
• 12 Country Workshops
• 25 Briefings and Publication Releases
• 2 Meetings of the UN Group on the Information Society
• IGF Open Consultation Meeting and MAG
• 25 Exhibition Stalls
• Several Knowledge Exchanges

273. For additional details on the sessions the ITU membership is invited to consult the Forum website, www.wsis.org/forum or the Programme Brochure made available prior to the meeting with detailed descriptions at: http://www.itu.int/wsis/implementation/2012/forum/docs/WF12_ProgrammeBrochure.pdf.

274. On 18 May 2012, the WSIS Secretariat released a Draft WSIS Forum 2012 Outcome Document. The Outcome Document is a compilation of session reports submitted by all session organizers, capturing the:

a) Objective of the session
b) Executive description of the outcomes
c) Listing of emerging trends and possible implications for the WSIS process beyond 2015

275. The WSIS Forum 2012 Outcome Document is available at: www.wsis.org/forum. In order to highlight the emerging trends identified during the WSIS Forum 2012 a booklet capturing the emerging trends in 11 Action Lines was issues. It is available at: http://groups.itu.int/wsis-forum2012/Highlights/OutcomeDocument.aspx#booklet.

276. WSIS Forum 2013 will be held from the 13-17 May 2013 at the ITU Headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland.

Council Working group on International Internet-related Public Policy Issues (CWG-Internet)

277. A Council Working Group (CWG) on Internet related public policy issues was established as a separate group by Council Resolution 1336, in accordance with Resolutions 102 and 140 of the 2010 Plenipotentiary Conference. This CWG is limited to Member States, with open consultation to all stakeholders.

278. Previously, this group was established as the Dedicated Group as an integral part of WG WSIS, open only to all Member States, in accordance with Resolution 75 (WTSA, 2008), and Council Resolution 1282 (Mod. 2008).
279. The terms of reference for the CWG are:

1. to identify, study and develop matters related to international Internet-related public policy issues, and including those issues identified in Council Resolution 1305 (2009); in this regard, as appropriate:

2. disseminate its outputs throughout ITU’s membership and to all relevant international organizations and stakeholders actively involved in such matters for their consideration in their policy making processes;

3. consider and discuss the activities of the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux in relation to implementation of Resolution 102 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) and to prepare inputs into these activities as appropriate;

4. initiate and conduct open consultations with all stakeholders in an open and inclusive manner; and the output of the open consultations will be presented for consideration in deliberations of the Council Working Group.

280. Council 2012 Resolution 1344 decided the modality of the open consultation for the Group.

281. 2009 Council Resolution 1305 invites Member States to recognize the scope of work of ITU on international Internet-related public policy matters, represented by the list of topics in Annex 1 which was established in accordance with decisions of ITU membership at the Plenipotentiary Conference, Council and world conferences; and to elaborate their respective position on each of the international Internet-related public policy issues referenced in the list of topics and to contribute actively to the work of ITU on these issues.

(b) WSIS Project Prizes

282. WSIS Project Prizes is a unique recognition for excellence in the implementation of WSIS outcomes. The WSIS Project Prizes is the announcement that came in response to requests from participants at WSIS Forum 2011 for a mechanism to evaluate and reward individuals, governments, civil society, local, regional and international agencies, research institutions and private sector companies for the success of their efforts in implementing development-oriented strategies that leverage the power of ICTs.

283. The contest of WSIS Project Prizes is open to all stakeholders: governments, private sector, civil society, international organizations, academia and others. The contest comprises 18 categories that are directly linked to the WSIS Action Lines outlined in the Geneva Plan of Action.

284. In 2012, for the first time the International Telecommunication Union has launched a series of prizes recognizing excellence in the implementation of projects and initiatives which further the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) goals of improving connectivity to information and communication technologies (ICTs), particularly within underserved communities. The winners were selected out of 170 submitted projects from 50 countries and were highlighted in the 2012 edition of the WSIS Stocktaking Report on
Success Stories. For further information please visit [www.wsis.org/stocktaking/prizes](http://www.wsis.org/stocktaking/prizes). On 14 May, ITU Secretary-General Dr Hamadoun Touré announced the winners of 18 WSIS Project Prizes, as part of the Opening Ceremony of the WSIS Forum 2012 event. The winners of the contest WSIS Project Prizes 2012 are the following: the Association for Progressive Communications (South Africa/international), the National Information Center (Sudan), Computers to Educate (Colombia), the Ministry of Administration and Digitization (Poland), Odessa National Academy of Telecommunications N.A. Popov (Ukraine), Rural Technology and Business Incubator (India), Network for Information & Computer Technology (India), The Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Oman), The Ministry of Education (Saudi Arabia), Cognizant Technology Solutions (USA/India), the Human Resources Development Fund (Saudi Arabia), IC Volunteers (Switzerland), e-Agriculture Community (Food & Agriculture Organization), University of La Punta (Argentina), Telecentre.org Foundation (Philippines), Video Volunteers (India), The Ministry of Information Society and Telecommunications (Montenegro) and the Technology Organization of Iran (ITO) and Iran University of Science, Technology and Information (Islamic Republic of Iran).

