INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

ITU-D Regional Development Forum for the Africa Region
NGN and Broadband, Opportunities and Challenges
Lusaka, Zambia, 18-19 May 2009

Draft Programme

Day 1, 18 May 2009

09:00 — 10:00	**Opening Ceremony:** **Opening Remarks** • **Host country** • **Chairman of the Forum** • **Sami Al Basheer Al Morshid (Director, BDT, ITU)**
10:00 — 10:30	**Coffee-break**
10:30 — 12:30	**SESSION 1: The African Regional Developmental issues and New Telecommunication Technologies Bridging the Digital Divide for Developing Countries** **Session Chairman**: (Head, Regional Office for AFR, ITU) **Objectives**: This session will focus on ITU-D activities including the ones conducted by the Regional Office for AFR, to help ICT development and implementation in developing countries. This session will also assess the impact of new technologies especially role of NGN and Broadband in addressing the digital divide for Africa countries and will present development experiences and opportunities in AFR. Discussion will focus on: ▪ Africa Regional Initiatives, activities and Connect Africa Summit Goals and objectives ▪ ICT Developmental initiatives (Projects and digital Broadcasting activities) ▪ ITU-D Study Groups and NGN Migration strategies in developing countries ▪ NGN Overview (Definition, functions, structures, benefits and transition from existing networks) ▪ IP Multimedia systems and IP enabled services (features, functions and services) ▪ New Technologies and services for rural areas ▪ Interventions and questions
12:30 — 14:00	**Luncheon**

14:00 — 16:00	**SESSION 2: ITU Standardization Activities on NGN and Broadband**
	Session Chairman: tbd
	Objectives: This session will provide an overview of ITU standardization activities from different ITU Sectors. Focusing on current standardization topics from ITU Sectors, it will specifically address:
	▪ ITU- T Standards development on NGN and Broadband networks
	▪ ITU-R Standards development on Broadband Wireless Access
	▪ How to bridge the standardization gap
	▪ Collaboration with external organizations
	▪ Interventions and questions
16:00 — 16:15	**Coffee-break**
16:15 — 18:00	**SESSION 3: Bridging the Digital Divide by Broadband**
	Session Chairman: tbd
	Objectives: This session will discuss the status of ICT deployment in the Region and role of ICT in connecting the unconnected with specific focus on broadband. The role of technology, policy and enabling regulatory environment for encouraging widescale deployment of broadband in the Region will be also discussed. Issues will include:
	▪ Wireless and Wireline Broadband Technologies including Satellite
	▪ What makes up Digital Bridges?
	▪ Case Study on Sustainable National Broadband Proliferation.
	▪ Country experience
	▪ Interventions and questions
19:00 – 21:00	**Social Event**

Day 2, 19 May 2009

09:00 — 10:30	**SESSION 4: Implementation of ICT infrastructure in Africa**
	Objectives: This session will discuss the progress on implementing networks in Africa and identify successes and challenges. Technologies necessary to deliver broadband services and architectural approaches will be discussed. Topics of discussion will be:
	• NGN billing mechanisms and Management
	• Technologies (access, core, soft switches)
	• Progress on implementing networks (core, access, 3G, etc)
	• NGN and Broadband planning tools
	• Country experience
	• Interventions and questions
10:30 — 10:45	**Coffee-break**

10:45 — 12:45	**SESSION 5: Development trends of NGN Technology and Migration Scenario and Strategies, services and Applications in NGN and Broadband**

Session Chairman: **tbd**

Objectives: This session will present the evolution of NGN and future perspectives in the relevant access technologies, service and network architecture with special focus on convergence, home, office and mobile applications, Internet protocol-based platforms and multiple access networks. It will be devoted to the evolution of the network architecture towards NGN (IMS based or otherwise), fixed-mobile convergence, evolution: towards a new generation of broadband mobile, PSTN/ISDN evolution to NGN, pilot cases, and possible scenarios taking into consideration the relevant business models and opportunities. Applications and new services which the NGN and broadband offers due to convergence will be also discussed. Major emphasis will be on:

- NGN migration strategies, scenarios and challenges
- NGN Deployment scenarios : Case Study from AFR
- Case Study on Access Network Planning
- NGN services: New concepts and NGN open service environment
- Voice Evolution and Fixed-Mobile-Internet convergence
- NGN Capacity building strategies
- IMT-Advanced standardization process
- Interventions and questions

12:45 — 13:45	**Luncheon**

13:45 — 15:15	**SESSION 6: NGN and Broadband: Policy and Regulatory Issues**

Session Chairman: tbd

Objectives: This session will focus on the challenges that the policy makers and regulators face while considering introduction of NGN and Broadband due to convergence technologies. Current regulatory framework which are based on technologies and/ or service specific licenses have limitations. Moreover, Number Portability and Network Address, Translation and Protocol Translation issues will be considered as well as Interoperability of NGN and legacy networks and their interconnection.   In order to ensure investment in NGN and Broadband, regulators need to encourage conditions, which lowers entry barriers, promotes competition and encourage investment in infrastructure. Emphasis will be on:

- Regulatory issues arising from the migration to NGN
- Enabling NGN Regulatory Ecosystem for a Developing Country:
- Telecommunications Policy and Next Generation Networks
- The regulation of Next Generation Networks
- Trends of the Radiocommunication regulatory framework
- Interventions and questions

15:15 — 15:30	**Coffee-break**

15:30 — 17:00	**SESSION 7: Market Opportunities and Challenges: Economic and Financial impact of NGN and Broadband Implementation.**

Session Chairman: tbd

	Objectives: NGN provides a number of opportunities for variety of businesses. Those include service providers, application providers, transport providers in the access and the backbone. NGN also provides mechanisms to offer services to residential and business users as well as to re-sellers.
	Challenges arise from a number of sources like competition, cost of implementation, changing marketplaces, complex migration scenarios and regulatory uncertainties. This session aims to provide a state-of-the-art overview on global trends with a focus on the AFR region from the different perspectives.
	- Innovative Financing Arrangements. - Competition cost of implementation. - Changing marketplaces, complex migration scenarios - Regulatory uncertainties. - Spill-over Economic Effects - Tariffs and Accounting Issues - Case study
17:00 – 18:30	**SESSION 8 : Panel Discussion**
	Ways Forward: How to foster the development of NGN and Broadband in the Region?
	Objective: This discussion aims to examine experience and lessons learned in the Region, and how the points raised in this Forum may be applied to address specific problems encountered or anticipated.
	The Forum will close with a brief summation by the Chairman of the Forum

For electronic version of presentations and other information on this forum:
http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/tech/indexDevelopmentForum.html

For more information on ITU-D: www.itu.int/ITU-D