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|  | **Document** **RPM-AMS25/21-E** |
|  | **8 April 2025** |
|  | **Original: English**  |
| Chair, RPM-AMS |
| Final Report by the RPM-AMS Chair |
|  |

# Introduction

The Regional Preparatory Meeting for WTDC-25 for The Americas Region (RPM-AMS) was organized by the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), from 1 to 2 April 2025 in Asunción, Paraguay and hosted by the National Telecommunications Commission (CONATEL) of Paraguay.

The objective of RPM-AMS was to identify and align priorities at the regional level for the development of telecommunication and information and communication technologies (ICTs), taking into account contributions submitted by Member States and ITU-D Sector Members from the region.

The meeting concluded with a set of proposals on priority issues that will serve as a basis for the formulation of contributions to the World Telecommunication Development Conference, to be held in Baku, Azerbaijan, from 17 to 28 November 2025, and will consider the ITU-D activities to be carried out over the next four-year period (2025-2028).

This report gives an account of the work and results of the RPM-AMS.

# Participation

The meeting was attended by 158 participants, including 104 delegates representing 18 Member States from AMS, 24 participants from ITU Sector Members, 6 Observer Member States, and 12 participants from Observer ITU Sector Members and 12 staff from the ITU. There were 59 female and 99 male participants.

The final list of participants is published as [Document 20](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-C-0020/).

# Opening ceremony

The opening ceremony began with welcoming remarks emphasizing the strategic significance of the regional preparatory meeting for the Americas in shaping digital development ahead of the WTDC-25:

* **Dr Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava**, thanked Paraguay, in particular CONATEL, as well as previous regional hosts, emphasizing the 160th anniversary of the ITU. He underscored the ongoing commitment of ITU to bridging digital divides, citing recent progress in connecting an additional 25.8 million individuals globally. Dr. Zavazava also reaffirmed ITU-D’s commitment to capacity-building through mechanisms such as the ITU Academy, which supports digital skills training and policy development across member states. He advocated for continued collaboration between government, industry, and regional bodies, stressing that measurable outcomes and concrete impacts on populations are far important than procedural activities. He concluded by encouraging coordinated regional proposals for WTDC-25 to ensure efficient, impactful, and implementable conference results.
* **Mr Juan Carlos Duarte Duré**, President of the National Telecommunications Commission of Paraguay, expressed gratitude to ITU for organizing the event and acknowledged the critical role of the upcoming WTDC-25 in shaping the region’s digital future. He expressed pride in Paraguay’s role as a recurring host for relevant ITU meetings. He also underscored Paraguay’s commitment to enhancing regional connectivity, reducing digital gaps, and aligning these efforts with Paraguay’s National Development Plan 2030.
* The ceremony concluded with a group photograph of key officials and delegates, marking the formal commencement of the meeting. The BDT Director’s opening remarks can be found [here](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/bdt-director/Pages/past-speeches.aspx).

# Election of the Chair and Vice-Chairs

Following consultations in the region, **Mr. Fernando Machuca Manevy**, Board Member of CONATEL, **Paraguay**, was elected by acclamation as the Chair of RPM-AMS.

The meeting also endorsed the proposal for the following Vice-Chairs of RPM-AMS:

* **Dr Kim Mallalieu,** Deputy Chair of Telecommunications Authority, **Trinidad and Tobago**
* **Mr Roberto Hirayama**, Advisor, ANATEL, **Brazil**
* **Mr Juan Carlos Castro,** Chief or Department, SIGET, **El Salvador**

# Approval of the agenda

The meeting approved the agenda as presented in [Document 1(Rev.2)](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-C-0001/en).

# Approval of the time management plan

The secretariat noted that the RPM-AMS had received 16 documents: 8 from Member States and ITU-D Sector Members, 4 from the secretariat and 4 from the TDAG working groups. All the meeting documents are available on the [RPM Website](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-250401/sum/en).

Having examined all related meeting documents, the meeting adopted the proposed draft time management plan- [Document DT/1(Rev.1)](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=D22-RPMAMS-250401-TD-0001).

# Report on the implementation of the WTDC-22 Kigali Action Plan (including the Regional Initiatives) and Presentation on State of Digital Development and Trends in The Americas: Challenges and opportunities

[Document 2(Rev.3)](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-C-0002/en): The document titled **“Reporting on the implementation of the WTDC-22 Kigali Action Plan (including regional initiatives)**” was presented by the Secretariat.