This initiative was appreciated by diverse stakeholders and it was encouraged to continue this initiative in 2013 with the same open approach allowing all stakeholders to participate in this transparent contest.

(c) WSIS Stocktaking Portal

A revamped WSIS Stocktaking Platform was launched in 2010 to foster the implementation of WSIS outcomes. The platform is based on a community-building approach offering fresh options for networking, collaborating and the exchange of information. It has also been enriched with new social networking tools, so the new platform can become a new portal for project managers in ICT development programmes and connect practitioners on the ground. [www.wsis.org/stocktaking](http://www.wsis.org/stocktaking)
(d) The Global Cybersecurity Agenda (GCA)

287. As noted in Paragraph 32, in May 2007, ITU Secretary-General launched the GCA: a framework for international cooperation in cyber security. The GCA has seven main strategic goals and is built around the following five work areas or pillars: (1) Legal Measures; (2) Technical and Procedural Measures; (3) Organizational Structures; (4) Capacity Building; and (5) International Cooperation. It acts on existing national and regional initiatives to avoid duplication of work and encourage collaboration amongst all relevant partners. At the C5 Action Line Facilitation meeting during the WSIS Forum 2011, it was reiterated that within the overall framework of the cyber security agenda (GCA), international organizations such as IMPACT and ITU, are deploying joint services. These services harmonize, at the international level, different national approaches to better prepare countries to face cyber threats and solve cyber-attacks. This is achieved through information sharing, awareness raising and trainings programs. The momentum generated by the GCA and the broad nature of this ITU initiative have resulted in interest from other stakeholders and opportunities for collaboration and cooperation. Specific initiatives already undertaken under GCA umbrella include:

(e) International Multilateral Partnership Against Cyber-Terrorism (IMPACT) & ITU

288. The Government of Malaysia has offered to make available the infrastructure of the International Multilateral Partnership Against Cyber-Terrorism (IMPACT) as the home of the GCA. IMPACT is backed by a USD 13 million infrastructure and has agreed to make its state-of-the-art global headquarters in Cyberjaya, Kuala Lumpur, as one of the physical homes of ITU’s Global Cybersecurity Agenda. As of today, ITU’s relationship with IMPACT continues to gain momentum, with 144 Member States are now part of the ITU-IMPACT coalition. Within the overall framework of the cyber security agenda (GCA), ITU-IMPACT is the first cooperative global venture to make available cybersecurity expertise and resources to enable Member States to detect, analyze and respond effectively to cyberthreats. In particular, ITU IMPACT is deploying joint services in order to harmonize at the international level different national approaches to better prepare countries to face cyber threats and solve cyber-attacks, through information sharing, awareness raising and trainings.

289. In this regard, in May 2012, the WSIS stakeholder community during the WSIS Action Line C5 Facilitation Meeting affirmed the need to establish strategies and capabilities at the national level. Computer Incident Response Team with national responsibilities and National Cybersecurity frameworks are key elements to toward the achievement of Cybersecurity. They have also emphasized the need for an international framework focused at the elaboration of norms and principles at the global level.

(f) Child Online Protection Initiative (COP)

290. The Child Online Protection Initiative is an international collaborative network based on a multistakeholder and multi-sectoral partnership for joint action to promote the online protection of children worldwide, through education and awareness-raising on e-safety. It also facilitates in the development and use of appropriate technologies, including a framework for cooperation among relevant stakeholders in the protection of children online. A yearlong call for action was launched by ITU Secretary-General on 18 May 2009 to consider the year 2009-2010 as
the Child Online Safety year. Through the COP Initiative, ITU has brought together members of existing initiatives and worked with them to develop initial sets of guidelines in 2009 for various stakeholders. In line with the new Resolution 179 (Guadalajara, 2010), ITU has taken the next step to develop a cybersecurity strategy for child online safety, under the framework of the COP Global Initiative, delivering significant national and societal benefits.

