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|  | **Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG)**  **32nd Meeting, Geneva, Switzerland, 12-16 May 2025** | | A close up of a sign  Description automatically generated |
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|  | | **Document** **TDAG-25/****15-E** | |
|  | | **2 April 2025** | |
|  | | **Original: English** | |
| Chair, Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) | | | |
| Report on the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) Activities to WTDC, as mandated in WTDC Resolution 24 | | | |
|  | | | |
| **Summary:**  This report contains a summary of the work carried out by the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) during the period 2023-2025.  **Action required:**  TDAG is invited to note this document and provide guidance as deemed appropriate.  **References:**  [**TDAG-23/48**](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-TDAG30-C-0048/)**,** [**TDAG-24/51**](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-TDAG31-C-0051/)**,** [**TDAG-Extra/10**](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-TDAG.EXTRA-C-0010/en) | | | |

**Table of Contents**

[Introduction 3](#_Toc194477916)

[Terms of Reference of TDAG 3](#_Toc194477917)

[Telecommunication Development Advisory Group Bureau 3](#_Toc194477918)

[TDAG Meetings 4](#_Toc194477919)

[30th TDAG Meeting 4](#_Toc194477920)

[31st TDAG Meeting 8](#_Toc194477921)

[Extraordinary Meeting of TDAG 11](#_Toc194477922)

[32nd TDAG Meeting 14](#_Toc194477923)

[TDAG Working Group Meetings 14](#_Toc194477924)

[Implementation of Resolutions 1, 2 and 24 by TDAG 14](#_Toc194477925)

[**Conclusion and Outlook** 19](#_Toc194477927)

# Introduction

This report contains a summary of the work carried out by the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) during the period 2023-2025.

## *Terms of Reference of TDAG*

The terms of reference of TDAG can be found on the [TDAG webpage](http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/tdag/).

## *Telecommunication Development Advisory Group Bureau*

In application of Resolution 208 (Rev. Dubai, 2018), WTDC-22 adopted the composition of the TDAG Bureau and appointed the TDAG chairman and vice-chairmen, as follows:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Chairman/**  **Vice-Chairmen** | **Name** | **Country** | **BDT Region** |
| Chair | **Ms Roxanne McElvane WEBBER** | USA | AMS |
| Vice-Chair | Ms Regina Fleur Assoumou BESSOU | Côte d'Ivoire | Chairman, SG1 |
| Vice-Chair | Mr Fadel Digham | Egypt | Chairman, SG2 |
| Vice-Chair | Mr Christopher Kipkoech KEMEI\* | Kenya | AFR |
| Vice-Chair | Mr Abdulkarim Ayopo OLOYEDE | Nigeria | AFR |
| Vice-Chair | Ms Agustina BRIZIO | Argentina | AMS |
| Vice-Chair | Ms Andrea Mamprim GRIPPA | Brazil | AMS |
| Vice-Chair | Ms Ke WANG | China | ASP |
| Vice-Chair | Mr Ahmad Reza SHARAFAT | Iran (Islamic Republic of) | ASP |
| Vice-Chair | **Mr** Ahmed Abd El-Aziz GAD | Egypt | ARB |
| Vice-Chair | Ms Shahad ALBALAWI | Saudi Arabia | ARB |
| Vice-Chair | Mr Orozobek ZHAZYBAEVICH KAIYKOV | Kyrgyz Republic | CIS |
| Vice-Chair | **Ms Blanca GONZÁLEZ** | Spain | EUR |
| Vice-Chair | Inga RIMKEVIČIENĖ | Lithuania | EUR |

\* Mr Kemei retired and stepped down as V. Chair of TDAG and Chair of TDAG Working Group on the ITU-D Priorities (TDAG-WG-ITUDP). His contribution to the work of TDAG was much appreciated.

# TDAG Meetings

TDAG held three ordinary meetings and one extra-ordinary meeting during the period covered by this report under the chairmanship of Roxanne McElvane Webber (United States). The complete summary of conclusions of these meetings can be found at: [www.itu.int/ITU-D/tdag/](http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/tdag/).

## 30th TDAG Meeting

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1. ***Overview***

The 30th meeting of the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG-23) was held physically in Geneva at the Centre International de Conférences de Genève (CICG), from 19 to 23 June 2023, chaired by Ms Roxanne McElvane Webber.

TDAG’s mandate ranges from reviewing priorities, strategies, operations and financial matters of the Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D), to advising the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) on the implementation of Action Plans from world telecommunication development conferences (WTDCs).

