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|  | **First Inter-Regional Meeting (IRM-1) to   prepare for the WTDC-25**  **Virtual, 14 July 2025** | | A close up of a sign  Description automatically generated |
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|  | | **Document** **IRM25-1/****INF/3-E** | |
|  | | **1 July 2025** | |
|  | | **English only** | |
| Chair, RPM Coordination Meeting | | | |
| Report of the Chair of the RPM Coordination Meeting | | | |
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| **Summary:**  This document provides the main conclusions of the six WTDC-25 Regional Preparatory Meetings (RPMs).  **Action required:**  This report is provided for the information of the IRM.  **References:**  [RPM-ARB25/20](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMARB-C-0020/en), [RPM-EUR25/30](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMEUR-C-0030/en), [RPM-ASP25/18](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMASP-C-0018/en)(Rev.1), [RPM-AMS25/21](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-C-0021/en) (Rev. 1), [RPM-AFR25/19](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAFR-C-0019/en),  [RPM-CIS25/18](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMCIS-C-0018/en) | | | |

1. **Introduction**

In line with [Resolution 31 (Rev. Kigali, 2022](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furldefense.proofpoint.com%2Fv2%2Furl%3Fu%3Dhttps-3A__www.itu.int_dms-5Fpub_itu-2Dd_opb_res_D-2DRES-2DD.31-2D2022-2DPDF-2DE.pdf%26d%3DDwMGaQ%26c%3Dy0h0omCe0jAUGr4gAQ02Fw%26r%3DMPE_gbrnTOlKsMPgNKUMZftr1yA164NwLNBm0i_KU4E%26m%3Dcx-XelOOb3elFg6sdjT_wW-wQ9EkNFHufP2wVocuHJSC3dzFD8SI9FQLMyiHI6T6%26s%3Dhmui9fncNK0Uovf48WtObKF79Oc0KHAme1sM8DUN-Rc%26e%3D&data=05%7C02%7COnder.Cetinkaya%40itu.int%7C7f0d279cbadc4835ba5d08dd6be690ae%7C23e464d704e64b87913c24bd89219fd3%7C0%7C0%7C638785360522729418%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=hQV1SDzrwm07p%2Fjhw5SubsUqBBzRKJmlyQaFaBjpC4U%3D&reserved=0)) the RPM Coordination Meeting was held on 12 May 2025 in preparation for the World Telecommunication Development Conference 2025 (WTDC-25), which will take place from 17 to 28 November 2025 in Baku, Azerbaijan.

RPM Coordination meeting looked at the results of the six RPMs that took place as follows:

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| **Region** | **Dates (2025)** | **City and Host country** | **RPM Report** | **Videos on the Kigali Action Plan implementation** |
| RPM-ARB | 4-5 February | Amman, Jordan | [Report](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMARB-C-0020/en) | [Video](https://youtu.be/_TmRrANEy9Y?feature=shared) |
| RPM-EUR | 25-26 February | Budapest, Hungary | [Report](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMEUR-C-0030/en) | [Video](https://youtu.be/KbGUKDoOwoU?feature=shared) |
| RPM-ASP | 20-21 March | Bangkok, Thailand | [Report](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMASP-C-0018/en) | [Video](https://youtu.be/n-9xwzs0i9I?feature=shared) |
| RPM-AMS | 1-2 April | Asuncion, Paraguay | [Report](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-C-0021/en) | [Video](https://youtu.be/0Q1A-_uFb2U?feature=shared) |
| RPM-AFR | 8-9 April | Nairobi, Kenya | [Report](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAFR-C-0019/en) | [Video](https://youtu.be/TQMlkFoVHQ4?feature=shared) |
| RPM-CIS | 24-25 April | Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan | [Report](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=D22-RPMCIS-C-0018) | [Video](https://youtu.be/lWymn4RNG0I?feature=shared) |

During the meeting, the outcomes of each RPM were presented by RPM Chairs or Vice-Chairs, including the draft Regional Initiatives. The meeting approved by consensus the consolidated report on the WTDC-25 regional preparatory process contained in Document 16.

The RPM outcomes follow a consistent structure and are presented below by region, in the chronological order in which the meetings were held.

1. **Conclusions from the Regional Preparatory Meetings for WTDC-25**
   1. **Arab States Region**

RPM-ARB reviewed all input documents and elaborated on the draft Regional Initiatives for the region in the next cycle. Accordingly, the main highlights of the meeting include the following:

* H.E Dr. Nooh Alshyab was elected as the Chair of RPM-ARB. The meeting also endorsed the proposal for four Vice-Chairs, Mr Muath S. Alrumayh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Mr Abdulla Bin Khadiya, United Arab Emirates (UAE), Mr Fayçal Bayouli, Republic of Tunisia and Mr Ahmed Said, Republic of Egypt.
* RPM-ARB reviewed several documents, including:
  + Document 2 on the implementation of the WTDC-22 Kigali Action Plan,
  + Document 3 on the state of digital development and trends in the Arab States,
  + Document 4 on the decisions of other ITU Conferences, Assemblies, and meetings related to ITU-D work,
  + Document 8 on the progress of the TDAG Working Group on the ITU-D Priorities,
  + Document 5 on the work of the TDAG Working Group on Future Study Group Questions,
  + Document 7 on the progress of the TDAG Working Group on the WTDC Declaration, and Document 6 on the work of the TDAG Working Group on Streamlining Resolutions.
* The meeting discussed and took note of contributions from Membership regarding new regional initiatives, including enhancing emergency telecommunications, improving connectivity and broadband infrastructure for LDCs, developing a legal and regulatory framework for NTNs, strengthening regional and international cooperation, enhancing emergency telecommunications preparedness, and strengthening broadband mapping and visualization.
* RPM-ARB agreed on six regional priorities that will be further discussed and refined in the lead up to WTDC-25 so that they can be submitted as Regional Initiatives to WTDC for consideration and adoption. These are:

1. Sector Specific Transformation: Sustainable Digital Futures

2. Infrastructure and connectivity

3. Fostering Economic Development and Digital Inclusion

4. Skills Development & Job Creation

5. Advancing Cyber Resilience in the Arab World

6. Innovation Ecosystems and Emerging Tech

* 1. **Europe Region**

RPM-EUR reviewed all input documents and elaborated on the draft Regional Initiatives for the region in the next cycle. Accordingly, the main highlights of the meeting include the following:

* Dr Péter Vári from Hungary, was elected as the Chair of RPM-EUR. The meeting also endorsed the proposal for three Vice-Chairs: Vice-Chairs: Mr Johann Gross from Germany, Ms Inga Rimkevičienė from Lithuania, and Mr Milan B. Radulović from Montenegro.
* RPM-EUR reviewed several documents, including:
  + Document 2 on the implementation of the WTDC-22 Kigali Action Plan,
  + Document 3 on the state of digital development and trends in Europe,
  + Document 4 on the decisions of other ITU Conferences, Assemblies, and meetings related to ITU-D work,
  + Document 8 on the progress of the TDAG Working Group on the ITU-D Priorities,
  + Document 5 on the work of the TDAG Working Group on Future Study Group Questions,
  + Document 7 on the progress of the TDAG Working Group on the WTDC Declaration,
  + Document 6 on the work of the TDAG Working Group on Streamlining Resolutions.
* The meeting discussed and took note of contributions from Membership regarding new regional initiatives, including enhancing cybersecurity, promoting gender equality, advancing youth inclusion, improving emergency telecommunications, and fostering digital innovation ecosystems.