291. **Emphasizing** on the commitment of the ITU in connecting the world responsibly to ensure cybersecurity, enable cyberpeace, and protect children online, the ITU’s role to facilitate the implementation of WSIS Action Line CS “Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs” and the establishment of the Child Online Protection (COP) as a special initiative within the GCA framework of the ITU.

**(g) The Connect the World Initiative**

292. Connect the World aims to mobilize human, financial and technical resources for the implementation of the connectivity targets of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and the Regional Initiatives adopted by Member States at the ITU World Telecommunication Development Conference.

293. As part of this effort, ITU is organizing high-level events known as Connect the World Summits in each region where Members have expressed an interest. These Summits bring together like-minded stakeholders to work together on concrete actions and projects to expand information and communication (ICT) networks and access as a means of spurring investment, employment and broader social and economic development.

**Connect Africa Summit**

294. The Connect Africa Summit, the first in the series, was held in Kigali, Rwanda in October 2007 and generated the level of financial commitment of more than 55 billion USD to be spent for the development of inclusive information society in Africa. As part of follow-up to Connect Africa, several actions by ITU and partners are under implementation. More information on them is available on the Summit’s website. In 2008, ITU launched two new partnerships, among others:

- **Wireless Broadband**: in the spring of 2008, BDT secured US$ 4 million from the Craig and Susan McCaw Foundation and added another US$2.4 million from the ITU ICT Development Fund to start wireless broadband projects. ITU is now working closely with the African Development Bank to build on this foundation to help meet the demand of Member States in the region, and has begun discussions with the Islamic Development Bank. Missions have been organized to a number of countries and concrete implementation is underway;

- **Capacity Building**: ITU is implementing ICT capacity building projects for Spanish and Portuguese speaking countries in Africa, including a centre of excellence, Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) and youth scholarships. The Government of Spain has provided financial support for each of these projects. The Government of Portugal has also assisted by providing financial support for the centre of excellence.
Connect CIS Summit

295. As the second regional event in the series, ITU organized the Connect CIS Summit with partners on 26-27 November 2009 in Minsk, Belarus. The Summit gathered some 353 participants from 18 Member States (10 from CIS Region), including five Heads of State (Republic of Armenia, Republic of Belarus, Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic and Republic of Tajikistan) and Government and one First Deputy Prime Minister. The administrations of 10 countries from the region were represented, including 7 at the Ministerial level. Some 40 leading ICT companies, development banks, international organizations and other stakeholders participated in the Summit. The Presidents (Heads of State) addressed participants of the Summit in a special session entitled, “Leaders Statements and Summit Declaration: Towards a Sustainable Information Society “, in which each President (Head of State) outlined their vision for the Summit and pledged their full support to the Connect CIS Initiative. The Connect CIS Summit concluded with the Connect CIS Declaration.

296. This Summit was organized in partnership with the Regional Commonwealth in the Field of Communications, the Commonwealth of Independent States Executive Committee, the World Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the European Investment Bank, the Islamic Development Bank, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the United Nations Global Alliance for ICT and Development among others.

297. The overall objective of the Connect CIS Summit was to mobilize the human, financial and technical resources to support a rapid, region-wide transition to digital infrastructure and services, widely recognized as the engine of future economic growth and social and economic development. Priorities include rolling out broadband Internet, expanding rural connectivity, creating a policy and regulatory environment to support investment and new business models, enhancing ICT training and human capacities and stimulating locally relevant applications and services.

Connect Arab Summit

298. The Connect Arab Summit was held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 5 to 7 March 2012, under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar. It was jointly organized by the International Telecommunication Union and the League of Arab States. The Summit included some 540 participants from 26 countries, including 7 Heads of State or Government, 26 Ministers, 18 international and regional organizations and 99 private sector companies and other stakeholders. This Summit, the third of its kind in a series of ITU-led Connect Summits, aimed to foster mechanisms to mobilize the financial, human and technical resources needed to expand the scope of information and communication technology (ICT) networks and provide universal access to these as a means of encouraging investment in ICT projects and providing employment in order to achieve broader social and economic development. Leaders of the Arab countries and stakeholders commended the current ICT development that has been achieved as a result of all the efforts deployed in recent years to harness ICTs to increase rates of growth, reduce poverty and promote sustainable development in the region. They reaffirmed their commitment to realizing the vision of an inclusive Arab Information Society for all and
leveraging the potential of ICTs to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. Moreover, they committed to furthering the attainment of the Summit goals in alignment with the WSIS goals and outcomes, and agreed to intensify efforts in the coming years in order to achieve priorities listed in the communique.

