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| **Regional Preparatory Meeting for WTDC-17 for Americas (RPM-AMS)**  | P:\SUP\Logos\Post-150th Anniv\ITU-logo-UNblue.jpg |
| **Asuncion, Paraguay, 22-24 February 2017** |
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| **Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL)** |
| CITEL WORKING DOCUMENT: PRELIMINARY DRAFT WTDC-17 DECLARATION |

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| **Priority area:**Strategic Plan, Action Plan, Declaration**Summary:**CITEL working document: Preliminary Draft WTDC-17 Declaration**Expected results:**Present this contribution as a working document of CITEL which contains the Preliminary Draft WTDC-17 Declaration to be reviewed and discussed during RPM-AMS.**References:**Original Version: Spanish (submission No. 1603) |

**Preliminary Draft WTDC-17 Declaration**

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Buenos Aires, 2017), which took place in Buenos Aires, Argentina, under the theme of "ICT for Sustainable Development Goals” (ICT④SDGs),

**Recognizes that**

**MX: Recognizing**

1. Telecommunications/ICTs are a key enabler for social and economic development; and consequently for accelerating the timely attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals and Targets set out in the **Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**;

EE.UU: Telecommunications/ICTs are a key enabler for social and economic development; and consequently for accelerating the timely implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Action Lines, and assisting efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and Targets set out in the **Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;**

ARG: Telecommunications/ICTs are a key enabler for social and economic development; **that contribute** for accelerating the timely implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Action Lines , **and in moving forward joining** efforts to achieve the the Sustainable Development Goals and Targets set out in the **Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;**

**a) bis ITU-D should adapt and reinforce the existing links between the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Action Lines and the Sustainable Development Goals and Targets through the Regional Initiatives, the Action Plan, and the contribution to ITU’s Strategic Plan, in order to support global evolution;**

**a) ter Technological change and the new and innovative opportunities that Telecommunications/ICTs offer should be supported by ambitious decisions and measures in order to attenuate Digital Poverty, reduceinequalities and encourage our Planet’s protection, that are critical focal points for humanitarian progress.**

RD: in this respect, ambitious decisions and measures need to be taken in order to reduce digital poverty and disparity, and in order to protect our planet and ITU must act accordingly to contribute with global solutions;MX: that telecommunications/ICTs are a key enabler for social and economic development; and consequently for accelerating the timely attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals and Targets set out in the **Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**;

b) Telecommunications/ICTs also play a crucial role in various areas such as health, education, agriculture, governance, finance, commerce, disaster risk reduction and management, climate change mitigation and adaptation; particularly in least developed countries (LDCs), small island developing States (SIDS), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and countries with economies in transition;

PY: Telecommunications/ICTs also play a crucial role in various areas such as health, education, agriculture, governance, finance, commerce, disaster risk reduction and management, climate change mitigation and adaptation;

RD: telecommunications/ICTs also play a crucial role in various areas such as health, education, agriculture, governance, finance, commerce, poverty reduction and disaster risk management, climate change mitigation and adaptation; particularly in least developed countries (LDCs), small island developing States (SIDS), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and countries with economies in transition;

MX: that telecommunications/ICTs also play a crucial role in various areas such as health, education, agriculture, governance, finance, commerce, disaster risk reduction, prevention and management, climate change mitigation and adaptation; particularly in least developed countries (LDCs), small island developing States (SIDS), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and countries with economies in transition;

c) Access to modern, secure and affordable Telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, applications and services offers opportunitiesfor improving peoples' lives and ensuring that sustainable development across the world becomes a reality;

EE.UU: Access to modern, secure and affordable telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, applications and services offers opportunities to increase productivity and efficiency, improve peoples' lives and ensuring that sustainable development across the world becomes a reality;

PY: Access to modern, secure and affordable Telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, applications and services offers opportunitiesfor improving peoples' lives and ensuring that sustainable development across the world becomes a reality; particularly in least developed countries (LDCs), small island developing States (SIDS), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and countries with economies in transition;

ARG: Access to modern, secure and affordable Telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, applications and services offers opportunitiesfor improving peoples' lives and ensuring that sustainable development across the world becomes a reality; mostly in least developed countries (LDC), small island Developing States (SIDS), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and countries with transition economies;

