

ITU Development

Delegate Guide



ITU-D Delegate Guide

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It is a pleasure to present this Delegate Guide, which features the history, roles and functioning of ITU's Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D), the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) and the ITU-D study groups.

Our work in ITU-D is mainly guided by the decisions of world telecommunication development conferences (WTDCs). The year 2018 is particularly significant in this regard, as we begin a new cycle of work to implement the outcomes of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-17), which took place from 9 to 20 October 2017 in Buenos Aires, Argentina, under the theme of "ICT for Sustainable Development Goals" (ICT④SDGs).

These outcomes include the Buenos Aires Declaration; the ITU-D contribution to the ITU strategic plan for 2020–2023; and the Buenos Aires Action Plan comprising programmes, regional initiatives, new and revised resolutions and recommendations, and new and revised Questions to be studied by ITU-D study groups over the 2018-2021 period.

The Buenos Aires Declaration reinforces the political support towards ITU's development mission and strategic objectives. It underlines how universally accessible, secure and affordable telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) are a fundamental contribution towards achievement of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) action lines and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The four objectives in the ITU-D contribution to the ITU strategic plan will strategically guide us to implement the Declaration while, the Buenos Aires Action Plan will shape our daily work. The five regional initiatives we adopted per region will be cascaded into concrete projects that will make a difference in the lives of people on the ground.

Technological change and the new and innovative opportunities provided by telecommunications/ICTs should, as WTDC-17 stressed, be accompanied by ambitious decision-making and measures aimed at reducing poverty and inequalities and fostering the protection of our planet, all of which are spheres that are critical to the progress of humankind.

Thanks to the commitment of Member States and Sector Members, ITU-D has over the last 25 years of its creation become a neutral and strong platform for promoting development while putting a human face on ICTs. The SDGs have broadened our horizons. I look forward to working with all of our members and partners to implement the outcomes of WTDC-17, and in so doing contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to the digital economy.



Brahima Sanou

Director, ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau

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1. What is ITU?

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is the United Nations specialized agency for telecommunications and information and communication technologies (ICTs), and has its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.

Founded in 1865, ITU is an intergovernmental organization in which governments (Member States) and the private sector (Sector Members) have well-defined rights and obligations and work together to coordinate the operation of telecommunication networks and services and advance the development of communications technology worldwide.

ITU is committed to improving people's lives and making the world a better place through the use of telecommunications/ICTs. At present, ITU has a membership of 193 countries and around 800 private-sector entities and academic institutions.

ITU has three main areas of activity organized in three Sectors:

- the Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R);
- the Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T); and
- the Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D).

ITU-R plays a vital role in the global management of the radio-frequency spectrum and satellite orbit resources, with the mission to ensure their rational, equitable, efficient and economical use by all radiocommunication services.

ITU-T provides a unique forum for industry and government to work together to foster the development and use of interoperable, non-discriminatory and demand-driven international standards (known as ITU-T Recommendations).

ITU-D fosters international cooperation and solidarity in the delivery of technical assistance and in the creation, development and improvement of telecommunication/ICT equipment and networks in developing countries.

2. Telecommunication Development Sector

2.1 History

ITU-D was created by the Additional Plenipotentiary Conference, held in Geneva in December 1992. The Plenipotentiary Conference, held in Nice, France, in 1989 decided that ITU's structure and working methods needed to be reviewed to better respond to globalization and the liberalization of telecommunication markets. In the light of this decision, a High-Level Committee was established to examine how ITU could respond more effectively to the challenges of a changing telecommunication environment. The committee in its report entitled "Tomorrow's ITU: The Challenges of Change", recommended that the substantive work of ITU should be organized in three Sectors: Radiocommunication, Standardization and Development.

The Additional Plenipotentiary Conference in 1992 adopted these recommendations, leading to the streamlining of ITU into three Sectors: ITU-R, ITU-T, and ITU-D.

Under this new structure, the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), which was established in 1989 by the Nice Plenipotentiary Conference, became the executing arm of ITU-D, with

responsibilities ranging from programme supervision and technical advice to the collection, processing and publication of information relevant to telecommunication development.

2.2 Functions

ITU-D works through:

- world and regional telecommunication development conferences;
- the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group;
- the Telecommunication Development Study Groups; and
- the Telecommunication Development Bureau headed by an elected Director.

ITU-D discharges, within its specific sphere of competence, the Union's dual responsibility as a United Nations specialized agency and executing agency for implementing projects under the United Nations development system or other funding arrangements so as to facilitate and enhance telecommunication development by offering, organizing and coordinating technical cooperation and assistance activities.

This role, along with specific functions are spelled out in Article 21 of the ITU Constitution. These functions include, *inter alia*, working to:

- raise the level of awareness of decision-makers concerning the important role of telecommunications in the national economic and social development programme, and provide information and advice on possible policy and structural options;
- promote, especially by means of partnership, the development, expansion and operation of telecommunication networks and services, particularly in developing countries, taking into account the activities of other relevant bodies, by reinforcing capabilities for human resources development, planning, management, resource mobilization, and research and development;
- enhance the growth of telecommunications through cooperation with regional telecommunication organizations and with global and regional development financing institutions, monitoring the status of projects included in its development programme to ensure that they are properly executed;
- activate the mobilization of resources to provide assistance in the field of telecommunications to developing countries by promoting the establishment of preferential and favourable lines of credit, and cooperating with international and regional financial and development institutions;
- promote and coordinate programmes to accelerate the transfer of appropriate technologies to the developing countries in the light of changes and developments in the networks of the developed countries;
- encourage participation by industry in telecommunication development in developing countries, and offer advice on the choice and transfer of appropriate technology;
- offer advice, carry out or sponsor studies, as necessary, on technical, economic, financial, managerial, regulatory and policy issues, including studies of specific projects in the field of telecommunications.

2.3 Membership

ITU-D has four types of members.

Member States

Administrations of all Member States are members of right of ITU-D. A State is considered to be a member of ITU in accordance with Article 2 of the ITU Constitution. Member States can participate at no specific cost other than their annual contributions to ITU. The annual contributory unit for Member States is currently set at CHF 318 000. The number of contributory units paid by each Member State varies.

