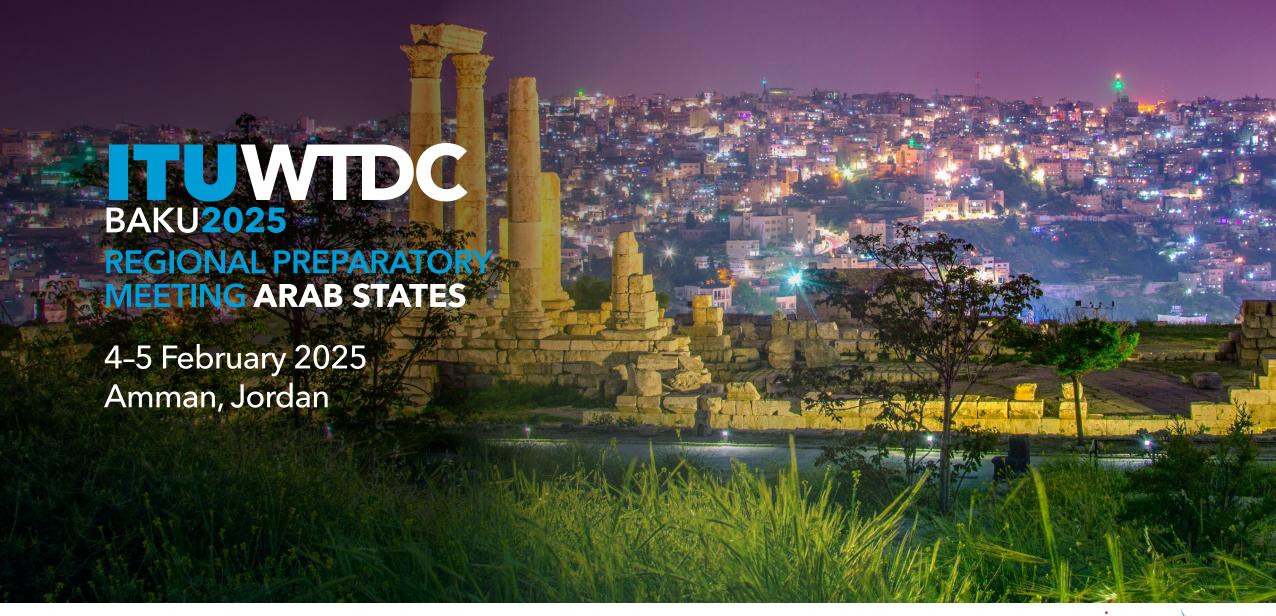**Chair, TDAG-WG-futureSGQ**

Presentation of the Report on the progress of the
TDAG Working Group on the Future of Study Group Questions

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Contact:	Name/Organization/Entity:	Mr Ahmad Reza Sharafat, Chair, TDAG Working Group on the future of Study Group Questions
	Phone number:	+98 912 106 1716 (Iran) ; +41 77 247 6006 (Switzerland)
	E-mail:	ahmad.sharafat@gmail.com

Report on the progress of the TDAG Working Group on the Future of Study Group Questions

Dr Ahmad Reza Sharafat, Chair, TDAG Working Group on the Future of Study Group Questions (TDAG-WG-futureSGQ), Iran (Islamic Republic of)

Management team and coordinators

- Chair: Ahmad Reza Sharafat (Iran (Islamic Republic of))
- Vice-chairs: Regina Fleur Assoumou-Bessou (Côte d'Ivoire), Fadel Digham (Egypt)
- Study group coordinators:　SG1: Roberto Hirayama (Brazil)
  　　　　　　　　　　　　　SG2: Abdelaziz Alzarooni (UAE), Victor Martinez (Paraguay)

Terms of reference

1. To act as a single platform for focused discussions on future ITU-D study Questions, and to assist ITU membership in their preparations for the next WTDC by proposing specific changes to Resolution 2 (Rev. Kigali, 2022) on the scope of ITU-D study Questions, their number, titles, and terms of reference, taking into consideration the evolution of ICTs, priorities of ITU membership, as well as current and past activities/outcomes of ITU-D study groups.

2. To align, as far as possible, the proposed study Questions to BDT thematic priorities, proposed regional initiatives, the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals and WSIS Action Lines (C2, C5 and C6) for which ITU has lead responsibility.

3. To research and acquire views of ITU membership through relevant channels including surveys, contributions and meetings.

4. To liaise with ITU-D Study Groups through the appointed ITU-D Study Groups 1 and 2 coordinators for the future of study Questions. The coordinators may, inter alia, upon the request of the ITU membership, assist them to prepare contributions on Future of Questions.