This meeting had a broad agenda as it marked the first meeting after [the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-22)](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/conferences/WTDC/WTDC21/Pages/default.aspx), which had taken place in Kigali, Rwanda, from 6 to 16 June 2022. In particular, this meeting reviewed the outcomes of WTDC-22 and assessed how they would guide the work of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) for the next three years.

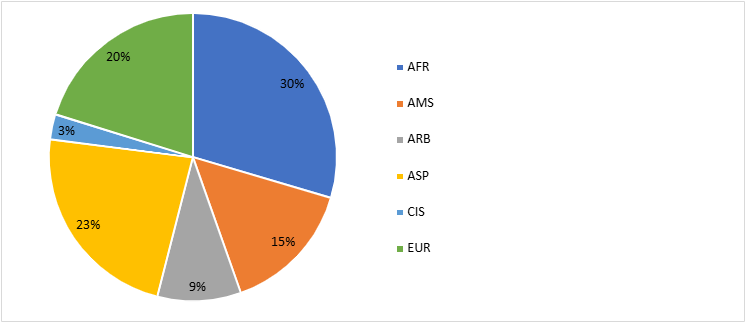
1. ***Participants***

The following chart provides the breakdown of participants by category:

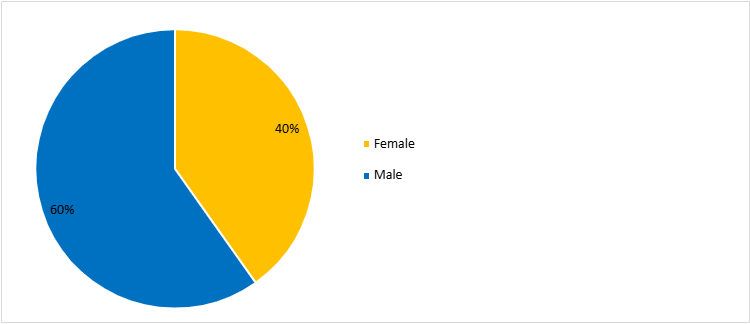
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The following chart provides the breakdown of participants by region:



The following chart provides the breakdown of participants by gender:



1. ***Documents***

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1. ***30th TDAG Meeting Outcomes***

TDAG-23 considered nearly 50 contributions and agreed on advice to the Director in a number of areas, including the following:

* Endorsed the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) four-year rolling operational plan 2024–2027.
* Approved the key performance indicators (KPIs) for the Kigali Action Plan (KAP) implementation framework.
* Agreed that the BDT would continue to prepare interactive dashboards to report on the progress in achieving the ITU-D priorities.
* Approved a review of all relevant capacity-building activities under cybersecurity-related resolutions from WTDC-17 and WTDC-22 activities implemented and planned in this area up to WTDC-25 to be conducted by the BDT secretariat.
* Created and approved a TDAG Working Group to streamline WTDC Resolutions to be chaired by TDAG Vice Chair Andrea Mamprim Grippa with Vice Chairs to be determined.
* Created a TDAG Working Group on the future ITU-D Questions to be chaired by Dr Ahmad Reza Sharafat from Iran with Vice Chairs to be determined and to begin work sometime after the next study group meetings to be held in October-November 2023.

The full meeting report of the meeting in the six official languages of ITU, is available at this [link](https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-d/md/22/tdag30/c/D22-TDAG30-C-0048!R2!MSW-E.docx), and highlights can be found [here](https://youtu.be/zGo4gpVbtSQ).

## 31st TDAG Meeting

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1. ***Overview***

The 31st meeting of the Telecommunication Development Adviso​ry Group (TDAG-24) was held physically in Geneva, at the ITU Headquarters, from 20 to 23 May 2024.​ During this TDAG meeting, membership was able to assess, through the various documents and reports submitted by the Secretariat, the alignment of the implementation of the Kigali Action Plan (KAP) with the Union's Strategic Plan. Reports were presented to TDAG-24 on the progress made at the various Regional Development Forums held since its last meeting as well as the many initiatives launched, and partnerships signed. TDAG-24 also discussed and decided on preparations for WTDC-25.

Following the creation of two TDAG Working Groups on: Streamlining Resolutions (TDAG-WG-SR) and on the future of Study Group Questions (TDAG-WG-futureSGQ) during the 30th meeting of TDAG (TDAG-23), held in Geneva, from 19 to 23 June 2023, the chairs of these groups reported on the progress related to their work.

