|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A logo with a black background  AI-generated content may be incorrect. | **TDAG Working Group  on ITU-D Priorities (TDAG-WG-ITUDP)**  **4th Meeting, Virtual, 1 May 2025** | | A close up of a sign  Description automatically generated |
|  | |  | |
|  | | **Document TDAG-WG-ITUDP/12-E** | |
|  | | **17 April 2025** | |
|  | | **English only** | |
| Chair, TDAG-WG-ITUDP | | | |
| The proposed Regional Initiatives for the period 2026-2029 | | | |
|  | | | |

1. **Background**

As agreed at the 3rd meeting of the TDAG Working Group on ITU-D Priorities (TDAG-WG-ITUDP), the structure of the Baku Action Plan will include Regional Initiatives proposed and agreed at the Regional Preparatory Meetings (RPMs).

To ensure cohesion and harmonization between regional priorities and the overall ITU-D priorities, this document provides the compilation of the Regional Initiatives, in order for the TDAG-WG-ITUD to assess potential synergies and alignment in its work toward the definition of the ITU-D priorities.

To note that the RPM for CIS is still to be held. The proposed Regional Initiatives for CIS region will be added to this document, once agreed by the concerned RPM.

1. **Regional Initiatives** 
   1. **Arab Region**

|  |
| --- |
| 1. Sector Specific Transformation: Sustainable Digital Futures |
| 2. Infrastructure and connectivity |
| 3. Fostering Economic Development and Digital Inclusion |
| 4. Skills Development & Job Creation |
| 5. Advancing Cyber Resilience in the Arab World |
| 6. Innovation Ecosystems and Emerging Tech |

* 1. **Europe Region**

|  |
| --- |
| **EUR1**: Digital infrastructure development  **Objective** of this initiative is to facilitate the attainment of universal and meaningful connectivity through resilient and synergistic infrastructure development and an enabling environment, ensuring ubiquitous coverage. |
| **EUR2**: Digital transformation for resilience  **Objective** of this initiative is to facilitate the digitalization processes of services in different sectors (e.g. agriculture, health, government, education), including those of public administrations, in order to ensure greater resilience in responding to critical situations, including the challenges of pandemics, natural hazards or human-introduced crises. |
| **EUR3**: Digital inclusion and skills development  **Objective** of this initiative is to facilitate equitable access to information and communication technologies (ICTs) and necessary digital skills for all groups of society, including persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs, as well as women and youth, in order to take advantage of telecommunications/ICTs. |
| **EUR4**: Trust and confidence in the use of telecommunications/ information and communication technologies  **Objective** of this initiative is to support the deployment of resilient infrastructure and secure telecommunications/ICTs allowing all citizens, especially children, to use telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) in their daily lives with confidence. |
| **EUR5**: Digital innovation ecosystems  **Objective** of this initiative is to foster environments that are conducive to innovation and entrepreneurship through systemic approaches based on digital telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs), aimed at closing the growing digital innovation divide in the region. |

* 1. **Asia Pacific Region**

|  |
| --- |
| **ASP1**: Addressing special needs of Least Developed Countries, Small Island Developing States, including Pacific Island countries, and Landlocked Developing Countries  **Objective**: To provide special assistance to Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Small Island Developing States (SIDS), including Pacific Island countries, and Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) to assist delivering their telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) priorities. |
| **ASP2**: Harnessing telecommunications/ICTs to support inclusive and sustainable digital transformation  **Objective**: To assist Member States to use ICTs and emerging technologies for inclusive and sustainable digital transformation by building human and institutional capacity, bridging digital divides, improving and expanding digital skills, reducing the gender gap, and assisting groups who may be in vulnerable situations. |
| **ASP3**: Fostering development of infrastructure to enhance digital connectivity and connecting the unconnected  **Objective**: To assist Member States in developing telecommunication/ICT infrastructure to facilitate the provision of affordable and meaningful services and applications and to connect the unconnected. |
| **ASP4**: Enabling an innovative and sustainable telecommunication/ICT sector  **Objective**: To assist Member States in developing appropriate policy and regulatory frameworks that foster innovation, investment and sustainability across the telecommunications/ICT sector, by way of enabling ICT-centric innovation and the growth of start-ups and micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME), while also addressing the need for sustainability. |
| **ASP5**: Supporting a safe, secure, and resilient telecommunication/ICT environment  **Objective**: To assist Member States in developing and maintaining safe, secure, trusted and resilient telecommunication/ICT networks and services, and addressing challenges related to climate change and the management of disasters and emergencies. |

* 1. **Americas Region**

|  |
| --- |
| **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. |
| **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. |
| **AMS3**: Support for Innovative Digital Ecosystems and the adoption and use of emerging technologies  **Objective**: To promote the digital capacity development, digital Government systems, local e-services, and innovation ecosystems necessary for sustainable and inclusive digital transformation, innovation and entrepreneurship. |
| **AMS4**: Promoting cyber resilience and capacity building in cybersecurity and cyber resilience  **Objective**: To promote an enabling environment for a safe and secure connectivity. |
| **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. |

* 1. **Africa Region**

|  |
| --- |
| **AFR1**: Meaningful connectivity and resilient infrastructure- for sustainable development including emergency telecommunications and multi-hazard early warning systems in the Africa region  **Objective**: This initiative aims to Support Member States in the region in reaping the full benefits of digital transformation. It also aims to enhance broadband infrastructure, particularly in rural and underserved areas, by strengthening policy frameworks, encouraging public-private partnerships, and investing in resilient infrastructure and sustainable connectivity solutions. It also aims at enhancing emergency telecommunications and multihazard early warning systems It aspires to create an enabling digital ecosystem that empowers individuals and businesses. Furthermore, the initiative emphasizes gender inclusivity, youth empowerment, and the responsible use of digital technologies to drive equitable and long-term development across the African continent. |
| **AFR2**: Developing an inclusive trustworthy AI ecosystem in Africa for socio-economic development  **Objective**: To harness the transformative power of AI to address Africa’s developmental challenges and accelerate the realization of the SDGs and the goals stipulated in the African Union Agenda 2063. Leverage the benefits of AI by adopting it in the various sectors of high economic value for Africa while providing safeguards for an ethical use of AI by all stakeholders. |
| **AFR3**: Building trust, safety and security in the use of telecommunications/ information and communication technology and Data protection and privacy  **Objective**: To assist Member States in developing and implementing policies, strategies, standards and mechanisms as well as human capacity building, to protect telecommunications and ICT infrastructure & network from cyber threats & attacks in order to protect data, people & privacy including vulnerable groups such as children and guarantee digital trust. To increase public awareness and educate people on safe online practices, cyber and data protection. Enhance Incident Response and Risk Management mechanisms for cybersecurity incidents and data breaches to minimize damage and ensure continuity of services. To strengthen partnerships with global stakeholders to share best practices and collaborate on cross-border cybersecurity and data protection challenges. |
| **AFR4**: Digital infrastructure applications, SMEs Development and Emerging Technologies and Innovation Ecosystems  **Objective**: To foster an enabling digital innovation ecosystem that can navigate technological revolutions and establishment of a sustainable conducive environment for the utilization of emerging technologies and development of SMEEs and start-ups. |
| **AFR5**: Sustainable Funding Mechanisms for Africa’s Digital Transformation  **Objective**: Establish a sustainable financing mechanism to support the implementation of the African Common Initiatives and to accelerate the digital transformation process in Africa through the mobilization of diverse funding sources and attraction of long-term investment in digital infrastructure and emerging technologies. |

* 1. **CIS Region**

The RPM-CIS will be held on the 24-25 April 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_