|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Logo  Description automatically generated | | **Regional Preparatory Meeting  for WTDC-21 for the Americas (RPM-AMS) Virtual, 26-27 April 2021** | | A close up of a sign  Description automatically generated |
|  | |  | |
|  | | **Document** **RPM-AMS21/DT/4-E** | |
|  | | **27 April 2021** | |
|  | | **English only** | |
| Chairman, RPM-AMS | | | |
| Report by the RPM-AMs Chairman | | | |
|  | | | |

# Introduction

The Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Americas (RPM-AMS) was organized online by the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), in collaboration with the government of Peru and the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL), from 26 to 27 April 2021.

The objective of RPM-AMS was to identify priorities at the regional level, for the development of telecommunications and information and communication technologies (ICTs), taking into account contributions submitted by Member States and ITU-D Sector Members from the region. The meeting concluded with a set of proposals on priority areas that will serve as basis for the formulation of contributions to the World Telecommunication Development Conference, to be held in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia), from 8 to 19 November 2021 (WTDC-21). WTDC-21 will consider the ITU-D activities to be carried out over the next four-year period (2022-2025).

This report gives an account of the work and results of RPM-AMS.

# Participation

The meeting was attended by 228 participants including 130 delegates representing 24 Member States from Americas region, 26 participants from Sector Members, 15 participants representing 6 Observer ITU-D Sector Member, 10 participants from Academia, 8 from United Nations System, 18 guests and 3 participants from 2 Observer Sector Members. There were, 129 men and 95 women participants (+4 non-binary)]. The list of participants can be found [here](https://www.itu.int/CookieAuth.dll?GetLogon?curl=Z2FonlineZ2FmmZ2FscriptsZ2FsZ2Fgensel23Z3F_eventZ3DC-00009416Z26_event_typeZ3DZ5ASEDZ26_dspnumZ3DZ26_sortZ3DZ26_filtertxtZ3DZ26_filtertxt2Z3DZ26lstsubmeetZ3DZ26_sgZ3DZ26_presenceZ3DZ2BZ26_includeitustaffZ3DonZ26_includestaffZ3DonZ26_includesecurfamilyZ3Don&reason=0&formdir=10).

# Informal meeting of Heads of delegation

Considering that some representatives head of delegations experienced technical issues to connect to the session, the secretary of the event in consultation with present heads of delegations and ITU Authorities, decided to cancel the meeting to continue directly with the first session of the RPM-AMS meeting.

# Opening ceremony

The opening ceremony included high-level interventions. All interventions are posted on the [RPM-AMS website](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Conferences/WTDC/WTDC21/Pages/RPM-AMS.aspx). The speakers of the opening ceremony included the following:

**Ms Doreen Bogdan-Martin**, Director, Telecommunication Development Bureau, ITU.

**Ms Elisabeth Diaz**, Senior Coordination Officer, UN Development Coordination Office for Latin American and the Caribbean

**Mr Oscar Leon**, Executive Secretary, CITEL

**Mr Diego Eloy Carrillo,** Communications Vice Minister of Peru

# Election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen

The meeting recommended that the host country, this year being the virtual host, Peru, would nominate H. E Diego Eloy Carrillo, Communications Vice minister of Peru, as the Chairman of RPM-AMS for WTDC-21. The recommendation was unanomosly endorsed by the attendees.

The meeting also recommended the appointment of Ms Andrea Grippa, Brazil, Ms Kelly O´Keefe, USA and Ms Xian Persaud, Bahamas as Vice-Chairpersons. Attendees also unanomosly endorsed this recommendation.

Mr Bruno Ramos, Regional Director of the ITU Office for Americas, was introduced by Ms Doreen Bogdan-Martin, BDT Director, as the Secretary of RPM-AMS.

# Adoption of the agenda and time management plan

The RPM-AMS had received 15 documents: 12 contributions for action (4 from Secretariat, 3 from TDAG-WG chairmen, 5 from membership being one of which after the deadline; 3 contributions for information (1 from Secretariat, 2 from membership).

To start the meeting, RPM-AMS agreed to accept all contributions.

As first document of the RPM-AMS was presented the agenda. The meeting approved the agenda as presented in [Document 1](https://www.itu.int/md/D18-RPMAMS-210426-TD-0001/en)(Rev.1).