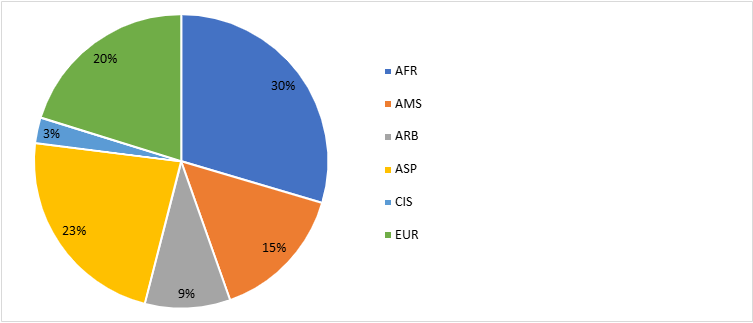
1. ***Participants***

The following chart provides the breakdown of participants by category:

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The following chart provides the breakdown of participants by region:



The following chart provides the breakdown of participants by gender:

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1. ***Documents***

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1. ***31st TDAG Meeting Outcomes***

TDAG-24 discussed various facets of digital transformation, strategic planning, and inclusivity within the ITU-D framework, and reflected on the following key categories of achievements by the BDT:

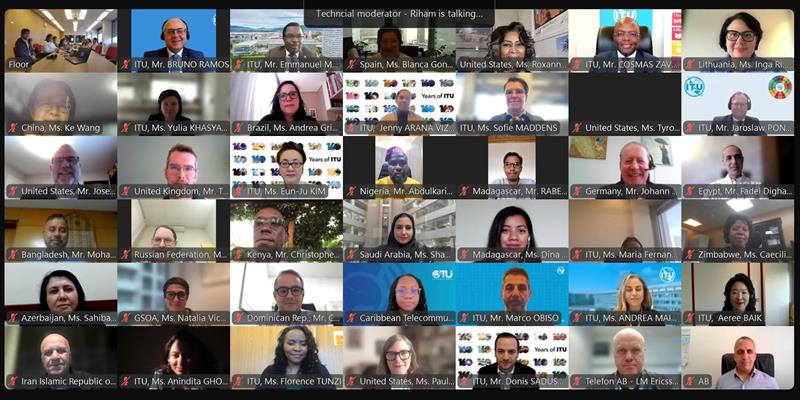
* Significant progress in implementing the Kigali Action Plan, which aims to enhance digital connectivity and bridge the digital divide.
* Advancements in digital connectivity projects providing improved access to digital services in underserved and remote regions.
* Resource mobilization as mentioned above to support important digital transformation initiatives which involved securing funding and forming strategic partnerships with member states, private sector entities, and international organizations.
* Ramped up efforts in capacity building and digital skills training for stakeholders in different regions.
* Innovative Solutions and Partnerships to develop and implement cutting-edge solutions that address the challenges of digital transformation.
* Impactful Initiatives, demonstrating tangible benefits in the regions, including projects related to e-waste management, early warning systems, and broadband infrastructure mapping.

Other outcomes included:

* TDAG-24 endorsed a draft agenda for WTDC-25, appointed Ms Blanca Gonzalez (Spain) and Ms Shahad Albalawi (Saudi Arabia) as ITU-D representatives to the Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) on the topic of digital transformation, approved two reply liaison statements -- one to the ITU Council on the criteria for establishing future ITU area and regional offices, and the other to the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) confirming Digital Transformation as an integral part of the ITU-D mandate established by WTDC-22.
* TDAG-24 created three additional groups to augment those created at TDAG-23 (TDAG-WG-futureSGQ and TDAG-WG-SR) to prepare for the 2025 World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-25):
  + TDAG Working Group on ITU-D Priorities (TDAG-WG-ITUDP) led by TDAG Vice Chair Mr Christopher Kemei (Kenya) with assistance from TDAG Vice Chairs Blanca Gonzalez (Spain) and Dr Ahmad Sharafat (Iran);
  + TDAG Working Group on the WTDC Declaration (TDAG-WG-DEC) led by TDAG Vice Chair Mr Abdulkarim Oloyede (Nigeria); and the
  + TDAG Informal Coordination Group on the Global Youth Summit (TDAG-ICG-GYS) coordinated by TDAG Vice Chairs Ms Agustina BRIZIO (Argentina), Ms. Ke WANG (China), Mr Abdoulkarim OLOYEDE (Nigeria) and Ms Shahad ALBALAWI (Saudi Arabia).