RPM-EUR agreed on the following draft Regional Initiatives:

**EUR1: Digital infrastructure development**: Objective of this initiative is to facilitate the attainment of universal and meaningful connectivity through resilient and synergistic infrastructure development and an enabling environment, ensuring ubiquitous coverage.

**Expected Results**:

Assistance to the countries in need in the following areas:

1. Development and updating of plans and feasibility studies for the deployment of ubiquitous resilient high-speed connectivity with all relevant components including legislation, standards, organizational set-up, capacity building and cooperation mechanisms, as needed.
2. Assessment of dynamics, challenges and opportunities in respect of the rollout of resilient high-speed connectivity to inform best practice and sharing on the various above-mentioned aspects through the organization of regional workshops, conferences or webinars.
3. Rehabilitation and rebuilding of telecommunication/ICTs infrastructure in countries affected by natural hazards or human-induced crises, to ensure digital resilience for all.
4. Providing national or regional platforms for building capacities in the field of universal and meaningful connectivity, including enabling environment and collaborative regulation between the telecommunication sector and other synergistic sectors such as energy, railway and transportation.
5. Mapping of ubiquitous infrastructure and services, fostering harmonization of approaches across the region and taking into account infrastructure-sharing approaches applied by countries, including the development of broadband mapping systems for broadband networks and related facilities and promoting innovative solutions for meaningful connectivity.
6. Initiatives on the wider deployment of broadband information and communication technology (ICT) services and contributing to environmental sustainability.

**Implementation of this Regional Initiative will contribute to WSIS, GDC, SDGs:**

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| **Process** | **Focus Area** |
| [WSIS Action Lines](https://www.itu.int/net/wsis/docs/geneva/official/poa.html) | C1, C2, C6, C11 |
| [Global Digital Compact](https://www.un.org/global-digital-compact/sites/default/files/2024-09/Global%20Digital%20Compact%20-%20English_0.pdf) | Objective 1. Close all digital divides and accelerate progress across the Sustainable Development Goals |
| [Sustainable Development Goals](https://sdgs.un.org/goals) | SDG9 |

**EUR2: Digital transformation for resilience:** Objective of this initiative is to facilitate the digitalization processes of services in different sectors (e.g. agriculture, health, government, education), including those of public administrations, in order to ensure greater resilience in responding to critical situations, including the challenges of pandemics, natural hazards or human-introduced crises.

**Expected Results**:

Assistance to the countries in need in the following areas:

1. Creating an experience- and knowledge-exchange platform between countries.
2. Developing technical and service infrastructure as well as capacity building within the national administrations and institutions.
3. Strengthening the emergency preparedness in the case of natural hazards or human introduced crises, including through special initiatives, such as Support to Western Balkans on Emergency Warning Systems, aiming at roll-out of cell broadcast systems in concerned countries.
4. Building the capacities necessary for accelerating the digitalization process, through the development of national strategies and dedicated programmes, including the cross-sectorial actions in support of the digitalization of different sectors of economy.
5. Raising public trust in and successful development/uptake of e-government services and digitalization processes while avoiding digital exclusion through inter-alia digital literacy.

**Implementation of this Regional Initiative will contribute to WSIS, GDC, SDGs:**

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| --- | --- |
| **Process** | **Focus Area** |
| [WSIS Action Lines](https://www.itu.int/net/wsis/docs/geneva/official/poa.html) | C1, C7, C11 |
| [Global Digital Compact](https://www.un.org/global-digital-compact/sites/default/files/2024-09/Global%20Digital%20Compact%20-%20English_0.pdf) | Objective 4. Advance responsible, equitable and interoperable data governance approaches  Objective 5. Enhance international governance of artificial intelligence for the benefit of humanity |
| [Sustainable Development Goals](https://sdgs.un.org/goals) | SDG2, SDG3, SDG4, SDG9, SDG 11 |

**EUR3: Digital inclusion and skills development:** Objective of this initiative is to facilitate equitable access to information and communication technologies (ICTs) and necessary digital skills for all groups of society, including persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs, as well as women and youth, in order to take advantage of telecommunications/ICTs.

**Expected Results**:

Assistance to the countries in need in the following areas:

1. Leveraging digital accessibility for persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs as a priority for the countries, and supporting them through the creation and updating of strategies and policies, taking into account regional or global standards, building capacity , fostering application of innovative approaches, monitoring the implementation of digital accessibility, and creating new partnerships or strengthening existing ones such as ''Accessible Europe – ICT for All''.
2. Improving gender equality in all groups in the telecommunication/ICT sector and beyond by providing opportunities for collaboration, skills enhancement, maximizing impact and supporting the setting up of new projects and the scaling up of successful ongoing projects.
3. Meaningful empowerment, engagement and participation of youth in the telecommunication/ICT sector and beyond leading towards the creation of new career schemes and opportunities.
4. Assessment of national and regional approaches for digital-skills development, elaboration of national and regional strategies or action plans, development of necessary digital skills, knowledge and literacy programmes, and providing support for educators.
5. Building and/or strengthening partnerships with the private sector, regional and subregional organizations, United Nations system organizations, academia and other possible stakeholders for the benefit of digital inclusion in the European region and globally.

**Implementation of this Regional Initiative will contribute to WSIS, GDC, SDGs:**

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| **Process** | **Focus Area** |
| [WSIS Action Lines](https://www.itu.int/net/wsis/docs/geneva/official/poa.html) | C1, C3, C4, C11 |
| [Global Digital Compact](https://www.un.org/global-digital-compact/sites/default/files/2024-09/Global%20Digital%20Compact%20-%20English_0.pdf) | Objective 2. Expand inclusion in and benefits from the digital economy for all |
| [Sustainable Development Goals](https://sdgs.un.org/goals) | SDG4, SDG5, SDG8, SDG10 |

**EUR4: Trust and confidence in the use of telecommunications/ information and communication technologies**: Objective of this initiative is to support the deployment of resilient infrastructure and secure telecommunications/ICTs allowing all citizens, especially children, to use telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) in their daily lives with confidence.

