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| **Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG)**  **25th Meeting, Geneva, 2-5 June 2020** | C:\Users\comas\AppData\Local\Temp\Rar$DRa0.735\jpg\ITU official logo_blue_RGB.jpg |
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|  | **6 February 2020** |
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| Director, Telecommunication Development Bureau | |
| Preparations for WTDC-21 | |
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| **Summary:**  This document covers the preparations so far for the organization of the World Telecommunication Development Conference 2021 (WTDC-21) that is scheduled to take place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 8 to 19 November 2021.  **Action required:**  TDAG is invited to note this document and provide guidance as deemed appropriate.  **References:**  [No. 141 of the ITU Constitution](http://www.itu.int/pub/S-CONF-PLEN-2015), [Nos. 42, 213 of the ITU Convention, Chapter I of the General Rules of Conferences, Assemblies and Meetings of the Union,](http://www.itu.int/pub/S-CONF-PLEN-2015) [PP Resolutions 77 (Rev. Dubai, 2018),  111 (Rev. Busan, 2014),](http://www.itu.int/pub/S-CONF-PLEN-2015) and [WTDC Resolution 31 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017)](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/TIES_Protected/WTDC14/WTDC14-FinalReport-E.pdf). | |

# Background

* 1. No. 141 of the ITU Constitution stipulates that there shall be a World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) between two Plenipotentiary Conferences.
  2. Resolution 77 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) resolves to hold the WTDC in the last quarter of 2021.
  3. WTDC Resolution 31 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) expresses the firm convictionthat the coordination of preparations at regional level for the six regions of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) are of great benefit to Member States.

# Place, duration, dates, and venue for WTDC-21

* 1. At its 2019 session, the ITU Council noted with appreciation the official invitation from the Government of Ethiopia to host WTDC‑21 in Addis Ababa from 8 to 19 November 2021 and approved the precise place and exact dates.
  2. By [Circular Letter No. 19/33](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-SG-CIR-0033/) of 22 July 2019, ITU Member States were invited to confirm, in writing, their agreement with the precise place and exact dates of WTDC-21 by 30 September 2019.
  3. By [Circular Letter No. 19/45](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-SG-CIR-0045/) of 3 October 2019, ITU Member States were informed that the consultation carried out as outlined above had received the agreement of the required majority of ITU Member States, in accordance with Nos. 42 and 213 of the ITU Convention.
  4. It is envisaged that a Youth Summit will be held on 6 and 7 November 2021, just prior to WTDC-21, also in Addis Ababa.
  5. A first site visit took place from 30 September to 3 October 2019 by an ITU team to visit potential venues to hold the events, and to visit the potential hotels where participants and ITU staff will be staying.
  6. Negotiations between Ethiopia and ITU relating to the holding, organizing and financing of WTDC-21 and of the Youth Summit are now under way.

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