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| **Regional Preparatory Meeting for WTDC-17 for Asia and the Pacific (RPM-ASP)** | P:\SUP\Logos\Post-150th Anniv\ITU-logo-UNblue.jpg | |
| **Bali, Indonesia, 21-23 March 2017** | | |
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| **Cambodia (Kingdom of)** | | |
| PROPOSAL FOR PRIORITY AREAS AND KEY ISSUES IN ICT DEVELOPMENT FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION AND CONTRIBUTION | | |

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| **Priority area:**  Priority setting for Regional Initiatives, related projects and financing mechanisms  **Summary:**  This contribution reflects Cambodia’s view on the key priorities area on the ICT development for LDCs and developing countries. Cambodia proposes that there should be regional initiatives on the following areas for the upcoming WTDC including the Promoting research and development in ICT in developing countries, Regulatory framework for OTT, Next Generation USO for upcoming 5G, new spectrum management model and the expansion of the technical assistance and promoting the adoption of the IoT in developing countries.  **Expected results:**  Preliminary proposal for the meeting and the member states to further comment, input and discuss on the possibility of drafting common proposals for the WTDC.  **References:**  WTDC Final Acts 2014 |

**Proposal**

In recognize the important role of this meeting and the contribution to the development of ICT, administration of Cambodia would like to propose some issues related to ICT development as the preliminary proposal for the meeting and the member states to further comment, input and discuss on the possibility of drafting common proposals for the WTDC.

**a. Developing the strategic framework in supporting the Research and Development Activities in ICT in developing countries**

It should be the time for developing countries to start and promote their Research and Development Activities in term of ICT to further enhance their ICT development. It should be noted that R&D does not strictly limited to development of the Hi-Tech ICT application development or industrial parks but rather the application for the promotion sustainable development in ICT in their respective countries.

Some countries have come up with the supporting of small startup companies in building some applications with both development and financial objective in the sustainable way. However, further study is required to help promoting the ICT Research and Development activities in developing countries.

**b. Regulatory framework for OTT**

OTT has been the most debated topics in the past few years, due to the massive impacts on the development of ICT. The borderless of Internet has spread these services quickly to the people all corner of the world. While common citizens are enjoying the benefit of the OTT and applications, policymakers and regulators have been debating on how the regulation should be set and how to create a level playing field for this area.

Given the significant and rapid growth in the OTT services and applications, Cambodia is of the view that an applicable regulatory framework should be established to assist LDCs and developing nations in dealing with OTT industry.

**c. Next Generation USO model for upcoming 5G**

Universal Service Obligation Fund (USO fund) has played significant roles for connecting the rural and the underserved area to the rest of the world. Wireless communication such as 3G and 4G has provided the low-cost model for rural ICT development. The upcoming 5G development would change the landscape of the wireless communication and thus would also has significant effect on the existing USO model. The basic voice communication would be not relevant and also the data should be the focus of the new generation mobile communication.

Rural area will be no doubt connected, but the question is that enough? There should be new services, applications, funding model required? Our administration suggests that this question should be answered by the upcoming WTDC at the end of this year.

**d. New Spectrum Management and the expansion of technical assistance**

Spectrum Management is not a new issue, since the wireless communication has been used century ago. However, even with the enormous technical assistance in the past decades, LDCs and developing countries are still struggling to cope with the issue. Cambodia is in the view of supporting the proposals of other member states on including spectrum management issues in the agenda of the upcoming WTDC.

Further, our administration suggests that the technical assistance should not be strictly limited to the regulatory framework assistance but should be expanded to the equipment and applications that help the member states managing their frequency spectrum more effectively.

**e. Promoting adoption of IoT in developing countries**

It has been forecasted that IoT will play important role in the next generation ICT service and application. Several workshops have been proposed on IoT for ITU member states but it seems that the adoption of IoT is still very limited and development is also in the early stage in LDCs and developing countries. Some issues such as the cybersecurity, privacy, technical complexity and limitation and business model have been reported as the challenges on IoT adoption and diffusion.

Our administration suggest that this issue should be a priority in this meeting. More discussion, input and common from each member states is highly appreciated so that a common proposal on this matter can be established on this key issue.

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