**Expected Results:**

Assistance to the countries in need in the following areas:

1. Providing platforms and tools for building human capacities to enhance trust and confidence in the use of telecommunications/ICTs, including establishing strengthened approaches to cybersecurity capacity building for European countries with a cross-sectoral cybersecurity-skills curriculum and guidelines promoting related skills.
2. Sharing best practices and case studies, conducting surveys on confidence and trust in the use of ICTs, including training, and creating other opportunities for sharing knowledge and experience.
3. Elaboration or reviewing national cybersecurity strategies that promote multistakeholder engagement and facilitate secure adoption of new and emerging telecommunication/ICT services and technologies.
4. Setting up or improving the capabilities of national computer security incident response teams (CSIRTs) and the corresponding networks to support these CSIRTs in cooperating with each other.
5. Conducting simulation or educational exercises such as cyberdrills or other events at the national and regional levels in cooperation with international and regional organizations.
6. Creating a safer online environment for children and young people through raising awareness and education about cybersecurity, implementation and promotion of the Guidelines on Child Online Protection and other educational resources, encouraging stakeholders to identify risks and vulnerabilities for children in cyberspace.

**Implementation of this Regional Initiative will contribute to WSIS, GDC, SDGs:**

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| **Process** | **Focus Area** |
| [WSIS Action Lines](https://www.itu.int/net/wsis/docs/geneva/official/poa.html) | C1, C5, C11 |
| [Global Digital Compact](https://www.un.org/global-digital-compact/sites/default/files/2024-09/Global%20Digital%20Compact%20-%20English_0.pdf) | Objective 3. Foster an inclusive, open, safe and secure digital space that respects, protects and promotes human rights |
| [Sustainable Development Goals](https://sdgs.un.org/goals) | SDG9, SDG16 |

**EUR5: Digital innovation ecosystems:** Objective of this initiative is to foster environments that are conducive to innovation and entrepreneurship through systemic approaches based on digital telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs), aimed at closing the growing digital innovation divide in the region.

**Expected Results**

Assistance to the countries in need in the following areas:

1. National digital innovation strategies and policies, country profiles and reviews, and sectoral innovation assessments to provide an accurate assessment of digital innovation gaps.
2. Conduct trend research readiness and foresight studies to support countries in navigating the changing environment.
3. Capacity-building and knowledge-sharing platforms such as regional innovation forums, open innovation competitions and ecosystem development training to empower stakeholders.
4. Ecosystem-building initiatives and projects developed in line with the Regional Initiative Accelerator Framework such as technology sandboxes and programmes supporting tech start-ups and entrepreneurship to create concrete impact.
5. Promoting multistakeholder and multisectoral partnerships between and within different ecosystems, for sustainability and scale-up.
6. Fostering inclusion by sharing, twinning best practices and connecting different ecosystems, with special attention to gender and youth.

**Implementation of this Regional Initiative will contribute to WSIS, GDC, SDGs:**

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| --- | --- |
| **Process** | **Focus Area** |
| [WSIS Action Lines](https://www.itu.int/net/wsis/docs/geneva/official/poa.html) | C1, C4, C5, C7, C6, C11 |
| [Global Digital Compact](https://www.un.org/global-digital-compact/sites/default/files/2024-09/Global%20Digital%20Compact%20-%20English_0.pdf) | Objective 2. Expand inclusion in and benefits from the digital economy for all |
| [Sustainable Development Goals](https://sdgs.un.org/goals) | SDG9 |

* 1. **Asia and the Pacific Region**

RPM-ASP reviewed all input documents and elaborated on the draft Regional Initiatives for the region in the next cycle. Accordingly, the main highlights of the meeting include the following:

* Mr. Saneh Saiwong from Thailand was elected as the Chair of RPM-ASP. The meeting also endorsed the proposal for three Vice-Chairs: Ms Tupou’tuah Baravilala from Fiji, Mr Avinash Agrawal from India, and Mr Sri Sunardi from Indonesia.
* RPM-ASP reviewed several documents, including:
  + Document 2 on the implementation of the WTDC-22 Kigali Action Plan,
  + Document 3 on the state of digital development and trends in Asia and the Pacific,
  + Document 4 on the decisions of other ITU Conferences, Assemblies, and meetings related to ITU-D work,
  + Document 8 on the progress of the TDAG Working Group on the ITU-D Priorities,
  + Document 5 on the work of the TDAG Working Group on Future Study Group Questions,
  + Document 7 on the progress of the TDAG Working Group on the WTDC Declaration, and
  + Document 6 on the work of the TDAG Working Group on Streamlining Resolutions.
* The meeting discussed and took note of contributions from Membership regarding new regional initiatives. The proposals included innovative financing mechanisms for ICT infrastructure projects, capacity-building programs for digital skills, and AI-driven disaster management. Other contributions proposed initiatives to support LDCs in the Asia-Pacific region, focusing on meaningful connectivity, broadband infrastructure and enabling digital innovation ecosystem.

RPM-ASP agreed on the following draft Regional Initiatives:

**ASP1**: **Addressing special needs of Least Developed Countries, Small Island Developing States, including Pacific Island countries, and Landlocked Developing Countries**

**Objective**: To provide special assistance to Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Small Island Developing States (SIDS), including Pacific Island countries, and Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) to assist delivering their telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) priorities.

**Expected Results:**

1. Development of policy and regulatory frameworks for broadband infrastructure, ICT applications and cybersecurity, taking into account the special needs of LDCs, SIDS, including Pacific Island countries, and LLDCs.
2. Development of human capacity for addressing future telecommunication/ICT policy and regulatory challenges.
3. Promotion of affordable resilient, universal, and meaningful broadband access in LDCs, SIDS, including Pacific Island countries, and LLDCs, in particular for remote communities.
4. Assistance to LDCs, SIDS, including Pacific Island countries, and LLDCs in deploying telecommunication/ICT applications in disaster management relating to disaster prediction, preparedness, adaptation, monitoring, mitigation, response, rehabilitation and recovery of telecommunication/ICT networks based on their priority needs.
5. Assistance to LDCs, SIDS, including Pacific Island countries, and LLDCs in their efforts to achieve internationally agreed goals, such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Istanbul Programme of Action for LDCs, the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS and the Vienna Programme of Action for LLDCs.

**ASP2: Harnessing telecommunications/ICTs to support inclusive and sustainable digital transformation**

**Objective**: To assist Member States to use ICTs and emerging technologies for inclusive and sustainable digital transformation by building human and institutional capacity, bridging digital divides, improving and expanding digital skills, reducing the gender gap, and assisting groups who may be in vulnerable situations.

