





Report on progress of the TDAG Working Group on the Declaration

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TDAG Working Group on the Declaration

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, 5 March and 15 April. The next meeting is scheduled as an in person 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 was submitted for discussion to the 15 April 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 that it 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 the Kigali Declaration and insights from recent major international conferences and discussions at the various WG DEC meetings.

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Next Steps and Timeline

- **January-April:** Building on the feedback received during the meetings of TDAG-WG-DEC, the Chair prepared an initial and revised proposal of a narrative for the Declaration for the third and fourth meetings of the Group. Feedback and contributions on the draft are welcome. A physical meeting is 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.



Key Timelines towards WTDC-25





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References

- Terms of Reference of TDAG-WG-DEC, <u>TDAG-24/DT/4</u>
- Mapping of topics in the Kigali Declaration and new and emerging topics, <u>TDAG-WG-DEC/INF/1</u>
- Revised annotated outline of the Baku Declaration 2025, <u>TDAG-WG-DEC/7</u>
- Draft proposal for the Baku Declaration 2025, <u>TDAG-WG-DEC/9</u>
- Revised and annotated draft proposal for the Baku Declaration 2025, <u>TDAG-WG-DEC-12</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!