Sector Members

Sector Members are:

- Any recognized operating agency, scientific or industrial organization, financial or development institution or other entity dealing with telecommunication matters approved by the Member State concerned.
- Regional or other international telecommunication organizations.

Unlike the other Sectors, ITU-D Sector Members can participate in the activities of the ITU-D study groups at a class of contribution lower than a 1/2 unit. ITU-D Sector Members have the possibility of selecting the 1/4 or 1/8 unit classes. The minimum class of 1/16 of the contributory unit is reserved for Sector Members from developing countries.

The minimum annual fee to be paid by a Sector Member from a developing country is currently set at CHF 3'975, and CHF 7'950 for Sector Members from developed countries.

Associates

Associates are only entitled to participate in the work of a single selected study group and its subordinate groups. The minimum annual fee for an Associate from a developed country is currently set at CHF 3'975, and CHF 1'997.50 for an Associate from a developing country.

Academia

Academia includes colleges, institutes, universities and their associated research establishments concerned with the development of telecommunications/ICTs that wish to participate in TDAG meetings, ITU-D study groups, seminars, workshops and working groups. The minimum annual fee is currently set at CHF 3'975 for entities from developed countries, and CHF 1'987.50 for entities from developing countries.

Learn more on membership of ITU-D at

<https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Membership/Pages/default.aspx>

3. World Telecommunication Development Conference

3.1 What is a WTDC?

Held every four years, the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) is a high-level platform for Member States to develop priorities, strategies and action plans to guide the work of ITU-D over a four-year period. WTDC is a direct service to members providing them the pre-eminent, high-level forum for discussion, information sharing and consensus building on technical and policy issues relating to telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) development.

Before each WTDC, BDT organizes, within the financial limitations, one regional preparatory meeting (RPM) per region for each of the six regions of ITU-D namely, Africa, Americas, Arab States, Asia and the Pacific, Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and Europe. Regional preparatory meetings are direct services to members and are organized to achieve greater regional coordination and engage members early on in the WTDC preparatory process.

Each RPM is preceded by a one-day Regional Development Forum. Regional development forums provide a mechanism for high-level dialogue between BDT and decision-makers of ITU Member States and Sector Members. They serve as a platform for assessing strategic orientations that may have an impact on BDT's regional work plan between WTDCs.

3.1.1 Aims and goals

ITU, through its Telecommunication Development Bureau, organizes a World Telecommunication Development Conference in the period between two Plenipotentiary Conferences. World telecommunication development conferences give the membership the opportunity to debate the latest trends in telecommunication/ICT development and to establish the priorities of ITU-D for the interval between two WTDCs. They also provide the opportunity to compare the initiatives developed at the regional level during the preparatory process of a WTDC and to integrate them into worldwide development efforts and plans.

3.1.2 History

In 1982, the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference held in Nairobi, Kenya, decided to establish an "Independent Commission for World-wide Telecommunications Development" to recommend ways of stimulating the expansion of telecommunications across the world. The Commission began its work in 1983 under the chairmanship of Sir Donald Maitland. In December 1984, it published its findings in a report entitled "The Missing Link" — also known as the "Maitland Report" after the Commission's Chairman. The report, submitted to the Secretary-General of ITU in January 1985, showed how access to telecommunication correlates with economic growth — but also drew international attention to the huge imbalance in such access between developed and developing countries.

"The Missing Link" report prompted ITU to convene, in May 1985, the "First World Telecommunications Development Conference" in Arusha, Tanzania. The purpose of this conference was to bring together members of ITU, preferably at the ministerial level, to study and exchange views on the many aspects of the report that had national government policy implications, to find practical ways of implementing the relevant recommendations, and to discuss a range of issues relevant to the development of telecommunications, particularly in the developing regions of the world. After intensive debate, the conference endorsed the conclusions and recommendations embodied in "The Missing Link" report and unanimously adopted the "Arusha Declaration on World Telecommunications Development."

To review the progress made in telecommunication development since the publication of "The Missing Link" report, the next World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-94), was convened in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 21 to 29 March 1994.

WTDC-94 set the goals and objectives and defined and established a common vision and strategies for achieving balanced telecommunication development by and beyond the end of the 20th century; created ITU-D study groups 1 and 2 and developed an action plan — the Buenos Aires Action Plan (BAAP) — to translate the goals and objectives agreed upon into a concrete work programme that was implemented over four years (1994-1998).

Subsequent WTDCs were held as follows:

- WTDC-98, Valletta, Malta, 23 March-1 April 1998.

- WTDC-02, Istanbul, Turkey, 18-27 March 2002.
- WTDC-06, Doha, Qatar, 7-15 March 2006.
- WTDC-10, Hyderabad, India, 24 May-4 June 2010.
- WTDC-14, Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 30 March-10 April 2014.
- WTDC-17, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 9-20 October 2017.

3.2 Milestones from WTDC-17

In October 2017, the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-17) returned to Buenos Aires, Argentina, after 23 years. WTDC-17 was convened under the theme of "ICT for Sustainable Development Goals" (ICT(4)SDGs). It attracted 1 368 participants from 134 Member States, 62 ITU-D Sector Members, 10 Academia, several observer entities and the United Nations and its specialized agencies. WTDC-17 charted the future direction for ITU-D and BDT as summarized in its major milestones below.

3.2.1 Buenos Aires Declaration

The Buenos Aires Declaration highlights the main conclusions and priorities established by WTDC-17, and reinforces the political support towards ITU's development mission and strategic objectives. The declaration underlines, *inter alia*, that universally accessible, secure and affordable telecommunications/ICTs are a fundamental contribution towards the achievement of the WSIS Action Lines and of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the development of the global information society and the digital economy.

3.2.2 ITU-D contribution to the strategic plan for ITU for 2020-2023

The ITU-D strategic plan includes four objectives and their related outcomes and outputs endorsed by WTDC-17 as part of the ITU strategic plan for 2020-2023. These objectives (see below) are aligned with the role that ITU plays within the framework of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), as well as with the Connect 2020 Agenda endorsed by the ITU membership through Resolution 200 (Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference.

Outcomes provide an indication as to whether the objective is being achieved. Outputs are all the products and services ITU-D will develop and deliver to members through the implementation framework agreed in the Buenos Aires Action Plan.