5. To submit regular updates to TDAG.

Meetings held

4 March 2024
- Agreement on management team and terms of reference
- Agreement on future meeting dates
- Review of background paper for developing future study Questions

1st report to TDAG
(20-23 May 2024)

3 Sep. 2024
- Review and agreement of online consultation form

3 Dec. 2024
- Results of online consultation results
- Review of contributions from members (ATU, SG1)

21 Jan. 2025
- Review the first draft consolidated document
- Review of contributions from members (APT, UK et al., China, SG1, SG2)

2nd report to TDAG
(23 January 2025)

itu.int/itu-d/meetings/wtdc25/rpm/arb

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Online consultation highlights in 1 slide – 48 responses

Current Questions

- Important: Q1/1 Broadband (93.8%) then Q3/2 Cybersecurity (85.4%) then Q5/1 Rural & remote telco (81.3%)

- Not Important: Q4/2 C&I, Counterfeit & mobile theft (20.8%) then Q2/1 Broadcasting & Q7/2 EMF (14.6%)

Future Structure

- 2 Study Groups (63%) next is 3 Study Groups (23%)

- 10 study Questions (35%) next is 14 Questions (25%)

Discontinuing

- Questions studied over several periods: Q2/1 (27%) then Q4/2 & Q7/2 (23%)

- Lack of interest: Q4/2 (23%) then Q2/1 (21%)

- Do not address directly ITU strategic goals: Q6/1, Q4/2 & Q6/2 (10%)

Merging

- Q1/1 Broadband & Q5/1 Rural & Remote telecoms (62.5%)

- Q1/2 Smart cities & Q2/2 E-services & applications (58.3%)

- Q3/1 Disaster risk reduction & Q6/2 Environment (56.3%)

- Q6/2 Environment & Q7/2 EMF (54.2%)

Future Topics
- Artificial Intelligence then new approaches to Regulation
Cross Cutting Topics
- Economic Aspects
- Digital Skills (also high as stand alone topic)

New proposals for merging
1. Q6/1 & Q4/2
2. Q4/1 & Q5/1
3. Q4/2 & Q6/2 ewaste part to device affordability then Q3/1 & Q6/2 non ewaste part & Q7/2 in a new Questions
4. Q2/1 & Q7/2 to deal with all spectrum matters
5. Q5/2 & Q2/2
6. Q6/1 & Q7/2
7. Q6/2 & Q7/2 & Q3/1
8. Q7/1 & Q2/1

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Proposed first draft document

Revisions in tracked changes of an extract of Resolution 2 (Rev. Kigali, 2022) and on ToRs sections 1 & 2 of each Study Question in WTDC-22 Action plan (https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-d/opb/tdc/D-TDC-WTDC-2022-PDF-E.pdf)

- 10 study Questions proposed

- Q1/1 Broadband & Q5/1 Rural & remote telecoms (62.5%) merged into a new Question A/1

- Q1/2 Smart cities & Q2/2 E-services & applications (58.3%) merged into a new Question A/2

- Q4/2 Counterfeiting & mobile theft parts merged with Question 6/1 Consumer protection into a new Question B/1

- Q6/2 Environment, Q7/2 EMF (54.2%) and Q4/2 Conformance & interoperability part merged into a new Question B/2

- Q3/1 Disaster risk reduction moved to SG2 and is now Q2/2

- Preliminary inputs proposed by SG1 (presented at December 2024 e-meeting) have been added where possible and the detailed revisions to ToR of Q5/1 have been integrated in the new Question A/1

- Discussions held at December 2024 e-meeting have been considered

- Revisions of ToRs for current Questions of SG1 and SG2 are awaited (as contributions to next emeeting), and will be included.

Future steps

At the meeting of 4th March 2025

- Each focal point from regional groups (ATU, CITEL, APT, LAS, RCC, CEPT) will be invited to present a contribution from his/her region

- The update from TDAG WG on ITU-D Priorities will be presented as a contribution

- Discuss all contributions received to reach a **final consolidated document** which shares information to assist
    - ITU membership in their preparations for the next WTDC by proposing specific changes to Resolution 2 (Rev. Kigali, 2022) on the scope of ITU-D study Questions, their number, titles, and terms of reference, taking into consideration the evolution of ICTs, priorities of ITU membership, as well as current and past activities/outcomes of ITU-D study groups

Regional focal points

RTO	Focal point(s)
APT (Asia-Pacific)	Mr Mohammad Khalil-Ur-Rahman (Bangladesh)
ATU (Africa)	Ms Caecilia Nyamutswa (Zimbabwe)
CEPT (Europe)	Ms Madalina Clapon (Romania) Mr Teddy Woodhouse (UK)
CITEL (Americas)	Mr Roberto Hirayama (Brazil)
LAS (Arab States)	Mr Belkassem Makhlouf (LAS)
RCC (CIS regions)	Mr Arseny Plossky (Russian Federation)

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See you in Baku

Thank you !