**Expected Results:**

1. Development of policies, strategies and guidelines to support effective and sustainable digital transformation in the public and private sectors, including those that support transition to digital government and the use of emerging telecommunication/ICTs.
2. Establishment and annual updating of a repository of all work done within ITU relating to the digital transformation since the World Telecommunication Development Conference (Kigali, 2022).
3. Acceleration of digital infrastructure readiness through the timely deployment of appropriate infrastructure and platforms that underpin the delivery of telecommunication/ICT services to improve the delivery of value-added services in areas such as health, education, climate change and environment, agriculture, and financial services. In this process, diversified funding channels, including economic recovery funds and resources of development banks, can be utilized.
4. Development of cross-sectoral national/regional programmes on digital literacy, digital and ICT skills, and digital inclusion to support the participation of all in digital transformation, develop skilled telecommunication/ICT workforces, and increase demand for telecommunication/ICT services. These programmes should also take into account groups who may be in vulnerable situations.
5. Development of human capacity to bridge the standardization gap, including collaboration with the ITU-T Sector and other standards-development organizations.
6. Enhancement of international cooperation related to new and emerging technologies pertaining to telecommunication/ICT to ensure that all countries can benefit from digital transformation and contribute to the global value chain.

**ASP3**: **Fostering development of infrastructure to enhance digital connectivity and connecting the unconnected**

**Objective**: To assist Member States in developing telecommunication/ICT infrastructure to facilitate the provision of affordable and meaningful services and applications and to connect the unconnected.

**Expected Results:**

1. Migration/transition of analogue networks to appropriate digital networks, application of affordable wired and wireless technologies (including interoperability of ICT infrastructure) and optimized use of the digital dividend.
2. Maximized use of new and emerging technologies for the development of communication networks, such as 5G.
3. Development of capacity to review and revise, if necessary, the existing national broadband objectives, with a view to providing broadband access to unserved and underserved areas, in particular to remote communities; promote affordable broadband access for all, especially for groups who may be in vulnerable situations3; to develop and use universal service funds effectively; and to develop financially and operationally sustainable business models.
4. Promotion of Internet exchange points (IXPs) and community-centred connectivity initiatives as long-term solutions to advance connectivity and deployment of IPv6-based networks and applications and facilitation of the transition from IPv4 to IPv6.
5. Strengthened capacity to implement conformance and interoperability (C&I) procedures and facilitating the establishment of common regional/subregional C&I regimes (including the adoption and implementation of mutual recognition arrangements).
6. Increased capability to address spectrum-management issues, including radio-frequency planning, spectrum redeployment, enhancement of spectrum-monitoring systems, and facilitation of the implementation of decisions of world radiocommunication conferences.
7. Enhancement of skills for the development and use of terrestrial and non-terrestrial network services.
8. Enhancement of regional telecommunication/ICT connectivity and strengthening of cooperation with international/regional organizations in programmes such as the AsiaPacific Information Superhighway.

**ASP4**: **Enabling an innovative and sustainable telecommunication/ICT sector**

**Objective**: To assist Member States in developing appropriate policy and regulatory frameworks that foster innovation, investment and sustainability across the telecommunications/ICT sector, by way of enabling ICT-centric innovation and the growth of start-ups and micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME), while also addressing the need for sustainability.

**Expected Results:**

1. Development of enabling policy and regulatory environments and sharing of best practices to encourage innovation, entrepreneurship and investment in the telecommunication/ICT sector.
2. Formulation and review of telecommunication/ICT strategies, national programs, policies and regulatory frameworks that identifies entry barriers and supports the entry, growth and connectivity of start-ups and MSMEs facilitates digital transformation, and enables the adoption of new and emerging telecommunications/ICT.
3. Development of an enabling environment that supports start-ups and MSMEs for local design and manufacturing of telecommunication/ICT equipment and enhances awareness and capacity building in Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) protection.
4. Promotion and sharing of practices to support ICT-centric innovation, including but not limited to innovation hubs, incubators, accelerators, and mentoring programs, by, inter alia, leveraging ITU Innovation and Acceleration Centres.
5. Development of strategic frameworks and enhancement of capacity to support research and development activities, including in relation to emerging telecommunications/ICTs, and development of products.
6. Development of national digital innovation strategies and policies, and the promotion of multistakeholder and multisectoral partnerships to create an innovative, meaningful and sustainable telecommunication/ICT sector.

**ASP5**: **Supporting a safe, secure, and resilient telecommunication/ICT environment**

**Objectives**: To assist Member States in developing and maintaining safe, secure, trusted and resilient telecommunication/ICT networks and services, and addressing challenges related to climate change and the management of disasters and emergencies.

**Expected Results:**

1. Compilation of national/regional cybersecurity strategies, establishment of national/regional cybersecurity capabilities such as computer incident response teams, and sharing of good practices to nurture a culture of cybersecurity.
2. Strengthened institutional cooperation and coordination among key actors and stakeholders at the national, regional and global levels (including through organizing cyberdrills) and enhancing the capacity to address issues related to cybersecurity.
3. Development of cross-sectoral programmes on building cyber hygiene and cyber literacy skills for individuals and businesses, to promote confidence in the use of telecommunication/ICT.
4. Development of National Emergency Telecommunication Plans and telecommunication/ICT-based initiatives for disseminating early warnings, timely disaster response and other humanitarian assistances in disasters and emergencies.
5. Incorporation of disaster-resilient features in telecommunication networks and infrastructure, and development oftelecommunication/ICT-based solutions (including the use of wireless and satellite-based technologies) to enhance network resilience.
6. Development of standards-based monitoring and early-warning systems linked to national and regional networks, and enhanced use of active and passive terrestrial/space-based sensing systems for disaster prediction, detection and mitigation.
7. Promotion of guidelines and best practices for safe telecommunication/ICTs to support and protect consumers, including on issues related to spam, online fraud, caller identification spoofing, counterfeit devices, and mobile device theft.
8. Formulation of comprehensive strategies and measures to help mitigate and address the devastating effects of climate change.
9. Development of comprehensive e-waste management policies, regulations, national action plans and strategies to support a sustainable circular economy.
10. Strengthened capabilities to develop and implement environmentally sustainable telecommunications/ICTs policies, regulations and strategies, and sharing best practices and innovations in greenhouse gasses reduction and energy efficiency across sectors, including but not limited to, health, education, environment, agriculture, government and financial services.

