

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE ADVISORY BOARD ON SMART SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT MODEL

1. Purpose of the initiative

The Smart Sustainable Development Model's Advisory Board is designed to provide strategic guidance to the leadership of the Telecommunication Development Bureau. The Advisory Board helps ensure that the initiative remains true to its mission. The Advisory Board will play a special role during the initial period following the launch of the Smart Sustainable Development Model (SSDM) initiative in helping to promote and provide strategic direction for its development and implementation. The overall purpose of the SSDM is to:

1. Harness the potential of ICTs in socio-economic development and use the same technologies for saving lives in times of emergencies.
2. Link rural telecommunications/ICT development to both disaster risk reduction and management efforts.
3. Make optimal use of scarce and high cost resources such as satellite systems by putting in use unused satellite capacity.
4. Create ecosystems where investments made for deploying telecom infrastructures for economic development are also used for disaster response for public safety.
5. Ensure deployment of robust and resilient communication networks that continues to provide services in the immediate aftermath of disasters.
6. Avoid duplication in efforts by development partners (governments, private sector, Inter-governmental Organizations, etc.) focusing on either development only or disaster management only without taking into account the other. This reduces costs of infrastructure investments for ICT's particularly in rural communities.

2. Advisory Board Members

Each year the Advisory Board will hold not more than two physical meetings at venues to be discussed and agreed to by the Board. Two teleconferences will be held to review progress, address strategic questions, and plan for the coming year. The Advisory Board may also hold one or more additional conference calls at other times of the year as particular issues arise. Advisory Members are expected to join at least one of these calls per year.

Advisory board members' responsibilities include:

- i. Promote the use of ICTs for social and economic development as well as for emergency communications and better disaster management.
- ii. Identify strategic partnerships around a particular BDT project that furthers the aims of the SSDM.
- iii. Analyze cross cutting issues, such as policy development, legislation, taxation, financing mechanisms, network deployment costs, sustainability of the networks that may be impeding the reach of ICTs and services to all layers of the societies.
- iv. Encourage the adoption of policies, legislative and regulatory frameworks that facilitate and promote the sustainable development through ICTs.
- v. Propose and approve the creation of working groups and/or thematic committees that contribute to the implementation of the objectives of this initiative to include preparation of reports and projects.
- vi. Act as a goodwill ambassador promoting programs and projects designed to achieve greater coverage of telecommunication services.
- vii. Identify potential remedies and innovative solutions through crowdsourcing and collaboration.

3. Composition of the Board and Term of Membership

The Advisory Board shall be composed of eminent personalities from diverse backgrounds to provide a mix of expertise necessary. The functions of the members will be on a *pro bono* basis, for a two-year term with the possibility of renewal for a second two-year term.

The Chairmanship of the Board will be on a *pro bono* basis, for a two-year term. The Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) of ITU will hold the vice-chairmanship in order to ensure continuity. The BDT will provide the Secretariat for the Board. The first meeting of the Advisory Board will be in Geneva, Switzerland.

4. Terms and Selection

Members of the Advisory Board serve in their individual capacity. At the second physical annual meeting of the Board, the Advisory Board, with support from the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau in his official capacity, will review the composition of the Advisory Board and make recommendations for additions or modifications. At that meeting new members will be appointed to the Advisory Board as necessary.