



ITU Regional Development Forum for the Arab Region (RDF-ARB)

Setting Course Towards the Digital Decade of Action

25 and 26 Nov. 2020 | Virtual | 12:00 – 15:00 Cairo Local Time

Draft Agenda

Day 1	25 Nov. 2020
12:00 –12:30	<p>Opening Session and Welcoming Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Adel Darwish, Regional Director, Bio Speech• Ms. Doreen Bogdan, BDT Director, Bio Speech
12:30–13:30	<p>Session 1: Digital Transformation in the Arab Region Post COVID-19</p> <p>Session Objectives:</p> <p>Today the digital world is completely intertwined with automating daily life, this because of the integration of digital technologies into public and business and fundamentally changing the way they operate and deliver value to end users and transform people. COVID-19 is now entering the digital transformation game and became a main driver behind the digital transformation and a cultural change that requires people and organizations to continually challenge the status quo, experiment, and get comfortable and live with the new norm.</p> <p>The session aims to respond to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What does digital transformation mean for the public and business?2. What will digital transformation deliver in the future3. Roadmap for the future look of digital transformation in Arab Region post COVID-194. Digital transformation: Efforts and Perspectives5. Role of regional UN agencies to support countries to achieve the digital transformation



	<p>Moderator:</p> <p>Eng. Mustafa Al Mahdi, Programme Officer, ITU Arab Regional Office</p> <p>Keynote speaker:</p> <p>Mr. Bocar A. Ba, Chief Executive Officer of SAMENA Telecommunications Council, Bio Presentation</p> <p>Session Key Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ ITU initiatives on Digital Transformation, Mr. Alex Wong, Senior Strategy Advisor and Lead, Giga, Bio Presentation▪ Building Blocks of Digital Transformation of X, Dr. Ashraf Abdelwahab, Digital Transformation Director, Public Sector, SAP, Egypt, Bio Presentation▪ Digital Development, Mr. Dany Wazen, I Digital Transformation and ICT Specialist, UNDP RBAS regional programme, Bio Presentation▪ Capitalize on Emerging TECH 4 Digital Transformation, Eng. Waleed Ali, Digital Transformation Specialist, Bio Presentation▪ Saudi's Digital Transformation during COVID-19: Eng. Mohammad Alkhalil, Director, Digital Enablement, National Digital Transformation Unit (NDU), Bio Presentation
13:30–15:00	<p>Session 2: One ITU: Aligning Regional Synergies Through the Regional Preparation for WRC, WTSA and WTDC</p> <p>The session aims to bring together the three sectors of the ITU with a main objective to foster cross-sector collaboration and representation by the ITU Arab Regional Office. In addition, the session will be envisaged the role of the ITU's Regional Office for Arab States on coordinating the three sectors activities in the region and in cooperating with other regional organization involved in the preparation process for the main ITU events WTDC, WTSA, WRC and PP.</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <p>Eng. Rouda AlAmir Ali, Programme Officer, ITU Arab Regional Office</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Mr. Tariq AlAwadhi, ASMG Chairman for WRC-23, Bio▪ Mr. Joaquin Restrepo, Capacity Building Coordinator, ITU Radiocommunication Bureau, Bio▪ Mr. Al-ansari Mohammad Almashakbeh, ex Vice-Chair of the Arab Preparatory Group for the WTDC-17, Bio



