

**Regional Development Forum  
for the Commonwealth of Independent States  
(RDF-CIS)**



**Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic, 1-2 October 2019**

**2 October 2019  
Original: Russian**

**REPORT BY THE CHAIRMAN**

**Introduction**

Regional Development Forum for the Commonwealth of independent States (RDF-CIS) was held by the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau from 1 to 2 October 2019 in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic, at the invitation of the Government of Kyrgyz Republic (the State Committee of Information Technologies and Communications of the Kyrgyz Republic).

The objective of RDF-CIS was to consider the progress in the implementation of the Buenos-Aires Action Plan. Particular emphasis was placed on the regional initiatives approved by WTDC-17 to provide all stakeholders with an opportunity to discuss implementation plans, announce commitments and exchange experiences and best practices. Also, RDF-CIS addressed, from a regional perspective, the activities related to the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG), ITU-D Study Groups, Membership, Partnerships and ITU Centres of Excellence.

This report gives an account of the work and results of the Forum.

**Participation**

The Forum was attended by 63 delegates representing 6 ITU Member States.

**1 Opening ceremony**

**Mr. Dostan Dogoyev**, Chairman, State Committee of Information Technologies and Communications of the Kyrgyz Republic delivered a greeting to participants on behalf of the Kyrgyz Republic.

**Ms. Doreen Bogdan-Martin**, Director, Telecommunication Development Bureau, ITU delivered a greeting to participants through a video address.

**2 Election of RDF Chairman**

In accordance with the accepted practice, the host country – the Kyrgyz Republic – nominated Mr. Dostan Dogoev, Chairman, State Committee of Information Technologies and Communications of the Kyrgyz Republic, as RDF-CIS Chairman. Due to preoccupation of Mr. Dogoev, Mr. Orozobek Kaiykov, Adviser to the Chairman, State Committee of Information Technologies and Communications of the Kyrgyz Republic, was unanimously elected as RDF-CIS Chairman.

To elaborate the RDF-CIS report, the Chairman proposed to create a drafting group headed by Mr. Bayish Nurmatov from the Kyrgyz Republic. Mr. Vadim Kaptur from Ukraine and Mr. Farid Nakhli from the ITU were also included in the drafting group.

### 3 Approval of the Agenda

RDF-CIS approved [the Agenda](#).

### 4 WTDC-17 Outcomes for Development of Telecommunications

Within the framework of the Session, 3 presentations were delivered:

- Mr. Maksat Dzhilyshbayev, Deputy Chairman, State Committee of Information Technologies and Communications of the Kyrgyz Republic *“Development of unified system of digital services for business and individuals in the Kyrgyz Republic”*
- Mr. Farid Nakhli, Programme Officer, ITU Regional Office for CIS *“Implementation of the Buenos Aires Action Plan. WTDC-17 Regional Initiatives”*
- Ms. Anastasia Lahutsik, Junior Researcher, OJSC Giprosvjaz, Ministry of Communications and Informatization of the Republic of Belarus *“Dedicated web-portal to promote and track implementation of the WTDC-17 Regional Initiatives”*

Within the framework of the discussion on storage and promotion of the results of the RI implementation, RDF participants proposed to organize a meeting on *Ensuring Sustainability and Further Promotion of the Regional Initiatives Outcomes in CIS Countries*. As key objectives of the event, participants identified evaluation of the resources needed to ensure sustainability and further promotion of the RI outcomes, and development of mechanisms of centralized storage and monitoring of the RI outcomes.

### 5 Implementation of CIS Regional Initiatives

Within the framework of the Session, 11 presentations were delivered:

- Dr. Vadim Kaptur, Vice-Rector, A.S.Popov Odessa National Academy of Telecommunications, Ukraine *“RI1. Specialized multimedia training courses on e-health”*
- Mr. Bakhtiyar Stanbekov, Director, E-health Center, Ministry of Healthcare of the Kyrgyz Republic *“RI1. Development of e-health in the Kyrgyz Republic”*
- Dr. Vadim Kaptur, Vice-Rector, A.S.Popov Odessa National Academy of Telecommunications, Ukraine *“RI1. Recommendations on the application of modern technical solutions in the design of e-health systems, including telemedicine networks”*
- Ms. Ainura Sadyrbaeva, Head, Professional Training Faculty, Institute of Electronics and Telecommunications, Kyrgyz Republic *“RI2. Building human capacity to enable digitization in the Kyrgyz Republic”*
- Mr. Khalid Khan, Founder and Chairman, Central Asian Cellular Forum, Pakistan *“RI3. Regulations, open solutions and case studies for prevention of counterfeit and illegal devices for a healthy mobile eco system”*
- Dr. Kees Balde, Senior Programme Officer, UN University *“RI4. E-waste monitor for CIS+”*
- Ms. Akmoor Kozhoshova, Head, ICT Training Center for Persons with Disabilities, Institute of Electronics and Telecommunications, Kyrgyz Republic *“RI4. Development of spatial data infrastructure to analyze and monitor ecological conditions in the region”*
- Dr. Alexey Borodin, Head, Geneva Office, Rostelecom, Russia *“RI5. International Research, Development and Testing Centre for new equipment, technologies, and services”* Dr. Vadim Kaptur, Vice-Rector, A.S.Popov Odessa National Academy of Telecommunications, Ukraine, ITU-D SG1 Vice-Chair *“Overview of the ITU-D Study Groups activities”*
- Ms. Gulnara Abdylloeva, Director, Institute of Electronics and Telecommunications, Kyrgyz Republic *“Activities of the Institute of Electronics and Telecommunications: the new ITU CoE cycle”*
- Ms. Anastasia Lahutsik, Junior Researcher, OJSC Giprosvjaz, Ministry of Communications and Informatization of the Republic of Belarus *“Activities of the Belarusian State Academy of Communications the new ITU CoE cycle”*

Within the framework of the discussion on the results of the RI implementation, RDF participants noted a high level and quality of project implementation within the framework of Buenos Aires Action Plan and endorsed the idea of scaling up and further promotion of the implemented projects, in particular through reciprocal exchange of experience and conducting of topical trainings in the CIS countries.

Within the framework of the discussion on the work of ITU Study Groups (SG), the Chairman encouraged the RDF participants to actively participate in the work of all the three ITU Sectors' SG, including the regional groups, through submitting contributions and nominating candidates for vacant posts in the ITU SG leadership.

Within the framework of the discussion on the Centres of Excellence (CoE) activities, RDF participants noted a good progress in the implementation of this programme in the CIS region in the new period of 2019-2022. However a number of challenging issues were highlighted, related to: necessity to ensure equal usage of all ITU official ITU languages on the ITU Academy portal (including registration of CoE training participants in Russian language), as well as low quality of the CoE certificates, which are provided as PDF files exclusively (with a scanned signature). The discussion participants also raised the question of joint CoE Steering Committees meetings for different regions.

## **6 Digital Transformation of the Society**

Within the framework of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Session of the RDF, 4 presentations were delivered:

- Mr. Irakli Kashibadze, CEO, Future Laboratory, Georgia *"E-government implementation and innovation ecosystem in Georgia"*
- Mr. Aibek Kurenkeev, Executive Director, Association of Telecom Operators, Kyrgyz Republic *"Development of telecommunication infrastructure to provide broadband in all regions of the Kyrgyz Republic"*
- Ms. Chynara Suiumbaeva, ITU Expert, Kyrgyz Republic *"Digital transformation of society and national index to measure development of digital economy and society in the Kyrgyz Republic"*
- Mr. Anatol Neumiaryzhytski, ITU Expert, Republic of Belarus *"Telecom network strategy development and implementation in Belarus"*

Within the framework of the discussion, RDF participants noted the importance of the broadband access infrastructure development and human capacity building (including the issues of digital literacy) in the context of digital transformation of the society. Participants mentioned a high efficiency of measures taken by the Government of Georgia to stimulate innovation ecosystem in the country, as well as a significant progress achieved by telecommunication operators of the Kyrgyz Republic in the development of modern telecommunications infrastructure.

## **7 Achieving the Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: Partnership and Resource Mobilization in CIS Region**

Within the framework of 4<sup>th</sup> Session, 4 presentations were delivered:

- Mr. Talant Sultanov, Digital Development Specialist, World Bank *"Digital CASA: how to achieve Sustainable Development Goals through Digitalization in Central Asia"*
- Ms. Natalia Mochu, Global Stakeholder Engagement Manager, Eastern Europe & Central Asia, ICANN
- Mr. Marlen Tynaliyev, FAO *"Digital agriculture strategy development"*
- Mr. Vahan Hovsepyan, External Relations Officer, Central Asia And Caucasus, RIPE NCC

In the discussion, the RDF participants noted the importance of the international organizations' contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and a high level of ICT impact on achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

## **8 Contributions**

Information of the contributions submitted by Member States within the framework of RDF-CIS is attached as Annex 1.

