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| **Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG)**  **30th Meeting, Geneva, Switzerland, 19-23 June 2023** | A close up of a sign  Description automatically generated |
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|  | **Document** **TDAG-2****3/8(Rev.1)-E** |
|  | **22 May 2023** |
|  | **Original:** **English** |
| Director, Telecommunication Development Bureau | |
| ITU-D Sector Members, Associates and Academia | |
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| **Summary:**  This document provides an overview of the ITU-D membership evolution in 2021, 2022, and up to 5 May 2023. It also recommends actions aimed at continued strengthening of efforts to recruit and retain more members in accordance with the outcomes of the World Telecommunication Development Conference of 2022 (WTDC-22) and the Plenipotentiary Conference of 2022. ITU-D membership includes Sector Members, Associates and Academia[[1]](#footnote-1).  **Action required:**  TDAG is invited to note the document and provide guidance as deemed appropriate.  **References:**  Resolution 71 (Rev. Kigali, 2022) of WTDC; Resolutions 169 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022), 205 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) and 209 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of the Plenipotentiary Conference. | |

1. **Background**

The World Telecommunication Development Conference in 2022 (WTDC-22) revised and adopted Resolution 71 (Rev. Kigali, 2022[[2]](#footnote-2)) to promote active involvement of current Sector Members, Associates and Academia in ITU-D activities, including participation in the work of ITU-D study groups and to attract new members from the public, private and academic sectors.

Resolution 71 brought more focus to the strengthening of cooperation between Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia of ITU-D, with its instruction to BDT to work closely with ITU-D Sector Members, Associates, and Academia for their participation in the successful implementation of the Kigali Action Plan, and in order to continue to organize meetings for high-level industry executives e.g. the Industry Advisory Group for Development Issues and Private Sector Chief Regulatory Officers’ (IAGDI-CRO) meeting.

1. **ITU-D membership evolution**

**Charts 1 and 2** below illustrate the ITU-D membership evolution (Sector Members, Associates and Academia). The Chart shows the total number of the new ITU-D Sector Members and Academia by December 2021, December 2022, and the absolute figures by 5 May 2023.

**320**

**319**

**332**

**2.1. New Sector Members and Associates:**

**Chart 3** below shows that by December 2022 ITU-D attracted **seventeen new *Sector Members* and one *Associate member[[3]](#footnote-3)***. Additionally, by 5 May 2023, ITU-D has attracted **nineteen** new ***Sector Members*** and ***Associates.*** **Four** Sector Members and **one** Associate are fully active**[[4]](#footnote-4)**. **One** Sector Memberand **five** Associates are in the process of finalizing payment[[5]](#footnote-5).

**Eight** entities are currently pending clearance from their respective administrations, as per Table 1 below. We would like to thank the Administrations of the private sector entities listed in Table 1 whom we understand are paying due attention to the requests submitted to them to approve ITU-D membership requests, and look forward to receiving their approvals, or decisions.

**Table 1. Pending approvals from Administrations, by date of request**

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| **Country** | **Entity name** | **Membership type** |
| **Nigeria** | ARCROTGIS Consult | Sector Member |
| **Singapore** | SAP Asia Pte Ltd. | Sector Member |
| **Madagascar** | Axian Telecom | Sector Member |
| **China** | China Tower Corporation Limited | Sector Member |
| **United States of America** | Fortinet Inc. | Sector Member |
| **United States of America** | Bloxtel Inc. | Associate SG1 |
| **United States of America** | Onward Technologies | Associate SG2 |
| **Germany** | Avataa GmbH | Associate SG2 |

**2.2. Exemption of fees requests:**

BDT received four requests for exemption of fees which will be submitted to ITU Council for review. These entities are:

* Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO).
* Communications Regulators Association of Southern Africa (CRASA).
* Global Digital Inclusion Partnership, Global Impact (GDIP).
* World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO).

