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| **Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG)**  **23rd Meeting, Geneva, 9-11 April 2018** | P:\SUP\Logos\Post-150th Anniv\ITU-logo-UNblue.jpg |
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|  | **Document** **TDAG-18/15-E** |
|  | **27 February 2018** |
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| Director, Telecommunication Development Bureau | |
| ITU-D CALENDAR OF EVENTS IN 2018-2021 | |
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| **Summary:**  This document presents a calendar of ITU-D events planned for the years 2018-2021.  **Action required:**  TDAG is invited to note the document and provide guidance as deemed appropriate.  **References:**  PP Resolutions 77 and 111 (Rev. Busan, 2014), WTDC Resolutions 1 and 31 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) and Council-18 Document 37. | |

**1. Background**

1.1 Resolution 77 (Rev. Busan, 2014) on the scheduling and duration of conferences, forums, assemblies and Council sessions of the Union stipulates the periods in which these events should be held for the years 2015-2019.

1.2 Resolution 111 (Rev. Busan, 2014) on considering major religious periods in the scheduling of ITU conferences, forums, assemblies and Council sessions calls on the Union and its Member States to make every effort, as far as practicable, to ensure that the planned period of any ITU conference does not conflict with what may be considered a major religious period by a Member State. Resolution 1 [(Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017)](#_Toc500930600) on the r[ules of procedure of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector](#_Toc500930601) (ITU-D) reiterates this call.

1.4 Resolution 31 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) instructs the Director of BDT to organize, within the financial limitations, one regional preparatory meeting per region for each of the the six[[1]](#footnote-1)1 regions (if the relevant region deems appropriate).

**2. Overview of ITU-D planned events**

2.1 This document presents a calendar of ITU-D events planned for the years 2018-2021, guided by the principles stipulated in the resolutions cited above and coordinated with the other two ITU Sectors (Radiocommunication and Telecommunication Standardization), the General Secretariat and the Telecom secretariat.

2.2 The events in the calendar range from TDAG meetings, ITU-D study group and rapporteur group meetings to the annual Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR), the annual World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium (WTIS), the Global Capacity Building Symposium (CBS), the Global Forum on Emergency Telecommunmications (GET), Meetings of Senior Experts on Financing Information and Communication Technology Projects, Meetings of the Expert Group on ICT Household Indicators and of the Expert Group on Telecommunication/ICT Indicators, to the next World Telecommunication Development Conference in 2021 (WTDC-21).

2.3 The ITU-D calendar of events is facilitating collaboration and coordination of the various ITU meetings and events. These yearly event calendars are available to members on the [TDAG homepage](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Conferences/TDAG/Pages/default.aspx) and are updated regularly. They are available in a printer-friendly format (see **Annex 1** for current versions). In scheduling these events, due attention has been paid to the importance of including all delegates in the crucial work of ITU events.

2.4 The events outlined above are also reflected in Document 37 of Council-18 on the shculde of future conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union for the years 2018-2021.

**3. TDAG meetings**

3.1 In the case of TDAG, in line with WTDC Resolution 1, due attention has been paid to scheduling its meetings before the ITU Council sessions to allow TDAG to effectively review the draft ITU-D operational plans before their adoption by the Council and implementation by BDT. A lot of coordination was undertaken to ensure that meetings of the advisory groups of the three Sectors of the Union are held consecutively whenever possible.

3.2 From 2019 to 2021, TDAG meetings will be preceded by a one-day meeting of its correspondence groups, in line with WTDC Resolution 31. The meeting in 2021 is planned four months before WTDC-21, in order to allow TDAG to study, discuss and adopt in final form the consolidated report presenting the outputs of the six regional preparatory meetings.

3.3 TDAG meetings have been carefully scheduled to ensure that they do not take place in conjunction with the ITU-D study group or rapporteur group meetings. Every possible effort has been made in order that the planned period for meetings are not scheduled during a period which is considered a major religious period by a Member State.

**4. Regional preparatory meetings**

4.1 The calendar includes one regional preparatory meeting (RPM) per region for each of the six regions. Two of these metings are planned for the last quarter of 2020 and four for the first quarter of 2021 as shown in the table below.

