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| **Regional Preparatory Meeting for WTDC-17 for Americas (RPM-AMS)**  | P:\SUP\Logos\Post-150th Anniv\ITU-logo-UNblue.jpg |
| **Asuncion, Paraguay, 22-24 February 2017** |
|  | **Revision 2 to** |
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| **23 February 2017** |
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| **Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL)** |
| CITEL WORKING DOCUMENT: PRELIMINARY DRAFT WTDC-17 DECLARATION |

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| **Priority area:**Strategic Plan, Action Plan, Declaration**Summary:**CITEL working document: Preliminary Draft WTDC-17 Declaration**Expected results:**Present this contribution as a working document of CITEL which contains the Preliminary Draft WTDC-17 Declaration to be reviewed and discussed during RPM-AMS.**References:**Original Version: Spanish (submission No. 1603) |

**Preliminary Draft WTDC-17 Declaration**

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Buenos Aires, 2017), which took place in Buenos Aires, Argentina, under the theme of "ICT for Sustainable Development Goals” (ICT④SDGs),

**[MEX MOD]** *recognizing*

1. [MEX MOD] that telecommunications/ICTs are a key enabler for social and economic development, and consequently for accelerating the timely implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Action Lines, and assisting efforts to achieve (MOD USA) the Sustainable Development Goals and Targets set out in the **Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**;

b) ADDARG: ITU-D should adapt and reinforce the existing links between the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Action Lines and the Sustainable Development Goals and Targets through the Regional Initiatives, the Action Plan, and the contribution to ITU’s Strategic Plan, in order to support global evolution;

c) ADDARG: Technological change and the new and innovative opportunities that Telecommunications/ICTs offer should be supported by ambitious decisions and policies measures in order to alleviate Digital Poverty (RD Shouldn’t be better to talk about differents digital gaps: access, habilities, appropriation, etc, instead of digital poverty), reduce inequalities and encourage our Planet’s protection, that are critical focal points for humanitarian progress.

1. D) [MEX MOD] that telecommunications/ICTs also play a crucial role in various areas such as health, education, agriculture, governance, finance, commerce, poverty reduction (MOD RD) disaster risk reduction[MEX ADD], prevention and management, climate change mitigation and adaptation; (SUP PY);
2. e) [MEX MOD] that access to modern, secure and affordable telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, applications and services offers opportunities to increase productivity and efficiency , improve(MOD USA) peoples' lives and ensuring that sustainable development across the world becomes a reality; mostly in least developed countries (LDC), small island Developing States (SIDS), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and countries with transition economies (MOD PY)
3. f) [MEX MOD] that widespread pilot programmes on (MOD USA) conformance and interoperability of telecommunication/ICT equipment and systems through the implementation of relevant programmes, policies and decisions can increase market opportunities, competitiveness (MOD ARG) and reliability and encourage global integration and trade;
4. g) [MEX MOD] that telecommunication/ICT applications provide innovative and beneficial services for individuals, communities and societies at large, yet also can create challenges to build confidence and trust in the availability, reliability, security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs systems; (MOD USA)
5. h) [MEX MOD] that broadband access technologies, broadband-enabled services and ICT applications offer enhanced (MOD USA) opportunities for interaction among people, for sharing the world's knowledge resources and expertise, for transforming peoples' lives and for contributing to inclusive and sustainable development across the world;
6. i) [MEX MOD] that despite progress made during past years, digital divides still remain, and are (MOD USA) compounded by disparities in access, use and skills between and within countries, in particular between urban and rural and underserved (MOD PY) areas, as well as in the availability of accessible and affordable telecommunications/ICTs, particularly for women, youth, children, indigenous people and persons with disabilities and specific needs;
7. j) [MEX MOD] that ITU is committed to improving people’s lives and making the world a better place through **the use of** telecommunications and information and communication technologies (ICTs);

k) ADD ARG: developing telecommunication/ICT infrastructure in rural and remote areas and ensuring the availability of affordable and accessible ICTs is a key priority for many countries, for which effective, innovative and affordable and sustainable (RD) solutions need to be identified

*therefore declares*

1. [MEX MOD] that broadly accessible and affordable telecommunications/ICTs make fundamental contributions towards the towards the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals;

2. [MEX MOD] that innovation is essential in ushering high-capacity (MOD PY), high-quality ICT infrastructure deployment (MOD MEX) and increasing the penetration of this (MOD MEX) services, and new and emerging technologies should be harnessed including for purposes of supporting global efforts aimed at further development of the information society (MOD USA)

3. [MEX MOD] that , policy-makers and regulators should continue to promote widespread, affordable access to telecommunications/ICTs, including Internet access, through fair, transparent, stable, predictable and non-discriminatory enabling policy, legal and regulatory environments, including common approaches to conformance and interoperability that promote competition, increase consumer choices, foster continued technological and service innovation MEX ADD], based on standars, plataforms, environments and open applications, as well as provisions that facilitate the use of networks capacities and efficient use of spectrum,and provide investment incentives at national, regional and international levels;

4 ADD ARG: that digital economy occupies a critical role in the innovation and evolution in the use of telecommunications/ICTs, having a transforming effect on people, societies and economies throughout the entire world.