**2.4 The Americas Region**

RPM-AMS reviewed all input documents and elaborated on the draft Regional Initiatives for the region in the next cycle. Accordingly, the main highlights of the meeting include the following:

* Mr. Fernando Machuca Manevy from Paraguay, was elected as the Chair of RPM-AMS. The meeting also endorsed the proposal for three Vice-Chairs: Dr Kim Mallalieu from Trinidad and Tobago, Mr Roberto Hirayama from Brazil and Mr Juan Carlos Castro from El Salvador.
* RPM-AMS reviewed several documents, including:
  + Document 2 on the implementation of the WTDC-22 Kigali Action Plan,
  + Document 3 on the state of digital development and trends in the Americas,
  + Document 4 on the decisions of other ITU Conferences, Assemblies, and meetings related to ITU-D work,
  + Document 8 on the progress of the TDAG Working Group on the ITU-D Priorities,
  + Document 5 on the work of the TDAG Working Group on Future Study Group Questions,
  + Document 7 on the progress of the TDAG Working Group on the WTDC Declaration, and
  + Document 6 on the work of the TDAG Working Group on Streamlining Resolutions.
* The meeting discussed and took note of contributions from Membership regarding new regional initiatives. The proposals included modern, secure and sustainable broadband infrastructure; policies and regulatory frameworks that foster innovation, resilience and cybersecurity; and efforts to narrow digital divides—especially for underserved communities, SIDS, land-locked and least-developed countries, women, youth and Indigenous peoples. Specific proposals call for boosting digital skills and human-capital development, championing Caribbean priorities, integrating satellite solutions with terrestrial networks and embedding youth voices in ITU-D study groupds’ work.

RPM-AMS agreed on the following draft Regional Initiatives:

**AMS1: Facilitating Resilient Infrastructure to Enable Deployment of Universal and Meaningful Connectivity**

**Objective:** To facilitate delivery of reliable, affordable, universal and meaningful connectivity and digital services in the Americas region through deployment of modern, resilient, secure, and sustainable telecommunication/information and communication technology infrastructure.

**Expected results:**

1. Assistance in the design, financing and implementation of national, regional and subregional plans for universal and resilient broadband infrastructure and networks for developing countries[[1]](#footnote-2), including support for community networks and small operators, with a particular focus on vulnerable populations, indigenous communities, countries and regions impacted by natural disasters and unserved or underserved areas (urban/rural/maritime), taking into account innovative connectivity solutions that can be deployed and managed locally, including access to spectrum and high-speed networks.
2. Assistance for the development, financing and implementation of sustainable digital technologies and the identification of critical telecommunication infrastructure and enabling facilities for disaster management, including national plans or strategies for emergency telecommunications, and effective and timely early warning systems, disaster support and recovery of telecommunications/ICTs in all developing countries in the region, with a special focus on LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS.
3. Support for the development and effective use of sustainable telecommunications/ICTs that meet existing international greenhouse gas reduction and carbon footprint measurement targets, mitigate climate change, and improve environmental sustainability.
4. Assistance in the design of effective spectrum management strategies and deployment of infrastructure to remote, rural, underserved and unserved areas using emerging technologies, among others, with the aim of facilitating affordable and resilient access to telecommunications backbone infrastructures.
5. Assistance in mapping national and international broadband infrastructure and related facilities, service, and demand information to identify network investment needs, coverage, quality, affordability, and adoption gaps, in order to support policymaking; promote the development of Internet exchange points, interconnection and data centres; and optimize the use of financing mechanisms.

**AMS2: Digital Inclusion, Digital Skills/Competencies**

**Objective:** Assisting Member States to promote inclusive, affordable and equitable adoption of effective, safe and secure digital services and solutions to drive sustainable social and economic development.

**Expected results:**

1. Support for the development of human capacity through the identification and implementation of national, regional and sub-regional capacity building programs and platforms to enhance overall digital literacy and develop digital skills/competencies to close gaps in the usage of ICT services, facilitating universal access to digital tools and devices with a focus on low-income, underserved and vulnerable communities, persons with special needs, gender balance and youth in order to contribute to the development of sustainable telecommunications/ICT and foster digital transformation in sectors with limited economic capacity, small and medium-sized enterprises, indigenous communities, rural activities and other with inclusive objectives.
2. Assisting Member States with conducting digital skills assessments and in integrating digital skills and emerging technologies into their educational curricula at all levels, to align them with the demands of the digital economy and enable upskilling in areas such as artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, data analytics, e-commerce and others, in order to meet the challenges and take advantage of the opportunities of digital transformation.
3. Facilitating sharing of resources, best practices, technical experiences and knowledge at the national, subregional and regional levels, in collaboration with stakeholders and especially aimed at associations and organized communities, with a focus on community networks and small operators, to optimize the use of resources and enable greater participation in regional planning processes and access to concessionary financing and expertise for developing countries.
4. Promotion of the management of digital infrastructure to enable the production of digital public goods, including for indigenous communities.

**AMS3: Support for Innovative Digital Ecosystems and the adoption and use of emerging technologies**

**Objective:** Topromote the digital capacity development, digital Government systems, local e-services, and innovation ecosystems necessary for sustainable and inclusive digital transformation, innovation and entrepreneurship.

**Expected results:**

1. Facilitating the foundational digital public infrastructure and governance systems to support digital transformation and digital inclusion, including digital ID/e-identity/data exchange and digital payment systems.
2. Facilitating initiatives to promote and support e-entrepreneurship and e-commerce and foster adoption of emerging technologies by micro, small and medium Enterprises (MSMEs) to increase productivity in developing countries.
3. Increased training and international cooperation to facilitate and enhance innovation in telecommunications/information and communication technologies, to promote the ethical use, development and deployment of emerging technologies, for the establishment of regional innovation hubs in support of sustainable digital transformation and smart cities, with a special focus on developing countries.
4. Support for development of regional cloud infrastructure and open national data management systems to support business continuity, data sovereignty and access to open sector-specific data, as well as to open-source tools and resources to promote innovation.
5. Leveraging active stakeholder participation, strategic alliances, ITU intersectoral coordination, and international cooperation to effectively drive innovation in the development of public policies, regulatory frameworks, as well as in digital transformation projects and processes, through initiatives that promote the adoption and creative use of emerging technologies for productivity, inclusion, social well-being, including telemedicine and e-education, and protection of human rights.
6. Assistance in promoting local innovation ecosystems and public-private partnerships for sustainable connectivity projects, and in promoting local content in education and culture to improve Internet usability in rural and remote areas.

## AMS4: Promoting cyber resilience and capacity building in cybersecurity and cyber resilience

**Objective**: To promote an enabling environment for a safe and secure connectivity.

Expected results:

1. Increasing and strengthening trust, safety and security in the use of digital technologies, including capacity building and support for:
   1. The development of national cybersecurity strategies, legislative templates/guidelines, and national and regional mechanisms, taking into account institutional frameworks and harmonized relevant international standards and conventions; and
   2. Technical assistance, training, and support for telecommunications/ICT users, including support for community networks and small operators, to implement national cybersecurity strategies, encouraging active, reliable, and secure participation in the digital environment.
2. Strengthening cyber resilience in all developing countries of the Region.
3. Assistance to developing countries in the Region, including support for community networks and small operators, to access and use available resources of the ITU on cybersecurity and cyber resilience, as well as organizations cooperating with the ITU.
4. The promotion of human capacity development, particularly for the engagement and participation of women and youth in cybersecurity and cyber resilience, careers and related courses.

