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| C:\Users\comas\AppData\Local\Temp\Rar$DRa0.735\jpg\ITU official logo_blue_RGB.jpg**TDAG Working Group on Strategic and Operational Plans****1 October 2020, Virtual** |
|  | **Document TDAG-WG-SOP/8-E** |
|  | **20 September 2020** |
|  | **Original: English** |
| **Source:** | United States of America, Mexico, Canada |
| **Title:** | Proposal on WTDC Review of the Strategic Plan |

**Summary:**

Pursuant to the ToR for this Working Group, this contribution includes some initial thoughts on the Development Sector’s Strategic Plan and its implementation for the next Plenipotentiary. The contribution also includes a nearer term proposal for the Inter-regional Meetings’ (IRMs) consideration.

**Action required:**

TDAG Working Group on Strategic and Operational Plan is invited to examine this contribution and endorse the proposals.

**Discussion**

The Union’s Strategic and Operational Plans (SOPs) are essential to achieving the Membership’s priorities and initiatives. We welcome the opportunity to contribute to the ITU Strategic and Operational Plans in a more systematic way with a longer-term focus. We believe that the WTDC should focus on the Development Sector’s contribution to the SOPs through a review of the implementation of WTDC programs and projects related to Strategic Objectives, regional initiatives and priorities as well as proposals to identify new regional priorities and related WTDC programs and projects, implementation, well defined benchmarks, and expected outcomes. This will improve the structure and outcome of the WTDC 21 and help transform the Conference and the Development Sector to a fit for purpose, effective and efficient organization.

Pursuant to WTDC Resolution 1, the ITU-D’s contribution to the Strategic Plan is discussed at the Conference. Consistent with the views expressed during the web dialogues, in order to streamline the review of the SOPs and lessen the administrative tasks during the WTDC, we propose that the task of reviewing the ITU-D’s contribution to the ITU Strategic Plan should be assigned to TDAG in advance of the upcoming Plenipotentiary Conference in 2022 by revising provision 1.8.2 of Resolution 1. However, this will require an agreement in principle among the Membership prior to WTDC-21 to revise the pertinent provisions of Resolution 1 and Resolution 24.

**Proposal**

1. If there is consensus around the ITU-D input to the Strategic Plan being elaborated by TDAG in the lead-up to the PP-22 instead of being finalized during the WTDC itself, the TDAG-SOP ad hoc group could examine language based on Member proposals to modify the pertinent provisions in Resolution 1 and Resolution 24 to affect this change and ensure quick adoption at WTDC-21. Advance agreement in principle is needed to reduce time by spent by the Membership on finalizing the Development Sector’s input to the Strategic Plan in advance of the WTDC-21. We further propose that the TDAG WG-Prep consider this topic of revision of Resolution 1 and 24 on the agenda for the IRMs to facilitate inter-regional consensus in advance of the WTDC.
2. The review of SOP implementation and contribution to the development of future SOPs allows the Development Sector to evaluate realization of its current priorities and identify and provide guidance on implementation of future priories through WTDC programs and projects. The BDT has identified 10 thematic priorities based on 11 programs in the Buenos Aires Action Plan which in turn are mapped to Plenipotentiary and WTDC Resolutions, WSIS Action Lines and Study Questions. The following are some initial thoughts and questions for discussions for the WG-SOP.

Some questions for consideration:

1. How do the objectives of the Strategic Plan relate to the BDT Thematic Priorities and associated regional initiatives, WTDC Resolutions, WSIS Action Lines and Study Questions?
2. How can the new Strategic Plan objectives best support results-based management and measurement of implementation of the Action Plan?

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