The full meeting report, in the six official languages of ITU, is available at this [link](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=D22-TDAG31-C-0051) and highlights can be found [here](https://youtu.be/INyooRqdJo4).

## Extraordinary Meeting of TDAG



1. ***Overview***

A virtual Extra-ordinary Meeting of the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) was held on 23 January 2025 from 1300 to 1600 hours (CEST). This meeting aimed at giving the Informal Coordination Group on the Youth Summit and the Global Celebration (TDAG-ICG-GYS) an opportunity to report to TDAG on its work prior to the holding of the GYS to be held in Varadero, Cuba from 11 to 13 March 2025. ​Taking this opportunity, the four Working Groups of TDAG also reported on their ongoing work.​

1. ***Participants***

The following chart provides the breakdown of participants by category:

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The following chart provides the breakdown of participants by region:

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The following chart provides the breakdown of participants by gender:

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1. ***Documents***

The following chart provides the number of documents broken down by category of documents:

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1. ***Extra-ordinary TDAG Meeting Outcomes***

TDAG considered 9 contributions. Outcomes included:

* TDAG agreed to the agenda of GYS-25, as presented in document [TDAG-ICG-GYS/12](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-TDAG.ICG.GYS-C-0012/)
* TDAG noted with appreciation the reports of the Chairs of the TDAG Working Group on the Declaration (TDAG-WG-DEC), the TDAG Working Group on the Future of Study Group Questions (TDAG-WG-futureSGQ), the TDAG Working Group on the ITU-D Priorities (TDAG-WG-ITUDP) and the TDAG Working Group on Streamlining Resolutions (TDAG-WG-SR and acknowledged the progress made in each of the Working Groups.
* TDAG noted the APT’s contributions on the Declaration and its alignment with ongoing efforts to finalize the declaration’s theme and structure. TDAG also took note of the APT’s contribution to the TDAG Working Group on the Future of Study Group Questions. Both contributions were welcomed as a valuable input into the ongoing deliberations and a a valuable addition to the preparatory process for WTDC-25.

The full meeting report, in the six official languages of ITU, is available at this [link](https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-d/md/22/tdag.extra/c/D22-TDAG.EXTRA-C-0010!R1!MSW-E.docx).

## 32nd TDAG Meeting

This section of the report will be completed with the revision of this document once the 32nd meeting of the TDAG takes place in Geneva between 12 and 16 May 2025.

# TDAG Working Group Meetings

TDAG, at its meetings on 19 to 23 June 2023 and 20 to 23 May 2024, decided to establish five Working Groups:

* TDAG Working Group on streamlining Resolutions (TDAG-WG-SR) – [webpage](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Conferences/TDAG/Pages/2024/TDAG_WG_SR.aspx)
* TDAG Working Group on the future ITU-D Questions (TDAG-WG-futureSGQ) - [webpage](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Conferences/TDAG/Pages/2024/TDAG_WG_futureSGQ.aspx)
* TDAG Working Group on ITU-D Priorities (TDAG-WG-ITUDP) - [webpage](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Conferences/TDAG/Pages/2024/TDAG_WG_ITUDP.aspx)
* TDAG Working Group on the WTDC Declaration (TDAG-WG-DEC) - [webpage](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Conferences/TDAG/Pages/2024/TDAG_WG_DEC.aspx)
* TDAG Informal Coordination Group on the Global Youth Summit (TDAG-ICG-GYS) - [webpage](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Conferences/TDAG/Pages/2024/TDAG_ICG_GYS.aspx)

The Groups worked through electronic means and virtual meetings, and their reports were presented to TDAG and to the Regional Preparatory Meetings across the regions and are reflected within TDAG’s reports as summarised in section 2 above and within the reports of the RPM for each region (Africa, Americas, [Arab Region](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=D22-RPMARB-C-0020), [Asia and the Pacific](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=D22-RPMASP-C-0018), CIS, [Europe](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=D22-RPMEUR-C-0030)).

# Implementation of Resolutions 1, 2 and 24 by TDAG

## Background

According to provision No. 215JA of Article 17 of the Convention of the International Telecommunication Union, the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) shall submit a report to the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-17) on the specific matters assigned to it by WTDC, in accordance with provision No. 213A of Article 16 of the Convention.