Objectives and outputs

Objective 1- Coordination: Foster international cooperation and agreement on telecommunication/ICT development issues.

Outputs

- 1.1 World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) and WTDC final report
- 1.2 Regional preparatory meetings (RPMs) and final report of the RPMs.
- 1.3 Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) and TDAG reports for the Director of BDT and for WTDC.
- 1.4 Study groups and guidelines, recommendations and reports of study groups.
- 1.5 Platforms for regional coordination, including regional development forums (RDFs).
- 1.6 Implemented telecommunication/ICT development projects and services related to regional initiatives.

Objective 2- Modern and secure telecommunication/ICT infrastructure: Foster the development of infrastructure and services, including building confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs.

Outputs

- 2.1 Products and services on telecommunication/ICT infrastructure and services, wireless and fixed broadband, connecting rural and remote areas, improving international connectivity, bridging the digital standardization gap, conformance and interoperability, spectrum management and monitoring and the effective and efficient management and proper use of telecommunication resources, within the mandate of ITU, and the transition to digital broadcasting, such as assessment studies, publications, workshops, guidelines and best practices.
- 2.2 Products and services for building confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs, such as reports and publications, and for contributing to the implementation of national and global initiatives.
- 2.3 Products and services on disaster risk reduction and management and emergency telecommunications, including assistance to enable Member States to address all phases of disaster management, such as early warning, response, relief and restoration of telecommunication networks.

Objective 3- Enabling environment: Foster an enabling policy and regulatory environment conducive to sustainable telecommunication/ICT development.

Outputs

- 3.1 Products and services on telecommunication/ICT policy and regulation for better international coordination and coherence, such as assessment studies and other publications, and other platforms to exchange information.
- 3.2 Products and services on telecommunication/ICT statistics and data analysis, such as research reports, collection, harmonization and dissemination of high-quality, internationally comparable statistical data, and forums of discussion.
- 3.3 Products and services on capacity building and human skills development, including those on international Internet governance, such as online platforms, distance and face-to-face training programmes to enhance practical skills, and shared material, taking into account partnerships with telecommunication/ICT education stakeholders.
- 3.4 Products and services on telecommunication/ICT innovation, such as knowledge-sharing and assistance, upon request, on developing a national innovation agenda; mechanisms for partnerships; development of projects, studies and telecommunication/ICT innovation policies.

Objective 4- Inclusive digital society: Foster the development and use of telecommunications/ICTs and applications to empower people and societies for sustainable development.

Outputs

- 4.1 Products and services on concentrated assistance to least developed countries (LDCs), small island developing states (SIDS), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and countries with economies in transition, to foster the availability and affordability of telecommunications/ICTs.
- 4.2 Products and services on telecommunication/ICT policies supporting the development of the digital economy, ICT applications and new technologies, such as information sharing and support for their deployment, assessment studies and toolkits.
- 4.3 Products and services on digital inclusion for girls and women and people with specific needs (elderly, youth, children and indigenous people, among others), such as awareness-raising on

digital inclusion strategies, policies and practices, development of digital skills, toolkits and guidelines and forums of discussion to share practices and strategies.

- 4.4 Products and services on ICT climate-change adaptation and mitigation, such as promotion of strategies and dissemination of best practices on mapping vulnerable areas and developing information systems, metrics and e-waste management.

3.2.3 Buenos Aires Action Plan

The Buenos Aires Action Plan provides a simple, comprehensive and functional instrument for achieving the strategic objectives of ITU-D. This plan, which follows a results-based structure, comprises programmes; regional initiatives for Africa, the Americas, the Arab States, Asia and the Pacific, the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and Europe, as well as guidelines for their implementation; new and revised resolutions and Recommendations to support fulfilment of ITU-D's objectives; and new and revised Questions to be studied by ITU-D study groups during the period 2018-2021.

The Buenos Aires Action Plan is aligned with the four goals of the ITU Connect 2020 Agenda:

- Goal 1: Growth – Enable and foster access to and increased use of telecommunications/ICTs.
- Goal 2: Inclusiveness – Bridge the digital divide and provide broadband for all.
- Goal 3: Sustainability – Manage challenges resulting from telecommunication/ICT development.
- Goal 4: Innovation and partnership – Lead, improve and adapt to the changing telecommunication/ICT environment.

Programmes

Definition: Programmes provide a coordination mechanism among all elements of the implementation framework and are responsible for assisting the membership to develop products – such as model policies, regulations, strategies, plans, frameworks, procedures, guidelines, manuals, toolkits and learning-management systems; economic and financial mechanisms; network and frequency planning tools, and spectrum-management tools; conformity assessment and interoperability testing guidance; research and analysis of relevant trends, including through reports, case studies, benchmarks and websites; collection and sharing of relevant best practices and technical standards; data and resource collection and dissemination; database development and development of other online resources, such as learning platforms and portals; and capacity-building materials – and for making these products available for use by members.

In addition, programmes provide services to members, such as capacity building, legal, policy, regulatory and technical advice, platforms to foster cooperation among and exchanges between members and partners on relevant issues, and awareness-raising among members on key issues and trends. The products and services developed by programmes can be for use by members on a national, subregional, regional or global.

Regional initiatives

During the six regional preparatory meetings in 2016-2017, the regions articulated their specific priorities in a set of regional initiatives, which can be found in the Buenos Aires Action Plan (see also below). These regional initiatives (five per region) are intended to address specific telecommunication/ICT priority areas, through partnerships and resource mobilization to implement projects. Under each regional initiative, projects are developed and implemented to meet the region's needs.

Africa regional initiatives

- AFR1: Building digital economies and fostering innovation in Africa.

- AFR2: Promotion of emerging broadband technologies.
- AFR3: Building trust and security in the use of telecommunications/information and communication technology.
- AFR4: Strengthening human and institutional capacity building.
- AFR5: Management and monitoring of the radio-frequency spectrum and transition to digital broadcasting.

Americas regional initiatives

- AMS1: Disaster risk reduction and management communications.
- AMS2: 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.

