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| **Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG)**  **25th Meeting, Geneva, 2-5 June 2020** | C:\Users\comas\AppData\Local\Temp\Rar$DRa0.735\jpg\ITU official logo_blue_RGB.jpg |
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|  | **Document** **TDAG-20/****25-E** |
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| Director, Telecommunication Development Bureau | |
| REVIEW OF ITU REGIONAL PRESENCE | |
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| **Summary:**  This document reports on the status of implementation of Resolution 25 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference and Council Decision 616 (2019).  **Action required:**  TDAG is invited to note this document.  **References:**  [Resolution 25 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-025-E.pdf); [Decision 616 (2019)](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0133/en) | |

1. **Background**

ITU’s regional presence has undergone several reviews, improvements and changes since the early 1990s. The first thorough review of ITU’s regional presence was mandated by the Nice Plenipotentiary Conference (1989), which instructed the Secretary-General to carry out a study with the aim of strengthening ITU’s regional presence and increasing its efficiency.

At the 2018 Plenipotentiary Conference held in Dubai, the topic of the regional presence was thoroughly discussed, and a revised Resolution 25 (“Strengthening the regional presence”) adopted by the membership.

Resolution 25 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) resolved to strengthen the functions of the regional offices and further instructed the Secretary-General to conduct an overall review of ITU’s regional presence and to report to Council 2020, including suggesting appropriate measures to ensure the continued effectiveness and efficiency of ITU’s regional presence.

At its 2019 session, Council adopted Resolution 616, which instructed the Secretary-General to recruit an independent external management consultancy to perform a comprehensive programmatic, strategic and financial assessment and review of ITU’s regional presence.

1. **Status of implementation**

Following a competitive bidding process, PricewaterhouseCoopers (“PwC”) was appointed to perform this review. The project was launched on 4 November 2019 under the responsibility of the BDT Director, and is being implemented in close collaboration with the regional offices and other relevant ITU departments/bureaux.

The main project deliverables may be summarized as follows[[1]](#footnote-1):

* Profile the current structure of our regional presence, including procedures and performance indicators;
* Identify efficiency/performance parameters;
* Identify the profile of the desired structure of the regional presence, setting managerial objectives that will serve the strategic direction of the organization and identify staff skills required to implement those objectives;
* Establish an Action Plan for change, which addresses all related recommendations provided by the External Auditor, the Internal Auditor and IMAC.

Following an initial data collection phase and a thorough assessment of the current field activities, the project has now entered into its design phase where possible new options for ITU’s regional presence are being developed and assessed. The third and final phase of the project will focus on the preparation of a roadmap for the implementation of a proposed new model.

In the context of the project, PwC has so far reviewed and analyzed more than 100 documents, conducted interviews with more than 100 internal and external stakeholders, collected the membership’s input through an on-line questionnaire and organized various information sessions and meetings with members, including during the February 2020 CWG meetings.

1. **Conclusion**

The project is progressing as planned, and PwC’s report will be submitted to the 2020 session of Council, as requested by Resolution 25 (Rev. Dubai, 2018).

An oral status report will be presented by PwC during TDAG.

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1. The complete list of deliverables is mentioned in Annex 1 to Council Decision 616. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)