Chair, TDAG-WG-DEC

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

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REGIONAL PREPARATORY MEETING ASIA-PACIFIC

20-21 March 2025
Bangkok, Thailand

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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. A final meeting will be held during TDAG-25.
  - 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'
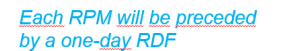- **Proposed Structure ***
  - The Group agreed to retain a structure similar to the Kigali Declaration and be concise, simple and with clear and actionable language, speaking to both the challenges of global digital development and potential solutions
  - Four main sections: Introduction, 'We declare,' '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.

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

* *As agreed at the second meeting of the TDAG Working Group on the Declaration (TDAG-WG-DEC/6)*

4

Next Steps and Timeline

– **January – March:** Building on the feedback received during the second meeting of TDAG-WG-DEC, the Chair has 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, to be held during the next cluster of TDAG working group meeting on 5 March 2025. Feedback and contributions on the zero draft are welcome. There will also be a possibility for a physical meeting during TDAG-25 to wrap up the discussions of the Group.

– **January-April:** The TDAG-WG-DEC Chair will provide reports on progress of the work of the Group to the upcoming 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.

Key Timelines towards WTDC-25

2025						
	4-5 Feb	25-26 Feb	20-21 Mar	1-2 Apr	8-9 Apr	24-25 Apr
	RPM-ARB	RPM-EUR	RPM-ASP	RPM-AMS	RPM-AFR	RPM-CIS

29-30 Sep	14-15 Jul	12-16 May
IRM-2	IRM-1	RPM-CM & TDAG-25

16 Nov
Global Youth Celebration

17-28 Nov
WTDC-25

Baku, Azerbaijan

Each RPM will be preceded by a one-day RDF

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References

- Terms of Reference of TDAG-WG-DEC, TDAG-24/DT/4

- Draft proposal for the Baku Declaration 2025, TDAG-WG-DEC/9

- Revised annotated outline of the Baku Declaration 2025, TDAG-WG-DEC/7

- Mapping of topics in the Kigali Declaration and new and emerging topics, TDAG-WG-DEC/INF/1

- Report of the first meeting of the TDAG Working Group on the Declaration, TDAG-WG-DEC/2

- Report of the second meeting of the TDAG Working Group on the Declaration, TDAG-WG-DEC/6

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See you in Baku

Thank you !