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| PLENARY MEETING | **Addendum 8 toDocument WTDC-17/24-E** |
|  | **8 September 2017** |
|  | **Original: English** |
| Member States of the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations |
| Proposal of Regional Initiatives for Europe |
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| **Priority area:** - Regional Initiatives, related projects and financing mechanisms**Summary:**This document contains a consolidated version of proposed Regional Initiatives for Europe for implementation during 2018-2021. These proposals are based on the report prepared have been prepared by the EUR Regional Preparatory Meeting. The proposed lines of actions are important factors of ICT development in coming years and with ITU-D’s assistance the regional approaches initiatives towards development of ICTs would become more coherent and effective. The proposed action and objectives should be performed within the remit and mandate of ITU. Possible duplication of work should be avoided taking into account internal ongoing ITU activities in other sectors, the Council Working Groups as well as all regional and international organizations’ activities in these fields. Cooperation with other organizations should be fostered.**Expected results:**For consideration.**References:**Regional Initiatives for Europe as contained in the report from the EUR Regional Preparatory meeting. |

REGIONAL INITIATIVES

EUROPE REGIONAL INITIATIVES

**SUP** ECP/24A8/1

# EUR1: Spectrum management and transition to digital broadcasting

**ADD** ECP/24A8/2

# EUR1: Broadband infrastructure, broadcasting and spectrum management

**Objective:** To facilitate high speed connectivity with resilient and synergistic infrastructure development, deployment and sharing whilst ensuring a trusted and quality user experience.

**Expected results**

Assistance to the countries in need in the following:

1) Development of plans (national and regional) and feasibility studies for deployment of ubiquitous resilient high speed connectivity, including 5G/IMT2020 and digital broadcasting deployment with all relevant components including legislations, standards, organizational set up, capacity building and cooperation mechanisms, as needed.

2) Sharing of guidelines on collaborative regulation between telecommunication sector and other synergistic sectors such as the energy, railway and transportation.

3) Assessment of dynamics, challenges and opportunities of roll out of diverse broadband technologies across Europe in context of creation of ubiquitous resilient high speed broadband infrastructure.

4) Sharing of best practices and case studies in Cable TV, digital broadcasting, 5G experience, early use cases and trends in Next Generation Access network roll-out.

5) Mapping of the ubiquitous infrastructure and services fostering harmonization of approaches across the region and taking into account infrastructure sharing approaches applied by countries.

6) Establishment of quality of services systems and consumer protection frameworks.

7) Development of plans for ICT for sustainable energy covering different types of ICT applications and innovations.

**SUP** ECP/24A8/3

# EUR2: Development of broadband access and adoption of broadband

**ADD** ECP/24A8/4

# EUR2: A citizen-centric approach to building services for national administrations

**Objective:** To facilitate the development of transformative and paperless citizen-centric services that could be accessible and available to all members of the society.

**Expected results**

Assistance to the countries in the following:

1) Creation of experience and knowledge exchange platform between countries.

2) The development of technical and service infrastructure (data centers, networks, secure gateways, authentication, interoperability, standards and meta-data) as well as capacity building within the national administrations and institutions.

3) Fostering the development and increase of types of online transactional services, including applications for administration-to-administration (A2A) and administration-to-customer (A2C) services.

4) Building capacities necessary for accelerating the process of national and regional digitization.

5) Raising public trust through security enhancements in e-Government services, digitization processes and awareness raising campaigns including promotion of such application based solutions for e-Government by national administrations and other institutions.

6) Identification of key horizontal factors for successful implementation of e-Government services and digitization, such as secure and accessible digital identification, tools for data analysis, integrating workflow solutions, approach to re-use of data, and fostering their development.