Arab States regional initiatives

- ARB1: Environment, climate change and emergency telecommunications.
- ARB2: Confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/information and communication technologies.
- ARB3: Digital financial inclusion.
- ARB4: Internet of Things, smart cities and big data.
- ARB5: Innovation and entrepreneurship.

Asia-Pacific regional initiatives

- ASP1: Addressing special needs of least developed countries, small island developing states, including Pacific island countries, and landlocked developing countries.
- ASP2: Harnessing information and communication technologies to support the digital economy and an inclusive digital society.
- ASP3: Fostering development of infrastructure to enhance digital connectivity.
- ASP4: Enabling policy and regulatory environments.
- ASP5: Contributing to a secure and resilient environment.

CIS regional initiatives

- CIS1: Development of e-health to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all, at all ages.
- CIS2: Use of telecommunications/information and communication technology to ensure inclusive, equitable, quality and safe education, including the enhancement of women's knowledge of information and communication technologies and e-government.
- CIS3: Development and regulation of infocommunication infrastructure to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe and resilient.
- CIS4: Monitoring the ecological status and the presence and rational use of natural resources.

CIS5: Fostering innovative solutions and partnership for the implementation of Internet of Things technologies and their interaction in telecommunication networks, including 4G, IMT-2020 and next-generation networks, in the interests of sustainable development.

Europe regional initiatives

EUR1: Broadband infrastructure, broadcasting and spectrum management.

EUR2: A citizen-centric approach to building services for national administrations.

EUR3: Accessibility, affordability and skills development for all to ensure digital inclusion and sustainable development.

EUR4: Enhancing trust and confidence in the use of information and communication technologies.

EUR5: Information and communication technology-centric innovation ecosystems.

The Buenos Aires Action Plan, specifically its programmes, regional initiatives and Study Group Questions will further contribute to the implementation of ITU resolutions and recommendations relevant to the mandate of ITU–D, including the ITU Connect 2020 Agenda, the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) action lines and Sustainable Development Goals and Targets.

New and revised resolutions

WTDC-17 developed and approved four new resolutions on the following topics:

1. Special assistance and support to the Government of Libya for rebuilding its telecommunication networks.
2. Combating mobile telecommunication device theft.
3. Facilitating the Internet of Things and smart cities and communities for global development.
4. Use in the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector of the languages of the Union on an equal footing.

WTDC-17 modified over 40 resolutions covering a range of topics including: ICT services in rural, isolated and poorly served areas; alternative calling procedures; Internet access and availability for developing countries; assistance to countries in special need; the role of ICTs in disaster preparedness; bridging the digital divide; capacity-building initiatives; assistance in implementing future networks; assistance to indigenous peoples; strengthening cooperation among telecommunication regulators; gender equality; accessibility for persons with disabilities and specific needs; ICT and climate change; child online protection; national computer incident response teams; ITU Centres of Excellence; support for ICT development in Africa; and combating counterfeit devices.

WTDC-17 abrogated six resolutions deemed to have achieved their objectives.

Learn more from the WTDC-17 Final Report at:

<https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Conferences/WTDC/WTDC17/Pages/default.aspx>

3.3 Who participates in WTDC?

The World Telecommunication Development Conference is open to:

1. ITU Member States (CV 296¹).
2. ITU-D Sector Members:
Recognized operating agencies (CV 296 *bis* and CV 229).

¹ CV refers to the provision of the Convention of the International Telecommunication Union

Scientific and industrial organizations (CV 296 *bis* and CV 229).

Financial or development institutions (CV 296 *bis* and CV 229).

Other entities dealing with telecommunication matters (CV 296 *bis* and CV 230).

Regional and other international telecommunication, standardization, financial or development organizations (CV 296 *bis* and CV 231).

3. Observers from:

Palestine (Resolution 99 (Rev. Busan, 2014)).

The United Nations (CV297 *bis* and CV 269A).

Regional telecommunication organizations referred to in Article 43 of the ITU Constitution (CV 297 *bis* and CV269B).

Intergovernmental organizations operating satellite systems (CV 297 *bis* and CV 269C).

The specialized agencies of the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency (CV 297 *bis* and CV 269D).

Any other regional organization or other international organization dealing with matters of interest to the conference (CV 298C).

3.4 How WTDC works

3.4.1 The committees and groups

To conduct its work, each WTDC sets up committees and one or more groups to address organization, work programme, budget control and editorial matters, and to consider other specific matters if required. It establishes a steering committee, presided over by the chairman of the conference, and composed of the vice-chairmen of the conference and the chairmen and vice-chairmen of the committees and any group(s) created by the conference.

Each WTDC also establishes a budget control committee and an editorial committee, the tasks and responsibilities of which are set out in the General Rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union. In addition to the steering, budget control and editorial committees, the following two committees are set up: the Committee on Working Methods of ITU-D and the Committee on Objectives.

The plenary meeting of a WTDC may set up other committees or groups that meet to address specific matters, if required.

3.4.2 Access to documentation

All documents for WTDC are available to those eligible to participate in the conference.

The documents can be accessed using a TIES account, which all members can request online. To request a TIES account go to www.itu.int/TIES

In line with the ITU information/document access policy approved by Council 2016, information/documents can also be made publicly accessible, unless the submitter of the document advises the ITU secretariat otherwise. This policy entered into force on a provisional basis on 1 January 2017, pending final approval by the Plenipotentiary Conference, to be held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, in October-November 2018.

The policy is available at the following link <http://www.itu.int/en/access-policy/Pages/default.aspx> and underlines that ITU is committed to improving public access to information, while also protecting

certain types of information where disclosure might cause potential harm to a legitimate private or public interest.

3.4.3 Submitting contributions

Any eligible ITU-D member who can participate in WTDC can submit contributions. Submission by electronic means is the normal and preferred method. Appropriate links are made available on WTDC website.

4. Telecommunication Development Advisory Group

4.1 What is TDAG?

4.1.1 History

Telecommunication Development Advisory Group replaced the Telecommunication Development Advisory Board (TDAB), established by the Additional Plenipotentiary Conference held in Geneva in 1992. Provision No. 227 of Article 18 of the Convention (Geneva, 1992) specified that a Telecommunication Development Advisory Board shall be established and the members of the Board shall be appointed by the Director in consultation with the Secretary-General. The Board shall be composed of persons with a wide and equitable cross-section of interests and expertise in telecommunication development and shall elect its chairman from among its members. The Board shall advise the Director, who shall participate in its meetings, on priorities and strategies in the Union's telecommunication development activities; it shall, inter alia, recommend steps to foster cooperation and coordination with other organizations interested in telecommunication development. TDAB held nine meetings between 1993 and 1998.