**AMS5: Governance and Enabling Regulatory Frameworks for Sustainable Digital Transformation**

**Objective:** To assist Member States in developing evidence-based telecommunications/ICT policy, legal and regulatory frameworks and regional cooperation mechanisms to promote and support effective governance, and inclusive digital development across various sectors of the economy.

**Expected results:**

1. Support for the development of capacities, competencies, enabling policies and convergent regulatory frameworks for digital ecosystem governance that incentivize technological innovation; and adoption and responsible use of emerging technologies; facilitate a level playing field for traditional and new market players, foster a global, open, resilient, secure and inclusive cyber environment; facilitate investment and innovation to promote new sectors in the digital economy; and contribute to expanding and improving connectivity in unserved or underserved areas (rural/urban/maritime), including where applicable the support to community networks and small operators.
2. Strengthening capacity for the development of standardized data collection and analysis tools, processes, methodologies and data governance frameworks to inform ICT policy-making and development strategies in such a way that data collection processes take into account the rights of indigenous communities, their cultural assets and traditional knowledge.
3. Strengthening the participation of developing countries in the region in ITU processes with the aim of increasing capacity, expertise and access to finance.
4. Assistance in removing barriers to deployment and in creating specific regulations that facilitate infrastructure deployment in rural, remote and unserved areas, promoting a more accessible environment for community networks and small operators.
5. Support for the establishment of national e-waste legislation/policies/regulation and extended producer responsibility frameworks for e-waste including appropriate mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation.

**2.5 Africa Region**

RPM-AFR reviewed all input documents and elaborated on the draft Regional Initiatives for the region in the next cycle. Accordingly, the main highlights of the meeting include the following:

* Mr. Mr David Mugonyi from Kenya, was elected as the Chair of RPM-AFR. The meeting also endorsed the proposal for four Vice-Chairs: Mr Jamit Djeroua Moura from Chad, Ms Regina Fleur Assoumou Bessou from Côte d’Ivoire, Ms Caecilia Nyamutswa from Zimbabwe, Mr Abdulkarim Oloyede from Nigeria.
* RPM-AFR reviewed several documents, including:
  + Document 2 on the implementation of the WTDC-22 Kigali Action Plan,
  + Document 3 on the state of digital development and trends in Africa,
  + Document 4 on the decisions of other ITU Conferences, Assemblies, and meetings related to ITU-D work,
  + Document 8 on the progress of the TDAG Working Group on the ITU-D Priorities,
  + Document 5 on the work of the TDAG Working Group on Future Study Group Questions,
  + Document 7 on the progress of the TDAG Working Group on the WTDC Declaration, and
  + Document 6 on the work of the TDAG Working Group on Streamlining Resolutions.
* The meeting discussed and took note of contributions from Membership regarding new regional initiatives. The proposals included a spectrum of proposals for WTDC-25 that collectively aim to accelerate Africa’s digital transformation by strengthening cybersecurity capabilities, refining future study questions to reflect artificial intelligence and affordability concerns, and prioritizing meaningful connectivity for underserved communities. Key themes included expanding resilient broadband infrastructure, enhancing disaster-management communications, fostering inclusive AI and data-governance ecosystems, boosting capacity-building and innovation and creating sustainable funding mechanisms.

RPM-AFR agreed on the following draft Regional Initiatives:

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| **AFR1: Meaningful connectivity and resilient infrastructure- for sustainable development including emergency telecommunications and multi-hazard early warning systems in the Africa region**  **Objective:** This initiative aims to Support Member States in the region in reaping the full benefits of digital transformation. It also aims to enhance broadband infrastructure, particularly in rural and underserved areas, by strengthening policy frameworks, encouraging public-private partnerships, and investing in resilient infrastructure and sustainable connectivity solutions. It also aims at enhancing emergency telecommunications and multihazard early warning systeMs It aspires to create an enabling digital ecosystem that empowers individuals and businesses. Furthermore, the initiative emphasizes gender inclusivity, youth empowerment, and the responsible use of digital technologies to drive equitable and long-term development across the African continent.  **Expected results:**   1. **Support in developing national digital transformation strategies that are innovative.** 2. **Support in developing action plans with digital key performance indicators** **Increased Internet Penetration**: A measurable rise in broadband coverage, particularly in remote and rural communities. 3. **Greater Affordability**: By reducing the price of internet services, smartphones, and computers, more people can participate in the digital world, reducing inequalities in access to information, online services, and opportunities. 4. **Enhanced Digital Skills**: A well-trained workforce equipped with the necessary digital skills to contribute to the knowledge economy. 5. **Improved Policy Environment**: More robust and harmonized regulatory frameworks that promote digital inclusion and investment. 6. **Sustainable Digital Ecosystem**: Strengthened partnerships between governments, private sector players, and civil society to drive long-term connectivity initiatives and ensure better conditions for providing services within the digital market competition. 7. **Accelerated Economic and Social Development**: Tangible improvements in e-governance, education, healthcare, and entrepreneurship driven by digital access. 8. Support in designing, facilitating, financing models and partnerships that would enable digital transformation of economies in Africa, and innovative frameworks. 9. Assistance in adopting and implementing relevant standards that are targeted at addressing challenges of interoperability stemming from the disruptive and transformative spread of digital innovation. 10. Support in facilitating collaboration between the Telecommunication sector and other relevant sectors such as transport and energy needed for digital transformation. 11. Utilize effectively the USFs to expand broadband and mobile network access to rural and low-income communities, and to support digital literacy and affordability programs can help developing countries paying special attention to LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS face the significant digital divides and the inadequate telecommunications infrastructure, high costs, and socio-economic barriers. 12. Rely on all available technologies including satellites for connectivity can play a crucial role in achieving **sustainable development**, particularly in remote and underserved regions. 13. Facilitating access to submarine cables for landlocked countries is crucial for ensuring equitable digital connectivity and economic development through regional collaboration, policy coordination and public private partnership. 14. Ensuring meaningful connectivity for marginalized people, especially for individuals with disabilities through providing a combination of inclusive policies, affordable technologies, and community-driven solutions. 15. Creation of a Network of Disaster Management Experts to strengthen knowledge sharing and regional collaboration in disaster preparedness and response 16. Support member states with development of enhanced Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems (MHEWS) to enable effective warnings for natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes, and storms and promote data-driven decision-making for disaster risk reduction. 17. Sharing best practices, guidance materials, and conduct cross-border and cross-sectoral risk analysis at regional level including resilient testing exercise. |
| **AFR2: Developing an inclusive trustworthy AI ecosystem in Africa for socio-economic development**  **Objective:** To harness the transformative power of AI to address Africa’s developmental challenges and accelerate the realization of the SDGs and the goals stipulated in the African Union Agenda 2063. Leverage the benefits of AI by adopting it in the various sectors of high economic value for Africa while providing safeguards for an ethical use of AI by all stakeholders.  **Expected results:**   1. Support member States to set national AI strategies directed to contribute to the sustainable development plans. 2. Develop a mechanism to assess the current potential risks associated with the adoption of AI in the economy in Africa. 3. Develop a mechanism to address and mitigate AI risks. Support member States in developing national Charters for an ethical and responsible use of AI technologies. 4. Support member States to develop a comprehensive AI governance framework. 5. Take necessary measures to support the development of a data governance frameworks and development of datasets that reflects the African context. 6. Conduct assessments on the data infrastructure requirements of member States. 7. Develop a continental wide program to raise awareness among the citizens on the potential of AI to positively impact their livelihoods and on the risks that might be associated with it. 8. Assess the needs of member States to develop an AI curriculum in basic and higher education. 9. Set capacity building and AI literacy programs to raise the capacity of public servants on the positive impact of AI on their performance in public services delivery. 10. Support the establishment of regional centres of excellence to conduct research on the adoption of AI in sectors of high economic value to Africa (Education, healthcare, public services delivery, agriculture, environment protection and climate change, use of AI to promote peace and security). Establish a network of the centres of excellence in Africa and promote a collaboration mechanism to encourage exchange of knowledge and expertise. 11. Support the establishment of national incubators to assist the development and promotion of AI oriented startups and SMEs. 12. Development of an AI-powered knowledge exchange platform to foster dialogue among regional Member States, facilitating the sharing of data, experiences, and best practices. This platform may include online forums, knowledge repositories, and collaborative projects to address common challenges. 13. Establish a regional mechanism and support Africa’s engagement in international dialogues to share best practices and expertise on the adoption of AI in the economy. |
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| **AFR3: Building trust, safety and security in the use of telecommunications/ information and communication technology and Data protection and privacy**  **Objective:** To assist Member States in developing and implementing policies, strategies, standards and mechanisms as well as human capacity building, to protect telecommunications and ICT infrastructure & network from cyber threats & attacks in order to protect data, people & privacy including vulnerable groups such as children and guarantee digital trust. To increase public awareness and educate people on safe online practices, cyber and data protection. Enhance Incident Response and Risk Management mechanisms for cybersecurity incidents and data breaches to minimize damage and ensure continuity of services. To strengthen partnerships with global stakeholders to share best practices and collaborate on cross-border cybersecurity and data protection challenges.  **Expected results:**   1. Support member states in assessing adopting developing and the implementation of a regulatory and legislative framework, at national and regional level, related to cybersecurity that address data privacy, child protection, and the ethical use of emerging technologies while aligning with global best practices. 2. Development of a global framework for collaboration and awareness at regional and sub-regional levels for nurturing a global culture of cybersecurity and to help consumers better understand and protect against risks. 3. Assistance in developing content and training materials for educating consumers on their rights and responsibilities related to data protection while performing electronic and physical transactions as well as execution of campaigns to raise the awareness of cyber threats, cybersecurity measures and quality of service in the use of ICTs. 4. Encourage the sharing of best practices and exchange of knowledge between Member States on the mechanisms to combat cybercrimes and cyber threats. 5. Support member states in the establishment, development and enhancement of national computer emergency/incident response teams (CERT/CIRTs) by offering technical support, capacity building and resources to effectively detect, manage, and mitigate cyber threats and strengthening cooperation mechanisms between them, at regional and sub-regional levels. 6. Enhance and strengthen regional confidence and security in the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), prioritizing capacity building and support for the adoption and harmonization of standards, with a special focus on standards supporting child online protection. 7. Facilitate the creation of innovation hubs to drive research and development in cutting-edge cybersecurity technologies and solutions. 8. Support Member States to strengthen cybersecurity resilience and governance while developing innovation and inclusivity to reinforce national security, economic growth, and societal advancement. 9. Ensuring safe digital ecosystem through Securing digital platforms that foster e-commerce, e-governance, and financial inclusion and protecting of critical industries (e.g., banking, healthcare, and education) from cyber threats. 10. Set key standards and measures to protect children online including Legal & Regulatory Measures and Technical protection i.e. Age Verification Systems, parent controls and Encryption & Data Security. 11. critical network infrastructure—such as utilities, electricity, water supply, and telecommunications—is vital for national security, economic stability, and public safety. Enhancing protection for these systems is essential because they are frequent targets for cyberattacks, natural disasters, and physical sabotage. 12. Ensuring the existence of laws and regulations that should provide cyber victims with **legal recourse and protection** (e.g., the right to report cybercrimes, seek compensation, and have data restored). |
| **AFR4: Digital infrastructure applications, SMEs Development and Emerging Technologies and Innovation Ecosystems**  **Objective:** To foster an enabling digital innovation ecosystem that can navigate technological revolutions and establishment of a sustainable conducive environment for the utilization of emerging technologies and development of SMEEs and start-ups.  **Expected results:**   1. Assistance in undertaking a comprehensive assessment of the human and institutional capacity and regulatory environment related to digital innovation, emerging technologies, and SMMEs at national and regional levels. 2. Support Member States in developing the necessary legislative and regulatory framework to encourage digital industries and innovation development and the establishment of SMMEs. 3. Assistance in the designing and adoption of national strategies and infrastructures such as innovation and Research Labs to usher the utilization of emerging technologies in the different sectors of the economy. 4. Support in scaling up digital entrepreneurship and SMEs through global partnerships focused on achieving national development priorities and elaborating financing models to ensure the necessary investments for the continuous development and deployment of emerging technologies. 5. Designing a comprehensive human capacity-building framework to upskill and reskill the human factor on emerging technologies and digital innovation related material. 6. Raising awareness on the importance of the protection of Intellectual Property (IP) and developing relevant regulatory frameworks. 7. Conduct foresight studies that strengthen digital innovation ecosystems and help countries unlock the potential of the digital economy, including by working with academic institutions, research centers, and knowledge hubs. 8. Support the development of ITU acceleration centers in countries and engage them in efforts to accelerate regional initiatives and their achievement. 9. Leverage regional initiative acceleration and innovation cafe frameworks developed by the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Alliance to support the achievement of regional initiatives. 10. Support in establishing centers of excellence and incubators to help nurture and develop innovative ideas and start-ups in Africa. |
| **AFR5:** **Sustainable Funding Mechanisms for Africa’s Digital Transformation**  **Objective:** Establish a sustainable financing mechanism to support the implementation of the African Common Initiatives and to accelerate the digital transformation process in Africa through the mobilization of diverse funding sources and attraction of long-term investment in digital infrastructure and emerging technologies.  **Expected results:**   1. Establish a permanent platform to encourage the dialogue between governments, private sector, and international organizations to encourage the co-financing of digital initiatives. 2. Develop a mechanism for collaboration with international development partners and financing banks to finance ICT for development projects on a sub-regional basis in Africa. 3. Establishing a Coordinated Digital Investment Framework (CDIF), this framework will serve as a structured mechanism to align funding strategies between governments, private sector investors, development banks, and international organizations. 4. Support the establishment of a specialized fund to support digital projects in collaboration with African regional organizations and investment banks; to support cross-border digital projects and mutual investments. 5. Develop specialized funds through government budgets, digital taxes, and Universal Service Funds (USFs) to drive the growth of ICT infrastructure. 6. Implement a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation mechanism to track the progress of regional digital initiatives. Regular assessments should be conducted to evaluate the level of implementation, identify challenges, and share key learnings. 7. Foster the expansion of local start-ups and tech hubs throughout Africa with enhanced access to funding and resources, innovative and scalable digital solutions will be created to tackle critical challenges in areas such as healthcare, education, agriculture, and finance. 8. Develop a specialized framework for delivering financial and technical support to Developing countries paying special attention to LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS, promoting regional and international cooperation, and encouraging partnerships to exchange knowledge, expertise, and innovative solutions for digital transformation. |

