GSR18: REGULATORY ASSOCIATIONS (RA) MEETING

10 JULY 2018, 09:30-11:00

MEETING REPORT

The meeting was chaired by Mr Johannes Gungl, CEO of the Austrian Regulatory Authority for Broadcasting and Telecommunications (RTR) and Chair of the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC) for 2018 in the presence of Mr. Brahima Sanou, ITU BDT Director. Mr. Sanou thanked the Regulatory Associations (RA) for their active participation in this year's annual Regulatory Association Meeting organized during the Global Symposium of Regulators (GSR-18). Recalling WTDC Resolution 48 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), Mr. Sanou recognized the RA meeting as one of the neutral knowledge exchange and dialogue platforms ITU offers where RAs in particular can discuss cooperation and share information between various regulatory associations across different regions. This, he said, is a tool for creating and maintaining an enabling regulatory environment, in sharing knowledge and expertise, and in providing RAs with the platform for an inclusive dialogue with colleagues, peers and other stakeholders on a local, regional and global scale. Recognizing the importance of such associations, he reminded them of their unique role and position to make a difference.

This year, more than 50 participants from 14 Regulatory Associations and other international organizations (APT, ARCTEL, AREGNET, ATU, BEREC, COMESA, COMTELCA, CRASA, EACO, EMERG, FRATEL, REGULATEL, SATRC and WATRA) attended the meeting.

There were two items on the agenda:

Item 1: Presentation of the main projects and activities of each Regulatory Association

Interventions were made from the Regulatory Associations providing information on activities and projects. All presentations will be available on the RA 2018 web-page.

Item 2: Discussion on potential areas of information exchange and in particular focusing on infrastructure sharing

Following up on last year's RA's request to ITU to create a portal for the RAs which could include presentations at RA meetings as well as reports and links to reports and activities of the RAs, ITU-BDT presented the draft RA portal as well as other portals of interest to RAs (IMR, Digital Economy, Quality of Service and future Infrastructure Sharing Portal).

BEREC also shared information on the recent infrastructure sharing report, which includes a provisional analysis of infrastructure sharing arrangements which are currently in place in various individual European markets. The report is a first step towards identifying best practices on mobile infrastructure sharing arrangements and seeking to develop a BEREC Common Position on sharing. The objective is to facilitate the enhancement of mobile connectivity in European markets, in particular with regards to the rollout of 5G networks, whilst protecting and promoting competition.

Participants recognized the value of exchanging information on regulatory issues, including Infrastructure sharing, and called for an exchange of information on this issue, which could be done through the ITU RA portal to be published shortly.

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