WTDC-98 recommended to the Plenipotentiary Conference held in Minneapolis, United States, to amend the Convention in order to convert TDAB into an open advisory group with delegated authority as decided by WTDCs and with a mechanism to ensure regionally balanced representation of developed and developing countries. The first meeting of the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) took place on 8-9 April 1999. TDAG has since held meetings annually.

4.1.2 TDAG mandate

The Telecommunication Development Advisory Group, reviews priorities, strategies and financial matters of ITU-D. It meets once every year to advise the Director of BDT on the implementation of whatever WTDC Action Plan is in force, including issues relating to the budget and the operational plan of ITU-D. In addition, TDAG provides guidelines for the work of study groups and recommends measures to foster cooperation and coordination with ITU-R, ITU-T and the General Secretariat, as well as with other relevant development and financial institutions.

4.1.3 Aims and goals

The role of TDAG is as follows:

- i. continue to maintain efficient and flexible working guidelines, and update them as necessary, including to provide opportunities for cross-regional sharing of experiences on the implementation of regional actions, initiatives and projects;

- ii review, on an ongoing basis, the relationship between the ITU-D objectives outlined in the strategic plan for the Union and the budgetary appropriations available for activities, particularly programmes and regional initiatives, with a view to recommending any measures necessary to ensure the efficient and effective delivery of the principal products and services (outputs) of the Sector;
- iii review, on an ongoing basis and in accordance with No. 223A of the Convention, the implementation of the rolling four-year operational plan for ITU-D and provide guidance to BDT on the elaboration of the draft ITU-D operational plan to be approved by the following ITU Council session;
- iv evaluate, and update as necessary, working methods and guidelines to ensure the most efficient and flexible implementation of the key elements of the WTDC Action Plan;
- v evaluate periodically the working methods and functioning of the ITU-D study groups, to identify options for maximizing programme delivery and to approve appropriate changes thereto following an assessment of their work programme, including strengthening of the synergy between Questions, programmes and regional initiatives;
- vi conduct the assessment pursuant to v) above, taking into account the following actions in relation to the current work programme of the study groups, if needed:
 - a. redefinition of the terms of reference of Questions in order to provide focus and eliminate overlap;
 - b. deletion or merging of Questions as appropriate; and
 - c. evaluation of criteria to measure the effectiveness of Questions, both in qualitative and quantitative terms, including a periodical review based on the ITU-D strategic plan with a view to further exploring performance measures in order to more effectively implement actions referred to in v) above;
- vii restructure ITU-D study groups, if required, and, as a result of a restructuring or creation of ITU-D study groups, appoint chairmen and vice-chairmen to act until the next WTDC in response to the needs and concerns of the Member States, within the agreed budgetary limits;
- viii issue advice on study group schedules that meet development priorities;
- ix advise the Director of BDT on relevant financial and other matters;
- x approve the programme of work arising from the review of existing and new Questions and determine the priority, urgency, estimated financial implications and time-scale for the completion of their study;
- xi in order to promote flexibility in responding rapidly to high-priority matters, if required, create, terminate or maintain other groups, appoint their chairmen and vice-chairmen, and establish their terms of reference with a defined duration, in accordance with Nos 209A and 209B of the Convention and taking into account the leading role of the study groups in carrying out the studies on such matters; such other groups shall not adopt Questions or Recommendations;
- xii consult the Director of BDT on the development and implementation of an action plan on electronic working methods and, going forward, procedures and rules for electronic meetings, including legal aspects, taking into account the needs and the means of developing countries and in particular the least developed countries.

In line with the Buenos Aires Action Plan, TDAG may update or modify the mandate of ITU-D for the period 2018-2021 to reflect changes in the telecommunication/ICT environment and/or as a result of the performance evaluation to be conducted each year.

4.1.4 Participation in meetings

TDAG is open to representatives of administrations of Member States, representatives of ITU-D Sector Members, and to chairmen and vice-chairmen of study groups and other groups. Academia may participate in accordance with Resolution 169 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference. The Director of BDT can also invite representatives of bilateral cooperation and development aid agencies and multilateral development institutions to participate in TDAG's meetings.

4.1.5 Access to documentation

All documents for TDAG are available to those eligible to participate in its meetings, and can be accessed using a TIES account. To request a TIES account go to <http://www.itu.int/TIES>.

4.1.6 Submitting contributions

Any eligible ITU-D member who can participate in TDAG can submit contributions. Submission by electronic means is the normal and preferred method. Appropriate links are made available on the TDAG website.

4.1.7 TDAG bureau

The TDAG bureau is comprised of 15 members, including the TDAG chairman, the ITU-D Study Groups 1 and 2 chairmen, as well as 12 other vice-chairmen (see Annex I for details).

5. Telecommunication Development Study Groups

5.1 At a glance

5.1.1 History

The decision to create the ITU-D study groups was taken by the Additional Plenipotentiary Conference held in Geneva in 1992.

The first two telecommunication development study groups were created by the World Telecommunication Development Conference held in 1994 in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

They were upheld by subsequent WTDCs in 1998, 2002, 2006, 2010, 2014 and 2017.

5.1.2 What are ITU-D study groups?

ITU-D study groups enable all Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia to share experiences, present ideas, exchange views, and achieve consensus on strategies to address ICT priorities. ITU-D study groups study Questions and are responsible for developing reports, guidelines, and Recommendations based on input received from the membership. Information is gathered through surveys, contributions and case studies, and is made available for easy access by the membership using content-management and web-publication tools. The study groups examine specific task-oriented telecommunication/ICT Questions of priority to the ITU-D membership, to support them in achieving their SDG targets and development goals.

Outputs agreed on in the ITU-D study groups, and related reference material, are used as input for the implementation of policies, strategies, projects and special initiatives in Member States. These

activities also serve to strengthen the shared knowledge base of the membership. Sharing of topics of common interest is carried out through face-to-face meetings, online collaborative platforms and remote participation, in an atmosphere that encourages open debate and exchange of information as well as input from experts on the topics under study.