MX: that access to modern, secure and affordable Telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, applications and services offers opportunities for improving peoples' lives and ensuring that sustainable development across the world becomes a reality;

d)Widespread conformance and interoperability of telecommunication/ICT equipment and systems through the implementation of relevant programmes, policies and decisions can increase market opportunities and reliability and encourage global integration and trade;

EE.UU: Widespread pilot programmes on conformance and interoperability of telecommunication/ICT equipment and systems through the implementation of relevant programmes, policies and decisions can increase market opportunities and reliability and encourage global integration and trade;

ARG: Widespread conformance and interoperability of telecommunication/ICT equipment and systems through the implementation of relevant programmes, policies and decisions can increase market opportunities, competitiveness and reliability and encourage global integration and trade;

MX: that widespread conformance and interoperability of telecommunication/ICT equipment and systems through the implementation of relevant programmes, policies and decisions can increase market opportunities and reliability and encourage global integration and trade;

e) Telecommunication/ICT applications can be life-changing for individuals, communities and societies at large, butthey canalso increase the challengeof building confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs;

EE.UU: Telecommunication/ICT applications provide innovative and beneficial services for individuals, communities and societies at large, yet also can create challenges to building confidence and trust in the availability, reliability, security and use of telecommunication/ICT systems;

MX: that telecommunication/ICT applications can be life-changing for individuals, communities and societies at large, but they canalso increase the challenge of building confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs;

f) Broadband access technologies, broadband-enabled services and ICT applications offer new opportunities for interaction among people, for sharing the world's knowledge resources and expertise, for transforming peoples' lives and for contributing to inclusive and sustainable development across the world;

EE.UU: Broadband access technologies, broadband-enabled services and ICT applications offer enhanced opportunities for interaction among people, for sharing the world's knowledge resources and expertise, for transforming peoples' lives and for contributing to inclusive and sustainable development across the world;

ARG: Broadband access technologies, broadband-enabled services and ICT applications offer new and/or enhanced opportunities for development and interaction among people, for sharing the world's knowledge resources and expertise, for transforming peoples' lives and for contributing to inclusive and sustainable development across the world;

MX: that broadband access technologies, broadband-enabled services and ICT applications offer new opportunities for interaction among people, for sharing the world's knowledge resources and expertise, for transforming peoples' lives and for contributing to inclusive and sustainable development across the world;

g) Despite all the progress made during past years, the digital divide still remains, and is compounded by disparities in access, use and skills between and within countries, in particular between urban and rural areas, as well as in the availability of accessible and affordable telecommunications/ICTs, particularly for women, youth, children, indigenous people and persons with disabilities and specific needs;

EE.UU: Despite progress made during past years, digital divides still remains, and are compounded by disparities in access, use and skills between and within countries, in particular between urban and rural areas, as well as in the availability of accessible and affordable telecommunications/ICTs, particularly for women, youth, children, indigenous people and persons with disabilities and specific needs;

PY: Despite all the progress made during past years, the digital divide still remains, and is compounded by disparities in access, use and skills between and within countries, in particular between urban rural and underserved areas, as well as in the availability of accessible and affordable telecommunications/ICTs, particularly for women, youth, children, indigenous people and persons with disabilities and specific needs;

RD: despite progress made during past years, digital divides still remain, and are compounded by disparities in access, use and skills between and within countries, in particular between urban and rural areas, as well as in the availability of accessible and affordable telecommunications/ICTs, particularly for women, youth, children, indigenous people and persons with disabilities and specific needs;

MX: that despite all the progress made during past years, the digital divide still remains, and is compounded by disparities in access, use and skills between and within countries, in particular between urban and rural areas, as well as in the availability of accessible and affordable telecommunications/ICTs, particularly for women, youth, children, indigenous people and persons with disabilities and specific needs;

h) ITU is committed to improving people’s lives and making the world a better place through telecommunications and information and communication technologies (ICTs);

EE.UU: ITU is committed to improving people’s lives and making the world a better place through **the use of** telecommunications and information and communication technologies (ICTs);

**ARG: h) bis Developing infrastracture for telecommunications/ICTs in rural and distant areas, and ensuring the availability of affordable and accessible ICTs are for many countries major priorities, that in order to be successful require the identification of effective, innovative and affordable solutions.**

RD: h) ter. Developing infrastructurte for telecommunications/ICT in rural and distant areas, and ensuring the availability of affordable and accessibleICTis akeypriority for many countries, that in order to be successful require the identification of effective, innovative and affordable andsustainable solutions.

