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| **Agenda item: PL 3** | **Document C25/73-E** |
| **25 April 2025** |
| **Original: English** |
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| Contribution by India (Republic of) | |
| PROPOSAL FOR HOSTING ITU PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE-2030 IN INDIA | |
| **Purpose**  This contribution serves as an Announcement of India’s proposal for hosting ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2030.  **Action required by the Council**  The Council is requested to **consider** and **endorse** India as a host for the 2030 Plenipotentiary Conference.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **References**  *None* | |

# 1 Background

India has been an active member of the ITU since 1869, earnestly supporting the development and propagation of telecom in the global community of nations. As a regular member of the ITU Council since 1952, India has played a pivotal role in shaping international telecom policies, fostering cooperation, and promoting inclusive development. Representing the Asia and Australasia region (Region E), India has consistently worked to ensure a balanced and consensus-driven approach to decision-making. With a strong commitment to equality, collaboration, and innovation, India continues to support the growth and evolution of the global telecom ecosystem.

# 2 India’s commitment towards a better future for all

2.1 India has proven its commitment to lead the transformation of existing paradigms to match the contemporary requirements through a successful organisation of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly 2024. India successfully hosted the **World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) 2024**, leading to the **historic adoption of eight new Resolutions** that will shape the future of global telecom standards.

2.2 India actively supports **ITU’s development programs** for **Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs), Small Island Developing States (SIDS), and other underserved nations**.

2.3 India during RDF-2025 had offered its pledges especially for developing countries, LDCs, LLDCs, SIDs reg Capacity building/awareness about accelerating the 5G deployments, RoW policies and support for deploying Indian innovative digital solutions such as Emergency alerts/Disaster Early warning platform, blocking of spoofed CLI/Spam, Tracking & blocking of lost or stolen mobiles

2.4 Supporting ITU activities, India has hosted various events including WTSA-24, WTDC-10, ITU-T SG 9 meeting, FIGI Symposium, ITU-R Working Parties 4A, 4B, 4C and 5D meetings, Digital Skills Training, E-Waste Workshop, ITU CyberDrill, etc., and India is going to host ITU FG AINN 2025 and Working Party 5D 2026 meetings

2.5 As a support to the programs and initiatives of ITU, India is one of the major financial contributors to ITU and additionally, a fully funded ITU Area Office and Innovation Centre has been set up in India.

2.6 India has contributed through active participation in various ITU initiatives and programs, especially in the domain of broadband connectivity, internet governance and ICT for development.

2.7 The **BharatNet program** is bridging the **digital divide** by providing **high-speed broadband connectivity to rural and remote areas**, leveraging **fiber, satellite communications, and subsea cables** for **universal and meaningful connectivity.** This aligns with the Connect 2030 initiative of ITU for universal connectivity and sustainable digital transformation.

2.8 India is leading in **Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI)** with initiatives like **Aadhaar (world’s largest unique identification system), Unified Payments Interface (UPI) for financial inclusion, DIKSHA for e-education, and CoWIN & e-Sanjeevani for e-health**, which are also being shared with partner countries.

2.9 India has achieved the fastest 5G Rollout in the world, which is a commitment towards progress and prosperity by enabling every citizen with the latest and greatest technologies. India is now working on 6G Research and Development and shall be a leader in its deployment.

2.10 India has launched the Smart Cities Mission to promote sustainable and inclusive urban development.

2.11 India is eager to share the developments with the world and contribute to a better future for all mankind by helping make better policies and decisions through the ITU Council.

2.12 India has undertaken significant telecom reforms to enhance the ease of doing business, accelerate next-gen communication technology deployment, improve ICT affordability, and build robust and resilient digital infrastructure for equitable digital access.

2.13 India has shown its willingness to elevate the standards of living for all its citizens through several pledges in ITU Partner2Connect, such as the Telecom Technology Development Fund, 5G Labs, 6G Research, Digital Intelligence Unit (DIU) Project, etc.

2.14 India is leading the way in International Telecom Policy to ensure that the fruits of progress reach all stakeholders. India is a Co-Chair of the Digital Innovation Board and an active member of the International Advisory Body for Submarine Cable Resilience. These commitments reflect India’s enthusiasm in contributing towards building a better world for all.

2.15 India currently holds ITU- key leadership positions (Chair/Vice Chair) as below, which is a testament for its Global leadership role:

– 1 elected position as RRB member

– 1 leadership position in ITU Digital Innovation Board (as co-chair)

– 2 leadership positions in ITU Council Working Groups & Expert Groups

– 11 leadership positions in ITU-T SGs

– 5 leadership positions in ITU-R SGs

– 1 leadership position in ITU-D SGs

– 1 leadership position in WTSA-2024 (as chair).

India remains committed to global collaboration through the ITU Council, contributing to policy formulation and decision-making for inclusive digital growth and sustainable telecom solutions worldwide.

# 3 India’s proposal to host the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2030

India is privileged to present its proposal to host the **ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in 2030**, the Union’s highest decision-making forum. This proposal is guided by the spirit of India’s **G20 Presidency**, the successful organization of **WTSA-2024**, and the enduring philosophy of *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* — *One Earth, One Family, One Future* — reflecting India’s deep commitment to inclusive global progress and shared digital prosperity.

## 3.1 India’s commitment to the ITU

3.1.1 India has been an active Member State of the ITU since 1869 and has served as a regular member of the ITU Council since 1952, consistently contributing to the Union’s governance, policymaking, and collaborative initiatives.

3.1.2 India reaffirmed its strong commitment to the ITU by successfully hosting the **World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) in 2024**, which witnessed the participation of more than 3700 international delegates from **194 member states** including, over **40 Hon’ble Ministers of Communications/ICTs**. The Assembly also saw active engagement from industry leaders, start-ups, innovators, manufacturers, R&D experts, academia, and government representatives.

3.1.3 WTSA-2024, hosted in India, served as a vital global platform to advance dialogue on inclusive ICT standardization, sustainable digital innovation, and emerging technologies—further reinforcing India’s role as a proactive, capable, and trusted partner in global ICT governance.

3.1.4 In addition to WTSA-2024, India has a strong track record of successfully hosting other key ITU events, including the **World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC‑2010), ITU-T SG meetings, Focus Group meetings, and ITU-R Working Party meetings**, reflecting its deep engagement and leadership across all areas of the Union’s work.

## 3.2 India’s vision for the Plenipotentiary Conference 2030

3.2.1 India envisions the **Plenipotentiary Conference 2030** as a milestone event that fosters inclusive dialogue, strategic foresight, and strong multilateral cooperation. With its robust digital infrastructure, expanding innovation ecosystem, and people-centric digital initiatives, India offers an ideal setting for Member States to collectively define the ITU’s future course.

3.2.2 The proposed venue will feature world-class infrastructure, seamless connectivity, and exceptional hospitality to ensure a productive and enriching experience for all participants. India also aims to showcase its achievements in digital public infrastructure, universal connectivity, and digital inclusion that align with the ITU’s vision and the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

## 3.3 Appeal for support

India respectfully seeks the valued support of ITU Member States for its proposal to host the **Plenipotentiary Conference in 2030**. As a leading voice in global digital transformation and innovation, India is committed to delivering a successful, inclusive, and future-oriented conference.

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