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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****/DT/5-E** |
|  | **4 June 2020** |
|  | **English only** |
| Canada | |
| TDAG Working Group on WTDC Reform - Follow-up | |
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| **Summary:**  This document provides a follow-up to Canada’s contribution 37(Rev.2).  **References:**  [TDAG-20/37](https://www.itu.int/md/D18-TDAG25.2-C-0037/) | |

As a follow-up to contribution 37 rev 2 Canada invites TDAG to consider agreeing on the following proposals for WTDC reform, based on the discussions in the TDAG Web Dialogues on 16 March and 30 April 2020, and proposals submitted to TDAG-20:

1. Consideration should be given to the following approaches in preparation for WTDC-21:

* Implement a comprehensive preparatory process that introduces formal inter-regional coordination meetings (IRMs). These meetings should have a clearly defined format and clear agendas. Outcomes of IRMs would be non-binding as Member States have the sovereign right to submit proposals at the Conference.
* Define the number of representatives from each region to attend IRMs and decide on the chairmanship of IRMs.
* Define target lists by constituent group, including a short list of “stars” and a focus on funding entities and beneficiaries of ITU-D activities (youth, women, representatives from LDCs, persons from indigenous communities, etc.).
* Ensure proper planning and coordination between RPMs, IRMs and RTO preparatory meetings to safeguard the efficiency of the Conference preparatory process.
* Establish, in collaboration with the Secretariat, a list of coordinators from each region for each topic on the Conference agenda.
* Leverage on a selected basis other high-profile fora to raise awareness and interest on WTDC.

2. Consideration should be given to merging the high-level segment and the side-events into thematic events, a “Development Track” as follows:

* Carefully select themes to match the WTDC agenda, and establish a clear agenda and value proposition with the intention of addressing development challenges and membership priorities, and obtaining funding/pledges to complement the ITU budget.
* Invite high-level participants to chair and/or deliver key-note speeches on the theme(s) selected.
* Organize thematic tracks to be separate from the “administrative” part of the conference.

3. The conference should no longer discuss the ITU-D contribution to the ITU Strategic Plan, with this responsibility being transferred to TDAG.

TDAG-20 agrees that the BDT Director should proceed to implement those proposals to the extent possible for WTDC-21, and has formed this Working Group on WTDC Reform to provide advice and assistance to the BDT Director in the further development and implementation of the proposals, as follows:

* To implement a refined preparatory process for WTDC-21 and enhancing the role and interaction between RTO preparations, RPMs and inter-regional meetings, in terms of efficiency, effectiveness and economy taking into account the preparations underway in the regional telecommunication organizations (RTOs).
* To consider proposals from RTOs for regional priorities reflected in regional initiatives for the purpose of encouraging focus on issues which create wider interest, lead to financing and proper implementation by BDT in all of the regions.
* Consider and develop an approach to repurposing of high-level policy statement process and Side Events into thematic events to address development challenges and priorities, as well as development funding and enhanced partnerships.
* Propose strategies for assisting Member States prepare inputs for WTDC-21.
* Enhancing the participation at WTDC-21 of the right stakeholders (e.g., problem owners, solution owners, fund owners and beneficiaries) at WTDC-21.
* Identifying the elements associated with the elaboration of the draft Declaration as the blueprint for the implementation of the Action Plan.

The working group should report to the 2021 meeting of TDAG on actions taken and progress toward reform of WTDC-21.

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