**MOD** ESOA/46/6

#### Programme: Policy and regulatory framework

This programme aims to support ITU membership in creating an enabling legal, policy and regulatory environments conducive to the development of telecommunications /ICTs in a digital economy, strengthening communication and collaboration with other sectors such as those in charge of health, education, energy and finance to leverage the cross-sectoral nature of ICTs on economic and social development, and ensuring that all can benefit from ICTs by building sound policy and regulatory frameworks.

The programme seeks to benefit from an extensive collaboration within ITU, in particular with ITU-D SG1 and SG2, ITU-R SGs and ITU-T SGs as well as with all relevant organizations where ICTs have an impact and bring value.

To this end, providing up to date regulatory and policy data, research and analysis and holding an inclusive dialogue with the wider ICT community and across the sectors realizing broad partnerships will be one of the main enablers to achieve the programme’ s purpose.

The programme will:

• provide ITU Members with the tools to keep informed of current developments with regard to the policy, legal, and regulatory frameworks as well as market developments in the ICT sector and the digital economies it enables;

• support ITU Member States in defining, elaborating, implementing and reviewing transparent, coherent and forward looking strategies, policy, , legal and regulatory frameworks as well as in moving towards evidence-based decision-making at the national and regional level in order to implement meaningful solutions and reforms to stimulate competition, investment and innovation, and foster global, regional and national ICT markets and ensuring affordable access for all to ICTs and the digital economy;

• provide tools and platforms to ITU-D Sector Members for an inclusive dialogue and enhanced cooperation among national and regional regulators, policy-makers and other telecommunication/ICT stakeholders including the satellite sector as well as with other sectors of the economy on topical policy, legal, regulatory and market issues to help countries achieve a more inclusive information society and to raise national awareness about the importance of an enabling environment to allow digital empowerment and inclusion in a Smart connected society;

• provide institutional and human capacity building and technical assistance to ITU-D Sector Members on topical policy, legal, regulatory, as well as on economic and financial issues and market developments;

• convene a Global Forum for discussing global trends in regulation for ITU-D Sector Members and other national and international stakeholders, through organizing the Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR).