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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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|  | **Document** **TDAG-20/****53-E** | |
|  | **20 May 2020** | |
|  | **English only** | |
| United States of America | | |
| ITU-D Study Group Innovation | | |
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| **Summary:**  The United States supports the ongoing discussions through the TDAG Web Dialogues which have been exploring ways in which to make the BDT more ‘Fit4Purpose’ and believes that ongoing discussion via correspondence groups between TDAG-20 and TDAG-21 could help to ensure more concrete recommendations and guidance for Member States in their preparations. By this contribution, the United States recommends that TDAG undertake a more detailed examination of the ITU-D Study Groups, specifically how to make them more innovative and effective and in line with goals established through Results Based Management and in helping achieve BDT Strategic Objectives and advance Regional priorities.  **Action required:**  TDAG is requested to examine this contribution and endorse the proposal for a correspondence group to explore innovation in the ITU-D Study Groups.  **References:**  N/A | | |

One of the BDT’s priority activities is to support the work of the ITU membership through the ITU-D Study Groups. The United States has long supported this work through contributions, workshops and leadership. During WTDC-17, Members considered ways to reform or refresh the work of the study groups through shorter time frames for outputs and deliverables, increased use of workshops and other interactive means of exchange, and more targeted focus on identifying successful practices and lessons learned.

In light of the ongoing discussions and momentum around making BDT more Fit4Purpose, the United States believes that it is worth considering how the Study Groups may also become more Fit4Purpose and find greater synergies between Study Groups and other BDT’s activities. How can we rethink or improve upon the way in which the Study Groups create reports and deliverables? How can we find efficiencies including through more focused work plans? How can we reduce time spent at WTDC-21 in discussing the detailed work plans of the study questions?

The United States believes a TDAG correspondence group is an appropriate forum to allow for more thorough discussions between TDAG-20 and TDAG-21 regarding innovation in the ITU-D Study Groups and to identify options or recommendations for Member States to consider during WTDC-21 preparations.

**Proposal**

The United States therefore recommends that TDAG-20 create a correspondence group to explore ideas for innovation in the study groups. The work of the group is intended to help support Member preparations for the WTDC. Such a group would submit a report and recommendations to TDAG-21 and also could meet in conjunction with the 2021 Study Group meetings.

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