4.2 Regional preparatory meetings are direct services to members and are organized to achieve greater regional coordination and engage members early on in the WTDC preparatory process. As noted in Resolution 31, the continued success of future WTDCs will depend on greater efficiency of regional coordination and interaction at interregional level.

4.3 A one-day Regional Development Forum (RDF) is planned to take place before each RPM. These forums provide an opportunity for high-level dialogue, cooperation and partnerships among telecommunication and ICT policy-makers, regulators, industry, academia, regional and international development agencies and organizations on specific regional telecommunication and ICT issues. The proposed schedule of RPMs and RDFs is given in the table below.

4.5 In planning these meetings, every effort has been made to avoid overlap with other relevant ITU-D meetings.Full use will be made of ITU Regional Offices to facilitate identification of host countries and to organize these meetings.

**5. Coordination meeting for RPMs**

A coordination meeting of the six regions is planned in conjunction with the last meeting of TDAG, with the participation of ITU-D members.

**6. WTDC-21**

6.1 The next World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-21) is scheduled to take place in the last quarter of 2021 in keeping with Resolution 77, which resolves that ITU conferences and assemblies shall, in principle, be held in the last quarter of the year.

6.2 The Plenipotentiary Conference, to be convened in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, from 29 October to 16 November 2018, is expected to decide on the precise place and exact dates of WTDC-21.

Any revisions to Resolutions 77 and 111 by the Dubai Plenipotentiary Conference that affect the event planning given in this document will be reflected in a future calendar of ITU-D events.

**Indicative schedule of ITU-D statutory events in 2018-2021**

| **Event title** | **Date** | **Place** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| TDAG-19 | 2-5 April 2019 | Geneva, Switzerland |
| TDAG-20 | 24-27 March 2020 | Geneva, Switzerland |
| TDAG-21 | 25-28 May or 22-25 June 2021 | Geneva, Switzerland |
|  |  |  |
| ITU-D Study Group 1 | 30 April – 4 May 2018 | Geneva, Switzerland |
| ITU-D Study Group 2 | 7-11 May 2018 | Geneva, Switzerland |
| Rapporteur Group (SG1) | 17-29 September 2018 | Geneva, Switzerland |
| Rapporteur Group (SG2) | 1-12 October 2018 | Geneva, Switzerland |
| ITU-D Study Group 1 | 18-22 March 2019 | Geneva, Switzerland |
| ITU-D Study Group 2 | 25-29 March 2019 | Geneva, Switzerland |
| Rapporteur Group (SG1) | 23 September – 4 October 2019 | Geneva, Switzerland |
| Rapporteur Group (SG2) | 7-18 October 2019 | Geneva, Switzerland |
| ITU-D Study Group 1 | 17-21 February 2020 | Geneva, Switzerland |
| ITU-D Study Group 2 | 24-28 February 2020 | Geneva, Switzerland |
| Rapporteur Group (SG1) | 21 September – 2 October 2020 | Geneva, Switzerland |
| Rapporteur Group (SG2) | 5-16 October 2020 | Geneva, Switzerland |
| ITU-D Study Group 1 | 15-19 March 2021 | Geneva, Switzerland |
| ITU-D Study Group 2 | 22-26 March 2021 | Geneva, Switzerland |
|  |  |  |
| RPM-XXX, preceded by RDF on  9 November 2020 | 10-13 November 2020 | TBD |
| RPM-XXX, preceded by RDF on  7 December 2020 | 8-11 December 2020 | TBD |
| RPM-XXX, preceded by RDF on  25 January 2021 | 26-28 January 2021 | TBD |
| RPM-XXX, preceded by RDF on  15 February 2021 | 16-18 February 2021 | TBD |
| RPM-XXX, preceded by RDF on  8 March 2021 | 9-11 March 2021 | TBD |
| RPM-XXX, preceded by RDF on  19 April 2021 | 20-22 April 2021 | TBD |
|  |  |  |
| RPM-CM | 24 May or 21 June 2021 | Geneva, Switzerland |
|  |  |  |
| WTDC-21 | 25 October – 5 November or 1-12 November 2021 | TBD |

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1. 1 Africa, Americas, Arab States, Asia and the Pacific, Commonwealth of Independent States, Europe. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)