

## Salutations

1. CERT General Manage
2. CERT Members of Staff
3. ITU Representative
4. Distinguished delegates
5. Ladies and Gentlemen
6. All protocols observed

Good morning

On behalf of the ITU, I would like to take this opportunity to thank CERT for the training taking place this week 30<sup>th</sup> May 3rd June 2016 and also to express gratitude for the hospitality afforded to all of us since we arrived. Would also like to thank CERT for being our long standing partner in Capacity building for C&I in ITU Africa Region.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It has to be recalled that among others, the Dubai declaration recognised that;

a) Universal and affordable access to telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) is essential for the world's economic, social and cultural development, and contributes to building a global economy and information society;

c) Widespread conformance and interoperability of telecommunication/ICT equipment and systems through the implementation of relevant programmes, policies and decisions can increase market opportunities and reliability and encourage global integration and trade;

and therefore declared among others that,

With convergence, policy-makers and regulators should continue to promote widespread, affordable access to telecommunications/ICTs, including Internet access, through fair, transparent, stable, predictable and non-discriminatory enabling policy, legal and regulatory environments, including common approaches to conformance and interoperability that promote competition, increase consumer choices, foster continued technological and service innovation and provide investment incentives at national, regional and international levels.

Increased participation of developing countries in ITU activities to bridge the standardization gap is needed in order to ensure that they experience the economic benefits associated with technological development, and to better reflect the requirements and interests of developing countries in this area.

Building widespread telecommunication/ICT literacy as well as human and institutional capacity in the development and use of telecommunication/ICT networks, applications and services are key to enabling people to access and contribute to information, ideas and knowledge. ICT-based life skills should be further strengthened not only through vocational and education training, including training dispensed in local languages, but also through international ICT volunteer programmes or initiatives. It is very

important to take advantage of all facilities, such as schools, libraries, content providers, multipurpose community centres and public access points, in close partnership with all stakeholders. The development of multilingual digital content for software-based applications and the creation of local content as well as content in local languages by stakeholders will help foster an inclusive information society.

### **Ladies and Gentlemen.**

Since 2010,

In an effort to technically assist Members in contributing to the development and deployment of ITU Recommendations regarding C&I programmes, ITU has embarked on several activities regarding C&I ranging from awareness workshops, training, assessment studies to assisting Member States who are ready to build test labs with further customised training. This year's training will be particularly devoted to procedures for establishing C&I regimes at Regional/Sub regional levels.

ASSESSMENT STUDIES done for EAC SADC and Maghreb/UMA aiming at promoting regional integration and C&I regimes. This is the reason ITU also invited the three Secretariats participating in this meeting

In addition, ITU has Study Questions in C&I to which all of us present here are expected to contribute. The ITU-D Study Groups - is as a value-adding knowledge platform and capacity building mechanism for ICTs — a place where new ideas and best practices from around the world are brought and where creative and useful guidelines are produced. As ITU-D Study Group activities are entirely contribution driven, the inputs provided to the Study Groups are not only fully available and accessible to the entire membership, but the outcomes of the Study Groups are shared entirely through the innovative proposals put forward by the membership. The BDT would like to continue receiving input from the membership on how we can together innovate and find ways to be more efficient and effective in our work. ITU encourages all Member States to take continuous role in the study Groups to enable capacity building in this fast evolving ICT industry to avoid remaining behind.

Example Question 4/2 (Assistance to developing countries for implementing conformance and interoperability programmes.

The inputs can be submitted using the online forms available or to send e-mails directly to ITU-D Study Groups Secretariat. at [devsg@itu.int](mailto:devsg@itu.int).

Remote participation in study Group meetings is also available and I would like to encourage the audience to take proactive role in our Study Groups and contribute to questions as we

share experiences, making study groups even more relevant, increasingly useful and practical for the membership.

For further required information regarding Study Groups, the global focal point, Mr. Riccardo Passerini and Africa Region focal point Ms. Chali Tumelo are available for more details and would like to be in closer collaboration with you.

I wish you all fruitful training deliberations this week.

Thank you very much for your attention