Connect Americas Summit

The Connect Americas Summit was held in Panama City, from 17 to 19 July 2012, under the patronage of His Excellency, Ricardo Alberto Martinelli Berrocal, President of Panama. It was organized by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in partnership with the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL), the Technical Regional Commission for Telecommunications (COMTELCA) and the Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU). The Summit included some 654 participants from 36 countries, including 7 Heads of State or Government, 12 Ministers, 48 international and regional organizations and 158 private sector companies and other stakeholders.

This Summit, the fourth in a series of ITU-led Connect Summits, succeeded in its goal of helping to mobilize the human, financial and technical resources needed to connect the unconnected and to strengthen the role of ICT as the engine of economic prosperity and sustainable development, as well as poverty reduction in the Americas region.

During the Summit in Panama, Leaders reaffirmed their common desire and commitment as agreed at the World Summit on the Information Society, to build a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented information and knowledge society, in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and multilateralism, based on human rights and on the principles of peace, solidarity, inclusion, freedom, democracy, respect for cultural diversity, sustainable development and cooperation.

Global Flagship Initiatives

In early 2009, BDT launched four global Connect the World flagship initiatives. The aim of these initiatives is to build upon and strengthen promising projects that start in one region or with one industry partner, by providing an attractive, open platform and brand that can be promoted to additional partners globally and/or in various regions:

1. **Wireless Broadband Partnership**: high-speed connectivity for developing countries, with extra capacity for public uses, including schools and hospitals. This global flagship initiative builds on the wireless broadband project in Africa mentioned above;

2. **Connecting Villages**: low cost solutions for basic connectivity in rural areas;

3. **Connect a School, Connect a Community**: partnership effort to promote broadband school connectivity to serve both students and the communities in which they live, with a special emphasis on groups with special needs; and,

4. **ITU Academy Partnership**: training and courseware on cutting-edge ICT innovations in areas such as NGN and mobile.

5. **ITU Mobile Health Initiative**: partnership effort to support developing countries making the best use of mobile technologies to assist patients and improve health services. The initiative will facilitate the launch of demonstration projects and provide
capacity building to develop simple and cost-effective mobile applications that respond to critical national health priorities.

6. **ITU-IMPACT Collaboration**: to facilitate the deployment of solutions and services to address cyber threats at a global scale, together with ITU Member States and leading global partners from industry and academia.

303. Each of the flagship initiatives outlines clear roles for government, industry and other partners, with ITU playing a neutral brokering and expert role. These initiatives will enhance donor/partner recognition and ITU visibility globally and in the regions, as well as provide greater coherence in partner outreach.

**(h) Broadband Commission for Digital Development**

304. In May 2010, ITU and UNESCO established the *Broadband Commission for Digital Development*, in response to calls by the UN Secretary-General Mr. Ban Ki-moon to step up efforts by the UN to accelerate progress towards the MDGs. Expanding broadband access in every country is key to accelerate attainment the MDGs by the target date of 2015. The Broadband Commission therefore defines practical ways in which countries – at all stages of development – can achieve this, in cooperation with the private sector.

305. The Broadband Commission was established in 2010, five years after the WSIS, and ten years after the launch of the MDGs. The Commission is a significant UN inter-agency initiative, innovative private-public partnership and high-profile advocacy group for the benefits of broadband and has succeeded in boosting broadband on the international agenda.

306. The Broadband Commission believes that high-speed, high-capacity broadband connectivity to the Internet is essential in modern society, with wide economic and social benefits. It aims to promote the adoption of broadband-friendly practice and policies, so the entire world can take advantage of the benefits. It defines strategies for accelerating broadband roll-out worldwide and examines applications that could see broadband networks improve ICT delivery in healthcare, education, environmental management, safety and across society.

307. The Broadband Commission aims to demonstrate that broadband networks:

i) have the same level of importance as roads and electricity networks; and are basic infrastructure in a modern society;

ii) are uniquely powerful tools for achieving the MDGs;

iii) are remarkably cost-effective and can offer impressive rates of return-on-investment (ROI) for both developed and developing economies;

iv) underpin all industrial sectors and are increasingly the foundation of public services and social progress;
v) must be coordinated nationally by governments in partnership with industry, in order to reap the full benefit of these powerful tools.