**SUP** ECP/24A8/5

# EUR3: Ensuring access to telecommunications/ICTs, in particular for persons with disabilities

**ADD** ECP/24A8/6

# EUR3: Accessibility, affordability and skills development for all to ensure digital inclusion and sustainable development

**Objective:** To bridge the digital divide and equip all groups of the society, including persons with disabilities and specific needs, to take advantage of ICTby enabling capacity building on digital skills

**Expected results.**

Assistance to the countries in need in the following:

1) Strengthen and support regional cooperation and engagement of all relevant stakeholders, in line with the European Accessibility Act, in development and implementation of ICT accessibility policies and solutions in the European region.

2) Raise awareness and promote relevant guidelines on public policies, including exchanging knowledge and sharing good practices on ICT accessibility products and services for persons with disabilities and specific needs, through meetings and workshops, including regional conference which could be called “Accessible Europe – Information and Communication for all”.

3) Develop regional and in-country capacity though relevant web accessibility training to ensure that government websites and related services are available and accessible to all citizens, including persons with disabilities and specific needs.

4) Develop regional and in-country capacity to promote and deliver to relevant stakeholders training courses in ICT accessibility, including the training on public procurement, as a tool to improve inclusion of persons with disabilities and specific needs in education, employment, economic and social life.

5) Encourage regional cooperation between research centers and academia in speech technologies, in order to improve these technologies to overcome disabilities.

6) Raise awareness about accessibility possibilities of TV and video programming on digital platforms and implement appropriate solutions.

7) Encourage implementation and related measurement of progress in regional and national ICT activities and projects aiming to eliminate disparities in the use and access to ICTs of public institutions websites and government education programs, services and information.

8) Encourage implementation of digital content in education.

9) Develop regional and in-country capacity building on coding and computer programming tools that will be available to all, including persons with disabilities and specific needs.

10) Promote digital literacy, digital skills and e-Education, and implement accessible ICTs in e-Education.

**SUP** ECP/24A8/7

# EUR4: Building confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs

**ADD** ECP/24A8/8

# EUR4: Enhancing trust and confidence in the use of ICTs

**Objective:** To support the deployment of resilient infrastructure and secure services where all citizens, especially children, can confidently use ICTs in their daily lives.

**Expected results**

Assistance to the countries in need in the following:

1) Provide regional platforms and tools for building human capacities (awareness and expert training) to enhance trust and confidence in the use of ICTs.

2) Share country’s and regional best practices, case studies and conduct surveys on enhancing confidence and trust in the use of ICTs.

3) Elaborate or review National Cybersecurity Strategies.

4) Set up or improve capabilities of National Computer Security Incident Response Teams (CSIRTs), and the corresponding networks to support these CSIRTs in cooperating with each other.

5) Conduct simulation exercises such as cyber drills at national and regional level in cooperation with international and regional organizations and to assist countries in developing tools through synergies and resource optimizing.

**SUP** ECP/24A8/9

# EUR5: Entrepreneurship, innovation and youth

**ADD** ECP/24A8/10

# EUR5: ICT-centric innovation ecosystems

**Objective:** To enhance entrepreneurship and establish a sustainable culture of innovation through concrete strategic actions using ICT as an enabler, building on the existing regional initiative in Europe on Entrepreneurship, innovation and youth.

**Expected results**

Assistance to the countries in need in the following:

1) Initiate review on data collected, analyze the current situation and propose effective recommendations to use ICT as an innovation enabler.

2) Undertake ecosystem mapping exercises to coordinate efforts, to create new projects and activities, by facilitating cooperation between existing actors and by highlighting gaps in the ecosystem with high impact on stakeholders.

3) Develop human capacity through identification and provision of practical skills needed in order to support innovative industries.

4) Identify sustainable funding models to support the innovation ecosystems.

5) Share country’s and regional best practices and case studies on all aspects of ICT as a driver for innovation.

6) Provide a regional platform for strengthening of regional cooperation between ICT-centric innovation ecosystems, through holding Regional Innovation Forums.

**Reasons:** The proposed lines of actions are important factors of ICT development in coming years and with ITU-D’s assistance the regional approaches initiatives towards development of ICTs would become more coherent and effective.

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