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| C:\Users\ponder\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.Word\BDT-25th_anniversary_2017-Logo_411959-3_transparent.png | **World Telecommunication Development Conference 2017 (WTDC-17)**  **Buenos Aires, Argentina, 9-20 October 2017** | C:\Users\ponder\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.Word\BDT-25th_anniversary_2017-Logo_411959-1_transparent.png |
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| PLENARY MEETING | | **Document WTDC-17/46-E** |
|  | | **25 September 2017** |
|  | | **Original: English** |
| EMEA Satellite Operators Association (ESOA) | | |
| Proposals for the work of the conference | | |
|  | | |
|  | | |
| **Priority area:** - Action Plan  **Summary:**  Information and awareness about the need to exploit all available solutions and overcoming regulatory barriers will be key for the action plan.  **Expected results:**  The satellite sector expects a technology-neutral approach to the different decisions that will foster a level playing field and so allow satellite operators to contribute even more to the development agenda.  **References:**  -- | | |

ACTION PLAN (version proposed by TDAG)

Draft Buenos Aires Action Plan

Section 2 – Objectives and outputs

# Objective 1 – Coordination: Foster international cooperation and agreement on telecommunication/ICT development issues

**MOD** ESOA/46/1

### Output 1.6 – Partnership platforms, products and services

### 1 Background and Implementation framework

Developing and strengthening partnerships with the view of mobilizing resources is vital for ITU-D given its mandate with the growing volume and variety of its initiatives, including the regional initiatives, projects and activities to promote sustainable telecommunication/ICT development.

To this end, partnerships with diverse stakeholders, including other United Nations agencies, international and regional organizations, ITU Member States, ITU-D Sector Members, Associates, Academia and other relevant partners, from developed and developing countries, are necessary to enhance resource mobilization and support ITU-D in the implementation of the outcomes of the WTDC. In addition, diverse stakeholders should have the support of ITU-D in the organisation of workshops, training sessions or events that are considered relevant to the achievement of the common goals. Various platforms, services and products are made available by BDT to enhance partnerships.

### 2 References to WTDC resolutions, WSIS action lines and sustainable development goals

**PP and WTDC resolutions and recommendations**

The implementation of PP Resolution 135 and 140 and WTDC Resolutions 17, 30, 32, 53 and 71 will support Output 1.6 and will contribute to the achievement of Outcome 1.3

**WSIS action lines**

The implementation of the WSIS Action Lines C1 and C11 will support the Output 1.6 and will contribute to the achievement of Outcome 1.3

**Sustainable development goals and targets**

Output 1.6 will contribute to the achievement of the following UN SDGs: 1 (target 1.a), 17 (targets 17.3, 17.16 and 17.17)

**Reasons:** As a neutral organisation, more support from ITU-D would accelerate the achievement of the SDGs and help foster best practices.

# Objective 2 – Modern and secure telecommunication/ICT Infrastructure: Foster the development of infrastructure and services, including building confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs

## Output 2.1 – Products and services on telecommunication/ICT infrastructure and services, including broadband and broadcasting, bridging the digital standardization gap, conformance and interoperability and spectrum management

### 2 Implementation framework

**MOD** ESOA/46/2

#### Broadband networks: Wired and wireless technologies, including IMT and Satellite Communications

The introduction of different broadband technologies, are providing high bandwidth and connectivity, It is therefore important to provide developing countries with an understanding of the different technologies available for broadband using both wired and wireless technologies for terrestrial and satellite telecommunications, including International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT).

Activities will be focused on:

• providing assistance to developing countries in their medium- to long-term planning for the implementation and development of national ICT broadband network plans;

• collecting and disseminating information and analyses on the current status of broadband backbone and submarine cables, in order to assist members in network planning, avoiding duplication of efforts and resources and disseminating information on different countries' experiences with the use of different technologies and services. This is including the creation of an online Interactive Transmission Map related to national backbone worldwide connectivity (Optical Fibres, Microwaves, Submarine Cables, Satellite Earth Stations) as well as of other key metrics of the ICT sector;

• promoting Internet exchange points (IXPs) as a long-term solution to advance connectivity, and supporting ITU members with deployment of/transition to IPv6-based networks and applications, in collaboration with relevant expert organizations.

**Reasons:** The relevance of satellite for the deployment of broadband in underserved areas is undeniable and should be mentioned. Mentioning only IMT is neither technology neutral, nor justifiable. If reference to satellite is not included, then the reference to IMT should be deleted.

**MOD** ESOA/46/3

#### Rural communications

Rural populations will need to be provided with telephony and broadband access, by connecting remote areas to the broadband core networks. Choosing efficient, cost-effective and fast deployment technologies – whether wired or wireless networks – will improve accessibility.

The focus in this area can be summarized as follows:

• providing information on suitable technologies for access, backhaul and source of power supply to bring telecommunications to rural, unserved and underserved areas and advising on how to overcome regulatory barriers preventing access to key technologies for rural communications;

• implementing projects on public/community broadband access points focusing on the provision of ICT services and applications through suitable technologies, including satellite, and business models which achieve financial and operational sustainability;

• disseminating information and analyses of the latest technologies and best practices through methods such as publications, symposia, seminars and workshops, taking into account the outputs of related ITU D study group activities.