The report summarizes the implementation of the Kigali Action Plan (KAP) between May and December 2024, showcasing progress in telecommunications and ICT development across regions. The document emphasizes capacity-building efforts, such as workshops and training on digital skills and ICT policy, targeting diverse groups including women, youth, and underserved communities. It reports significant strides in fostering digital innovation ecosystems, advancing regulatory frameworks, and promoting sustainable development through digital transformation projects. The report calls for strengthened collaboration, tailored strategies, and investment in emerging technologies to address persistent disparities and ensure inclusive connectivity aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The ITU Regional Initiatives for the AMS region consist of four priority areas that were elaborated and agreed by the Members of the AMS region and approved under WTDC-22 [Resolution 17](https://www.itu.int/pub/D-RES-D.17-2022) (Rev. Kigali, 2022):

* AMS1: Deployment of modern, resilient, secure and sustainable telecommunication/information and communication technology infrastructure.
* AMS2: Enhancement and expansion of digital-literacy, digital-skills and digital-inclusion programmes, especially among vulnerable populations.
* AMS3: Effective support for digital transformation and innovation ecosystems through scalable, funded and sustainable connectivity projects.
* AMS4: Development of enabling policy and regulatory environments to connect the unconnected through accessible and affordable telecommunications/information and communication technologies that support achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and progress towards the digital economy.

Membership was invited to contribute financially and in-kind to the implementation of future Regional Initiatives as financing them during the current period was found to be a challenge. Furthermore, membership was also encouraged to engage in the formulation of the new Regional Initiatives to be adopted at the WTDC-25 with the goal of making sure that they are inclusive of the needs in all countries of the region. Current ongoing projects will continue in accordance with their time plans.

The presentation of the document was followed with a [video](https://youtu.be/0Q1A-_uFb2U?si=R31JkMODc870fviX) that showcased the impact of work done by the ITU.

**The RPM-AMS took note of Document 2 and the** [**Video**](https://youtu.be/0Q1A-_uFb2U?si=R31JkMODc870fviX) **presentation with appreciation.**

[Document 3(Rev.1):](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=D22-RPMAMS-C-0003) The document titled “**State of digital development and trends in The Americas: challenges and opportunities”** was presented by the Secretariat.

The document informs participants and stakeholders in setting the region’s digital agenda. The document is structured in two parts: the first part provides an overview of the state of digital connectivity in the Americas through key indicators, and the second part highlights case studies from the region about impactful initiatives led or supported by ITU.

The document highlights universal and meaningful connectivity as a policy imperative, underlining the importance of continuing to invest in data-driven policies and regulations to bridge digital divides and realize the region’s digital transformation.

Despite significant achievements in terms of regulatory progress towards 5G and infrastructure connectivity, challenges such as cybersecurity, e-waste, and sustainability remain, with disparities in digital access and use persisting between and within countries in the region, SIDS and LLDC in particular, underscoring the need for targeted policies and greater collaboration.

Building on its successes and addressing remaining digital gaps, the region has the potential to achieve UMC in the near future. This will enable the region to unleash the full potential of digital technologies for social progress and economic prosperity.

The presentation can be accessed through the [link](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-INF/en).

**The RPM-AMS took note of Document 3 with appreciation.**

# Report on the decisions of other ITU Conferences, Assemblies and meetings related to ITU-D work

[Document 4](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-C-0004/en): The document titled “**Report on the decisions of other ITU Conferences, Assemblies and meetings related to ITU-D work**” was presented by the Secretariat under this agenda item.

The document summarizes key decisions from WTSA-24, RA-23, and WRC-23, with a focus on their relevance to the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D). It aims to inform the meeting, as well as the other Regional Preparatory Meetings (RPMs) about these outcomes, inviting Member States to review such outcomes and ensure alignment of WTDC 25 outcomes and resolutions with those adopted at WRC23 and WTSA 24.

Document 4 encompasses two Annexes: [Document 4 Addendum 1(Rev.1)](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-C-0004/en) which provides details on the outcomes of WTSA-24 held in New Delhi from 15 to 24 October 2024, and [Document 4 Addendum 2](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-C-0004/en)whichprovides details of the outcomes of the Radiocommunication Assembly 2023 (RA-23), the World Radiocommunication Conference 2023 (WRC-23), and the first session of the Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM27-1) for WRC-27, all held in Dubai, UAE. Both annexes were presented by the Secretariat as part of [Document 4](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-C-0004/en).

