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| PLENARY MEETING | **Revision 1 toDocument WTDC-17/26-E** |
|  | **27 September 2017** |
|  | **Original: English and Spanish** |
| Member States from the Americas |
| Proposal of Regional Initiatives for the Americas |
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|  |
| **Priority area:** - Regional Initiatives, related projects and financing mechanisms**Summary:**This document includes the draft new Regional Initiatives agreed as an outcome from RPM-AMS that took place in Asunción, Paraguay, from 22 to 24 February 2017, reflected in the Chairman’s Report [RPM-AMS17/41](https://www.itu.int/md/D14-RPMAMS-C-0041/)). **Expected results:**WTDC-17 is invited tor review and approved the document.**References:**[RPM-AMS17/41](https://www.itu.int/md/D14-RPMAMS-C-0041/); TDAG17-22/41; [WTDC17/4](https://www.itu.int/md/D14-WTDC17-C-0004/en) |

REGIONAL INITIATIVES

AMERICAS REGIONAL INITIATIVES

**SUP** AMS/26/1

# AMS1: Emergency telecommunications

**ADD** AMS/26/2

# AMS1: Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Communications

**Objective:** To provide assistance to Member States during all phases of disaster risk reduction, i.e. early warning, disaster response and relief and rehabilitation of telecommunication networks, particularly in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and the Least Developed Countries (LDCs).

**Expected results**

1) Identification of suitable technologies to be used for disaster risk reduction communications, and development of implementation feasibility studies, conformance and interoperability among other technologies and services based on IP technology for emergency telecommunications.

2) Implementation of national and sub-regional early-warning systems, as well as emergency response and recovery , and identification of critical infrastructure, with special focus on Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs), considering the influence of climate change.

3) Assistance for the development of appropriate policy, regulatory and legislative frameworks, as well as protocols and inter-agency procedures on communications within disaster risk reduction at the national and regional level.

4) Regional meetings and workshops to share experiences and best practices on telecommunications/ICTs for preventive measures for disaster risk reduction and emergency response, maximizing resources, creating more innovative and effective programmes and coordinating actions in border areas for the Americas region.

5) Temporary availability of equipment for emergency and recovery communications in the Americas region, at the initial stage of a disaster intervention, as part of ITU cooperation in cases of emergency.

**SUP** AMS/26/3

# AMS2: Spectrum management and transition to digital broadcasting

**ADD** AMS/26/4

# AMS2: Spectrum management and transition to digital broadcasting

**Objective:** To provide assistance to Member States in the transition to digital broadcasting, the use of the digital dividend frequencies and spectrum management.

**Expected results**

1) Capacity building in spectrum management, digital broadcasting technologies, and the use of the digital dividend and new broadcasting services and applications, providing assistance in using the tools to support developing countries in improving international coordination of terrestrial services in border areas.

2) Support for the elaboration of spectrum-management plans at the national and regional levels, including the transition to digital broadcasting and the promotion of policies for the use of spectrum in underserved areas.

3) Elaboration of studies, indicators and guidelines on aspects of the assignment and use of radio-frequency spectrum, with a view, inter alia, to facilitating the use of spectrum for International Mobile Telecommunications and the harmonization of spectrum use among countries in the region, taking into account Resolution 9 (Rev. [Dubai 2014]) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference.

4) Assistance to countries in the promotion of inclusive strategies related to the digitization of broadcasting services, including the availability of affordable digital broadcast receivers, and communication strategies to educate and to promote consumer awareness.

5) Assistance in national and regional planning for the use of frequencies released by the transition to digital broadcasting and the deployment of new technologies for broadcasting services.

**SUP** AMS/26/5

# AMS3: Development of broadband access and adoption of broadband

**ADD** AMS/26/6

# AMS3: Deployment of broadband infrastructure, especially in rural and neglected areas, and strengthening of broadband access to services and applications

**Objective:** To provide assistance to Member States to identify needs and in the development of policies, mechanisms and regulatory initiatives to reduce the digital divide by increasing broadband access and uptake, as a means to achieve the SDG.

**Expected results**

1) Assistance in the development of a situational study on the deployment of broadband infrastructure for fixed and mobile services and spectrum use that will enable Administrations to identify the needs and opportunities especially of rural and neglected areas, taking into account specific sub-regional characteristics.