5.1.3 Aims and goals

ITU-D study groups aim to offer a neutral and worldwide platform to support countries in achieving their development goals through the development of reports and recommendations.

ITU-D study groups encompass the following elements:

- **Knowledge platform** – Outputs agreed on in the ITU-D study groups and related reference material serve as guidance and input for the implementation of policies, strategies, projects and special initiatives in the 193 ITU Member States. These activities also serve to strengthen the shared knowledge base of the membership.
- **Information exchange and knowledge sharing hub** – Sharing and exchanging on topics of common interest (study Questions) is carried out through face-to-face meetings, electronic means of communication and multilingual remote participation in an atmosphere that encourages open debate and exchange of information.
- **Information repository** – Reports, guidelines, best practices and Recommendations are developed based on input received for review by members of the groups. Information is gathered through surveys, contributions and case studies and is made available for easy access by membership using content-management and web-publication tools.

5.2 Joining ITU-D study groups

To participate in the work of ITU-D study groups, it is necessary to be a member of ITU-D.

More information on membership of ITU-D can be found in Section 2.3 of this Guide.

5.3 Functioning and scope of work

5.3.1 Key texts governing ITU-D study groups

The key texts governing ITU-D study groups are:

- the Constitution and the Convention of the ITU (Articles 17 and 20);
- WTDC Resolution 1 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017); and
- WTDC Resolution 2 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017).

WTDC Resolution 2 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) deals with:

- the establishment of the ITU-D study groups;
- their scope;
- the list of chairmen and vice-chairmen of the ITU-D study groups;
- the list of Questions to be studied and their terms of reference.

5.3.2 Terms of reference

Study Group 1 covers the enabling environment for the development of telecommunications/information and communication technologies and deals with seven Questions. The focus is on:

- National telecommunication/ICT policy, regulatory, technical and strategy development which best enables countries to benefit from the impetus of telecommunications/ICTs, including infrastructure supportive of broadband services, cloud computing, network functions virtualization (NFV), consumer protection and future networks as an engine for sustainable growth.
- Economic policies and methods of determining costs of services related to national telecommunications/ICTs, including facilitating the implementation of the digital economy.
- Access to telecommunications/ICTs for rural and remote areas.
- National policies, regulations and strategies for providing access to telecommunications/ICTs in rural and remote areas.
- Access to telecommunication/ICT services by persons with disabilities and other persons with specific needs.
- Migration and adoption of digital broadcasting and implementation of new services.

Study Group 2 covers information and communication technology services and applications for the promotion of sustainable development and also deals with seven Questions. The focus is on:

- Services and applications supported by telecommunications/ICTs.
- Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs.
- The use of telecommunications/ICTs in monitoring and mitigating the impact of climate change, particularly on developing countries.
- Combating counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices and combating theft of mobile telecommunication devices.
- Implementation of conformance and interoperability testing for telecommunication/ICT devices and equipment.
- Human exposure to electromagnetic fields and safe disposal of electronic waste.

The Questions for both study groups are given in in Annex III.

5.3.3 ITU-D study group Questions

The study groups conduct their work primarily in the form of study Questions. Currently, 14 Questions are being studied across both ITU-D study groups for the period 2018-2021 as shown in Annex III.

The study of a Question should be terminated within the defined time frame. If the work has not been completed, the Question can be revised in the light of new developments or deleted according to a procedure defined in WTDC Resolution 1 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017).

5.4 How ITU-D study groups work

5.4.1 The various groups

There are two study groups and their subjects are summarized at the following link: www.itu.int/ITU-D/study-groups/

To facilitate their work, the study groups may set up working parties, rapporteur groups and joint rapporteur groups (JRG) or inter-Sector rapporteur groups (IRG) to deal with specific Questions or parts of thereof, including with the participation of other ITU Sectors.

Where appropriate, regional groups may be set up within the study groups to study Questions or problems the specific nature of which makes it desirable that they be studied within the framework of one or more regions of the Union.

For each Question the study group will appoint a rapporteur to manage the work. The rapporteur will be supported by a collection of voluntary experts on the subject, known as the rapporteur group. This is the traditional way of dealing with Questions and resembles how working parties function in ITU's Standardization and Radiocommunication Sectors.

5.4.2 Roles within the various groups

Study group chairmen and vice-chairmen

The chairmen and vice-chairmen of study groups are appointed:

- by the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC); or
- in the interval between two WTDCs, by the study group, if a study group chairman or vice-chairman is unable to carry out his/her duties; or
- by the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) for newly created study groups.

The procedure for the appointment of the chairmen and vice-chairmen of ITU-D study groups is set out in WTDC Resolution 61 (Rev. Dubai, 2014).

The chairman's role is to ensure the smooth and efficient running of the study group. Chairmen chair the plenary meetings of the study group and coordinate the work of the various Questions. They are responsible for reporting on the progress of the work on an annual basis to TDAG and present the final deliverables of the study group for the study period to WTDC. The vice-chairmen are representatives from the countries in all the regions and support the chairmen in delivering the expected results. Vice-chairmen can take on specific tasks, as assigned by the chairman of the study group, to assist in advancing the work.

Annex II provides details on the ITU-D Study Group 1 and 2 appointed chairmen and vice-chairmen.

Rapporteurs

For each Question, the study group will appoint someone to lead the work by chairing the meetings of experts, leading debates (also online) and coordinating progress. This person is called the rapporteur. He/she is appointed by a study group based both on expertise of the subject to be studied, and the ability to coordinate the work.

The job of a rapporteur is to ensure that the group of experts makes progress towards the expected outputs in the area of study and to drive the work on the text of Recommendations, guidelines and reports in accordance with the expected output and guidance from the study group concerned. It is generally up to the rapporteur group to decide how it should move the work forward. In this regard, and based on the expected results decided for each Question at WTDC, each rapporteur is responsible for preparing and maintaining a work plan for his/her Question. The rapporteur group will follow the work plan, and update it when necessary, to be able to deliver its expected results, for example, annual deliverables, workshops, reports, guidelines and Recommendations as requested by the members.