The Secretariat provided some highlights on current and upcoming joint work between ITU-D and the other two sectors (ITU-T and ITU-R) as well as collaboration between the Sectors’ bureaus including on bridging the standardization gap and the effective use of spectrum, in relation to WTDC Resolution 9.

**The RPM-AMS took note of Document 4 and its addenda with appreciation.**

# Preparations for WTDC-25

# Preliminary draft ITU-D contribution to the ITU Strategic Plan, and draft Action Plan

[Document 8:](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-C-0008/en) The document titled **“Report on progress of the TDAG Working Group on the ITU-D Priorities**” was presented by Ms Inga Rimkevičienė, Chair of TDAG Working Group on the ITU-D Priorities.

In her presentation, Ms Rimkevičienė provided an overview of the progress report outlined in document 8. She highlighted the group’s mandate to analyze and align ITU-D priorities with global development goals and to propose recommendations for the Baku Action Plan for WTDC-25.

The presentation emphasized the work of the group as of today, including the agreement by the Working Group at the last meeting on using the current Kigali Action Plan ITU-D priorities as baseline to develop the new priorities, as well as on the structure of the Baku Action Plan.

Ms Rimkevičienė also provided information on the next steps to be taken by the group toward the elaboration of the final deliverable, to be submitted for further consideration at TDAG 2025.

The presentation can be accessed through the [link](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-INF/en).

**The RPM-AMS took note of Document 8 with appreciation.**

# Future Study Group questions

[Document 5(Rev.2):](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-C-0005/en)The document titled **“Progress report on the work of the TDAG-WG-futureSGQ**” was presented by Dr Ahmed Sharafat, Chair of the TDAG Working Group on Future Study Group Questions.

Dr Sharafat presented the report on the Group’s progress and outlined the Working Group’s key objectives, including evaluating the relevance of current study questions, proposing new topics, and ensuring alignment with ITU-D priorities. The report details the methodology employed, such as stakeholder consultations through online questionnaires, which revealed significant interest in topics like broadband development, cybersecurity, and smart cities.

Dr Sharafat emphasized the consolidation of study questions to enhance efficiency, noting the planned mergers of related topics while ensuring inclusivity within management teams. He also highlighted the importance of contributions to the Group from Member States and Regional Groups to represent regional perspectives in upcoming discussions. Dr Sharafat concluded by encouraging continued contributions to ensure that the final document reflects diverse regional insights, with the outcomes set to be presented at the TDAG meeting in May 2025 before WTDC-25.

The presentation can be accessed through the [link](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-INF/en).

**The RPM-AMS took note of Document 5 (Rev. 2) with appreciation.**

# Preliminary draft WTDC-25 Declaration

[Document 7(Rev.1):](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-C-0007/en)The document titled **“Report on progress of the TDAG Working Group on the Declaration**” was presented by Dr Abdulkarim Oloyede, Chair of the TDAG Working Group on the WTDC Declaration, who gave a progress report on the work of the Group, including meetings held.

He informed the RPM-AMS that the working group had held three meetings to date, during which a zero draft was developed, incorporating feedback from stakeholders. The proposed theme for the 2025 WTDC Declaration, “Universal, Meaningful, and Affordable Connectivity for an Inclusive and Sustainable Digital Future,” was accepted in principle, with no objections raised so far. The draft follows the structure of the Kigali Declaration, consisting of an introduction, declaration statement, commitments, and a call to action. The working group also ensured alignment with ITU-D priorities and the discussions within other TDAG working groups.

Mr. Oloyede detailed next steps, including continued engagement with Regional Telecommunication Organizations. The aim is to refine the draft and present it for further consideration at TDAG’s upcoming meeting before submission to WTDC-25. He underlined the inclusive approach taken and encouraged Member States to contribute actively to the upcoming meeting (during TDAG-25) and to the proposed zero draft, particularly in preparation for the TDAG meeting in May 2025.

The presentation can be accessed through the [link](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-INF/en).

**The RPM-AMS took note of Document 7 with appreciation.**

# Rules of procedure of ITU-D (WTDC Resolution 1)

There was no specific contribution under this agenda item therefore this agenda item was considered within the discussions under agenda item 7.5 which focused on the streamlining of WTDC Resolutions. In [Document INF/4](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-INF-0004/en) text of Resolution 1 (Rev. Kigali 2022) was provided.