2) Assistance for the implementation or improvement of national broadband coverage plans; including support to educational institutions, advanced networks, research centers, cooperatives and non-profit organizations that provide telecommunication services, especially in rural, remote and underserved areas, taking into account mechanisms for access to spectrum and high-speed networks and fostering an enabling environment to promote investment in networks.

3) Establishment of metrics and methodologies for measuring the conditions of broadband services, leveraging public and private investments, public-private partnerships, and the participation of small and non-profit operators, especially in Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

4) Assistance for the implementation of plans that promote access to ICTs in municipalities, through the concept of digital/smart cities, and in public social service institutions as well as increase access and use of ICTs by the public, especially in rural and underserved areas, to foster access to social services.

5) Consolidation and dissemination of information, including through meetings and workshops, about standards and conformance and interoperability, and exchange best practices related to the deployment and operation of broadband networks especially in rural areas, and connectivity, with emphasis on LDC, LLDCs and SIDS.

**SUP** AMS/26/7

# AMS4: Reduction of telecommunication service prices and Internet access costs

**ADD** AMS/26/8

# AMS4: Accessibility and affordability for an inclusive and sustainable Americas region

**Objective:** To provide assistance to Member States in ensuring the affordability of telecommunication/ICT services in order to build an Information Society for all and ensure the accessibility of telecommunications/ICTs for persons with disabilities and others in vulnerable situations.

**Expected results**

1) Assistance to develop guidelines and public policies to promote efficiency in the provision of and accessibility to telecommunication/ICT services, especially mobile and emergency services, and also considering, but not restricted to, the usage of audiovisual accessibility tools.

2) Assistance for the implementation of recommendations to help improve the affordability of broadband; analysing the different factors and recommendations on actions for the promotion of the development and management, as appropriate, of national, sub-regional and regional Internet exchange points (IXPs), subject to national decision, and related to policy and regulatory aspects for enabling the implementation of agreement and alliances on IXPs, in addition to recommendations to improve the availability of transport to international submarine fibre-optic network connection points, especially for LLDCs and SIDS.

3) Studies monitoring affordability levels in countries, disaggregated by socioeconomic variables and taking into account specific and vulnerable populations, for inclusion in the broadband plans, policies, strategies, actions and goals for these population groups in addition to recommendations based on studies of policies and initiatives that enable price reduction of telecommunication/ICT services, broadband deployment and efficient use of spectrum.

4) To recommend policies that facilitate an enabling environment for the full enjoyment of telecommunication/ICT access and use by all; through the implementation of local/national ICT projects to eliminate disparities in education at all levels and in professional training, the development of platforms to provide communication and relay services for persons with disabilities, the development of accessible websites for government programmes, services and information and the implementation of e-government services and other services.

5) Recommendations on actions for the promotion of cooperation and information sharing on all topics related to public and regulatory policies that improve affordability for telecommunication services and broadband.

**SUP** AMS/26/9

# AMS5: Capacity building to engage in global ICT policy, with special focus on improving cybersecurity and developing countries' participation in the existing Internet governance institutions

**ADD** AMS/26/10

# AMS5: Development of the Digital Economy, Smart Cities and Communities (SCC) & Internet of Things (IoT), Promoting Innovation

**Objective:** To assist Member States in developing national and regional policies to boost the digital economy, Smart Cities and Communities (SCC) and IoT.

**Expected results**

1) Provide assistance to Member States in the elaboration of ICT policies to promote the development of the digital economy in the region, leveraging new technologies to foster development and promotion of appropriate solutions.

2) Meetings and workshops on the impact of the digital economy in the region, in collaboration with other relevant organizations.

3) Elaboration of recommendations to promote the creation of innovation centers, including educational innovation, and projects that contribute to the ICT industry, with emphasis on Start-ups, SMEs and young entrepreneurs, with special focus on women, among others.

4) Identification of partners/alliances to strengthen innovation based on ICT and the funding of projects and initiatives for the development of the digital economy, SCC and IoT, building coalitions and multistakeholder alliances prioritizing young entrepreneurs.

5) To promote strategies and disseminate best practices on the appropriate management of e-waste.

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