The terms of reference of the rapporteurs are given in part 5 of Section 3 of WTDC Resolution 1 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) and in Annex 5 to the same resolution.

The same principles generally apply for the working party chairmen, if working parties have been created under the study groups. Rapporteur groups are encouraged to work, as much as possible, using electronic means.

Vice-rapporteurs are appointed to contribute to and advance the work of each of the Questions. The rapporteur group assigns specific tasks to each vice-rapporteur to ensure that the deliverables are developed in a timely manner and in accordance with the expected results.

Study group management teams

Each ITU-D study group has a management team composed of the chairman and vice-chairmen, the chairmen and vice-chairmen of working parties and the rapporteurs and vice-rapporteurs. Study group management teams meet the day before the start of each respective study group meeting, or in the morning of the actual meeting, to discuss and make final preparations for the running of the meeting. Ad hoc meetings of the management teams can also take place when deemed necessary. A joint management team meeting of the two ITU-D study groups is chaired by the Director of BDT and is composed of both ITU-D study group management teams and the chairman of TDAG. The role of the joint management team of the ITU-D study groups is mainly to:

- advise BDT management on the estimation of the budget requirements of the study groups;
- coordinate issues common to both study groups;
- prepare joint proposals to TDAG or other relevant bodies in ITU-D as required;
- finalize the dates of subsequent study group meetings.

5.5 Results of the work of the study groups

5.5.1 What are the results of their studies?

The outputs of ITU-D study groups are: reports, guidelines, best practices and Recommendations. These deliverables can all be downloaded free of charge from the website.

The reports are the principal result of the study. They are prepared by the rapporteur group under the leadership of the rapporteur based on the contributions submitted by the membership during the study period. The rapporteur group may also decide to publish guidelines on one of the topics covered by the Question.

Guidelines present a range of options that reflect the written contributions, discussion, research, analysis, ideas and experience of study group participants. The goal is to produce a menu of choices to assist the ITU membership and others to deliver a robust communications sector capable of accelerating the achievement of national and international goals for social and economic development. The membership and others are encouraged to apply those guidelines that are agreeable and suitable for their individual circumstances.

The reports and guidelines must be adopted first by the group concerned (rapporteur group) and secondly by the study group concerned, before being published.

Reports, guidelines, publications and other deliverables can, and are encouraged to be, released in between WTDCs.

5.5.2 How are the results approved?

ITU-D Recommendations

Definition: An answer to a Question, part of a Question, or a resolution, for the organization of the work of ITU-D, which, within the scope of existing knowledge and the research carried out by study

groups and adopted in accordance with established procedures, may provide guidance on technical, organizational, tariff-related and operational matters, including working methods, may describe a preferred method or proposed solution for undertaking a specific task, or may recommend procedures for specific applications. These Recommendations should be sufficient to serve as a basis for international cooperation.

Adoption, approval and deletion

All new or revised Recommendations must be formally approved in two stages:

- adoption by the study group which generated them, and
- approval by the Member States.

After a draft new or revised Recommendation has been adopted by a study group, the text is submitted for approval by Member States at a WTDC or, between WTDCs, by consultation of the Member States by correspondence as soon as the relevant study group has adopted the text. The study group shall decide at the meeting at which the draft Recommendation is adopted, whether to submit the draft new or revised Recommendation for approval either at the next WTDC or by consultation of the Member States.

In the case of application of the approval procedure by consultation, within one month of the adoption of a draft new or revised Recommendation by a study group, the BDT Director requests Member States to indicate within three months whether they approve or do not approve the proposal. This request is accompanied by the complete final text, in the official languages, of the proposed new or revised Recommendation. The Director at the same time also advises ITU-D Sector Members participating in the work of the relevant study group that Member States (who alone are entitled to respond) are being asked to respond to a consultation on a proposed new or revised Recommendation.

The process, for adopting and approving as well as deleting Recommendations, together with a model for drafting Recommendations, is defined in WTDC Resolution 1 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017).

ITU-D reports

Definition: A technical, operational or procedural statement, prepared by a study group on a given subject related to a current Question or resolution. Several types of reports are defined in WTDC Resolution 1 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017). An output report represents the principal results of a study and should be considered and approved by the relevant study group.

Approval and deletion

Each study group may approve revised or new output reports, preferably by consensus. Each study group may also determine that an ITU-D output report is out of date and be deleted, preferably by consensus.

ITU-D handbooks

Definition: A text which provides a statement of the current knowledge, the present position of studies or good operating or technical practice, in certain aspects of telecommunications/ICT, paying particular attention to the requirements of developing countries.

Approval

Each study group may approve revised or new handbooks, preferably by consensus. The study group may authorize its relevant working party to approve handbooks.

ITU-D guidelines

Definition: Guidelines present a range of options that reflect the written contributions, discussion, research, analysis, ideas and experience of study group participants. The goal is to produce a menu of choices to assist the ITU membership and others to deliver a robust communications sector capable of accelerating the achievement of national and international goals for social and economic development. The membership and others are encouraged to apply those guidelines that are agreeable and suitable for their individual circumstances. Best-practice guidelines are not mandatory, and while thorough consideration of the full range of guidelines is encouraged, inapplicable or otherwise unsuitable suggestions need not be employed.

Approval

Each study group may approve revised or new guidelines, preferably by consensus.

5.5.3 Member contributions

Input to study group or rapporteur group meetings may be of three types: contributions for action, contributions for information, and liaison statements. Other documents include background documents and temporary documents. All of them are available via the website.

5.5.4 Reports

Reports of the study group's work can be of four major types:

- **Meeting reports:** These are the official outputs from meetings of study groups or rapporteur groups and give an account of the main discussions and conclusions of the meetings.
- **Progress reports:** These provide a brief summary of the status of the work with reference to the work plan, the draft outline of the output report, conclusions or titles of reports or Recommendations to be endorsed. They also indicate the status of liaison activity with other groups.
- **Output reports:** Such reports represent the expected deliverable, for example, the principal results of a study. The items to be covered are indicated in the expected output of the Question concerned. Such reports are normally limited to a maximum of 50 pages, including annexes and appendices. The inclusion of annual output reports in the work plans of the rapporteur groups are encouraged.
- **Chairman's reports to WTDC:** These provide a summary of the results achieved by the study group during the study period in question, describing the work of the study group and the outcome achieved, including discussion of the ITU-D strategic objectives that are linked to the study group's activities.