# Streamlining WTDC Resolutions

[Documen](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-C-0006/en)t 6(Rev.1):The document titled **“Progress report on the work of the TDAG-WG-SR**” was presented by Ms Andrea Grippa, Chair of TDAG-WG-Streamlining Resolutions.She outlined the Working Group’s activities, highlighting the four meetings held to date, which focused on reviewing existing WTDC resolutions and identifying opportunities to enhance their coherence and relevance. She explained the adopted approach of clustering resolutions into thematic groups, with designated volunteers coordinating the review process for each cluster. The group proposed a thematic clustering of resolutions into ten categories, including information and statistics, regional cooperation, infrastructure, environment, gender and youth, cybersecurity, and accessibility. She emphasized the importance of aligning ITU-D priorities with evolving digital policies while ensuring that resolutions remain relevant and actionable.Ms. Grippa highlighted that the group will finalize contributions and prepare a comprehensive report for TDAG.

The presentation can be accessed through the [link](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-INF/en).

**The RPM-AMS took note of Document 6 with appreciation.**

# Priority setting for Regional Initiatives, related projects and financing mechanisms

The Chair of the RPM-AMS invited the contributors to present their inputs on Regional Initiatives. The following contributions were presented:

[Document 9:](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-C-0009/en) The document titled "**Proposal for Regional Initiatives for the Americas**" was presented by CONATEL of Paraguay. It outlines new regional initiatives for the Americas for the period 2026-2028, aimed at enhancing telecommunication and information and communication technology (ICT) infrastructure, digital literacy, and digital inclusion. The proposal emphasizes the deployment of modern, resilient, secure, and sustainable broadband infrastructure, the enhancement of digital skills and innovation ecosystems, and the development of enabling policy and regulatory environments to achieve universal and meaningful connectivity. The document calls for the support and cooperation of Member States to implement these initiatives, with a focus on underserved and vulnerable populations, including indigenous communities, women, and youth.

**The RPM-AMS took note of Document 9 with appreciation.**

[Document 10:](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-C-0010/en) The document titled "**Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Americas for WTDC-25 (RPM-AMS)**" was presented by CONATEL, Paraguay. It outlines a proposal to modify Resolution 16 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference. The proposal emphasizes the need for special actions and measures for the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries, and countries with economies in transition. It highlights the importance of telecommunications and ICTs as key tools for social, environmental, cultural, and economic development, and calls for continued review and implementation of programs to improve telecommunication networks in these regions. The document invites the Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Americas to note the proposed changes and state their position accordingly.

**The RPM-AMS took note of Document 10 with appreciation.**

[Document 11](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-C-0011/en)The document titled "R**egional Preparatory Meeting for the Americas for WTDC-25 (RPM-AMS)**" was presented by CONATEL of Paraguay. It outlines Paraguay's proposal for the Baku 2025 WTDC declaration, emphasizing the importance of digital connectivity, services, and solutions for development. The document highlights the need for inclusive, sustainable, and equitable digital transformation, addressing key barriers and opportunities for digital growth, particularly in developing countries. It calls for collaborative efforts among governments, the private sector, and civil society to bridge digital divides, build capacity, and foster resilient digital economies. The proposal aims to prioritize the needs of the most vulnerable countries and promote international and regional cooperation to accelerate digital development.

**The RPM-AMS took note of Document 11.**

[Document 12](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-C-0012/en): The document titled "**Information Regarding Caribbean Priorities for Developing Regional Priorities for the Americas 2025-2028**" was presented by the Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU). It summarizes the consensus views by the Caribbean Preparatory Meeting held virtually on 24 January 2025, and subsequent correspondence. The document outlines the Caribbean's priorities for the development of telecommunications and ICT, which are intended to inform the Americas’ regional proposals for the WTDC-25. The key thematic priorities include connectivity and digital resilience, sustainable digital transformation and innovation, enabling environment, and inclusive and secure digital future. The document invites the Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Americas Region (RPM-AMS) to consider these priorities in developing and adopting regional priorities for the Americas 2026-2029. The CTU emphasizes the importance of these priorities in addressing the specific needs of the Caribbean, as Small Island Developing States (SIDS) with unique vulnerabilities and limited resources. The proposal contained in the document aims at ensuring that the Caribbean's priorities are adequately represented and considered in the broader regional discussions and decisions at the RPM-AMS and WTDC-25.