308. Commissioners represent governments from around the world, academia, relevant industries, international agencies and development organizations, and are all leaders in their field. The group is co-chaired by President Paul Kagame of Rwanda and Mr Carlos Slim Helú, Honorary Lifetime Chairman of Grupo Carso, with ITU Secretary-General Dr Hamadoun Touré and UNESCO Director-General, Ms Irina Bokova, serving as joint vice-chairs.

309. To advance its work, the Broadband Commission publishes reports on key issues, including its annual “State of Broadband 2012” report available free of charge from the Commission’s website.

310. In collaboration with ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau and UNESCO, the Broadband Commission has launched two series of case studies to showcase the importance of broadband networks and services in economic and social development and to examine links between broadband and the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). For this purpose, 11 economies were selected based on their policies, experience and efforts in stimulating the development of broadband: Romania, TFYR Macedonia, Panama, Philippines, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Nigeria, Mauritius, Albania, Australia and Rwanda. Providing on-the-ground insights from real experience into how broadband networks and services are being rolled out, as well as the impact of improved broadband infrastructure, these studies should countries in meeting the Broadband Challenge and Broadband Advocacy Targets for 2015 adopted by the Commission in October 2011.

They are available free of charge from the Commission’s website and ITU Broadband Portal.
311. In addition to these reports, the Commission has launched an online portal with a wealth of online resources, case studies, best practices and regulatory information. Its work is conducted through thematic working groups which focus on vital policy priorities including health, education, LDCs, climate change, multilingualism and the involvement of youth.

312. In addition to the annual meetings and working group activities, the Broadband Commission, hosts two regular face-to-face meetings each year to solicit feedback from regional constituents, including ministers and regulators, as well as members of the private sector. Broadband Commissioners debate key issues, advance the work of the Commission and typically offer expertise and guidance to guest Ministers and VIPs.

313. On 2 April 2012, the Commission met in Ohrid, TFYR Macedonia, at the invitation of H.E. Ivo Ivanovski, Minister of Information Society. The event assembled key decision-makers from government, the private sector and academia to brainstorm solutions for accelerating broadband roll-out in South Eastern Europe, including follow-up of the Broadband Challenge and Targets issued by the Commission in October 2011.

314. The Sixth Meeting of the Commission was held in New York, on 23 September 2012, coinciding with the 67th Session of the UN General Assembly. The Commission released its report with a country-by-country snapshot of the state of broadband deployment worldwide. “The State of Broadband 2012 report” was welcomed by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, who called broadband a “transformative technology that has the potential to spark advances across all three pillars of sustainable development: economic prosperity, social inclusion and environmental sustainability”.

315. Young people also feature regularly in the meetings of the Commission to enable them to mingle with high-level decision and policy-makers, and give them an opportunity to voice their needs and concerns. The next meeting of the Commission will take place in Mexico in March 2013, at the generous invitation of Mr Carlos Slim Hélu.

(i) Roadmaps for WSIS Action Lines C2, C5, C6

316. In line with its mandate and the WSIS outcome documents, the ITU continues to play a key role in the WSIS implementation and follow-up process, in particular, as the WSIS Action Lines Sole Facilitator for AL C2 (Information and Communication Infrastructure), AL C5 (Building Confidence and Security in the Use of ICTs), and AL C6 (Enabling Environment).

317. With the aim of strengthening the implementation mechanism, ITU Council 2009 agreed on the framework for roadmaps of ITU’s activities in its role as the sole facilitator for the above mentioned WSIS action lines in the implementation of WSIS up to 2015. Roadmaps are detailed plans to guide progress towards achieving WSIS goals. They provide broad vision and detailed overview of the activities planned within the mandate of the Union. Direct links between the activities and the strategic goals and relevant resolutions, programmes and initiatives of the ITU are highlighted. The roadmaps include timeframes, expected results, impact on ITU’s human and financial resources as well as list relevant partners. In 2012 the Roadmaps were updated and made available at the ITU portal for WSIS related activities www.itu.int/itu-wsis.
318. Elaborated framework may serve as a template for the other WSIS Action Line moderators/facilitators to strengthen the implementation mechanism of WSIS process. It has been widely disseminated amongst the WSIS Action Line Facilitators, members of the United Group on the Information Society as well as WSIS stakeholders. The Roadmaps can be accessed at www.itu.int/itu-wsis.