## **9 Round table “Mobilizing Partners to Foster Implementation of the WTDC-17 Regional Initiatives in the CIS”**

Within the framework of the roundtable discussion, RDF participants noted:

- 1) topicality of the Forum and practical relevance of the delivered presentations for international organizations, ministries, universities, scientific and research institutions, equipment manufacturers, and telecommunications operators: the Forum materials may be used by RDF participants in their professional activities;
- 2) key role of international and inter-sectoral collaboration and support of the state, including availability of state policy, in further implementation of WTDC-17 decisions;
- 3) high efficiency of the ITU Regional Office work aimed at the project implementation within the framework of WTDC-17 regional initiatives, including active involvement in the implementation of private and public sectors;
- 4) practical usefulness of the outcomes of ITU SG activities, as well as necessity to more actively involve academia and research institutions in their work;
- 5) necessity to develop and promote ITU Centre of Excellence network in the CIS region;
- 6) importance of digital transformation of the society to enable sustainable development of ITU Member States in the CIS region;
- 7) expediency to coordinate efforts of international organizations and communication administrations to implement projects aimed at the development of ICT infrastructure in the CIS region;
- 8) necessity to post entire information on CIS regional initiatives on the web-site on ITU CIS Regional Initiatives and translate the web-site into English language, as well as possibility to store on the web-site all materials, databases, and multimedia resources elaborated within the framework of the implementation of the regional initiatives;
- 9) expediency to conduct a meeting dedicated to discussing and systematizing the results of implementation of CIS regional initiatives over last 10 years, preceded by a questionnaire among communication administrations aimed at improving efficiency of the implementation and promotion of the regional initiatives.

## **10. Official Closure**

When closing the Forum, the Chairman expressed gratitude to all ITU Members, which took part in RDF-CIS, as well as to all those who contributed to the Forum work. Also, the Chairman thanked the BDT staff for help in organization and conducting of the event.

Kirill Oparin, Head, Regional Office for CIS thanked the Communication Administration of the Kyrgyz Republic for hosting RDF-CIS. He noted a number of important decisions included in the Report by the Chairman and highlighted that the Report will serve as a basis to shape action plans of the ITU Regional Office for 2020 and 2021. Also, he thanked Orozobek Kaiykov for the excellent chairmanship of the meeting.

RDF-CIS participants expressed gratitude to the Chairman of RDF-CIS for the efficient chairmanship of the meeting and to the State Committee of Information Technologies and Communications of the Kyrgyz Republic and the International Telecommunication Union for excellent organization and technical support of the Forum work.

Orozobek Kaiykov  
Chairman of RDF-CIS 2019/  
Advisor to the Chairman  
State Committee of Information Technologies  
and Communications of the Kyrgyz Republic

Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic  
2 October 2019

Document **ITU Workshop on Prospects of Creation and Development of Smart Sustainable Cities** was submitted by the Communication Administration of the Republic of Belarus.

Document **Improvement of Quality of Life and Business Environment through Systematicity of Implementation of Smart City Solutions** was submitted by the Communication Administration of the Republic of Belarus.

Document **System of Evaluation of the Level of Digitalization of the Republic of Belarus Industries and Functional Areas** was submitted by the Communication Administration of the Republic of Belarus.

Document **Topic Study in the field of Broadband Communication Policy and Regulation Mechanisms, Including Implementation of Advanced Services in CIS and Neighboring Countries** was submitted by the Communication Administration of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Document **Promotion of ICT infrastructure Co-deployment along Transport and Electric Power Supply Infrastructure in CIS Countries** was submitted by the Communication Administration of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Document **Creation and Development of Unified System to Provide Digital Services to Legal Entities and Individuals in the Kyrgyz Republic** was submitted by the Communication Administration of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Document **Development of Telecommunications Infrastructure to Provide Broadband Access over the Entire Territory of the Kyrgyz Republic** was submitted by the Communication Administration of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Document **Development of Electronic Healthcare in the Kyrgyz Republic** was submitted by the Communication Administration of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Document **Development of Spatial Data Infrastructure to Analyze and Monitor Ecological Conditions in the Region** was submitted by the Communication Administration of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Document **Human Capacity Building to Ensure Digitalization of the Kyrgyz Republic** was submitted by the Communication Administration of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Document **Activities of the IET as an ITU Centre of Excellence in the New Cycle** was submitted by the Communication Administration of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Document **Digital Transformation of the Society and National Index to Measure Development of Digital Economy and Society in the Kyrgyz Republic** was submitted by the Communication Administration of the Kyrgyz Republic.