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| **Agenda item: ADM 1** | **Addendum 1 to Document C23/26-E** |
| **6 July 2023** |
| **Original: English** |
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| Note by the Secretary-General  ADDENDUM FROM TDAG-23 BY CHAIRMAN OF TDAG | |
| **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE REGIONAL INITIATIVES APPROVED BY WTDC-22** | |
| \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **References**  [*Document TDAG-23/25-E - Director, Telecommunication Development Bureau - Financial implications of the Regional Initiatives approved by WTDC-22*](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-TDAG30-C-0025/en)  [*Document TDAG-23/DT/5-E - Chairman, Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) - Draft summary of conclusions*](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-TDAG30-230619-TD-0005/en)  [*Final Report of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (Kigali, 2022), Part III – Regional Initiatives*](https://www.itu.int/en/publications/ITU-D/pages/publications.aspx?parent=D-TDC-WTDC-2022&media=electronic)  [*Resolution 25 (Rev. Bucharest 2022)*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts-2023/RES-025-E.pdf) *of the Plenipotentiary Conference* | |

The Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) meeting took place from 19 to 23 June 2023.

BDT submitted a contribution ([Document 25](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-TDAG30-C-0025/en)) titled “*Financial implications of the regional initiatives by WTDC 22*”, in which BDT made the following request “In the budget approval process for 2024-2027 BDT proposes to request that Council consider the allocation of dedicated financial resources for the implementation of the Regional Initiatives adopted by WTDC-22 for all the six regions” and informed TDAG that a secretariat [Document 26](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-CL-C-0026/en) had been submitted to Council with regards the financing of WTDC-22 Regional Initiatives, as was the case in 2018 when a budget was allocated for the implementation of WTDC-2017 Regional Initiatives.

TDAG discussed the document and participants noted the need for the additional allocation of funds and requested Secretariat to provide an addendum to Council document 26 to express the views of TDAG.

This addendum seeks to provide this additional information based on TDAG discussions at the meeting which was held after the submission of Council document 26.

In reaching its conclusions, TDAG considered the following:

**2. Rationale**

The need of additional resources for the implementation of WTDC-22 Regional Initiatives follows the successful outcomes during the previous cycle where an allocation of 5 million CHF, resulted in the implementation of 37 projects under the regional initiatives approved by WTDC-17. Detailed information on these projects is available in annex:1 (document TDAG-23/25-E), available here: <https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-d/md/22/tdag30/c/D22-TDAG30-C-0025!N1!MSW-E.docx>

Using the CH5 million allocated by Council as seed money, BDT managed to mobilize resources from external partners valued at CH 8.5 million that was used to co-finance projects.

Based on BDT experience during the previous cycle (2018-2022):

* The allocation of funds by Council for the implementation of projects under the regional initiatives, accounts for the successful implementation of WTDC-17 adopted regional initiatives.
* The availability of Council allocated funds that served as seed funds facilitated ITU/BDT’s effort to mobilize additional resources.
* To cover all the regions, the guiding principle was to have external partners to contribute 50 per cent of the projects cost.
* The implementation of regional initiatives adopted by WTDC-22 that remain unbudgeted, will depend on a specific budget being made available to finance the projects.
* Although the BDT is working hard to mobilize resources for projects, it should be noted that without seed funds (allocation by Council) for financing the adopted regional initiatives, there would be no guarantee that our resource mobilization efforts would bear fruit as donors determine the thematic topics that they want to finance and also reserve the right to pick priority regions and/or countries to benefit from their resources.

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