

Regional Preparatory Meeting for Africa for WTDC-25 (RPM-AFR)



Nairobi, Kenya, 8-9 April 2025

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Chair, TDAG-WG-DEC

Presentation of the Report on progress of the
TDAG Working Group on the Declaration

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Report on progress of the TDAG Working Group on the Declaration

Mr Abdulkarim Oloyede, Chair, TDAG Working Group on the Declaration, Nigeria

Background

Terms of Reference and expected output

- TDAG-WG-DEC was entrusted the task 'to propose elements and make recommendations to ITU membership for the future draft Declaration' of the World Telecommunication Development Conference 2025 (WTDC-25).
- The output of TDAG-WG-DEC will serve as input for members to consider as they work on the WTDC-25
 Declaration in the lead up to and at the conference.

Chair and Vice-chairs

- Chair: Dr Abdulkarim Oloyede from Nigeria
- Vice-chairs: Mr Ahmed Abd El-Aziz from Egypt and Ms Ke Wang from China

Meetings

- TDAG-WG-DEC met on 6 September 2024, 2 December 2024 and 5 March. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for 15 April, with a physical meeting during TDAG-25 to wrap up the discussions of the Group.
- At the third meeting, the Chair presented a draft proposal for the Declaration and the group provided extensive comments and suggested revisions. A revised draft proposal will be submitted for discussion to the next meeting.
- The Chair of the TDAG Working Group on the Declaration (TDAG-WG-DEC), Mr. Abdulkarim Oloyede (Nigeria), presented a progress report at the Extraordinary meeting of TDAG (23 January) on the group's efforts to prepare a draft Declaration for WTDC-25. TDAG noted with appreciation the report and acknowledged the proposed theme and structure.

Coordination with RTOs

Regional Telecommunication Organizations have been invited to provide progress reports on their preparations for WTDC-25.

Approach and Focus

Key topics *

- In terms of the key topics to be addressed in the Declaration, the Group emphasised the need to coordinate with the other TDAG working groups, in particular the one on ITU-D Priorities (TDAG-WG-ITUDP)
- Rationale and thinking process informed by the original mapping of topics in the Kigali Declaration and new and emerging topics

Proposed Theme *

• 'Universal, meaningful and affordable connectivity for an inclusive and sustainable digital future'

Proposed Structure *

- The Group agreed to retain a structure similar to the Kigali Declaration and be concise, simple and with clear and actionable language, speaking to both the challenges of global digital development and potential solutions
- Four main sections: Introduction, 'We declare,' 'We commit,' and Call to Action

Draft proposed text

- The Chair's draft proposal reflects discussions in TDAG-WG-DEC and TDAG-WG-ITUDP. It was developed from the annotated outline agreed upon by the group, which was based on a mapping of key themes from the Kigali Declaration and insights from recent major international conferences.
- A revised draft proposal will be submitted for discussion to the next meeting of the group.



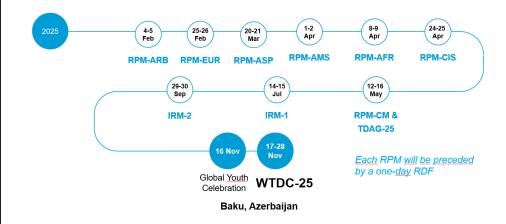


Next Steps and Timeline

- January March: Building on the feedback received during the second meeting of TDAG-WG-DEC, the Chair prepared an initial proposal of a narrative for the Declaration (ITU-D TDAG WG DEC ALL (2025-03-05) for the third meeting of the Group, that was held on 5 March 2025. Feedback and contributions on the zero draft are welcome. The next meeting is scheduled for 15 April, with a physical meeting tentatively scheduled during TDAG-25 to wrap up the discussions of the Group.
- January-April: The TDAG-WG-DEC Chair has provided reports on progress of the work of the Group to the Regional Preparatory Meetings (RPMs) in the lead up to WTDC-25.
- May-November: The final version of the narrative agreed by the Working Group will be submitted for further consideration to TDAG-25 and possible submission as input to WTDC-25 where it will be finalized and the final Baku Declaration adopted.

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Key Timelines towards WTDC-25





References

- Terms of Reference of TDAG-WG-DEC, <u>TDAG-24/DT/4</u>
- Draft proposal for the Baku Declaration 2025, TDAG-WG-DEC/9
- Revised annotated outline of the Baku Declaration 2025, <u>TDAG-WG-DEC/7</u>
- Mapping of topics in the Kigali Declaration and new and emerging topics, <u>TDAG-WG-DEC/INF/1</u>
- Report of the first meeting of the TDAG Working Group on the Declaration, <u>TDAG-WG-DEC/2</u>
- Report of the second meeting of the TDAG Working Group on the Declaration, <u>TDAG-WG-DEC/6</u>
- Report of the third meeting of the TDAG Working Group on the Declaration, <u>TDAG-WG-DEC/10</u>





See you in Baku Thank you!