

# Telecommunication Development Sector

Innovation & Partnership Department

1<sup>st</sup> Chief Regulatory Officers Meeting  
Colombo, Sri Lanka, 1<sup>st</sup> October 2012



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**Document CRO1/1-E**  
**1<sup>st</sup> October 2012**

**Original: English**

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- For action

**SOURCE** Chairman, 1<sup>st</sup> Chief Regulatory Officers Meeting

**TITLE** Draft Agenda for the 1<sup>st</sup> Chief Regulatory Officers Meetings  
(Colombo, Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2012, 15:00-18:00)

1. Opening of the meeting

1.1 Opening remarks by the Director of BDT

Mr. Brahima Sanou, Director of the BDT, welcomed the participants and thanked Dr. Robert Pepper for having accepted to chair this first gathering of executives in charge of regulatory and policy affairs. The BDT is offering this opportunity to Sector Members to meet and discuss issues of regulatory nature and it is up to meeting participants to decide both on the substance, the outcomes and the future of the meeting.

1.2 Opening remarks by the Chairman

The ICT industry is facing a challenging mandate: How do we connect the next billions to mobile? Private Sector involvement, including of former public operators that have become private, is key (equipment, technology, network operations, etc.). To address this challenge, private has to engage and partner with BDT.

When GSR started, only 15 regulators were independent. Now the world counts with 160 independent regulatory entities. The world is changing. So is the role of governments. Traditional regulation is no longer possible.

A new approach is required.

2. Adoption of the agenda

CRO1/OJ/1

The Chairman indicated that the list of topics to discuss was open and invited participants to identify an agenda of issues. However, the meeting is not about complaining. It is about ensuring that the industry supports the program of the BDT so that it is more relevant to private sector and governments.

The agenda was approved.

3. Discussion: Chief Regulatory Officers Meeting Concept

CRO1/1

Participants thanked the Director of the BDT for the creation of this new gathering. It was understood that this meeting was of informal nature and would offer the opportunity for its participants to discuss

matters of regulatory nature with a view to:

- Identify relevant topics that could be proposed for inclusion in the GSR agenda;
- Exchange views ahead of the GSR meeting discussions;
- Provide input to the BDT secretariat for future action;
- Harmonize positions among meeting participants in view of networking opportunities offered by GRID and GSR.

4. Discussion: Hot regulatory issues and their impact on the private sector.

The meeting participants identified and discussed a number of issues:

- Discuss the (GSR) draft good practice guidelines and provide consolidated input;
- New security paradigm and its impact on private sector and governments;
- Policy guidelines for roll-out (of existing technologies).
- Safety and electromagnetic field exposure;
- Harmonization of taxation policies
- Need for industry and regulators to step back at time and to map out: what are our policies? How does the competitive landscape look like? Are our policies mapping the needs, the reality?
- Data collection. What metrics can be fed into the BDT data collection process?
- Is regulation fostering development?
- Privacy and data protection
- Free flows of information, traffic across borders.
- How regulation affects investment?
- Access regulation and incentives to invest.
- Hybrid markets: "New" public players, re-monopolization, PPPs, capital formation, and level-playing field.
- Services providers vs. OTTs
- Spectrum: long-term perspective.
- Cooperation of Private Sector and ITU to advise regulators and governments.

5. Discussion: The way forward

The Chairman noted the lot of issues, the lot of passion, and the quality of the input that Private Sector could provide to BDT and regulators.

It was agreed that meeting participants should make use of the possibility to inject private sector experience in the draft good practice guidelines by participating in the open consultation process.

The meeting had identified need for capacity building for regulators, governments and policy makers.

The BDT offered two proposals:

- Extract high-level topics common to all and propose to the group a way to communicate the topics to the external world

and regulators.

- Identify stakeholders in the various governmental structures and organize a capacity building/discussion forum) to inform them and share views.

The two proposals were approved.

The participants unanimously recognized the usefulness of the meeting and invited to Director of BDT to continue this initiative.

6. Proposed venue and dates for the next CRO meeting

The next meeting will take place in Warsaw on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2013, the day before the GSR.

7. Any other business

None.

8. Closing of the meeting

The Director noted that the meeting summarized very well what the BDT was willing to do. This Forum belongs to the group and the BDT is willing to support its work.

The Chairman thanked the Secretariat for its support and expressed the willingness to work closer together with BDT.

Robert Pepper  
Chairman, 1<sup>st</sup> CRO Meeting