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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-18/16-E** |
|  | **31 January 2018** |
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| Report by the Director of BDT | |
| ITU GLOBAL SYMPOSIUM FOR REGULATORS (GSR) | |
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| **Summary:**  The 17th edition of the Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR-17) was held in Nassau, Bahamas, from 11 to 14 July, and attracted close to 400 participants including government ministers, heads of regulatory agencies and C-level industry executives from more than 60 countries. GSR-17 was organized by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in collaboration with the Government of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas. The theme of GSR-17 was: “Living in a World of Digital Opportunities”.  The 18th edition of the Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR-18) will be held at the Geneva International Conference Centre (CICG), Geneva, Switzerland from 9-12 July 2018. The theme for GSR-18 is: “New Regulatory Frontiers”. Thematic events include the “Global Dialogue on Artificial Intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT) and Cybersecurity – Policy and regulatory challenges and opportunities”, the Regional Regulatory Associations Meeting and the Industry Advisory Group for Development (IAGD)/Chief Regulatory Officials (CRO) Meeting  **Action Required:**  TDAG is invited to note this document and to provide guidance as deemed appropriate.  **References:**  WTDC14 Resolution 48 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) | |

**Background**

The Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR) is a four-day event, with one day being earmarked for thematic and other pre-events, which brings together heads of national telecom/ICT regulatory authorities from around the world and has earned a reputation as the global annual venue for regulators to share their views and experiences on the most pressing issues they face. Although the focus of this event is regulators, it also fosters interactions and discussions on many other levels, providing regulators with opportunities to interact with policy makers, industry leaders and other key ICT stakeholders. GSR concludes with the adoption by regulators of a set of regulatory best practice guidelines.

GSR provides a neutral platform for ITU-D Sector Members to share their views on major issues facing the ICT sector, and is open to regulators, policy makers and ITU–D Sector members, and offers participants various options to attend and contribute. A series of thematic and other pre-events also allow for exhibitions, exchanges and participation by administrations, regulators, industry, chief regulatory officers, and regional regulatory associations.

**GSR-17**

The 17th Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR-17) was held in Nassau, Bahamas, from   
11 to 14 July, and attracted close to 400 participants including government ministers, heads of regulatory agencies and C-level industry executives from more than 60 countries. GSR-17 was organized by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in collaboration with the Government of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas. The theme of GSR-17 was: “Living in a World of Digital Opportunities”.

A series of pre-events took place on 11 July 2017 and the morning of 12 July 2017 including the second edition of the GSR thematic pre-conference, the Global Dialogue on Digital Financial Inclusion, which focused on the security aspects of digital financial services. The pre-event day also included the Regional Regulatory Associations Meeting (RA) and the 8th Private Sector Chief Regulatory Officers Meeting (CRO).

Throughout the four-day overall GSR programme, participants acknowledged the importance of collaboration in an environment where digital transformation is sweeping across sectors and fifth generation of ICT regulation is coming of age. Unleashing the potential of collaboration among stakeholders to create an enabling environment for innovation, investment and opportunities for all is essential in an increasingly complex and dynamic ICT ecosystem. The event culminated with the adoption by ICT regulators of a set of best practice guidelines on affordable access to digital services.

**GSR-18**

The 18th Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR-18) will be organized by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and held at the Geneva International Conference Centre (CICG), Geneva, Switzerland from 9-12 July 2018. The theme for GSR-18 is: “New Regulatory Frontiers”, with discussions focusing on how the digital transformation that is sweeping across sectors is impacting all aspects of our daily lives as consumers, businesses and citizens and extending regulatory frontiers beyond traditional telecommunications/ICT regulation.

As part of GSR, we will host thematic events including the “Global Dialogue on Artificial Intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT) and Cybersecurity – Policy and regulatory challenges and opportunities” on 9 July and 10 July in the morning. The Regional Regulatory Associations Meeting and the Industry Advisory Group for Development (IAGD)/Chief Regulatory Officials (CRO) Meeting will be held on 10 July in the morning.

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