The second Document presented was the Time Management Plan. The Chaiman opened the floor for comments, no comments were receive and having examined all the inputs related to ITU-D action areas, the meeting adopted the proposed draft time management plan ([Document DT/1](https://www.itu.int/md/D18-RPMAMS-210426-TD-0001/en)(Rev.1)). All the meeting documents are available on the [RPM-AMS document management website.](https://www.itu.int/md/D18-RPMAMS-210426/sum/en)

# Digital trends in Americas

[**Document 2**](https://www.itu.int/md/D18-RPMAMS-C-0002/en): The document titled “**Digital trends in Americas“** was presented by Mr Pablo Palacios, Programme Officer at the ITU Area Office in Chile.

This document provides an overview of trends and developments in ICT infrastructure, access and use in Americas, which includes 35 Member States and is home to a population of about 1 billion inhabitants. It highlights changes in ICT adoption since the last World Telecommunication Development Conference in 2017 (WTDC-17) and during the COVID-19 pandemic, tracks the evolution of regulation, and reviews progress and challenges in implementing the ITU regional initiatives for Americas. Its objective is to serve as a reference for the ITU membership in reviewing progress and identifying ICT development priorities in Americas.

After the presentation, the Chairman opened the floor for comments. No comments were received and the RPM-AMS welcomed and noted the contribution.

# Reporting on the implementation of the Buenos Aires Action Plan (including the Regional Initiatives), and contribution to the implementation of the WSIS Plan of Action and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

[**Document 3**:](https://www.itu.int/md/D18-RPMAMS-C-0003/en) The document entitled “**Result-Based Management (RBM) implementation in BDT**” was introduced on behalf of the Director of BDT by Mr Stephen Bereaux, Deputy to the BDT Director. In 2019, BDT embarked on a comprehensive overhaul of its use of results-based management (RBM) to equip the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) for the challenges of a rapidly changing development landscape and make it Fit4Purpose. This reform introduces RBM for the implementation of all work programmes, as a managerial decision and monitoring tool, and to provide the evidence to demonstrate BDT's impact. RBM also serves as the platform to engage with internal and external partners, and to replicate and scale up successful projects and work programme initiatives.

Mr Stephen Bereaux was invited to present the Document 4 by Mr Bruno Ramos, Secretary of RPM-AMS.

[**Document 4**](https://www.itu.int/md/D18-RPMAMS-C-0004/en): The document titled entitled “**Reporting on the implementation of the Buenos Aires Action Plan (including the Regional Initiatives), and contribution to the implementation of the WSIS Plan of Action and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)”** was presented by Mr Stephen Bereaux, Deputy to the BDT Director.

[Document 4](https://www.itu.int/md/D18-RPMAMS-C-0004/en) reports on the implementation of the BaAP, and its contribution to the implementation of the WSIS Plan of Action and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It also highlights the change that the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), the executing arm of ITU-D, has undergone to ensure that it is able to keep pace with the fast-changing environment in which it serves.

Mr Chairman opened the flor for comments to the Documents 3 and 4. No comments were received. The RPM-AMS meeting noted the contributions.

Document 4 [Annex 2](https://www.itu.int/md/D18-RPMAMS-C-0004/en) *focusing on the implementation of the Regional Priorities* was presented by Mr. Randall Treviño on behalf of the Regional Director of the ITU for the Americas. Chairman also draws attention to the Information of Document 4 Annex 1 being an extensive report on 3 years of implementation of regional initiatives and the 10 Thematic Priorities.

The ITU World Telecommunication Development Conference in 2017 (WTDC-17) convened in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and adopted the [Buenos Aires Action Plan](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Conferences/WTDC/WTDC17/Documents/WTDC17_final_report_en.pdf) (BaAP). The plan, which includes the ITU-D programmes, a set of regional initiatives, and new and revised resolutions, recommendations and study group Questions, defines the mandate, objectives and priorities of the ITU Development Sector (ITU-D) for the period 2018-2021. It also aligns the Development Sector work with the strategic objectives of ITU to allow countries to harness the full benefits of ICTs.

Document 4 [Annex 2](https://www.itu.int/md/D18-RPMAMS-C-0004/en)outlines all activities undertaken by ITU between 2018 and 2020, as a direct response to the expected results of the ITU regional initiatives for Americas region, which consists of 35 countries. Activities presented in this document depict outcomes and generated impact per Regional Initiative as well as per activity. They are grouped in chronological order per topic. All activities carried out under the ITU Regional Initiatives for Americas are directly linked to and coordinated within the corresponding BDT Thematic Priorities, thus strengthening ITU’s delivery and impact at the regional and national levels. The annex highlights the contribution of activities to the work of the ITU study groups, as well as ITU’s contribution to the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines and Sustainable Development Goals.

Regional initiatives are the five priority areas that were elaborated and agreed by the members of Americas region and approved by the World Telecommunication Development Conference, held in 2017 in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and are described in the Buenos Aires Action Plan(BaAP). Regional initiatives are intended to address specific telecommunication/ICT priority areas that require special action of ITU at the regional level. Under each regional initiative, a set of activities, initiatives, partnerships, and projects have been developed to meet the region's needs. Annual ITU Regional Development Forums have been serving as coordination mechanisms, facilitating implementation of the regional initiatives. The ITU regional initiatives for Americas are as follows:

* AMS1: Disaster risk reduction and management communications.
* AMS 2: Spectrum management and transition to digital broadcasting.
* AMS3: Deployment of broadband infrastructure, especially in rural and neglected areas, and strengthening of broadband access to services and applications.
* AMS4: Accessibility and affordability for an inclusive and sustainable Americas Region.
* AMS5: Development of the digital economy, smart cities and communities and the Internet of Things, promoting innovation.

After the presentation, Mr Chairman opened the floor for comments. No comments were received. The RPM-AMS meeting welcomed and noted the contribution Document 4 Annexes 1 and 2.

# Report on the implementation of outcomes of other ITU Conferences, Assemblies and meetings related to ITU-D work: PP-18, WRC-19, RA-19, and WTSA-16

[**Document 5**](https://www.itu.int/md/D18-RPMAMS-C-0005/en): The document, entitled **Report on the implementation of outcomes of other ITU Conferences, Assemblies and meetings related to ITU-D work: PP-18, WRC-19, RA-19, and WTSA-16,** was introduced Mr. Marco Obiso, acting Chief of Department on behalf of the BDT Director.

The document provides a comprehensive view of the implementation of the ITU conferences relevant to the work of ITU-D, based on a mapping exercise conducted by BDT to link the BDT thematic focus areas with the relevant ITU resolutions, the WSIS action lines, the BDT study groups, SDGs and the targets of the Connect 2020 Agenda

After the presentation, Mr Chairman opened the floor for comments. No Comments were received. RPM-AMS meeting welcomed and noted the contribution.

# Preparation for WTDC‑21

# Report of the TDAG Working Group on WTDC Preparations (TDAG-WG-Prep)

[**Document 6:**](https://www.itu.int/md/D18-RPMAMS-C-0006/en) The document entitled **Final report of the TDAG Working Group on WTDC Preparations (TDAG-WG-Prep)** was presented by Mr Santiago Reyes-Borda, Chairman of the TDAG-WG on WTDC Preparations. It contains a final report on the work of the TDAG Working Group on WTDC Preparations (TDAG-WG-Prep), including those items where the group had not reached a consensus and TDAG-20/3 took a decision.

The Chairman reminded participants about two important initiatives Americas region is involved in, namely: meaningful Youth engagement through the [Generation Connect – Americas Youth Group](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/Americas/Pages/GC-AMS.aspx) and the [Network of Women (NoW)](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Conferences/WTDC/WTDC21/NoW/Pages/Events/Regional/AMS/2021_04.aspx) for the Telecommunication Development Sector, officially launched on the 7th of April. For the first time, these Initiatives are part of the preparatory process for WTDC. Moreover the Chairman advised that the Working Ggroup has fulfilled its terms of reference and submitted the final report of the Working Group outcomes to TDAG-21.

Mr Chairman opened the floor for comments. No comments were received. The RPM-AMS meeting noted the Document.

# Report of the TDAG Working Group on WTDC Resolutions, Declaration and Thematic Priorities (TDAG-WG-RDTP)

[**Document 7:**](https://www.itu.int/md/D18-RPMAMS-C-0007/en) The document entitled **Report of the meeting of the TDAG Working Group on Resolutions, Declaration and Thematic Priorities (TDAG-WG-RDTP)** was presented by Dr Ahmad Reza Sharafat, Chairman, TDAG Working Group on WTDC Resolutions, Declaration and Thematic Priorities. It contains the progress report of the meeting of the TDAG Working Group on Resolutions, Declaration and Thematic Priorities (TDAG-WG-RDTP). The group will continue its work and submit its Final Report to TDAG-21.

During discussions, it was proposed that streamlining of resolutions across different Sectors may be done by adopting resolutions of the Plenipotentiary Conference. Study group Questions should also be as vertical as possible to avoid duplications.

On the other hand, it was noted that the Questions should be kept as they are to the extent possible, to ensure continuity of work on important areas of work.

The presenter addressed the comments, assuring that consultations are under way on the best way forward to ensure that study group Questions are as focused as possible and that they address the most important areas of work proposed during TDAG. The presenter also mentioned that a clear understanding on the way forward is aimed for at the next TDAG meeting.

After the presentation, the Chairman opened the floor for comments. No comments were received. RPM-AMS meeting welcomed and noted the contribution.

[**Document 11:**](https://www.itu.int/md/D18-RPMAMS-C-0011/en) The document entitled **Proposed Regional View on Thematic Priorities** was presented by Ms Kelly O´Keefe, USA.

The Document describes that CITEL has been meeting within its Conferences Working Group to consider the ongoing work of the TDAG and RDTP. They have appreciated the discussions over the past months regarding a Fit4Purpose BDT and how to orient our work towards measurable outcomes and more focused and implementable thematic priorities.

This document proposes Americas regional/CITEL views on the thematic priorities based on the draft **Proposal for ITU-D Thematic Priorities (WTDC-21)** presented by the Chair to the 5th meeting of the TDAG WG-RDTP.

The understanding is that these Thematic Priorities will be contained in the Addis Ababa Action Plan under the section that had programmes in all previous WTDCs.

After the presentation, the Chairman opened the floor for comments. No comments were received. The RPM-AMS meeting noted the Document.

# TDAG Working Group on Strategic and Operational Plans (TDAG-WG-SOP)

[**Document 8:**](https://www.itu.int/md/D18-RPMAMS-C-0008/en) The document entitled **Report on the meeting of TDAG Working Group on Strategic and Operational Plans (TDAG-WG-SOP)** was introduced by Ms Blanca González, TDAG Vice-Chairman, Ministry of Energy, Tourism and Digital Agenda (Spain). It contains a report on the activities of the TDAG Working Group on Strategic and Operational Plans (TDAG-WG-SOP) since its creation. It also contains some recommendations on the way forward, that TDAG-20/3 approved.

During the session Ms. Blanca emphasized on the need for a holistic approach to ensure the participation of all the stakeholders, and improve the linkages between the action plan and the Strategic Plan.

After the presentation, Mr Chairman opened the fllor for comments. Mr Santiago Reyes of Canada expressed that TDAG in May will define the contribution in the Strategic Plan, in June will be created the Working Group for the financial plans of the Region. Mr Reyes expressed the importance to receive the supplies that will be concluded for the TDAG.

RPM-AMS meeting welcomed and noted the contribution.

Mr Stephen Bereaux commented to the intervention from Canada. TDAG will meet at the end of May, where on consultation will have an answer about the possibility to postpone the WTDC, or not.

# Priority setting for Regional Initiatives, related projects and financing mechanisms

The Chairman of the RPM-AMS, informed that two contributions were received related to the identification of Regional Priority Areas and invited the contributors to present their inputs Specifically the following contributions were presented.

[**Document 10:**](https://www.itu.int/md/D18-RPMAMS-C-0010/en)The document on **Regional Priorities for the Americas 2022-2025** was introduced by Daniel Carletti, Argentina.

The document indicates that the Priorities for 2022 to 2025 need to consider the COVID19 pandemic, the inclusion of minorities and vulnerable secotors.

The document considers a further socioeconomic construction post COVID, the principles of afordaibilty and accessibility. They propose the deployment of infrastrcuture with enphasis to LDCs, LLDC, etc.

Another aspect is the digital literacy to the use of emerging technologies, the inclusion of women in ICTs, inclusion of less attended communities. Also indicated the need to enhance the digital ecosystem and include all stakeholders and build aliances to connect the no-connected.

Mr Chairman opened the floor for comments. No comments were received. The RPM-AMS meeting noted and noted the Document.

[**Document 9:**](https://www.itu.int/md/D18-RPMAMS-C-0009/en)The document on **Regional Priorities for the Americas 2022-2025** was introduced by Diana Gómez, Mexico. It provides a proposal advocating for the importance of revising the regonal initiatives in a way that reflects the progress made in telecommunications/ICTs in a manner that ensures that the needs of the Americas Region are met by contributing to achieving the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. The contribution sheds light on the proposed regional priorities and they are namely as follows:

1. Deployment of modern infrastructure focused on less developing countries, LDCs, LLDCS, etc. we need to deploy community networks, develop broadband plans consider rural communities.
2. Digital literacy, new applications and services: we need to develop human capacity, projects, and programs on digital capacity.
3. We need to improve the transformation of the digital ecosystem.
4. We need to develope a regulatory framwork to connect the unconnected.