**2.3. New Academia members:**

In terms of Academia[[6]](#footnote-6), **Chart 4** shows that by December 2022, through efforts coordinated with the General Secretariat, **twenty-one *new Academia[[7]](#footnote-7)*** have been attracted. Additionally, by 5May 2023, **sixteen** new **Academia** have been attracted***.* Five** Academia members are fully active[[8]](#footnote-8). **Seven** are in the process of finalizing payment[[9]](#footnote-9). **Four** are currently awaiting administrative approval[[10]](#footnote-10).

**2.4. ITU-D Membership and Academia denunciations and exclusions:**

**Chart 5** below shows the ITU-D Membership and Academia losses comparison between 2021 and 2022. Despite the increased number of accounts at risk in 2022 due to unsettled fees, the reactivation of accounts due to concerted efforts with the General Secretariat resulted in a lower number of ITU-D Membership and Academia denunciations and exclusions than in 2021.

In 2022 ITU-D lost a total of **14 accounts**: **eight** **denunciations[[11]](#footnote-11)** and **six exclusions[[12]](#footnote-12)** (due to program closure, review of business strategy, financial difficulties to settle fees or undisclosed reasons). A coordinated retention effort involving our field staff resulted in the retention of **ten** Sector Members’ accounts that were at risk (either by settling fees or reversing the denunciations).

1. **Engagement, retention, promotion, and outreach**

In addition to regular membership outreach, engagement and retention actions, the BDT continued to carry out the following:

* The **Industry Advisory Group on Development Issues and the Private Sector Chief Regulatory Officers (IAGDI-CRO)** held two online sessions on 24 February 2022 where the industry and private sector members announced pledges, future commitments, and shared experiences as to how the Partner2Connect Digital Coalition can bring concrete results in terms of viable and bankable projects for meaningful connectivity. The [Outcome Statement](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Conferences/CRO/Documents/Outcome%20Statement-IAGDI-CRO-%20FINAL.pdf) and the Chairman’s Report which can be found [here](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Conferences/CRO/Documents/Chairman%27s%20Report%20-%20IAGDI-CRO%202022.pdf). The next IAGDI-CRO meeting, will take place on 5 June 2023 as pre-event of the Global Symposium for Regulators and the Outcome Statement will be shared with TDAG.
* **Partner to Connect Digital Coalition** has secured 120 pledges with an estimated value of USD 8.8 billion from ITU-D Sector Membership, as a result of an extensive engagement effort carried out by BDT throughout 2022, and up to May 2023.
* **ITU-D members Testimonials Campaign** continues to collect C-level sector members’ views on the value of ITU-D membership, promoted on ITU events and social media serving both as recognition to our Members and attracting new prospects.
* **The Know Your Members Series** and the **Tech Talks Series** - continue to provide a members-only platform for consultations with management and knowledge exchange amongst industry peers and ITU staff. BDT held sessions with ITU-D Academia and Recognized Operating Agencies (ROA) membership communities and collected insights on areas for enhanced collaborative work.

1. **Conclusions**

BDT is determined to:

1. increase the engagement with ITU-D Membership in the implementation of the Kigali Action Plan through briefing sessions and official missions by demonstrating value and establishing partnerships that unlock financial resources for the financing of high-impact projects and initiatives.
2. Target non-active ITU-D Members to enhance their level of engagement in the activities of ITU-D, including events such as: ITU-D study groups, the Global Symposium for Regulators, Regional Development Forums, etc.
3. continue to collect insights and feedback from ITU-D Members and Academia regarding improvement of tools, processes and services that foster effective engagement and participation in the work of ITU-D.
4. **Call for Support**

Member States are invited to engage and promote, with their domestic private sector, industry, and universities, the benefits of joining the work of ITU-D. Member States are encouraged to complete due diligence of new applications in a timely manner so that applying entities can remain motivated to complete the affiliation process.

