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| PLENARY MEETING | **Document 93-E** |
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| India (Republic of) | |
| Proposals for the work of the conference | |
| General matters - Healthy and Balanced budget for the Union | |
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**GENERAL MATTERS** Healthy and Balanced budget for the Union

There is reduction in planned expenses relating to fellowships amount to KCHF 2,160 for 2022-2023 compared to KCHF 3,136 for the budget 2020-2021. This is a reduction of KCHF 976 which may hamper the participation of LDCs, Landlocked developing countries and small island developing countries. This needs to be increased or kept at the level of 2020-2021 so that delegates of LDCs, LLDC and SIDS may be benefitted.

**Reasons:** This cost recovery may be done by reduction in expenses of the services related to languages for 2022-2023 where there is a provision of KCHF 34012 for 2022-23 compared to only KCHF 32055 for 2020-21. This increase in estimated cost (1957) can be adjusted against fellowships. The expenses of the services related to languages may be reduced by increasing use of AI and other latest technologies in translation, text processing, document management services and Interpretation.  
The thrust is to frame a healthy budget which can seamlessly fund the various activities of the Union using the generated revenues and contributions from members. The lifeline of the Union is in managing the limited budget to bring in more efficiency and productivity to the activities of the Union. In this direction, a decision was already taken to link the strategic, financial and operational planning in ITU. In this regard, there is also a need to engage deeply with the techno-financial experts in this domain of Telecom/ICT especially from the member states.  
Based on the analysis of the ITU Budget for 2022-23 and Draft Financial plan for 2024-27, India has provided its appreciation to ITU and also some observations and suggestions to aid towards a healthy budget.  
Other Measures suggested by India for a Healthy Budget,  
1 As already noted, the draft financial plan to be linked to the thematic priorities and goals identified within it and also to synchronize the activities among 3 sectors to avoid duplication of work.   
2 Efforts to increase the revenues from Cost recovery. As per the extant resolutions, there should be no reductions in expenses which would affect cost recovery revenue.   
3 Increased role of regional offices by delegation of appropriate financial as well as administrative powers. This will help in further decentralization and democratization of Union’s functions.   
4 In-house capacity building of ITU staff as well as delegates of Member-states to reduce the dependence of experts/consultants. The delegates who are experts in a field as required by ITU may be assigned the task performed by consultants.  
5 More revenue models especially in digital mode may have to be explored. The best practices adopted by other UN agencies and multilateral organizations may also be studied.   
6 Explore the variety, quality and quantum of In-kind contributions from member-states. A list of required In-kind contributions from the Union may be provided to Member-states to align their In-kind contributions accordingly.   
7 On the lines of World Café conducted with representatives of the three bureaux and the General Secretariat, a similar event may be planned with members to provide actionable points on revenue generation, reducing expenditure and balancing the draft Financial Plan.  
India will be happy to assist and share its expertise in this field. The Council is requested to consider the observations and suggestions provided by India to enable a healthy and balanced budget for efficiently carrying out the activities of the Union.

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