5.5.5 Access to documentation

All documents for ITU-D study group meetings are available to Member States, Sector Members, Associates (depending on which study group they are associates of) and Academia. The documents can be accessed using a TIES account, which all members can request online. To request a TIES account go to <http://www.itu.int/TIES>

5.5.6 Submitting contributions

Any ITU-D member can submit contributions, and submission by electronic means is the normal and preferred method. This can be done by:

- Through the online document submission template for documents to be found on the study group web page at: www.itu.int/ITU-D/CDS/contributions/sg/index.asp, or
- By e-mail to the address devsg@itu.int (for both study groups).

Annexes

Annex I: Composition of the TDAG bureau (2018-2021)

The TDAG bureau is comprised of 15 members, including the TDAG Chairman, Ms Roxanne McElvane Webber, Study Group 1 and Study Group 2 chairmen, as well as 12 other vice-chairmen.

Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) Bureau:

Chairman:	Ms Roxanne McElvane Webber (United States)
Vice-Chairmen of TDAG:	Ms Regina Fleur Assoumou Bessou (Chairman, Study Group 1)
	Mr Ahmad Reza Sharafat (Chairman Study Group 2)
	Mr Christopher Kipkoech Kemei (Kenya)
	Mr Abdulkarim Ayopo Oloyede (Nigeria)
	Mr Hugo Darío Miguel (Argentina)
	Ms Evelyn Katrina Naut Sención (Dominican Republic)
	Mr Al-Ansari Almashakbeh (Jordan)
	Mr Tariq Al-Amri (Saudi Arabia)
	Mr Kishore Babu GSC Yerraballa (India)
	Mr Nguyen Quy Quyen (Viet Nam)
	Ms Nurzat Bolzhobekova (Kyrgyzstan)
	Mr Arseny Plossky (Russian Federation)
	Mr Wim Rullens (Netherlands)
	Ms Blanca Gonzalez (Spain)

Annex II: Composition of the ITU-D study groups (2018-2021)

WTDC appoints the chairmen and vice-chairmen of the ITU-D study groups. The first study group meeting for the study period appoints rapporteurs and vice-rapporteurs for each of the study Questions. Changes to the management team during the study period are done in accordance with WTDC Resolution 1.

Chairmen and vice-chairmen appointed by WTDC-17:

Study Group 1

Chairman:	Ms Regina Fleur Assoumou Bessou (Côte d'Ivoire)
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr Peter Ngwan Mbengie (Cameroon)
	Mr Amah Vinyo Capo (Togo)
	Mr Roberto Mitsuke Hirayama (Brazil)
	Mr Víctor Antonio Martínez Sánchez (Paraguay)
	Mr Ahmed Abdel Aziz Gad (Egypt)
	Ms Sameera Belal Momen Mohammad (Kuwait)
	Mr Yasuhiko Kawasumi (Japan)
	Mr Sangwon Ko (Republic of Korea)
	Mr Almaz Tilenbaev (Kyrgyzstan)
	Mr Vadym Kaptur (Ukraine)
	Ms Amela Odobasic (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
	Mr Krisztián Stefanics (Hungary)

Study Group 2

Chairman: Mr Ahmad Reza Sharafat (Islamic Republic of Iran)

Vice-Chairmen: Mr Roland Yaw Kudozia (Ghana)

Mr Henry Chukwudumeme Nkemadu (Nigeria)

Ms Celina Delgado Castellón (Nicaragua)

Ms Nora Abdalla Hassan Basher (Sudan)

Mr Nasser Al Marzouqi (United Arab Emirates)

Ms Ke Wang (China)

Mr Ananda Raj Khanal (Republic of Nepal)

Mr Yakov Gass (Russian Federation)

Mr Tolibjon Oltinovich Mirzakulov (Uzbekistan)

Mr Filipe Miguel Antunes Batista (Portugal)

Mr Dominique Würges (France)

Annex III: ITU-D Study Group 1 and 2 Questions (2018-2021)

Study Group 1: Enabling environment for the development of telecommunications/information and communication technologies

New number	Title	Origin
Question 1/1	Strategies and policies for the deployment of broadband in developing countries	Merger of former Questions 1/1 and 2/1
Question 2/1	Strategies, policies, regulations and methods of migration to and adoption of digital broadcasting and implementation of new services	Continuation of Question 8/1
Question 3/1	Emerging technologies, including cloud computing, m-services and OTTs: Challenges and opportunities, economic and policy impact for developing countries	Merger of former Questions 1/1 and 3/1
Question 4/1	Economic policies and methods of determining the costs of services related to national telecommunication/information and communication technology networks, including next-generation networks	Continuation of Question 4/1
Question 5/1	Telecommunications/information and communication technologies for rural and remote areas	Continuation of Question 5/1
Question 6/1	Consumer information, protection and rights: Laws, regulation, economic bases, consumer networks	Continuation of Question 6/1
Question 7/1	Access to telecommunication/information and communication technology services by persons with disabilities and other persons with specific needs	Continuation of Question 7/1

Study Group 2: Information and communication technology services and applications for the promotion of sustainable development

New number	Title	Origin
Question 1/2	Creating smart cities and society: Employing information and communication technologies for sustainable social and economic development	Continuation of Question 1/2
Question 2/2	Telecommunications/information and communication technologies for e-health	Continuation of Question 2/2
Question 3/2	Securing information and communication networks: Best practices for developing a culture of cybersecurity	Continuation of Question 3/2
Question 4/2	Assistance to developing countries for implementing conformance and interoperability programmes and combating counterfeit information and communication technology equipment and theft of mobile devices	Continuation of Question 4/2
Question 5/2	Utilizing telecommunications/information and communication technologies for disaster risk reduction and management	Continuation of Question 5/2
Question 6/2	Information and communication technologies and the environment	Merger of former Questions 6/2 and 8/2
Question 7/2	Strategies and policies concerning human exposure to electromagnetic fields	Continuation of Question 7/2

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