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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 | **World Telecommunication Development Conference 2017 (WTDC-17)**  **Buenos Aires, Argentina, 9-20 October 2017** | C:\Users\ponder\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.Word\BDT-25th_anniversary_2017-Logo_411959-1_transparent.png |
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|  | | **Document** **WTDC-17/****18-E** |
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| Director, Telecommunication Development Bureau | | |
| Report on ITU-D 25th Anniversary celebrations | | |
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| **Summary:**  This report provides information on the 25th Anniversary of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector, as well as on the anniversary celebrations, sponsorship opportunities and promotional activities.  The ITU Telecommunication Development Sector was established in 1992 by the Additional Plenipotentiary Conference held in Geneva, Switzerland.  **Expected results:**  WTDC-17 is invited to note this document.  **References:**  TDAG17-22/19 | | |

1. **Background**

In accordance with Resolution 55, adopted by the Nice Plenipotentiary Conference in 1989, Member States established the High Level Committee to examine how ITU could respond effectively to the challenges of a changing telecommunication environment, based on a review of the structure and functioning of ITU. The Committee concluded its work with a report entitled “Tomorrow’s ITU: The challenges of change”, which recommended that the substantive work of ITU was to be organized in three Sectors: Development, Standardization and Radiocommunication[[1]](#footnote-2). The recommendations contained in the report were adopted by the 1992 Additional Plenipotentiary Conference held in Geneva, Switzerland.

1. **25TH Anniversary celebrations**

Several activities are planned to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector. These activities include:

* **Ministerial roundtables**: Two ministerial roundtables will be held at WTDC-17 on Wednesday, 11 October from 14:30 to 17:30. The debates will feature thought leaders who will discuss the impact of ICTs for SDGs and debate on the future of the digital economy. High-level interventions at the minister and head of regulatory authority level will be enriched by contributions from representatives of the private sector, civil society, technical community and academia. Visionary speakers will open the multistakeholder dialogues.
* **Gala Dinner**: A Gala Dinner is scheduled to be held on 11 October from 19:30 at the Hotel Alvear Icon, Buenos Aires. It will be a major gathering to celebrate ITU-D. The Gala Dinner will be open to all the WTDC-17participants. The evening will feature a special interactive programme accompanied by several performances. Invitees are encouraged to wear their national dress; otherwise black tie dress code will be recommended.
* **Awards:** During the Gala Dinner long-standing members of ITU-D will be presented with special awards. Awards will also be given to selected stakeholders in recognition of their past and current contributions to ITU-D projects.
* **Digital timeline**: An interactive web-based digital timeline, featuring the milestones of ITU-D, is available at the following link [www.itu.int/itu-d25/timeline](http://www.itu.int/itu-d25/timeline). A special interactive version of the timeline will be available at WTDC-17.
* **Achievements:** A special webpage featuring the achievements of ITU-D is available at the following link [www.itu.int/itu-d25/achievements](http://www.itu.int/itu-d25/achievements). The achievements show how ITU-D’s work and activities have helped make a difference in people’s lives.
* **25th Anniversary of ITU-D: Telling the story:** A number of interviews have been conducted and testimonies collected with key personalities who have played a key role in the 25 years of the Sector including past BDT Directors, former and current WTDC and TDAG chairmen. The interviews are posted on the ITU website (link to be provided) promoted via social media and screened at WTDC-17.

1. **Sponsorship opportunities**

With the aim of defraying operational costs of the 25th Anniversary-related activities the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) has been offering a number of sponsorship packages. An overview of the sponsorship packages is available at the following link: [www.itu.int/go/en/itudsponsorships](http://www.itu.int/go/en/itudsponsorships). Each sponsorship package features a wide range of benefits. The Remaining resources will be used as the seed money for the implementation of the Regional Initiatives that will be adopted at WTDC-17.

1. **Promotional and communication**

A number of activities have been planned to promote the 25th Anniversary. They include:

* A special 25th Anniversary logo that integrates the official colour of the Sustainable Development Goals. The logo is used in all promotional materials and official correspondence. The logo is also featured on a 25th Anniversary pin that will be distributed at various events in 2017.
* A dedicated [webpage](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Pages/ITU-D-25-Anniversary.aspx) has been created featuring the ITU-D achievements over the past 25 years.
* An anniversary booklet, a photo gallery of historic photos and featured stories are also being developed and are posted on the ITU-D 25th Anniversary webpage.
* Social media will be a key communication channel and will use the hashtags: #ITUD25 and #ITUWTDC.

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1. “The substantive work of the ITU should be organized in three Sectors: Development, Standardization and Radiocommunication. The Standardization Sector should include the current work of the International Telegraph and Telephone Consultative Committee (CCITT) and some standardization work currently done by the International Radio Consultative Committee (CCIR). The Radiocommunication Sector should include most of the current CCIR work and that of the International Frequency Registration Board (IFRB) and its specialized secretariat. The division of responsibilities between the Standardization and Radiocommunication Sectors will be kept under review and adjusted when necessary to meet changing needs and to ensure efficiency. The Development Sector should encompass the current work of the Telecommunications Development Bureau (BDT). The distinct functions originally envisaged for the Centre for Telecommunications Development should be integrated into the BDT.” [↑](#footnote-ref-2)