45 [MEX MOD] that new and emerging technologies such as big data, cloud computing (MOD PY) and the Internet of Things should be harnessed for purposes of supporting global efforts aimed at further development of the information society;

6. [MEX MOD] that digital literacy and ICT skills, as well as human and institutional capacity in the development, appropriation (MOD RD) and use of telecommunications/ICT networks, applications and services should be enhanced to enable people to contribute to ideas, knowledge and human or sustainable ? (RD) development;

7 ADD ARG: Telecommunications/ICTs can contribute in creating opportunities for education and training throughout people´s lives, including people with disabilities and specific needs; the adoption of immediate, sustained and specific measures is required for its achievement, in order to ensure an inclusive, egalitarian and quality education for everyone.

8. [MEX MOD] that measuring the Information Society and providing the proper indicators/statistics and comparable (MOD RD) are important for Member States and the private sector and civil society (MOD RD) in identifying gaps and finding opportunities (MOD USA) and the third appropriation and empowerment strategies of the different population groups jointly pursuing additional efforts in order to generate partnership and sustainability in telecommunication/ICT development;

9). [MEX MOD] that an inclusive information society should take into account the needs of persons with disabilities and specific demands; as well as disadvantaged and vulnerable groups in order to have access to telecommunication/ICT services, under equal conditions. (MOD MEX)

9 ARG: an inclusive information society should be commited to contributing to the social and economic progress of people, emphasizing the needs of persons with disabilities and specific needs, vulnerable and marginal groups, and to pursue mechanisms to generate a new way to relate socially and educationally in which stereotypes about women and men leave room to a new view in which all people, regardless of sex, age, race, religion, etc. are acknowledged as essential agents for sustainable development.

9 PY: an inclusive information society should take into account the needs of persons with disabilities and specific needs, and of other persons in vulnerable situations;

9 RD an inclusive information society should create opportunities for women and girls and persons with disabilities and specific needs could benefit from digital ecosystem;

10 ADD ARG: **opportunities provided by telecommunications/ICTs should be fully exploited, with the aim of ensuring equitable access to telecommunications/ICTs and innovations that foster sustainable socio-economic development, poverty alleviation, job creation, entrepreneurship and promoting digital inclusion and empowerment for all, particularly for women, youth, children, indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities, including age-related disabilities;**

11 ADD ARG:an information society should be backed up by a multistakeholder approach in which telecommunication/ICT development and growth provide investment predictability and leverage sustainability through innovation, competitiveness and integration, acknowledging essential principles for the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines and the Sustainable Development Goals in 2030;

12. [MEX ADD] that building confidence, trust and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs is a priority, with a need for international cooperation and coordination between governments, relevant organizations, private companies and other stakeholders in building capacity and exchanging best practices; (MOD USA)

138[MEX MOD] that cooperation between innovators developed and developing countries as well as among developing countries are encouraged as this paves way for technical cooperation, technology and knowledge transfers (MOD USA), and joint research activities

14 ADD ARG that promotion of investments for the development of broadband infrastructure, services and applications contribute to the sustainable and econocomic growth of the peoples, and in this respect the Development Sector of ITUshall have to be a main actor to create alliances and spaces for cooperation among Member States, private sector, international funding agencies and other stakeholders;

15. [MEX MOD] that public- private partnerships can (MOD USA) be further strengthened in order to identify and apply innovative technological solutions and financing mechanisms for inclusive and sustainable development;

16. [MEX ADD] that innovation should be integrated into national policies, initiatives and programmes to promote sustainable development and economic growth through multi-stakeholder partnerships, between developing countries and between developed and developing countries to facilitate voluntary technology and knowledge transfer on mutually agreed terms (MOD USA);

16 MOD PY: innovation should be integrated into national policies, initiatives and programmes to promote sustainable development and economic growth through multi-stakeholder partnerships, between developing countries and between developed and developing countries to facilitate knowledge transfer and ecologically rational technologies under favorable conditions, and even under mutually agreed upon under concessional and preferential terms;

17. [MEX ADD] that International cooperation should be continuously promoted and (MOD ARG) enhanced amongst ITU Member States, Sector Members, Associates, Academia, and other partners, stakeholders, and initiatives (MOD USA) to pursue sustainable development, through the use of telecommunications/ICTs;

18. [MEX ADD] that ITU membership and other interested parties should cooperate in implementation of Connect 2020 global telecommunication/information and communication technology goals and targets.

19 ADD ARG. thatthe regions have articulated their specific priorities in a set of regional initiatives, which can be found in the Buenos Aires Action Plan adopted by this conference. The implementation of these regional initiatives deserve high priority on the part of ITU-D.

Accordingly, we, the delegates to the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-17), declare our commitment, through multi-stakeholder partnerships, to catalize the expansion and use of telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, applications and services for implementation of the WSIS Action Lines and (MOD USA) the timely attainment of the **Sustainable Development Goals and Targets set out in the Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**.

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-17) calls upon ITU Member States, Sector Members, Associates, Academia and all other partners and stakeholders to contribute towards the successful implementation of the Buenos Aires Action Plan.

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