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| **Council Working Group for Strategic and Financial Plans 2024-2027 Third meeting – 21 and 22 February 2022** |  |
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| COMMON PROPOSALS TO THE third COUNCIL WORKING GROUP ON STRATEGIC AND FINANCIAL PLANS (CWG-SFP) MEETING | |
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**Introduction**

Overall we would like to commend the effort done by the Secretariat to take into account the results of the informal consultation of Member States and the guiding principles agreed by Member States during the first meeting of the Council Working Group. We agree that the Strategic Plan needed to be simplified and clarified, in order to better reflect the strategic priorities of the organization. We also think that it needed to be more focused, in order to keep the Strategic Plan at a high level and better centered around strategic goals and priorities.

The new structure of the Strategic Plan is in our view much clearer. The consolidated strategic goals seem aligned with ITU’s Vision and Mission, and the distinction between goals, targets and organizational enablers that are cross-cutting for the whole organization seems pertinent. The thematic priorities allow for a more coherent view of the activities of ITU across all three sectors, maximizing synergies and strengthening the One ITU concept. The consolidated presentation of ITU-wide product and service offerings gives a clearer view of the activities of ITU across all three sectors.

We would also like to underline the importance of taking into account the financial limitations of the ITU while developing this strategic plan. As resources are scarce, it is more important than ever for ITU to focus on its core mandate and prioritize its activities in line with this, in order to be efficient.

**Comments on the proposal**

**Section 2.2: Vision**

We support option 1 to keep the current version of ITU’s vision. The current drafting seems more precise, has no new concept that would need to be debated (such as “human progress”) and remains relevant for the 2024-2027 period.

**Section 2.3: Mission**

We also support option 1 to maintain the current Mission Statement, as the two versions do not differ fundamentally, and “social, economic and environmentally sustainable growth and development” seems more precise than only “sustainable development”.

**Section 2.4 Strategic Goals**

We strongly support the new drafting of the strategic goals that seem much more comprehensive and clearer, without overlaps between them. It is also fully in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

**Section 2.5 Targets for the Union’s Connect 2030 Agenda**

We support the drafting of the targets for 2030, which orient ITU’s action towards enabling the delivery of the SDGs. We also support the use of SMART target indicators in the Results Framework and sub-indicators to refine measurement, which will reinforce accountability of ITU’s actions.

**Section. 2.6 Thematic Priorities**

Overall the thematic priorities seem to cover correctly the spectrum of activities of ITU.

We support option 2 to integrate cybersecurity outcomes under other Thematic Priorities such as Infrastructure, Applications or Enabling Environment. We feel it is important for ITU to focus its work on its core mandate, while attending to the needs of all its Members, especially developing countries, and avoid overlaps and develop better synergies with the work being done in other fora. Moreover we feel it is important that ITU does not have too many thematic priorities for the strategic plan to remain focused. In particular at this moment, it is highly important to prioritize and not to spread the scare resources over too many thematic priorities.

Section 2.7 Products and Services:

We support the proposed drafting of this section showcasing ITU’s combined value proposition and highlighting linkages across the full range of its products and services. The regrouping and reformulation of existing activities in order to highlight common areas of work while reflecting the specificity of existing sector offerings, seems in line with the request made by Member State to maximize synergies and avoid duplications and overlapping.

We look forward to further discussions within the Council Working Group on the draft Strategic Plan.

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