(j) Communication and Outreach

319. **WSIS Flash:** is a monthly newsletter on WSIS Related news, projects and activities. [http://groups.itu.int/stocktaking/WSISFlash.aspx](http://groups.itu.int/stocktaking/WSISFlash.aspx).

320. **iwrite4WSISForum:** iwrite4WSISForum is a campaign that aims to empower stakeholders to write and report on all WSIS related events and activities, sharing their work and ideas with thousands of WSIS stakeholders online worldwide. This twitter campaign was introduced for effective and far reaching communication for and amongst WSIS Stakeholders. This empowers all the WSIS Stakeholders to become WSIS reporters and tweet information about their projects and community. [www.wsis.org/iwrite](http://www.wsis.org/iwrite).

321. **imeetyouatWSISForum** imeetyouatWSISForum provides all registered onsite participants of the WSIS Forum 2013 with an online social networking community experience. This component of the WSIS Forum has been specially designed for the WSIS Forum 2013 onsite participants [www.wsis.org/imeet](http://www.wsis.org/imeet).

322. **WSIS Process on Facebook:** The WSIS Facebook page has a fan following of 705 fans who contribute actively to the page [http://www.facebook.com/WSISprocess](http://www.facebook.com/WSISprocess).

323. **WSIS Process on YouTube:** WSIS Forum highlights, interviews and all the important WSIS Related Videos are available on the WSIS Forum You Tube site: [http://www.youtube.com/wsisprocess](http://www.youtube.com/wsisprocess).

324. **WSIS Process on LinkedIn:** WSIS Process has a LinkedIn group: [https://www.linkedin.com/groups/WSIS-Process-World-Summit-on-2599279?gid=2599279&trk=hb_side_g](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/WSIS-Process-World-Summit-on-2599279?gid=2599279&trk=hb_side_g).

325. **WSIS in ITU News:** The ITU News is a media partner of the WSIS Process and regularly publishes WSIS Process related articles in several issues.
(k) Future Actions

326. The following major ITU-WSIS related events and initiatives are planned for 2012-13:

- WSIS Forum 2013
- Multistakeholder Event for the WSIS+10 Review (Towards Knowledge Societies for Peace and Sustainable Development)
- Overall Review of the Implementation of the WSIS Outcomes (WSIS+10)
- Coordination of the Process directed towards collection of data using 10-Year Country Reporting Templates
- Dissemination of information on the 10 years templates WSIS
- WSIS Project Prizes 2013
- Regional Human Capacity Building Forums
- Regional Development Forums
- Global Symposium for Regulators
- Global Human Capacity Development Symposium
- Regional Preparatory Meetings for the World Telecommunication Development Conference
- ITU Green Standards Week
- TELECOM 2013
- WSIS Forum 2014: Open Consultation Process

(l) WSIS Fund in Trust

327. In light of 2015 as the year set for achieving the WSIS targets and upcoming overall review of the implementation of the WSIS outcomes, PP-10 Resolution 140 on ITU’s Role in Implementing the Outcomes of WSIS, PP-10 strengthened the Union’s mandate in relation to WSIS implementation and invited all member states, sector members and associates to participate actively in implementing WSIS outcomes as well as to make voluntary contributions to the special trust fund set up by ITU to support activities relating to the implementation of the WSIS outcomes. During Council 2012, the importance of the WSIS Fund in Trust to ensure efficient and effective implementation was reemphasized in Resolution 1334 (Modified 2012), in particular in the context of the WSIS+10 Review Process.

328. Resolution 1334 (Modified 2012) on the ITU Role in the Overall Review of the Implementation of the Outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society recognizes that ITU should play a leading managerial role in the process of the Overall Review of the Implementation of the WSIS Outcomes (WSIS+10) and encourages all Member States to contribute to the WSIS Fund in Trust of the ITU corresponding to the financial requirements of the WSIS+10 related activities.
In this context, ITU has set up the WSIS Fund in Trust offering the member states, sector members and associates the opportunity to contribute towards strengthening the implementation of the WSIS outcomes, while addressing the needs of the WSIS process and its stakeholders. All stakeholders are encouraged to contribute to the WSIS Fund in Trust. Your financial contribution will help accelerate the implementation of the WSIS related activities undertaken by ITU.

