



Annex 1

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

Accelerating the digital development in Arab Region

Organized by the International Telecommunication Union with the support of the

Bahraini Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications

6-8 November 2023 - Kingdom of Bahrain

CONTRIBUTION FORM

Please note that submitted information will be presented during the RDF-ARB P2C Roundtables and it will also be reflected on the pledging platform of the Partner 2 Connect Digital Coalition.

Once completed send to ITU-RO-ArabStates@itu.int

ORGANIZATION: [National Communications Authority- Federal Republic of Somalia]

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TITLE: [Somalia National Priorities]

DESCRIPTION OF ACTION: [Provide a brief description up to 500 words]

This document describes the priorities of the Federal Republic of Somalia in terms of Telecommunications and ICT development, these priorities are in line with the National development plan (NDP9) of Somalia and the priorities identified by the ITU conferences.

The ICT sector in Somalia, especially the Telecommunications and ICT services, is one of the brightest spots in the Somali economy. Penetration rates are higher and prices lower than in some neighboring countries. The market structure is still evolving while facing many challenges including instability of the local environment and a nascent regulatory framework with a few sector specific laws. But nevertheless, the Telecommunications market in Somalia has thrived and the Somali government is committed to developing a conducive and enabling regulatory environment that promotes economic development through the adoption of the latest digital technologies while safeguarding the consumer rights.



The strategic goals of the Federal Republic of Somalia in order to develop the Digital and ICT services include:

- Creating a conducive environment by establishing the institutional, legal and regulatory framework for ICT development, putting in place the necessary mechanisms.
- Promoting the development and deployment of ICT infrastructure that meets current and future communications needs. Several projects ranging from Efficient Spectrum management, Infrastructure mapping, National IPv6 strategy, Universal access and services and digital regulation are among the key priority areas.
- Promoting and encouraging the deployment and utilization of ICTs within the society.
- Transforming the economic and social systems using ICTs with the aim of improving accessibility, quality and relevance to the developmental needs of Somalia;
- Improving the civil and public service efficiency; and
- Promote good governance and a capable state.

The main areas of focus for the development of the Telecommunications and ICT sector, and the implementation of Digital services for socioeconomic development in Somalia, include:

- ICT policies and regulations
- Capacity development
- Affordable connectivity
- Cybersecurity
- Spectrum management
- Digital Infrastructure, emerging technologies and services,
- Empowering Regulatory Authority through Enhanced Oversight - Equipment and Infrastructure.

COUNTRIES in FOCUS: [Name countries to be impacted by this action]

The Federal Republic of Somalia



YEARS of IMPLEMENTATION: [Tick the relevant boxes or delete the irrelevant items]

2023

2024

2025

RELEVANT ITU REGIONAL INITIATIVE: [Tick the relevant boxes or delete the irrelevant items]

ARB1: Sustainable digital economy through digital transformation.

including Pacific Island countries, and landlocked developing countries

ARB2: Enhancing confidence, security and privacy in the use of telecommunications/Information and communication technologies in the era of new and emerging digital technologies.

ARB3: Developing digital infrastructure for smart sustainable cities and communities.

ARB4: Building capacities and encouraging digital innovation, entrepreneurship and future foresight.

ARB5: Developing means of digital regulation.

Please find more information on the ITU Regional Initiatives 2023-2025, as defined by WTDC-22,

<https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Pages/regional-initiatives-2023-2025.aspx>

RELATED ITU-D PRIORITIES AS DEFINED BY THE ITU WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE 2022

Affordable connectivity

Digital Transformation

Enabling policy and regulatory environment

Resource mobilization and international cooperation

Inclusive and secure telecommunications/ICTs for sustainable development

Please find more information on the ITU-D Priorities, as defined by WTDC-22, [here](#)

RELATED ITU PRIORITIES AS DEFINED BY ITU PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE 2022

Spectrum use for space and terrestrial services.

International telecommunication numbering resources.

Inclusive and secure telecommunication/ICT infrastructure and services.

Digital applications.

Enabling environment.

Please find more information on the ITU Priorities, as defined by PP-22, [here](#)