Resolution 24 sets forth specific responsibilities for TDAG, mandating it to oversee the Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) work between two consecutive World Telecommunication Development Conferences (WTDC). This report presents a structured analysis that highlights TDAG's actions, decisions, and continuous improvements, emphasizing transparency, efficiency, and inclusivity in meeting the strategic objectives outlined by the ITU.

1. **Maintenance of Efficient and Flexible Working Guidelines (Resolution 24 resolves 1.i)**

Throughout the 2023-2025 cycle, TDAG continuously reviewed and updated its working guidelines to ensure efficiency and flexibility.

At TDAG-23 (2023), the Working Group on Streamlining Resolutions (TDAG-WG-SR) was established under Ms Andrea Mamprim Grippa to eliminate redundancy and align ITU-D resolutions with sector priorities. The group operationalized its collaborative workspace via Microsoft Teams, facilitating real-time cooperation among members. TDAG-24 (2024) approved revised terms of reference, integrating proposals from Member States to harmonize resolutions across ITU sectors.

Enhanced cross-regional collaboration was further supported through interactive Regional Development Forums (RDFs) and operational dashboards that provided Member States with comprehensive tracking capabilities on the Kigali Action Plan (KAP) implementation.

Notable enhancements included the creation and endorsement of comprehensive dashboards to monitor the implementation of the Kigali Action Plan (KAP) and the ITU-D Operational Plans (2024-2027). These dashboards, endorsed during TDAG-23 in June 2023 and TDAG-24 in May 2024, provided transparent and real-time updates on project and budgetary implementation. Furthermore, TDAG introduced a new Project Dashboard at the Extra-Ordinary meeting in January 2025, significantly improving project transparency and accountability.

1. **Review of Objectives and Budgetary Appropriations (Resolution 24 resolves 1.ii)**

TDAG actively reviewed and advised on the correlation between ITU-D strategic objectives and budget allocations. At TDAG-23, the 2024 Operational Plan, featuring detailed regional budget distributions, was thoroughly reviewed and endorsed. During TDAG-23, the comprehensive review of the ITU-D Operational Plan 2024–2027 featured detailed financial mapping and regional budget allocations, ensuring priorities such as digital transformation, cybersecurity, and regional initiatives were sufficiently funded.

The operational plan dashboard presented at TDAG-24 provided robust financial monitoring, real-time tracking, and facilitated the introduction of biannual donor reporting for the projects under implementation.

1. **Guidance on ITU-D Four-Year Operational Plan (Resolution 24 resolves 1.iii)**

TDAG provided continuous and substantive guidance on the ITU-D rolling four-year operational plan. Key performance indicators (KPIs) developed for monitoring the Kigali Action Plan were approved at TDAG-23. This involved a rolling four-year operational plan aligned with the KAP, endorsing 45 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) at TDAG-23. These KPIs, comprising 18 outcome indicators and 27 output indicators, allowed for precise progress measurement. Regular monitoring via comprehensive dashboards presented at TDAG-24 ensured alignment with strategic objectives and enabled effective tracking of progress toward established targets.

1. **Periodic Evaluation of Working Methods and WTDC Action Plan Implementation (Resolution 24 resolves 1.iv)**

TDAG regularly assessed its working methods, focusing on enhancing the implementation of the WTDC Action Plan. The establishment of the TDAG Working Group on Streamlining Resolutions (WG-SR) during TDAG-23 exemplified TDAG’s commitment to operational efficiency. Interactive sessions at TDAG-24 further evaluated the effectiveness and impact of ITU-D activities, resulting in practical recommendations for improvement.

Another notable development was the establishment of the Working Group on Future Study Group Questions (TDAG-WG-futureSGQ) to review study group mandates and questions. By TDAG-24, concrete proposals emerged, recommending a reduction from 14 to 10 study questions, effectively merging overlapping issues. Furthermore, TDAG-24 approved robust guidelines for hybrid participation at WTDC-25, incorporating legal and operational frameworks tailored for inclusivity, particularly benefiting developing countries. Initiatives like proposal on survey streamlining, presented at TDAG-24, further reduced administrative burdens by synchronizing data collection cycles

Throughout the period since WTDC-22 the BDT Director has reported systematically to TDAG at each meeting on BDT’s progress on its implementation of the four-year ITU-D operational plan as well as on BDT’s efforts in strengthening partnerships and resource mobilization for implementation of larger scale and more impactful projects and initiatives.

