

# ITU Regional Development Forum for Americas (RDF-AMS)

## Accelerating the digital development in the Americas

organized by the International Telecommunication Union with the support of the  
the Government of El Salvador

**16-18 August 2023**  
**San Salvador, El Salvador**

Please note that submitted information will be presented during the RDF-AMS P2C Roundtables and it will also be reflected on the pledging platform of the Partner 2 Connect Digital Coalition.

**Once completed send to [AMSDir@itu.int](mailto:AMSDir@itu.int)**

## CONTRIBUTION FORM

**ORGANIZATION:** National Authority of Public Services (ASEP) - Panama

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**TITLE:** Amendment to Regulation for the installation, operation and shared use of infrastructures for telecommunications services.

**DESCRIPTION OF ACTION:** [Provide a brief description up to 500 words]

From the perspective of the National Public Services Authority (ASEP, for its acronym in Spanish), the rapid development of wireless telecommunications, the appearance of new technologies and its operation in new frequency bands for different telecommunications services, being relevant the systems related to International Mobile Telecommunications.

Given the situations described above, ASEP has distinguished as preponderant the updating of regulations regarding infrastructures for the development of telecommunications, with the aim of facilitating the use of future telecommunications networks in an orderly and safe manner, reducing the visual impact and giving certainty to the population about their protection against radioelectric emissions produced by this type of system, among other principles.

On the other hand, the increase in capital and operating expenses of telecommunications operators and the coverage of telecommunications services in rural areas, as well as situations that hinder the use of telecommunications infrastructure, such as the limitations of physical space in cities and environmental issues could generate increased costs for telecom operators, which in turn could affect the implementation of new telecom networks and services, according to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

In this sense, the ITU, through Recommendation ITU-T D.264 (04/2020) "Shared uses of telecommunication infrastructure as possible methods for enhancing the efficiency of telecommunications", recommends that Member States promote the sharing of infrastructure between telecommunications operators, since this method of infrastructure management can lead



to a reduction in the costs of implementing and operating the network, as well as an increase in the quality of services and their levels of availability, as well as an increase of competition and a reduction in the rates of telecommunications services.

Additionally, in 2020, the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) updated the guidelines that guarantee the protection of people related to exposure to radiofrequency electromagnetic fields (RF-EMF) in the range of 100 kHz to 300GHz.

The limit updates are based on improved scientific accuracy and provide limits for exposure circumstances not considered in the ICNIRP (1998) guidelines and new generation technologies such as those used by 5G wireless networks.

In this sense, it is important to highlight that the consensus of the expert reviews is that there are no established health risks for mobile devices or base stations that comply with the limits of the ICNIRP guidelines.

In conclusion, the development of the telecommunications network infrastructure and the increase in the penetration of broadband Internet access to close the digital divide made possible, in part, by the sharing of infrastructure on a commercial scale, could greatly contribute to achieve the desired objectives by offering opportunities to reduce operators' costs thanks to the resulting greater efficiency, the benefits of which could be, among others, the promotion of sustainable investment, a greater deployment of the network, the facilitation of new services, the increase of competition and the reduction of tariffs for telecommunications services for end users.

**COUNTRIES in FOCUS:** [Name countries to be impacted by this action]

Panama

**YEARS of IMPLEMENTATION:** [Tick the relevant boxes or delete the irrelevant items]

☐ 2023

☒ 2024

☐ 2025

**RELEVANT ITU REGIONAL INITIATIVE:** [Tick the relevant boxes or delete the irrelevant items]

☐ AMS1: Infrastructure deployment (DEPLOYMENT OF MODERN, RESILIENT, SECURE AND SUSTAINABLE TELECOMMUNICATION/INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE)

☐ AMS2: Digital Inclusion and skills development (ENHANCEMENT AND EXPANSION OF DIGITAL-LITERACY, DIGITAL-SKILLS AND DIGITAL-INCLUSION PROGRAMMES, ESPECIALLY AMONG VULNERABLE POPULATIONS)

☐ AMS3: Digital transformation and innovation ecosystems (EFFECTIVE SUPPORT FOR DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AND INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS THROUGH SCALABLE, FUNDED AND SUSTAINABLE CONNECTIVITY PROJECTS)

☒ AMS4: Enabling Policy and Regulatory environments (DEVELOPMENT OF ENABLING POLICY AND REGULATORY ENVIRONMENTS TO CONNECT THE UNCONNECTED THROUGH ACCESSIBLE AND AFFORDABLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS/INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES)

Please find more information on the ITU Regional Initiatives 2023-2025, as defined by WTDC-22,



<https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/Americas/Pages/RI-projects-2023-2025.aspx>

### RELATED ITU-D PRIORITIES AS DEFINED BY THE ITU WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE 2022

- ☐ Affordable connectivity
- ☐ Digital Transformation
- ☒ Enabling policy and regulatory environment
- ☐ Resource mobilization and international cooperation
- ☐ Inclusive and secure telecommunications/ICTs for sustainable development

Please find more information on the ITU-D Priorities, as defined by WTDC-22, [here](#).

### RELATED ITU PRIORITIES AS DEFINED BY ITU PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE 2022

- ☐ Spectrum use for space and terrestrial services
- ☐ International telecommunication numbering resources
- ☐ Inclusive and secure telecommunication/ICT infrastructure and services
- ☐ Digital applications
- ☒ Enabling environment

Please find more information on the ITU Priorities, as defined by PP-22, [here](#)

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