MX: that ITU is committed to improving people’s lives and making the world a better place throughtelecommunications and information and communication technologies (ICTs);

**Therefore declares that**

1. Universally accessible and affordable telecommunications/ICTs are a fundamentalcontribution towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030;

EE.UU: Broadly accessible and affordable telecommunications/ICTs make fundamental contributions towards the implmentation of the WSIS Action Lines and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development ;

MX: that universally accessible and affordable telecommunications/ICTs are a fundamentalcontribution towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030;

2. Innovation is essential in ushering high-speed, high-quality ICT infrastructure and services;

EE.UU: Innovation is essential in ushering high-speed, high-quality ICT infrastructure and services and new and emerging technologies should be harnessed including for purposes of supporting global efforts aimed at further development of the information society;

PY: Innovation is essential in ushering high- capacity, high-quality ICT infrastructure and services;

ARG: Innovation is essential, as a strategic factor for the development and sustainability of telecommunications/ICTsin ushering high-speed, high-quality ICT infrastructure and services. New and emerging technologies should be harnessed including for purposes of supporting global efforts aimed at further development of the information society;

MX: that innovation is essential in ushering high-speed, high-quality ICT infrastructure deployment and increasing the penetration of this services;

3. With convergence, policy-makers and regulators should continue to promote widespread, affordable access to telecommunications/ICTs, including Internet access, through fair, transparent, stable, predictable and non-discriminatory enabling policy, legal and regulatory environments, including common approaches to conformance and interoperability that promote competition, increase consumer choices, foster continued technological and service innovation and provide investment incentives at national, regional and international levels;

EE.UU: Policy-makers and regulators should continue to promote widespread, affordable access to telecommunications/ICTs, including Internet access, through fair, transparent, stable, predictable and non-discriminatory enabling policy, legal and regulatory environments, including common approaches to conformance and interoperability that promote competition, increase consumer choices, foster continued technological and service innovation and provide investment incentives at national, regional and international levels;

ARG: In order to ensure the sustainable development of convergence, policy-makers and regulators should continue to promote widespread, affordable access to telecommunications/ICTs, including Internet access, through fair, transparent, stable, predictable and non-discriminatory enabling policy, legal and regulatory environments, that promote competition, increase consumer choices, foster continued technological and service innovation and provide investment incentives at national, regional and international levels;

RD: that for convergent development, policy-makers and regulators should continue to promote widespread, affordable access to telecommunications/ICTs, including Internet access, through fair, transparent, stable, predictable and non-discriminatory legal and regulatory environments, incluidingcommon conformity and interoperatibility regimesthat foster competition and inclusion, offering a greater offer for clients, promoting continued technological and service innovation, providing investment incentives at national, regional and international levels;

MX: that iwth convergence, policy-makers and regulators should continue to promote widespread, affordable access to telecommunications/ICTs, including Internet access, through fair, transparent, stable, predictable and non-discriminatory enabling policy, legal and regulatory environments, including common approaches to conformance and interoperability that promote competition, increase consumer choices, foster continued technological and service innovation based on standards, platforms, environments and open applications, as well as provisions that facilitate the use of networks capacities and efficient use of spectrum, and provide investment incentives at national, regional and international levels;

**ARG: 3. bis Digital economy occupies a critical role in the innovation and evolution in the use of telecommunications/ICTs, having a transforming effect on people, societies and economies throughout the entire world.**

4. New and emerging technologies such as big data and the Internet of Things should be harnessed for purposes of supporting global efforts aimed at further development of the information society;

EE.UU:

PY: New and emerging technologies such as big data, cloud computing and the Internet of Things should be harnessed for purposes of supporting global efforts aimed at further development of the information society;