The ITU would like to thank United Arab Emirates, Intel, Belgium-Liege, Ethiopia (Federal Democratic Republic of), Kazakhstan (Republic of), Oman (Sultanate of), Poland (Republic of), Saudi Arabia (Kingdom of), Tanzania (United Republic of), Zimbabwe (Republic of) for their contribution to the WSIS Fund in Trust in 2012 to accelerate the implementation of the WSIS related activities undertaken by ITU.

2012 Contributors to the WSIS Fund in Trust

The official letter for the Call for Contributions 2012 - 2013 is available at: http://www.itu.int/itu-wsis/fund/index.html in all the 6 Official UN Languages.

Official Letter (AR, EN, ES, FR, RU, ZH)
V. Final conclusions

332. The ITU is committed to connecting the world, and in its capacity as one of lead facilitating organizations for the WSIS Process ITU initiated, facilitated and implemented several activities related to the implementation of the WSIS outcomes. The three ITU sectors, ITU-R, ITU–T, ITU-D, and the General Secretariat played an active role in this process in their respective areas of expertise and brought out the complimentary role between the sectors with reference to WSIS.

333. As the leading UN specialized agency focusing on ICTs, ITU organized several of these activities on its own and in partnership, highlighting and prioritizing the importance of multistakeholder collaboration. Participation from the governments, international organizations, civil society and private sector from all over the world was noted in all these efforts, which significantly contributed to the progress towards achievement of the WSIS goals.

334. ITU has continued to contribute towards the implementation of the WSIS related activities, this year, has been a particularly successful year for the process, but also challenging. The WSIS+10 process took shape this year with all the partner agencies, governments and other stakeholders. While awaiting the final decision of the General Assembly on the modalities of the Overall Review of the Implementation of the WSIS Outcomes, to be taken at 68th Session of GA, ITU will continue carry out WSIS+10 related activities.

335. In order to engage the WSIS Stakeholders several new components were introduced in 2012. The WSIS Forum 2012 welcomed more than 1300 stakeholders from 140 countries. It was acknowledge as the most successful Forum till date. The contest of WSIS Project Prizes was introduced and 18 prizes were awarded. ITU has made every attempt to improve the display, interactivity and accessibility of WSIS related websites.

336. ITU has ensured effective collaboration with other UN Agencies in its efforts to implement the WSIS Outcomes. A coordination mechanism has been developed that respects the WSIS principles of a multistakeholder and collaborative spirit.

337. ITU would like to acknowledge the contribution and commitment of all Member States, Sector Members and Associates. All members are invited to participate actively in implementing WSIS outcomes, contribute to the WSIS stocktaking database maintained by ITU, and participate actively in the activities of WG-WSIS and in ITU’s further adaptation to the information society; as well as to make voluntary contributions to the special trust fund set up by ITU in 2012 to support activities relating to the implementation of WSIS outcome. In particular, ITU would like to thank the following for their contribution to the WSIS Trust Fund in 2012, United Arab Emirates, Intel, Belgium – Liège, Kazakhstan (Republic of), Oman (Sultanate of), Poland (Republic of), Saudi Arabia (Kingdom of), Tanzania (United Republic of), and Zimbabwe (Republic of).

338. The ITU has maintained a leadership role in the WSIS Process and along with its membership has ensured in providing a roadmap for the process.

339. The ICT ecosystem is changing very fast, especially since 2003, there have been several changes. The WSIS Stakeholder community has made tremendous progress in achiving the
WSIS Goals, however, there is still a lot to be done. ITU along with its partners is committed in ensuring that ICTs remain a priority in the political agenda and that the WSIS process provides a structures and an inclusive approach to address the opportunities and challenges realised by ICTs in a multistakeholder set up.
### ANNEXURE: 1