The BDT Director has also regularly informed TDAG of new initiatives created and implemented by BDT including related to inclusion of youth, women and other specific sectors of the society. This regular reporting has also included information extracted from a series of interactive dashboards which have been implemented by BDT management and which track, in real time, the status of activities and projects and the use of the resources assigned to BDT. TDAG has welcomed and analysed these reports throughout the period and has been able to monitor delivery, and to provide invaluable oversight and advice to the BDT Director on ways to improve and enhance the delivery of activities, including projects, programmes and regional initiatives.

1. **Evaluation of Study Group Methods and Synergies (Resolution 1, 2, and Resolution 24 resolves 1.v & 1.vi)**

TDAG continuously assessed and optimized study group structures to enhance effectiveness. TDAG-24 actively reviewed significant restructuring proposals by the Member States. TDAG ensured the regular monitoring of performance metrics, noting improved gender balance, particularly a commendable 45% female participation rate in Study Group 1 meetings. Synergy enhancements mandated at TDAG-24 fostered closer collaboration among ITU sectors through liaison rapporteurs and joint thematic workshops, such as those on satellite connectivity and spectrum management.

In a concerted effort to optimize the study group structure, TDAG established the Working Group on the Future of Study Group Questions (WG-futureSGQ) at TDAG-23. The group undertook extensive analysis and consultations, proposing a consolidation of study group questions from 14 to 10, which was discussed during the Extra-Ordinary TDAG meeting in January 2025. These actions significantly enhanced the strategic alignment and efficiency of ITU-D study groups.

The TDAG Working Group on Future of Study Group Questions has worked very closely with ITU-D Study Groups through the vice Chairs of the working group (namely SG1 and SG2 Chairs) and the SG1 and SG2 Coordinators appointed as per the terms of reference[[1]](#footnote-2) of the working group. The main outcome of this collaboration are the draft proposals[[2]](#footnote-3) made to update annexes to Resolution 2 and to the terms of reference of study Questions, after extensive consultations.

At TDAG-23, an interview style segment led by vice Chair of TDAG Ms Inga Rimkevičienė (Lihtuania) was held on the current and future work of ITU-D Study Groups (SG). This interactive session aligned with innovation at the level of study groups in terms of cross cutting and joint workshops organised in conjunction with Rapporteur Group Meetings held between 2023 and 2025 (see TDAG-25/5 and TDAG-25/6).

To implement new sections in Resolution 1, SG1 and SG2 Chairs shared updates on the attendance of Study Group Management teams and on the work of coordinators (additional roles for vice Chairs) in their respective reports to TDAG. This information provided insights into potential challenges pertaining to attendance, which were attended to through the intervention of the BDT Director in the form of letters to those who nominated SG management teaMs

Synergies within ITU-D Study Groups and with other ITU teams, are continuously sought. Joint workshops and joint interim deliverables pool expertise together, optimizes costs and strengthens collaboration. Three joint workshops and eight cross cutting ones were organized during rapporteur group Question meetings in 2023 and 2024. A joint Q6/1 and Q3/2 workshop[[3]](#footnote-4) on Increasing Consumer Awareness was held from 18 to 20 June 2024 in Brasilia and was hosted by ANATEL in collaboration with the ITU Regional Office for Americas.

Joint ITU-D Study Groups management team meetings under the chairmanship of the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, ensure coordination and collaborative work between ITU-D Study Groups. Two guiding documents are under preparation on the following items that require a joint reflection to make study group work more efficient and effective:

* + Addressing challenges that impact on the effective use of ITU-D Study Group products
  + Guidelines for ITU-D membership on submitting candidatures for positions of Rapporteurs and Vice Rapporteurs, and for evaluating the candidates

The reflection was initiated in co-creation sessions[[4]](#footnote-5) on “innovation in study group work” held at in conjunction with the first Rapporteur Group meeting.

ITU-D SGs continued collaboration on the implementation of WTDC Resolution 9 (Rev. Kigali, 2022) through appointed Coordinators namely are Mr Roberto Hirayama (Brazil) for SG1, and Mr Hideo Imanaka (Japan) and Mr Haim Mazar (Israel) for SG2. The coordinators worked closely with the Future of Network and Spectrum team and the rapporteurs of study Questions[[5]](#footnote-6) with direct relevance to Resolution 9. Information related to spectrum management received through contributions were mapped to the list of topics from the Annex 1 of WTDC Resolution 9 and will be submitted[[6]](#footnote-7) to TDAG and to the Directors of BDT and BR, for their consideration, as appropriate.

SG plenaries received updates on key initiatives including UMC (Promoting and Measuring Universal Meaningful Digital Connectivity)[[7]](#footnote-8), PRIDA (Policy and Regulation Initiative for Digital Africa)[[8]](#footnote-9) and Generation Connect[[9]](#footnote-10) with a call for meaningful participation in these activities. SG management team members continue to be speakers in ITU events including REDs, RDFs, RPMs, WSIS and in the one ITU series on the Future of Cable TV.

In line with Resolutions 1 and 2, fourteen final output reports for 2022-2025, a revised edition of a final output report for 2018-2021 and six interim (annual) deliverables were elaborated based on contributions received and workshops held. The interim deliverables are available as free publications in all UN official languages while the final output reports are being prepared as publications. The number and quality of contributions received were appreciated. The engagement of ITU-D sector members and associations was positively noted.

1. **Restructuring of TDAG Working Groups and Appointments (Resolution 24 resolves 1.vii & 1.xi)**

Recognizing evolving needs, TDAG proactively initiated structural adjustments and appointed leaders to newly established working groups. TDAG-23 and TDAG-24 saw the formation of working groups dedicated to: future of Study Group Questions (TDAG-WG-futureSGQ, chaired by Dr Ahmad Reza Sharafat, Iran), ITU-D priorities (TDAG-WG-ITUDP, chaired by Ms Inga Rimkevičienė**,** Lithuania), drafting of the WTDC Declaration (TDAG-WG-DEC, chaired by Mr Abdulkarim Oloyede,Nigeria), and the streamlining of resolutions (TDAG-WG-SR, chaired by Ms Andrea Grippa, Brazil). TDAG-24 also established the TDAG Informal Coordination Group on the Youth Summit and the Global Celebration (TDAG-ICG-GYS, coordinated by representatives from Argentina, China, Nigeria, and Saudi Arabia). These groups played a critical role in preparing for the forthcoming WTDC-25.

TDAG-31 appointed Ms Blanca González (Spain) and Ms Shahad Albalawi (Saudi Arabia) as ITU-D representatives to the Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG), reinforcing cross-sector cooperation.

1. **Advising on Study Group Schedules (Resolution 24 resolves 1.viii)**

TDAG meticulously reviewed and approved detailed agendas and time management plans, ensuring study group schedules aligned effectively with ITU-D strategic priorities. Explicit approvals were recorded at TDAG-23, TDAG-24, and the Extra-Ordinary TDAG meeting.

1. **Financial and Operational Advice to BDT Director (Resolution 24 resolves 1.ix)**

TDAG consistently provided comprehensive financial and operational guidance to the BDT Director. This included reviewing budget allocations, advising on resource mobilization strategies, and endorsing transparent financial management practices. The mobilization of significant financial contributions and strategic partnerships, detailed during TDAG-23 and TDAG-24, exemplified the positive impact of this guidance.

Throughout its various meetings, TDAG stressed the important role of ITU-D membership (Sector Members, Associates and Academia) in the work of ITU-D. It recognized the sustained growth and diversification of ITU-D membership during the years as a result of concerted outreach efforts to new members, along with initiatives for retention of existing ones. TDAG also took note of the increased engagement and contributions from the industry and the private sector with the work of ITU-D, in particular Industry Advisory Group on Development Issues and Private Sector Chief Regulatory Officers (IAGDI-CRO) meetings and high-level outcome statements. TDAG also noted with appreciation the actions carried out at global and regional levels to encourage partnerships, including public-private partnerships.

BDT’s resource mobilization efforts have significantly increased over the period, driven by on-going BDT-wide initiatives to foster, develop, and strengthen partnership with a diverse range of stakeholders from both developed and developing countries. Key strategic actions have included nurturing and strengthening relationships with longstanding partners, enhancing collaboration with UN agencies, and actively reaching out to and engaging new partners.

1. **Approval of Work Programme and Priorities (Resolution 24 resolves 1.x)**

TDAG systematically endorsed strategic work programmes and defined clear priorities for ITU-D activities. Major areas such as cybersecurity, digital transformation, capacity building, and regional initiatives were emphasized across operational plans endorsed at TDAG-23 and TDAG-24, highlighting TDAG's commitment to impactful and regionally relevant outcomes.

1. **Electronic Working Methods (Resolution 24 resolves 1.xii)**

TDAG strongly advocated the adoption and enhancement of electronic working methods, emphasizing inclusivity and broad participation. Guidelines and tools for remote participation, virtual engagement, and electronic documentation management were discussed and refined during TDAG-24 and the Extra-Ordinary TDAG meeting, facilitating greater involvement from developing regions and enhancing operational effectiveness.