MX: that new and emerging technologies such as big data and the Internet of Things should be harnessed for purposes of supporting global efforts aimed at further development of the information society;

5. Digital literacy and ICT skills, as well as human and institutional capacity in the development and use of telecommunications/ICT networks, applications and services should be enhanced to enable people to contribute to ideas, knowledge and human development;

RD: Digital literacy and ICT skills, as well as human and institutional capacity in the development, appropriationand use of telecommunications/ICT networks, applications and services should be enhanced to enable people to contribute to ideas, knowledge and humandevelopment;

**ARG: 5. bis Telecommunications/ICTs can contribute in creating opportunities for education and capacitation throughout people´s lives, including people with disabilities and specific needs; for their achievement the adoption of inmediate, sustained and specific measures is required, in order to ensure an inclusive, egalitarian and quality education for everyone.**

MX: that digital literacy and ICT skills, as well as human and institutional capacity in the development and use of telecommunications/ICT networks, applications and services should be enhanced to enable people to contribute to ideas, knowledge and human development;

6. Measuring the Information Society and providing the proper indicators/statistics are important for both Member States and the private sector with the former being able to identify gaps that need public policy intervention, and the latter, in identifying and finding investment opportunities;

EE.UU: Measuring the Information Society and providing the proper indicators/statistics are important for both Member States and the private sector to identify gaps and opportunities;

RD: measuring the Information Society and providing proper and comparable indicators/statistics are important for the Member States, the private sector and the civil society with the first being able to identify gaps that need public policy intervention, the secondidentifying and finding investment opportunities and the third,appropriation and empowerment strategies of the different population groups jointly pursuing additional efforts in order to generate partnership and sustainability in telecommunication/ICT development;

MX: that measuring the Information Society and providing the proper indicators/statistics are important for both Member States and the private sector with the former being able to identify gaps that need public policy intervention, and the latter, in identifying and finding investment opportunities;

7. An inclusive information society should take into account the needs of persons with disabilities and specific needs;

PY: An inclusive information society should take into account the needs of persons with disabilities and specific needs, and others in vulnerable situations;

ARG: An inclusive information society should be commited to contributing to the social and economic progress of people, emphasizing the needs of persons with disabilities and specific needs, vulnerable and marginal groups, and to pursue mechanisms to generate a new way to relate socially and educationallyin which stereotypes about women and men leave room to a new view in which all people, regardless of sex, age, race, religion, etc. are acknowledged as essential agents for sustainable development;

**ARG. 7. bis Opportunities provided by telecommunications/ICTs should be fully exploited, with the aim of ensuring equitable access to telecommunications/ICTs and innovations that foster sustainable socio-economic development, poverty alleviation, job creation, entrepreneurship and promoting digital inclusion and empowerment for all, particularly for women, youth, children, indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities, including age-related disabilities;**

**ARG: 7. ter An information society should be backed up by a multistakeholder approach in which telecommunication/ICT development and growth provide investment predictability and leverage sustainability through innovation, competitiveness and integration, acknowledging essential principles for the implementation of theWSIS Action Lines and the Sustainable Development Goals in 2030;**

RD: 6 quater.an information society should be backed up by a multistakeholder approach in which telecommunication/ICT development and growth provide investment predictability and leverage sustainability through innovation, competitiveness and integration, acknowledging essential principles to contribute in achieving the goals and targets of the SDGs;

MX: that an inclusive information society should take into account the needs of persons with disabilities and specificdemands; as well as disadvantaged and vulnerable groups in order to have access to telecommunication/ICT services, under equal conditions.

8. Building trust, confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs requires further international cooperation and coordination between governments, relevant organizations, private companies and other stakeholders.

EE.UU: Building , confidence, trust and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs is a priority, with a need for international cooperation and coordination between governments, relevant organizations, private companies and other stakeholders in building capacity and exchanging best practices.