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr. Marco Obiso, Chief a.i. Digital Network and Society (DNS) Department, ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau, Bio ▪ Mr. Ahmed Said, Vice-Chair of the Arab Preparatory Group for the WTSA-20, Bio ▪ Mr. Bilel Jamoussi, Chief, Study Groups Department, Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, ITU, Bio <p>Session Key Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Overview on the Resolution 25 on strengthening the regional presence and the importance of the One ITU approach ▪ What are the changes that happened to implement resolution 25 across the three sectors and regionally? How can build synergies among the ITU sectors in the Arab region? ▪ The other side of the coin, insight on how the Arab region coordinates positions and contributions across the three sectors and the efforts to synergize them ▪ Moving forward, what maybe planned for next year and the years to come to implement resolution 25?
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Day 2	26 Nov. 2020
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12:00–13:00	<p>Session 3: UN Collaboration to Achieve the SDG 2030 in the Arab Region</p> <p>The session aims to raise awareness of ITU members (Ministries of ICTs, Telecom Regulators, regional organizations, private sector companies, academic organizations) in the Arab region on UN Reforms, and particularly the new UN cooperation frameworks. Moreover, it will shed light on the opportunities of engagement between Ministries of ICTs and Regulatory Authorities with the ITU and UN Organizations to achieve the 2030 sustainable development agenda on the national and regional levels.</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <p>Mr. Karim Abdelghani, Programme Coordinator, ITU Arab Regional Office</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms. Laila Baker, UN Regional Director for Arab States, Bio Presentation ▪ Mr. Mounir Tabet, Deputy Executive Secretary, UN House Beirut, Bio Presentation ▪ Mr. Richard Dictus, UNRC Egypt, Bio Presentation ▪ Ms. Barbara Manzi, UNRC Djibouti , Bio Presentation ▪ Mr. Mohamed Al Zarkani, UNRC Bahrain a.i., Bio Presentation
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	<p>Session Key Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Overview on the UN Development Reforms: why it was done, when was it done, what did it encompass▪ The new roles of the UN Resident Coordinators (UNRC)▪ Explanation of Common Country Analysis (CCA)▪ Explanation of UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCF)▪ Differences of UNSDCFs depending on the development level of the country▪ The role of ICTs in UNSDCFs and means of engagement of the Ministries of ICTs and Telecom Regulators
13:00–13:30	<p>Session 4: Generation Connect in the Arab Region</p> <p>Youth and children as early adopters of ICTs, they are uniquely placed to harness the power of digital technologies in new and imaginative ways. Connected to each other like never before, young people want to contribute to their communities, propose innovative solutions and drive social progress and change. The session aims to shed light on the ITU Youth Strategy that will be presented by a group of promising Arab youth representatives who will comment on it and share with us their insights on what is needed to ensure the optimal implementation of this strategy.</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <p>Eng. Rouda Al Amir, Programme Officer, ITU Arab Regional Office</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Ali Al-Toblani, University student, Bahrain, Bio• Ms. Nura Qasrawi, University student, Palestine, Bio• Ms. Maysam Bukamal, School Student, Bahrain, Bio• Mr. Omar Bishtawi, University student, Palestine, Bio• Ms. Masa Qzaih, University student, Palestine, Bio <p>Session Key Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Overview of the Youth Strategy▪ Youth’s perspective on ITU’s contribution to their empowerment▪ Areas where the ITU collaborate with the youth for the advancement of ICT, gender equality and youth empowerment



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The role of the youth in ITU as key stakeholders to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to reduce the youth digital divide
13:30–14:30	<p>Session 5: ITU Arab Regional Office that is Fit for Purpose</p> <p>The session aims to raise awareness of ITU members (Ministries of ICTs, Telecom Regulators, regional organizations, private sector companies, academic organizations) in the Arab region on BDT Reforms as well as laying out the vision and planned actions on how to make the ITU Arab Regional Office fit for purpose.</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <p>Mr. Adel Darwish, Regional Director, ITU Arab Regional Office</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Adel Darwish, Regional Director, ITU Arab Regional Office, Bio Presentation• Mr. Karim Abdelghani, Programme Coordinator, ITU Arab Regional Office, Bio Presentation• Dr. Reham el Mayet, Telecommunications Expert – ICT Dept., League of Arab States, Bio Presentation <p>Session Key Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Overview of the BDT Reforms and how it affected the Arab Regional Office▪ Shedding light on the new Regional Director’s vision for the Arab Regional Office and plans to improve its regional presence in the Arab Region
14:30–14:45	Voices from our Partner and Members
14:45–15:00	<p>Closing Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Mr. Adel Darwish, Regional Director, ITU Arab Regional Office, Bio▪ Mr. Stephen Bereaux, Deputy BDT Director, Bio

How to get involved

All information on registration and other related information can be found on the following link:
<https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/ArabStates/Pages/Events/2020/RDF/default.aspx>

For further information, please contact:

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