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| **Council 2017Geneva, 15-25 May 2017** |  |
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| **Agenda item: PL 2.9** | **Document C17/101-E** |
| **1 May 2017** |
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| Note by the Secretary-General |
| CONTRIBUTION FROM THE argentine republic |
| WTDC-17 – Policy statements at high-level sessions |

I have the honour to transmit to the Member States of the Council a contribution submitted by the **Argentine Republic**.

 Houlin ZHAO
 Secretary-General

Argentine Republic

WTDC-17 – POLICY STATEMENTS AT HIGH-LEVEL SESSIONS

Introduction

With WTDC-17 to be held in the city of Buenos Aires from 9 to 20 October 2017, Argentina is submitting this document as a contribution designed to optimize the ***Management Plan of the event*** to provide guidance for the policy statements such that they support and promote the theme of the Conference: "ICT for Sustainable Development Goals".

To this end, it is requested that during WTDC-17 emphasis be placed on the "Action" aspect of Policy Statements, by focusing them on presenting some example of a successful policy or a project producing concrete results and bringing them in line with the Connect 2020 Agenda and the sustainable development goals (SDGs).

*Argentina thus stresses that the policy statements should present projects and/or initiatives with concrete results in regard to Telecommunications/ICT development and Targets* thatgenerate feedback for each other, i.e.:

**GROWTH – INTEGRATION – SUSTAINABILITY – INNOVATION AND PARTNERSHIP**



**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

Lastly, Argentina raises for consideration the possible adoption of the document adhered to in the presentation of policy statements at the Plenipotentiary Conference, Busan, 2014 entitled: "Connect 2020: Guidelines to support delegations in the preparation of Policy Statements for PP‑14".

Proposal for policy statements at high-level sessions

Understanding that at the last World Telecommunication Development Conference, Dubai, 2014, policy statements formed part of the plenary meetings of the high-level sessions, providing a special platform for top officials from Member States and Sector Members to express their views on new trends and issues of strategic importance to the development of telecommunications and information and communication technologies (ICT);

Recognizing also that at WTDC-14 the high-level sessions aroused overwhelming interest in the policy statements, **time** being the limiting factor that prevented some speakers from taking the floor;

*Argentina requests that emphasis be placed on limiting policy statements to presenting only projects and/or initiatives with concrete results in regard to Telecommunications/ICT development and in line with the Targets that generate feedback for each other, namely: Growth; Inclusiveness; Sustainability; Innovation and Partnership.*

The importance of adopting this approach for policy statements lies in optimizing the time allotted to speakers, who should have a slot of no more than 2 minutes each, thus making it more interesting to emphasize the concrete aspects of the policies, projects, initiatives, etc., that they subscribe to and highlight the global effort, anticipating also what lies in store in order to enhance future opportunities.

We are participating at global level in activities and challenges that are generating changes in our lives and will also have an impact on future generations, reshaping social, cultural, economic and ecological contexts. For this reason, WTDC-17 will be an international showcase serving to promote international cooperation and partnership and provide inspiration for continuing to working hand in hand to Connect the World.

Argentina therefore requests the General Secretariat and the ITU Development Bureau to provide the Member States and Sector Members with a document to guide them in drawing up their policy statements, limiting them to highlighting policies with concrete results in regard to telecommunications/ICT development, taking as a beacon the vision, targets and purposes identified in the Connect 2020 Agenda, to coin the assertion regarding "**the global vision that with ICTs we can accelerate with prosperity and speed the achievement of the SDGs**".

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