MX: that building trust, confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs requires further international cooperation and coordination between governments, relevant organizations, private companies and other stakeholders. 9. Cooperation between developed and developing countries as well as among developing countries are encouraged as this paves way for technical cooperation, technological transfer, and joint research activities;

EE.UU: Cooperation between innovators developed and developing countries as well as among developing countries are encouraged as this paves way for technical cooperation, technology and knowledge transfers, and joint research activities;

**ARG: 9. bis Promotion of investments for the development of broadband infrastructure, services and applications contribute to the sustainable and econocomic groth of the poeples, and in this respect the Development Sector of ITUshall have to be a main actor to createalliances and spaces for cooperation among Member States, private sector, international funding agencies and other stakeholders;**

MX: that cooperation between developed and developing countries as well as among developing countries are encouraged as this paves way for technical cooperation, technological transfer, and joint research activities;

10. Public-private partnerships need to be further strengthened in order to identify and apply innovative technological solutions and financing mechanisms for inclusive and sustainable development;

EE.UU: Public-private partnerships can be further strengthened in order to identify and apply innovative technological solutions and financing mechanisms for inclusive and sustainable development;

MX: that public-private partnerships need to be further strengthened in order to identify and apply innovative technological solutions and financing mechanisms for inclusive and sustainable development;

11. Innovation should be integrated into national policies, initiatives and programmes to promote sustainable development and economic growth through multi-stakeholder partnerships, between developing countries and between developed and developing countries to facilitate technology and knowledge transfer;

EE.UU: Innovation should be integrated into national policies, initiatives and programmes to promote sustainable development and economic growth through multi-stakeholder partnerships, between developing countries and between developed and developing countries to facilitate voluntary technology and knowledge transfer on mutually agreed terms;

PY: Innovation should be integrated into national policies, initiatives and programmes to promote sustainable development and economic growth through multi-stakeholder partnerships, between developing countries and between developed and developing countries to facilitate knowledge and environmentally sound technology transfer to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed;

RD: innovation should be integrated into national policies, initiatives and programmes to promote sustainable development and economic growth through multi-stakeholder partnerships, between developing countries, and between developed and developing countries to facilitate the transfer of technologies and knowledge;

MX: that innovation should be integrated into national policies, initiatives and programmes to promote sustainable development and economic growth through multi-stakeholder partnerships, between developing countries and between developed and developing countries to facilitate technology and knowledge transfer;12. International cooperation should be continuously enhanced amongst ITU Member States, Sector Members, Associates, Academia, and other partners and stakeholders to pursue sustainable development, through the use of telecommunications/ICTs;

EE.UU: International cooperation should be continuously enhanced amongst ITU Member States, Sector Members, Associates, Academia, and other partners stakeholders and initiatives to pursue sustainable development, through the use of telecommunications/ICTs;

MX: that international cooperation should be continuously enhanced amongst ITU Member States, Sector Members, Associates, Academia, and other partners and stakeholders to pursue sustainable development, through the use of telecommunications/ICTs;

**12. bis International cooperation should be continuously promoted and enhanced amongst ITU Member States, Sector Members, Associates, Academia, and other partners and stakeholders to pursue sustainable development, through the use of telecommunications/ICTs;**

13. ITU membership and other interested parties should cooperate in implementation of Connect 2020 global telecommunication/information and communication technology goals and targets.

MX: that ITU membership and other interested parties should cooperate in implementation of Connect 2020 global telecommunication/information and communication technology goals and targets.

**13. bis The regions have articulated their specific priorities in a set of regional initiatives, which can be found in the Buenos Aires Action Plan adopted by this conference. The implementations of these regional initiatives deserve high priority on the part of ITU-D and development partners.**

Accordingly, we, the delegates to the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-17), declare our commitment to accelerate the expansion and use of telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, applications and services for the timely attainment of the**Sustainable Development Goals and Targets set out in the Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**.

EE.UU: Accordingly, we, the delegates to the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-17), declare our commitment through multi-stakeholder partnerships, to catalyze the expansion and use of telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, applications and services for implementation of the WSIS Action Lines and the timely attainment of the **Sustainable Development Goals and Targets set out in the Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**.

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-17) calls upon ITU Member States, Sector Members, Associates, Academia and all other partners and stakeholders to contribute towards the successful implementation of the Buenos Aires Action Plan.

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