**2.6 Commonwealth of Independent States Region**

RPM-CIS reviewed all input documents and elaborated on the draft Regional Initiatives for the region in the next cycle. Accordingly, the main highlights of the meeting include the following:

* H.E. Mr Azamat Zhamangulov,from Kyrgyz Republic, was elected as the Chair of RPM-CIS. The meeting also endorsed the proposal for two Vice-Chairs: Ms Bella Cherkesova from The Russian Federation and Mr. Jahongir Shukurov from Republic of Uzbekistan
* RPM-AMS reviewed several documents, including:
  + Document 2 on the implementation of the WTDC-22 Kigali Action Plan,
  + Document 3 on the state of digital development and trends in the CIS,
  + Document 4 on the decisions of other ITU Conferences, Assemblies, and meetings related to ITU-D work,
  + Document 8 on the progress of the TDAG Working Group on the ITU-D Priorities,
  + Document 5 on the work of the TDAG Working Group on Future Study Group Questions,
  + Document 7 on the progress of the TDAG Working Group on the WTDC Declaration, and
  + Document 6 on the work of the TDAG Working Group on Streamlining Resolutions.
* The meeting discussed and took note of contributions from Membership regarding new regional initiatives. The proposals included re-designing ITU-D study groups to tackle emerging technologies such as AI and the metaverse, and advancing a consolidated set of regional initiatives covering next-generation networks, inclusive education and skills, ICT security, and digital transformation. Specific projects highlighted strengthening digital infrastructure and youth-driven innovation, building competence centers, ensuring sustainable school connectivity, and deploying inclusive solutions. Additional inputs emphasized comprehensive cybersecurity strategies, human-capital development as a pillar of digital progress, and capacity-building in satellite communications, all aimed at fostering equitable access, resilience, and socio-economic growth throughout the region.

RPM-CIS agreed on the following draft Regional Initiatives[[2]](#footnote-3):

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| **CIS1: Introduction of new and emerging telecommunication/ICTs systems and networks**  **The** need to bridge the digital divide in terms of the technical accessibility of telecommunication/ICTs services, as well as the emergence of more and more new telecommunication/ICTs systems and networks, makes it necessary for joint efforts of Member States, business and academic institutions of the CIS region to implement them.  **Expected results:**   1. Study the management of radio-frequency and orbital resources, including aspects of monitoring and controlling their use, for the introduction of new and emerging telecommunication/ICTs systems and networks; 2. Analyse ways to develop and implement green ICTs, including energy efficiency; 3. Study the implementation of metaverse-related telecommunication/ICTs systems and networks. |
| **CIS2: Telecommunication/ICTs education and skills, including for persons with disabilities and specific needs**  **The** need to bridge the digital skills divide in the use of telecommunications/ICTs and the need for participation of all segments of the population, including persons with disabilities and specific needs, in the digital economy and digital transformation processes necessitate further focus on telecommunication/ICTs education and skills in the CIS region  **Expected results:**   1. Study on improving digital literacy and digital skills for persons with disabilities and specific needs for digital transformation; 2. Use of metaverse for distance learning, including persons with disabilities and specific needs; 3. Creation of a network of training institutions implementing programmes for the development of human potential for persons with disabilities and with special needs, taking into account the need to develop the necessary methodological basis and introduce specialized technical means; 4. Creation of a regional educational platform for the exchange of experience and training of technical staff in the field of digital broadcasting and media production; 5. Enhanced human resources in the field of satellite communication and broadcasting technologies. |
| **CIS3: Security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs, including combating fraud**  The need to build confidence and security in addressing the narrowing of the digital divide and the emergence of new cyberthreats and economic crimes in the use of ICTs necessitate continued focus on cybersecurity issues in the CIS region  **Expected results:**   1. Study the use of telecommunications/ICTs to combat economic crime and ICTs fraud; 2. Cooperation and technical assistance for the protection of critical information infrastructure; 3. Establish and support Computer Incident Response Teams (CIRTs) in the CIS region, including the Central Asia sub-region; 4. Enhancement of technical staff training in the field of security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs in the CIS region and the Central Asian sub-region, including through dedicated training centres and cyber-exercises. |
| **CIS4: Enabling Environment and Telecommunication/ICTs Regulation**  **Objective:** The need to reduce the digital divide in terms of affordability and the emergence of more and more telecommunication/ICTs systems and networks necessitate the timely evolution of digital regulation and the formulation of digital development strategies, both in the CIS countries and at the level of the entire region  **Expected results:**   1. Study of ways to apply a pan-regional approach to digital transformation, which involves pooling the efforts and resources of the countries of the CIS region; 2. Shaping regulatory frameworks for artificial intelligence technologies and systems, and metaverses 3. Formation of a regional system for the development, functioning and interaction of IT parks; 4. Establishing regulatory frameworks for development and access of non-GSO systems |
| **CIS5: Development and Implementation of Artificial Intelligence Technologies**  **Objective:** The emergence of artificial intelligence technologies provides a wide range of opportunities for their use to solve the problems facing the communications sector in the CIS countries.  **Expected results:**   1. Investigate the use of artificial intelligence to improve quality of life for persons with disabilities and specific needs, including people with autism spectrum disorders; 2. Introduction of artificial intelligence and big data based digital platforms to measure the information society and sustainable development; 3. Application of artificial intelligence and other related technologies to monitor climate and environmental parameters; 4. Formation of a regional branch of the AI for Good platform. |

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1. These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. These Regional Initiatives are translated using machine translation from the Final Report of the RPM-CIS as posted on the RPM-CIS website [↑](#footnote-ref-3)