**The RPM-AMS took note of Document 12 with appreciation.**

[Document 13](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-C-0013/en): The document titled "**Proposal for Regional Initiatives for the Americas 2026-2028**" was presented by the Dominican Republic for the consideration of the Member States at the RPM-AMS for WTDC-25. The document outlines a proposal aimed at enhancing meaningful connectivity and digital infrastructure, developing digital skills focused on human capital development and inclusion, promoting digital transformation and innovation, and establishing governance, cybersecurity, and enabling regulatory frameworks. The proposal emphasizes the importance of supporting vulnerable populations, including indigenous communities and underserved areas, to foster sustainable digital technologies, improve environmental sustainability, and bridge the digital divide.

**The RPM-AMS took note of Document 13 with appreciation.**

[Document 14](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-C-0014/en): The document titled "**Promoting Youth Engagement in ITU-D Study Groups 1 and 2**" was presented by Canada at RPM-AMS for WTDC-25. The document emphasizes the importance of incorporating youth perspectives into the ITU-D Study Groups to shape inclusive and forward-thinking ICT policies. The document identifies several actions, including mentorship programs, leadership training, academic collaboration, and dedicated youth-focused events. These initiatives aim at empowering the next generation of digital leaders and ensure that future ICT policies are shaped by those who will implement them.

**The RPM-AMS took note of Document 14 with appreciation.**

[Document 15](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-C-0015/en): The document titled "**Satellite Solutions for Universal Service: Bridging the Digital Divide**" was presented by the Global Satellite Operators’ Association (GSOA). It emphasizes the critical need for universal connectivity to foster economic opportunity, improve quality of life, and ensure inclusivity in the digital era. The document outlines the challenges of achieving universal connectivity, particularly in remote and underserved regions, and proposes leveraging satellite technology as a viable solution. It calls for the WTDC-25 to promote inclusive policies, foster cross-industry collaboration, and streamline ITU-D priorities to achieve meaningful progress in bridging the digital divide. The proposal highlights the importance of integrating satellite solutions with terrestrial networks to provide reliable and cost-effective connectivity to all populations, regardless of their geographical location.

**The RPM-AMS took note of Document 15 with appreciation.**

[Document 16](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-C-0016/en): The document titled “**Addressing Barriers to Mobile Internet Adoption**" was presented by the GSM Association (GSMA). The document offers the mobile industry’s perspective on efforts to close the digital divide, outlining two distinct groups of digitally excluded people: those affected by the “coverage gap”, and those affected by the “usage gap”. The proposal calls on WTDC-25 to take action to recognize the urgency of tackling the usage gap, which is now larger than the coverage gap, and to foster collective action to address the demand side barriers, in its overall efforts to advance digital inclusion.

**The RPM-AMS took note of Document 16 with appreciation.**

[Document 17](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-C-0017/en): The document titled "**Proposed text for the Baku 2025 WTDC Declaration**" was presented by CONATEL, Paraguay. It outlines Paraguay's views incorporated into the Zero Draft of the Baku Declaration 2025, emphasizing the importance of universal, meaningful, and affordable connectivity for an inclusive and sustainable digital future. The document highlights the progress made in advancing ICT and digital development, while acknowledging persistent challenges and disparities, particularly in developing countries and marginalized communities. It calls for enhanced international cooperation, multi-stakeholder actions, and investment in digital infrastructure to bridge the digital divide and promote socio-economic prosperity. The proposal aims at addressing such issues through collaborative efforts and targeted initiatives, ensuring no one is left behind in the digital transformation process.

**The RPM-AMS took note of Document 17 with appreciation.**

[Document 18(Rev.1)](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-C-0018/en): The document titled "**Multi-country Contribution on the Regional Initiatives: Output of the WGCONF drafting session on 13 March 2025** " was presented by Dominican Republic, Guatemala and Mexico, supported also by Paraguay and Brazil. It outlines a multi-country contribution for the consideration of the RPM-AMS, including a draft of regional initiatives for the Americas for the period 2026-2029. The draft, resulting from a CITEL session held on March 13, 2025, aims at enhancing digital connectivity and infrastructure, promote digital inclusion and skills, support innovative digital ecosystems, and establish governance and cybersecurity frameworks. The proposal emphasizes collaboration among various stakeholders to achieve sustainable and inclusive digital transformation in the region. The document invites the RPM-AMS to use this contribution as a basis for further discussion to finalize the regional initiatives.