**Reasons:** Not only technical information is relevant, but informing about the impact or consequences of the regulatory policy is necessary.

**MOD** ESOA/46/4

#### Broadcasting

The objective of BDT work in broadcasting is to enable developing countries to achieve smooth migration from analogue to digital broadcasting and to follow the post-transition activities, such as the introduction of new broadcasting services and allocation of the digital dividend.

In particular, activities will be focused on:

• providing assistance on policy and regulatory frameworks for digital terrestrial broadcasting, including frequency planning and optimization of spectrum use; digital broadcasting guidelines and master plans for the transition from analogue to digital broadcasting and new broadcasting services and technologies;

• organizing regional meetings between ITU members on the use of spectrum for broadcasting services and other services, for example advising on how to transition from digital terrestrial to satellite television to optimize efficiency, ensure quality of service and avoid harmful interference.

**Reasons:** Information on available technologies is key to ensure fast and efficienct transition from analogue to digital. Support is necessary to optimize efficiency.

## Output 2.3 – Products and services on disaster risk reduction and emergency telecommunications

### 2 Implementation framework

**MOD** ESOA/46/5

#### Programme: Emergency telecommunications

The programme will benefit the Member States in many fronts:

• providing assistance to countries in the development of national emergency telecommunication plans;

• promoting disaster preparedness with Member States by supporting the organisation of simulations and training sessions to ensure proper preparedness capabilities are in place within each Member State;

• strengthening and expanding ICT-based initiatives for providing medical (e-health) and humanitarian assistance in disasters and emergencies;

• ensuring that disaster-resilient features are incorporated in telecommunication networks and infrastructure;

• making ICT-based solutions available to members, including wireless and satellite-based technologies, in order to establish basic communications for the coordination of humanitarian work during and following disasters and emergencies;

• carrying out infrastructure damage assessments after disasters strike, and assisting countries to reconstruct and rehabilitate telecommunication infrastructure using such technologies;

• promoting regional and international cooperation for easy access to, and sharing of, information for disaster management, and exploring modalities to facilitate participation of all countries with economies in transition;

• promoting technical cooperation and enhancing the capacity of countries, particularly LDS, SIDS and LLDCs, to utilize ICT tools;

• identifying and establishing partnerships with relevant organizations dealing with the use of active and passive space-based sensing systems for the purpose of disaster prediction, detection and mitigation;

• achieve Goal 13 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals.

**Reasons:** Despite multiple disasters every year, Member States often remain unprepared. The ITU-D can play a key role in ensuring proper preparation and training to save lives.

# Objective 3 – Enabling environment: Foster an enabling policy, and regulatory environment conducive to sustainable telecommunication/ICT development

## Output 3.1 – Products and services on telecommunication/ICT policy and regulation

### 2 Implementation framework

**MOD** ESOA/46/6

#### Programme: Policy and regulatory framework

This programme aims to support ITU membership in creating an enabling legal, policy and regulatory environments conducive to the development of telecommunications /ICTs in a digital economy, strengthening communication and collaboration with other sectors such as those in charge of health, education, energy and finance to leverage the cross-sectoral nature of ICTs on economic and social development, and ensuring that all can benefit from ICTs by building sound policy and regulatory frameworks.

The programme seeks to benefit from an extensive collaboration within ITU, in particular with ITU-D SG1 and SG2, ITU-R SGs and ITU-T SGs as well as with all relevant organizations where ICTs have an impact and bring value.

To this end, providing up to date regulatory and policy data, research and analysis and holding an inclusive dialogue with the wider ICT community and across the sectors realizing broad partnerships will be one of the main enablers to achieve the programme’ s purpose.

The programme will:

• provide ITU Members with the tools to keep informed of current developments with regard to the policy, legal, and regulatory frameworks as well as market developments in the ICT sector and the digital economies it enables;

• support ITU Member States in defining, elaborating, implementing and reviewing transparent, coherent and forward looking strategies, policy, , legal and regulatory frameworks as well as in moving towards evidence-based decision-making at the national and regional level in order to implement meaningful solutions and reforms to stimulate competition, investment and innovation, and foster global, regional and national ICT markets and ensuring affordable access for all to ICTs and the digital economy;

• provide tools and platforms to ITU-D Sector Members for an inclusive dialogue and enhanced cooperation among national and regional regulators, policy-makers and other telecommunication/ICT stakeholders including the satellite sector as well as with other sectors of the economy on topical policy, legal, regulatory and market issues to help countries achieve a more inclusive information society and to raise national awareness about the importance of an enabling environment to allow digital empowerment and inclusion in a Smart connected society;

• provide institutional and human capacity building and technical assistance to ITU-D Sector Members on topical policy, legal, regulatory, as well as on economic and financial issues and market developments;

• convene a Global Forum for discussing global trends in regulation for ITU-D Sector Members and other national and international stakeholders, through organizing the Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR).

**Reasons:** Awareness amongst Member States of satellite as a key technology within the telecommunications sector is still low. Information is necessary to create a level playing field.

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