1. **Coordination with Other Sectors (Resolution 24 resolves 3 & 4)**

TDAG actively promoted cross-sector coordination within ITU, ensuring strategic alignment and reducing duplication of efforts. Liaison with the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) reinforced ITU-D's role in digital transformation, as evidenced at TDAG-24. Regular interactions and joint discussions facilitated cooperation and coherence across ITU’s various sectors throughout the cycle.

TDAG actively cultivated inter-sector collaboration, significantly enhancing strategic coherence within the ITU framework. TDAG-31 approved strategic liaison statements to TSAG and ISCG, effectively aligning digital transformation initiatives across sectors and mapping overlapping study questions to eliminate redundancies. Noteworthy joint initiatives included cooperation with ITU-R on spectrum management strategies and ITU-T on standards for smart sustainable cities and communities (SSCC).

TDAG consistently reviewed the reports of the Inter-Sector Coordination Group on Issues of Mutual Interest (ISCG). This Group is composed by representatives of the Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG), the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) and the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG), and works to identify subjects common to the three Sectors and the General Secretariat, and mechanisms to enhance cooperation and collaboration in all Sectors on matters of mutual interest, in order to avoid duplication of effort and optimize the use of resources of the Union, in line with [Resolution 191 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-191-E.pdf). The ISCG considers current and new activities and their distribution among ITU-R, ITU-T and ITU-D for approval by the ITU Member States in accordance with the procedures for approval of new and revised Questions. It also considers the reports by the three Directors and the Inter-Sectoral Coordination Task Force (ISC-TF) on options for improving cooperation at the secretariat level to ensure that close coordination is maximized.

Updates were provided and TDAG deliberated on these updates submitted to its sessions. In specific the following activities of the ISCG were reviewed by TDAG during the reporting period:

ISCG has met five times since WTDC-22:

* 2 May 2023 ([ISCG/23-1/09](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/ties/ISCGDocumentLibrary/1st%20Meeting%202024/ISCG-24-1-02-1st%20Meeting%202023-Final%20Report.docx))
* 24 January 2024 ([ISCG/24-2/02](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/ties/ISCGDocumentLibrary/2nd%20Meeting%202024/ISCG-24-2-02-1st%20Meeting%202024-Final%20Report.docx))
* 21 May 2024 ([ISCG/24-3/02](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/ties/ISCGDocumentLibrary/3rd%20Meeting%202024/ISCG-24-3-02-2nd%20Meeting%202024-Final%20Report_tsb-R1.docx))
* 13 November 2024 ([ISCG/25-1/02](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/ties/ISCGDocumentLibrary/1st%20Meeting%202025/ISCG-25-1-02-Final%20Report-3rd%20Meeting%202024-Final.docx))
* 12 February 2025 (ISCG February documents [here](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/ties/Pages/ISCG-documents.aspx))

**Conclusion and Outlook**

Throughout the 2023-2025 cycle, TDAG effectively fulfilled the responsibilities outlined in Resolution 24, enhancing operational efficiency, financial accountability, strategic alignment, and inclusivity. The outcomes of TDAG-25 (scheduled for 12-16 May 2025) will further refine this report and provide additional insights, ensuring continued alignment with ITU's strategic goals and Member States' priorities.

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1. <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Conferences/TDAG/Pages/2024/TDAG_WG_futureSGQ.aspx> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. See document [TDAG-WG-futureSGQ/29](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-TDAG.WG.SGQ-C-0029/en) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/Americas/Pages/EVENTS/2024/cons-awa-2024.aspx> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. See <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Study-Groups/2022-2025/Pages/meetings/workshop-innovation-may23.aspx> and <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Study-Groups/2022-2025/Pages/meetings/workshop-products_usage-may23.aspx> [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. ITU-D Q1/1 (Broadband), Q3/1 (Emergency telco), Q4/1 (Economic aspects), Q5/1(Remote connectivity), Q1/2 (Smart cities and communities), Q2/2 (E-services and applications), Q7/2 (EMF). [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. see document [1/329](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-SG01-C-0329/) [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. <https://www.itu.int/itu-d/sites/projectumc/home/the-umc-project/> [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
8. <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Projects/ITU-EC-ACP/PRIDA/Pages/default.aspx> [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
9. <https://www.itu.int/generationconnect/> [↑](#footnote-ref-10)