Mr Chairman opened the floor for comments. No comments were received. The RPM-AMS meeting noted and noted the Document.

[**Document 13:**](https://www.itu.int/md/D18-RPMAMS-C-0010/en)The document on **Caribbean Priorities for Developing Regional Priorities for the Americas 2022-2025** was introduced by Mr Taylor Rodney, Secretary General of CTU.

Mr Rodney welcomed the support of ITU on digital transformation, digital economy, the building of capacity, and the help provided to the Member States and highlighted that it is needed to develop digital ecosystem, develop jobs, promote harmonized regulation, digital payments, ecomerce, e-entreprenurship, etc. Mr Rodney reiterated that it is needed to deploy enabling environment, develop natonal ICTs, include persons with disabilities, encourage tha participation of women, and youth, etc.

Mr Chairman opened the floor for comments. No comments were received. The RPM-AMS meeting noted and noted the Document.

Mr Santiago Reyes commented that the Delegation of USA and of Canada worked in a document that sumarizes the contribution Documents about the Regional Initiatives. The proposal is to conform a Working Group to draft a Document based on this proposal to define the Regional Initiatives. The invited participating members for the Working Group are from Argentina, Brasil, Canada, Mexico, USA and CTU. The Drafting Group was open to all participants in RPM-AMS.

The Working Group started the work and the review of the proposed Documents on Regional Initiatives. Mr Miguel Alcaine and Mr Randall Trevino were assigned as the secretariat for the Working Group.

Ms Xian Persaud, Bahamas was appointed as the Chair of the Drafting Group to find consensus on the Regional Priorities for the Americas Region for the 2022-2025 period.

The meeting proceeded orderly to review the document DT-2. First, the introduction followed by the 4 Regional Priorities. After exchanges on some key amendments to the document, the meeting reached consensus. The Regional Priorities agreed were:

* **[AMS-1**: Deployment of modern, resilient, secure and sustainable telecommunication/ICT infrastructure
* **AMS-2:** Enhancement and expansion of digital literacy, skills and inclusion programs, especially among vulnerable populations.
* **AMS-3**: Effective support for the digital transformation and innovation ecosystems in the Americas through scalable, funded and sustainable connectivity projects
* **AMS-4**: Development of enabling policy and regulatory environments to connect the unconnected in the Americas region through accessible and affordable telecommunications/ICTs that support the achievement of SDGs.]

**The Americas Priorities for 2022-2025:**

RPM-AMS agreed to create a drafting group that was chaired by Ms Andrea Grippa, Vice-Chairman of the RPM-AMS. The consolidated proposal was presented to the plenary [TD/4] and discussed in detail.

RPM-AMS approved four proposed regional priorities for Americas for the period 2022-2025, as follows:

* **[AMS-1**: Deployment of modern, resilient, secure and sustainable telecommunication/ICT infrastructure
* **AMS-2:** Enhancement and expansion of digital literacy, skills and inclusion programs, especially among vulnerable populations.
* **AMS-3**: Effective support for the digital transformation and innovation ecosystems in the Americas through scalable, funded and sustainable connectivity projects
* **AMS-4**: Development of enabling policy and regulatory environments to connect the unconnected in the Americas region through accessible and affordable telecommunications/ICTs that support the achievement of SDGs.]

These regional priorities will be submitted to COM-CITEL meeting, taking place remotely from 1 to 3 December 2021, for comments and further processing towards submission to the WTDC-21 as an Inter-American Proposal (IAP).

RPM-AMS welcomed and noted the contribution.

# Other business

**Generation Connect – Americas Youht Group**

[**Document 12**](https://www.itu.int/md/D18-RPMAMS-C-0012/en)**:** The document entitled **Generation Connect - Americas Youth Group: "Call to Action for ICT Development in the Americas region Towards 2025** was presented by Ms Ana Veneroso, ITU Programme Coordinator, as a contribution of the Director, BDT on behalf of the Generation Connect. It contains the inputs of the representatives of [Generation Connect Americas](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/Americas/Pages/GC-AMS.aspx) (GC-AMS) group - comprised by 15 youth envoys - and was based on the discussions related to main challenges and opportunities identified by youth from the Americas region for a sustainable ICT development. The results of these discussions are reflected in the Call to Action that has been built around five thematic priority areas identified by the GC- AMS members: Capacity Development; Network & Digital Infrastructure; Digital Innovation Ecosystem; Digital Inclusion and Digital Services, including some thoughts on Emergency Telecommunications in the region.

