

Date: 30 January, 2014 Ref: SPU/0114/001

Mr. Fernando Rivera
Corporate Strategy Division
International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

<u>Sub: Response to Consultation on working documents of the Council Working Group for the Elaboration of the draft Strategic Plan and Draft Financial Plan for the Union for 2016-2019</u>

Dear Mr Rivera,

With reference to Dr Touré's letter of 16December 2013 (Ref: CL-13/170) regarding input to the draft documents of the Council Working Group for the Elaboration of the draft Strategic Plan and Draft Financial Plan for the Union for 2016-2019 ("CWG-SPFP"), the Kingdom of Bahrain extends its thanks and appreciation to Dr Touré and the ITU for the valuable efforts in developing and aligning the ITU's strategic plan.

The Kingdom of Bahrain would like to express its support and endorsement of the 'One ITU' vision as well as the decisions reached and documents produced thus far by the CWG-SPFP and has no material comments on either at this time.

With regard to the way forward for the work of the CWG-SPFP, the Kingdom of Bahrain would like to raise the following comments for consideration:

- 1. The structure and responsibilities of the elected official should be reviewed to ensure that it is aligned with the 'One ITU' strategic approach.
- 2. It is proposed that the ITU focus on the following areas for its' work:
  - a. Cybersecurity (including Child Online Protection)
  - b. Development and implementation of broadband
  - c. Regulatory changes relating to ICT convergence
  - d. e-Education
  - e. 'Green Technologies' (e.g. climate change, e-waste, etc)
  - f. Accessibility
- 3. Establish coordination mechanisms across the three sectors to ensure that related Study Groups (including other groups/committees such as Joint Task Committees) are aware of and, where necessary, participate in each other's work.



- 4. Develop and implement a unified administrative, salary and benefit structure across all ITU sectors.
- 5. Ensure that, to the greatest extent practicable, all initiatives assigned to each of the ITU sectors is allocated adequate and appropriate funding to deliver its assigned objectives.

The Kingdom of Bahrain also intends to provide these comments as a contribution to the next CWG-SPFP and looks forward to continuing the dialogue to enhance the strategic and financial plans of the Union.

Yours Sincerely,

Musab Abdulla

Manager, Strategy and PMO

**Telecommunications Regulatory Authority** 

Kingdom of Bahrain