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| C:\Users\ponder\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.Word\BDT-25th_anniversary_2017-Logo_411959-3_transparent.png | **Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG)**  **22nd Meeting, Geneva, 9-12 May 2017** | C:\Users\murphy\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.Outlook\PQ94T9LJ\bd_E_25Years_Horizontal-411959 (003).jpg |
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|  | | **Document** **TDAG17-22/****46-E** |
|  | | **24 April 2017** |
|  | | **Original:** **Chinese** |
| China ( People's Republic of) | | |
| PROPOSAL to optimize indicator working mechanisms | | |
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| **Summary:**  With the rapid development of ICTs, especially the stride forward in development in some developing countries, and the deep convergence of ICTs with other industries, the measuring standards and methodologies of ICT development level should be adjusted constantly. To achieve that, we propose to further optimize the ITU-D indicator working mechanism to strengthen the research of IDI in order to reflect more objectively and comprehensively the ICT development status in all countries and regions.  **Action required:**  TDAG is invited to consider this document and take the required action.  **References:**  N/A | | |

**I Background**

WTDC Resolution 8 (Rev. Dubai, 2017), “Collection and dissemination of information and statistics”, proposed that BDT should:

1. monitor the development and improvement of methodologies relevant to indicators and methods of data collection, through consultation with Member States and experts, particularly by means of World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium (WTIS);

2. review, revise and further develop benchmarking and ensure that ICT indicators and the single ICT Development Index (IDI) and the ICT Price Basket reflect the real development of the ICT sector, taking into consideration different levels of development and national circumstances, in application of the WSIS outcomes;

3. to consult regularly with Member States as to the definition of indicators and methodologies for data collection;

WTDC Resolution 37 (Rev. Dubai, 2017), “Bridging the digital divide” proposed that BDT should:

1. continue to follow up the work in creating social connectivity indicators for the digital divide, standard indicators for each country and a single index, in cooperation with the competent organizations in the relevant United Nations agencies, using available statistics so that charts can be compiled to illustrate the current situation of the digital divide in each country and region.

At present, BDT has contributed greatly to the ICT statistics and ICT indicators, the annual report of “Measuring the Information Society” illustrates objectively the ICT development status in different countries and regions all over the world, which attracts more and more countries’ attention and allows important efforts of the international society to measure and bridge the digital divide gradually.

However, with the rapid development of ICTs, especially the stride forward in development in some developing countries, and the deep convergence of ICTs with other industries, the measuring standards and methodologies of ICT development level should be adjusted constantly. To achieve that, we propose to further optimize the ITU-D indicator working mechanism to strengthen the research of IDI in order to reflect more objectively and comprehensively the ICT development status in all countries and regions.

**II Recommendation**

1. Upgrade the Indicator Export Group to Indicator Study Group, carry out research, summary and reporting regularly to form the complete and standardized work procedure. We propose that the indicator working mechanism should adopt the method of contribution input, which is widely considered a formal mechanism, to supplement the present expert forum and to gain a more in-depth, professional and detailed experience and advice on statistics data from different countries; we propose that the work document with ppt format should be replaced by a formal summary report to access and reference effectively by all the countries. In addition, BDT should take the majority of countries’ demands and benefits into consideration in the future work plan, the set-up of important topics and the approval of relative resolutions.

2. Enhance the timeliness of IDI and to ensure that it matches ICT development. Consider the ICT development trend and the application convergence between different industries, we propose to optimize the indicator system further on the basis of the EGTI / EGH extra-ordinary meeting:

First, we propose to reduce the weight of indicator ‘International Internet bandwidth per Internet user’, because many non-English speaking countries do not have the same strong demand on the international export bandwidth as the English speaking countries considering the language, culture and other factors. However, this difference is not reflected in the IDI index.

Second, we propose to reduce the weight of ICT skill indicators appropriately or to divide them from the IDI index, because the reference meaning of this kind indicator has been weakened with the easier access of mobile internet and high penetration rate of smart terminal.

Third, we propose that BDT should consider further to absorb the internet related indicators, such as E-commerce, into the IDI indicator system because this kind of indicators conform to the fast development trend of internet. At the same time, we propose that the key indexes should be published in the first half of a year as possible and BDT should consult with every countries for confirmation before they are released.

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