



Vilnius, Lithuania, 27-28 April 2017

**Document RPM-EUR17/INF/11-E
26 April 2017
English only**

Director, Telecommunication Development Bureau

INFORMATION DOCUMENT FROM THE ARAB PREPARATORY GROUP

PREPARATIONS FOR WTDC-17

Summary:

This document contains a presentation by the Arab Preparatory Group on preparations for WTDC-17.

Expected results:

RPM-EUR is requested to note this document.

References:

N/A



ARAB PREPERATORY GROUP FOR WTDC 2017

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ARAB GROUP REPRESENTATIVE



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Arab group preparations for WTDC 2017

- The Arab preparatory group for the World Telecommunication Development Conference (2017) was established according to Resolution No. 487 of the 20th meeting of the Council of the Arab Ministers of Communications and Information (Abu Dhabi: 28/9/2016).
- The group is chaired by Mr. Nasser Bin Hammad (UAE).
- Vice- Chairmen:
 - Ms. Nermine El Saadany – Egypt
 - Mr. Faisal Baiouli – Tunisia
 - Mr. Jamal Amin – Sudan
 - Mr. Al Ansari Almashagbah – Jordan
 - Ms. Samera Bilal – Kuwait
 - Mr. Hassan Talib – Morocco
 - Musab Abdullah – Bahrain



Arab group preparations for WTDC 2017

- The first meeting was held in Cairo - Egypt from 21st to 22nd December 2016. In this meeting the Vice chairmen were elected and the main focus was on the Arab regional initiatives and the preparations for the Arab regional preparatory meeting.
- The second meeting was held in Khartoum – Sudan on Saturday 28th January 2017 followed by RPM-ARB.
- The regional preparatory meeting for the Arab region was held in Khartoum, Sudan from 30 January to 1 February 2017 at the kind invitation from of the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology and the National Telecommunications Corporation of Sudan (NTC).
- The RPM-ARB was preceded by the regional development forum which was held on 29 January.
- The third meeting of the Arab prep Group was held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia from 18 – 20 April 2017.



Regional Preparatory Meeting

- The meeting was attended by 195 participants representing 19 Member States and 1 Observer according to Resolution 99, 10 ITU-D Sector members, 6 international organizations and 1 ITU-D Sector Member from other regions.
- Dr Yahia Abdalla Mohamed, Director General of the National Telecommunications Corporation of Sudan, was elected as the Chairman of RPM-ARB.
- Vice-Chairmen:
 - Mr Nasser Bin Hamad, United Arab Emirates
 - Ms Nacima Rachedi, Algeria
 - Mr Ali Mohammed Alziyadi, Saudi Arabia
- The meeting received more than 40 input documents.



Arab Regional initiatives

✓ **Regional Initiative 1: Environment, Climate Change and Emergency Telecommunications**

Objective: raise awareness and provide support concerning the most significant challenges in the field of environment, climate change and emergency telecommunications; establish regulatory frameworks and take necessary measures to cope with the challenges in this field.

✓ **Regional Initiative 2: Confidence and Security in the Use of ICTs**

Objective: promote confidence and security in the use of ICTs, child online protection and combatting all forms of cyber threats including the misuse of information and communication technologies.

✓ **Regional Initiative 3: Digital Financial Inclusion**

Objective: support and enable access to and use of digital financial services by means of using telecommunications and information technology and achieving high levels of digital financial inclusion.



Arab Regional initiatives

✓ **Regional Initiative 4: Internet of Things, Smart Cities and Big Data**

Objective: raise awareness regarding the importance of future challenges in the era of Internet of things and big data and how to address such challenges; establish regulatory frameworks and take the measures that help cope with the rapid change in the field of telecommunications and information technology, and seek the transition to smart cities and communities.

✓ **Regional Initiative 5: Innovation and Entrepreneurship**

Objective: build capacities and raise awareness of the culture of innovation and entrepreneurship, in particular for youth and women empowerment, with the aim of (adapting/leveraging/harnessing/using) ICT tools for establishing projects and undertaking economic activities that enable the creation of employment opportunities.



WTDC Resolutions (MOD)

- **Resolution 1:** Rules of procedure of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector
- **Resolution 2:** Establishment of study groups
- **Resolution 9:** Participation of countries, particularly developing countries, in Spectrum Management.
- **Resolution 18:** Special technical assistance to Palestine.
- **Resolution 20:** Non-discriminatory access to modern telecommunication/information and communication technology facilities, services and related applications.
- **Resolution 21:** Coordination and collaboration with regional organizations.
- **Resolution 22:** Alternative calling procedures on international telecommunication networks, identification of origin and apportionment of revenues in providing international telecommunication services
- **Resolution 23:** Internet access and availability for developing countries and charging principles for international Internet connection
- **Resolution 30:** Role of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society



WTDC Resolutions (MOD)

- **Resolution 37:** Bridging the digital divide.
 - **Resolution 45:** Mechanisms for enhancing cooperation on cybersecurity, including countering and combating spam.
 - **Resolution 47:** Enhancement of knowledge and effective application of ITU Recommendations in developing countries, including conformance and interoperability testing of systems manufactured on the basis of ITU Recommendations.
 - **Resolution 51:** Provision of assistance and support to Iraq to rebuild and re-equip its public telecommunication systems
 - **Resolution 59:** Strengthening coordination and cooperation among the three ITU Sectors on matters of mutual interest.
 - **Resolution 62:** Measurement concerns related to human exposure to electromagnetic fields
 - **Resolution 66:** Information and communication technology and climate change.
- Resolution 79:** The role of telecommunications/information and communication technologies in combating and dealing with counterfeit telecommunication/information and communication devices.



WTDC Resolutions (Sub/Merge)

- Arab group is considering merging:
- **Resolution 17:** Implementation of regionally approved initiatives at the national, regional, interregional and global levels, and **Resolution 32:** International and regional cooperation on regional initiatives.
- **Resolution 37:** Bridging the digital divide, and **Resolution 50:** Optimal integration of information and communication technologies.



WTDC Resolutions (ADD)

- ***New Resolution:*** Combatting mobile telecommunication device theft
- ***New Resolution: Assistance and support to Libya for rebuilding its telecommunication networks.***
- ***New Resolution: Assistance and support to Yemen for rebuilding its telecommunication networks.***



Next Meeting

- ***Next meeting (4th meeting) is scheduled to take place at the Arab group headquarter in Cairo (unless one the Arab countries hosts the meeting) from 20 to 23 August 2017.***

Thank you for your kind Attention