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1. Refer to Resolution 169 (Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, which enabled the new category of Academia to participate in the work of ITU. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Resolution 71 (Rev. Kigali, 2022), “Strengthening cooperation between Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector and the evolving role of the private sector in the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. The entities are listed by date of account activation: Nokia Corporation (Finland), Softbank Corporation (Japan), Access Partnership Limited (United Kingdom), Digital Cooperation Organization (Saudi Arabia), Afnic (France), E-Space Inc (United States of America). RKF Engineering Solutions, LLC (United States of America), Cameroon Telecommunications (Cameroon), Mozilla Corporation (United States of America), International Chamber of Commerce (France), Liquid Intelligent Technologies Group (Mauritius), United Nations Foundation, Digital Impact Alliance (United States of America), NeuStar Inc. (United States of America), Dreamlab Technologies (Switzerland), ApplianSys (United Kingdom), Everycode-inSuit (Spain), Mediafon de Mexico (Mexico), FPT Corporation (Viet Nam). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. 4 The entities are listed by date of account activation: Everybridge One2many (Netherlands), Jordan Mobile Telecommunications Services – ZAIN Jordan (Jordan), AST & Science SpaceMobile (United States of America), Cyber Security Africa Limited (Kenya), Kacific Broadband Satellites (Singapore). [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. The entities are listed by date of receipt of Administration approval: Minutes Network Limited (United Kingdom), Aminia Dada Innovations (Kenya), F24 France SAS (France), Powertel Communications (Zimbabwe), PNG Dataco Limited (Papua New Guinea), mU Space and Advanced Technology Company (Thailand). [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Academia members participate in the work of all three ITU Sectors, including their advisory groups. They also participate in other global and regional conferences, workshops, and activities of the Union, apart from plenipotentiary conferences, world radiocommunication conferences, world conferences on international telecommunications and the ITU Council, in conformity with the rules of procedure of the respective Sectors. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. The entities are listed by date of account activation: The University of West Indies (Barbados), University of Pennsylvania (United States of America), National Institute for Research & Development in Informatics (Romania), Faculty of Maritime Studies (Croatia), Universidad Nacional de Cordoba (Argentina), Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology (India), Indian Institute of Management Kashipur (India), Peng Chang Laboratory (China), Baylor University (United States of America), Beijing Jiaotong University (China), China Institute of Communications (China), China University of Geosciences (China), China Branch of BRICS Institute of Future Networks (China), Purple Mountain Laboratories (China), Daejeon University (Korea, Rep. Of), Renmin University of China (China), Digital Currency Institute of the People’s Bank of China (China), Beihang University (China), National Institute of Telecommunications (Poland), Korea University (Korea, Rep. Of), University of Glasgow (United Kingdom). [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. The entities are listed by date of account activation: Blekinge Institute of Technology (Sweden), Xi’an Jiaotong University (China), Tourism College of Zhejiang (China), Beijing Guoxin Digital Transformation Technology Research (China), Europe Space Policy Institute (Austria). [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. The entities are listed by date of Administration approval received: Institute of Telecommunications and Global Information Space (Ukraine), Moscow Technical University of Communication and Informatics (Russian Federation), MITRE (United States of America), American University of Bahrain (Bahrain), Universidad Autonoma de Barcelona (Spain), Shandong University (China), Sanjiang University (China). [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. The entities are listed by date of approval asked to the national Administration: Shenzhen Technology University (China), Universiti Teknologi MARA (Malaysia), University of the Bundeswehr Munich (Germany), Beijing Institute of Technology (China). [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. National Telecommunications Institute (Egypt), Bharat Sanchar Nigam (India), 3G Technologies Limited (Pakistan), COPACO (Paraguay), Telefonica del Peru (Peru), SFM Technologies (Tunisia), Polyverse Corporation (United States of America), Viettel Group (Viet Nam). [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. FINATEL (Brazil), Chuan WEI Ltd. (Cambodia), Subah Infosolutions Ghana Limited (Ghana), Monenco Iran (Iran, Islamic Republic Of), Ooredoo (Qatar), High-Tech Bridge (Switzerland), [↑](#footnote-ref-12)