GC-AMS aims at providing a unique participative process for youth to virtually discuss regional opportunities and challenges related to digital technologies. Through this platform, youth can share their interests, concerns and perspectives on digital transformation, especially in the context of the RPM-AMS and the WTDC-21.

During the RPM-AMS, a side event on GC-AMS was carried out and three youth representatives moderated the sessions. The side event was an opportunity for a diologue on thoughts and insights on the common major digital issues facing young people in the Americas and their perspectives on the future of digital communication. The young participants will continue to be engaged in Generation Connect Initiatives on the journey to WTDC-21 and the preceding Generation Connect Youth Summit.

**Network of Women (NoW)**

RPM AMS established the [Network of Women](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Conferences/WTDC/WTDC21/NoW/Pages/Events/Regional/AMS/2021_04.aspx) (NoW) for the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector as the fourth regional network to be launched by ITU BDT. This initiative aims at building a community to support female delegates, expand their network, and advocate and share experiences and knowledge with other female delegates. The Network of Women also aims at promoting the active participation of women in ITU activities and the ICT sector in general.

During the RPM-AMS, a side event of the Network of Women (NoW) was carried out. NoW aims at encouraging gender balance in the activities leading up to the WTDC-21.

**i-CoDI**

A presentation on the [International Center of Digital Innovation](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Pages/I-CoDI.aspx) (I-CoDI) was made by Mr Alex Wong, Senior Strategy Advisor, BDT, which was well received by the participants. Reference was made to the relevance of i-CoDI since it can support ITU Members, Sector Members and other key stakeholders to integrate innovation into their national development agendas and activities. Taking into consideration that innovation is a critical priority for the BDT as per the Connect 2030 Agenda, the main objectives of i-CoDI were highlighted: Support Member States integrate telecommunication/ICT innovation into their national development agendas; Pprovide a service to key ITU/BDT constituents in order to help integrate telecommunication/ICT innovation into their activities; and develop the capacity within ITU/BDT to integrate innovation in their day to day activities.

RPM-AMS noted all these initiatives.

# Main outcomes

RPM-AMS, after considering all input documents and discussions, came to the following conclusions:

* RPM-AMS considered the final Report of **TDAG Working Group on WTDC Preparations (TDAG-WG-Prep)** welcoming all innovations proposed so far and reiterating the importance of involvement of youth and equal participation of women in WTDC.
* RPM-AMS considered the final Report of **TDAG Working Group on Resolutions, Declaration and Thematic Priorities (TDAG-WG-RDTP)** underlining the importance of the outcomes and proposals therein, considering strengthened involvement of Americas facilitated by CITEL.
* RPM-AMS considered the final Report of **TDAG Working Group on Strategic and Operational Plans (TDAG-WG-SOP)** drawing the attention to the importance of aligning BDT activities with the goals of the Union.
* RPM-AMS recognized that the ITU-D regional priorities constitute an effective mechanism for fostering implementation of the WSIS outcomes and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.
* RPM-AMS approved four regional priorities for Americas for the period 2022-2025, for submission to WTDC-21 as follows:
* [**AMS-1:** Deployment of modern, resilient, secure and sustainable telecommunication/ICT infrastructure
* **AMS-2**: Enhancement and expansion of digital literacy, skills and inclusion programs, especially among vulnerable populations.
* **AMS-3:** Effective support for the digital transformation and innovation ecosystems in the Americas through scalable, funded and sustainable connectivity projects
* **AMS-4:** Development of enabling policy and regulatory environments to connect the unconnected in the Americas region through accessible and affordable telecommunications/ICTs that support the achievement of SDGs.]

These regional initiatives will be submitted to the CITEL meeting, taking place virtually from 1 to 3 December 2021, for comments, if any.

* RPM- AMS welcomed the “Digital trends” report as the new series of BDT.
* RPM- AMS launched the Network of Women (NoW) for the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector, paving the way for involvement in WTDC-21.
* RPM-AMS welcomed the creation of the GC-AMS Youth Group, which could serve as a means for meaningful engagement, empowerment and participation of youth in the work of ITU.

# Closing ceremony

Annex 1

**Outcome of the Drafting Group on Regional Priorities for Americas (2022-2025)**

[to be added after the plenary]

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_