**The RPM-AMS took note of Document 18(Rev.1) with appreciation.**

[Document 19](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-C-0019/en): The document titled "**Proposal for Regional Initiatives for the Americas**" was presented by Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações (ANATEL), Brazil. It outlines Brazil's proposal for Regional Initiatives (RIs) for the Americas, aimed at implementation during the cycle 2026-2029. The document emphasizes the commitment of the Americas region to harnessing ICTs for sustainable development, addressing critical challenges, and fostering growth and innovation. It includes detailed proposals on enabling environment for telecommunication infrastructures, improving digital skills and inclusion programs, supporting innovation ecosystems and emerging technologies, and promoting capacity building in cybersecurity and cyber resilience. The document also includes an annex with the same text translated into Spanish.

**The RPM-AMS took note of Document 19 with appreciation.**

**Work by the Drafting Group of the RPM Plenary**

Following the review of all submissions, a Drafting Group on Regional Initiatives was established. Mr Roberto Hirayama, Vice-Chair of the RPM was appointed as Chair.

The Drafting Group met on 1 April 2025, from 1415h to 1740h and agreed on the draft for new Regional Initiatives, building upon the successful implementation of existing Regional Initiatives for the AMS Region, taking into account all contributions submitted to RPM-AMS and its plenary sessions.

The outcome of the drafting group was presented on the second day of the RPM-AMS and published in [Document DT/3(Rev.1)](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMASP-250320-TD-0003/en). Accordingly, the following proposed Regional Initiatives were adopted:

* **AMS1 -**  **Facilitating Resilient Infrastructure to Enable Deployment of Universal and Meaningful Connectivity**
* **AMS2 -**  **Digital Inclusion, Digital Skills/Competencies**
* **AMS3 -**  **Support for Innovative Digital Ecosystems and the adoption and use of emerging technologies**
* **AMS4 -**  **Promoting cyber resilience and capacity building in cybersecurity and cyber resilience**
* **AMS5 -**  **Governance and Enabling Regulatory Frameworks for Sustainable Digital Transformation**

# Any Other Business

The following items were addressed under this agenda item:

* The Regional Development Forum 2025 (RDF) Draft Outcome Report was presented. The RPM-AMS received with appreciation the RDF Outcome Report which was published as an information document [(INF/10)](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-RPMAMS-INF-00010/en) to the RPM-AMS.
* A representative from Azerbaijan gave updates on the preparations for the upcoming WTDC, scheduled to be held in Baku from 17 to 28 November 2025. The RPM-AMS welcomed this update with appreciation.

**The RPM-AMS took note of this information.**

# Closing ceremony

# The closing ceremony of the RPM-AMS was marked by the closing remarks from the BDT Director, Dr Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava, and the RPM Chair, Mr. Fernando Machuca Manevy.

In his address, the BDT Director expressed gratitude to the CONATEL of Paraguay for hosting the event, with special appreciation to Mr Manevy for his leadership as Chair of the Regional Preparatory Meeting. He also expressed his gratitude to the Member States, Sector Members, and all participants, both in-person and online, for their active involvement in discussions that contributed to the identification of draft Regional Initiatives for the upcoming cycle. He emphasized that these initiatives would be carried forward to the World Telecommunication Development Conference in November, ensuring that the priorities of the AMS countries are represented.

Dr Zavazava reaffirmed the ITU Secretariat’s commitment to supporting Member States in their preparations for WTDC-25 and their broader goal of achieving universal and meaningful connectivity. Emphasizing a shared vision and commitment to impactful results under the principle of BDT4Impact, he reiterated ITU’s focus on delivering tangible outcomes. Dr Zavazava also presented a highlights video before concluding his remarks.

# Following Dr Zavazava’s remarks, Mr Manevy delivered his closing address, expressing appreciation to the ITU, Member States, and all participants for their commitment and collaborative spirit. Mr Manevy highlighted the key priorities identified during the RPM sessions.

As part of the ceremony, certificates of appreciation were awarded to Mr Manevy, the RPM Chair, in recognition of his leadership throughout the RPM-AMS and to CITEL for its contribution of the preparations towards WTDC-2025.

# Annex 1

# Proposed Regional Initiatives for the Americas for 2026-2029 period

**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. 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.
3. 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.
1. These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)