List of signed BDT projects since September 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Number</th>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Signature Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>AFRICA REGION</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>7RAF08073-04 Reseau hertzien large bande – Mali</td>
<td>26 Oct. 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>9RAF10084-04 Connect a School, Connect a Community in Gambia</td>
<td>14 Mar. 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>7RAF08073-05 Reseau hertzien large bande – Burkina Faso</td>
<td>25 May 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>7RAF08073-06 Reseau hertzien large bande – Rwanda</td>
<td>01 Aug. 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>AMERICAS REGION</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Action12774 Support Suriname in the Development of a National School</td>
<td>09 Dec 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>9RLA12010 Aspectos Técnicos Relativos a las Emisiones Electromagnéticas</td>
<td>20 Mar 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>9HON12022 Illegal Telecommunication Traffic Assessment, HONDUTEL,</td>
<td>06 Jul 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Honduras</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ARAB REGION</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>7RAF08073-03 Reseau hertzien large bande – Djibouti</td>
<td>10 Oct. 2011</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>ARB-12-01 Memory of the Arab World Project</td>
<td>03 Jan. 2012</td>
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<td><strong>ASIA AND PACIFIC REGION</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>9RAS11038 Assistance in Telecommunication/ICT in ASP</td>
<td>19 Sep. 2011</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>9RAS11040 Telecentre Applications and Services</td>
<td>16 Dec. 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>9THA12013 Pilot Biddings for USO Projects in Two Provinces of Thailand</td>
<td>30 Dec. 2011</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>7LAO12002 Strengthening the Training Capacity of the Institute of Posts and Telecommunications of Lao PDR</td>
<td>01 Mar. 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>9RAS12042 Roadmap for Transition from Analogue to Digital Terrestrial Television Broadcasting and Mobile Television in Asia and the Pacific</td>
<td>12 Jul. 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>9THA12016 Study of Telecommunications Price Regulation in Thailand</td>
<td>13 Sep 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>9THA12017 Roadmap for Transition from Analogue to Digital TV Broadcasting in Thailand</td>
<td>15 Oct 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CIS REGION</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>2UZB11003 Stainable supply of electricity to telecommunication facilities in rural and remote areas</td>
<td>06 Sep. 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GLOBAL</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>9GLO11067 ITU Human and Institutional Capacity Development Project</td>
<td>22 Sep. 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>3GLO07-059 Spectrum management assessment for developing countries</td>
<td>30 Sep. 2011</td>
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ANNEXURE: 2

WSIS+10: OVERALL REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WSIS OUTCOMES

10-Year Country Reporting Templates

• Section I: Executive Summary
  
  • Introduction
  • Country at a Glance – Factsheet on various developments and ICT indicators including achievement of national targets for connectivity and access in the use of ICTs in promoting the objectives of the Geneva Plan of Action*

  * For this section please refer to the questionnaire coordinated by the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development. A metadata questionnaire, to be sent in October 2012 to countries by the Regional Commissions, will collect information on data availability for the WSIS Target indicators as outlined in the *Measuring the WSIS Targets - A statistical framework* publication. A full data collection of the actual data for each of the WSIS Target indicators will be conducted in 2013. The data that will be collected in 2013 will be used to prepare the WSIS+10 quantitative report to be published in 2014.

Data will refer to the 10 WSIS Targets listed below:
  – to connect villages with ICTs and establish community access points;
  – to connect universities, colleges, secondary schools and primary schools with ICTs;
  – to connect scientific and research centres with ICTs;
  – to connect public libraries, cultural centres, museums, post offices and archives with ICTs;
  – to connect health centres and hospitals with ICTs;
  – to connect all local and central government departments and establish websites and email addresses;
  – to adapt all primary and secondary school curricula to meet the challenges of the Information Society, taking into account national circumstances;
  – to ensure that all of the world’s population have access to television and radio services;
  – to encourage the development of content and to put in place technical conditions in order to facilitate the presence and use of all world languages on the Internet;
  – to ensure that more than half the world’s inhabitants have access to ICTs within their reach.
• WSIS and MDG Implementation at National Level, including national ICT strategies towards and beyond 2015
• Financial mechanisms in place for meeting the challenges of ICT for development

• Section II: Reporting on Each Action line
  • C1 to C11

• Section III: Profiles of Progress – Select Case Studies
• Section IV: The Way Forward and the Vision Beyond 2015
ANNEXURE: 3

WSIS+10: OVERALL REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WSIS OUTCOMES

Template for Action Line Facilitators

10 -Years Review Reports by all the WSIS Action Lines

Action Line:
Lead Facilitator:
Co-facilitators:

1. Introduction
   (overall process, developments)

2. Review
   (action line objectives, most important achievements and areas not sufficiently addressed since 2005, gaps)

3. Developments and challenges
   (recent developments, current and future challenges, including a foresight dimension, emerging trends, possible new priorities)

4. Recommendations
   (possible revisions and new topics, improvements of the action line facilitation mechanisms, possibly for post-2015 goals and mechanisms)

5. Conclusion