**Comments on ITU Strategy 2020-2023**

**1- What should be the key strategic priorities for ITU for the 2020 - 2023 period, taking into account the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals?**

* Enhancing studies aiming at closing digital divide should be one of the key strategic priorities of ITU for the 2020-2023 period.
* ITU should focus on newly emerged risks and challenges related to increased use of ICTs, especially about dangers mostly effecting young people such as internet addiction, exposure to harmful content and privacy violations, cyberbullying and internet abuse.
* Health applications using mobile broadband technologies should be promoted to reach people living especially in the LDCs in order to increase capacity of remote monitoring, diagnosis and preventing care. Additionally, current and emerging ICTs should be promoted for inclusion of persons with disabilities into social and economic life.
* ITU should also focus on affordable and universal access to the broadband and seamless connectivity in all kind of communications infrastructure.
* Another strategic priority for ITU should be extend international cooperation on ICTs by including all stakeholders, especially in terms of internet governance.
* ITU should continue its leading role in standardization of next generation networks as well as its cooperation and coordination with other international standardization bodies.
* Interoperability should be ensured by standards in all cases. Otherwise, development and innovation would be stagnated.

**2-** **What are the key technological trends ITU should consider while planning its strategy?**

* Next Generation Mobile Communications, generally known as 5G and beyond technologies, are expected to shape ICT World for the next decades. ITU should take into account 5G roll out and penetration and work to streamline such efforts in the international level so as to bring about gigabit society and to eliminate digital divide in all over the world.
* Vertical sectors such as automotive, health and entertainment are waiting in line to use fruits of 5G and beyond technologies. ITU should pitch in in order to define standardization needs of vertical sectors and coordinate their needs with the global ICT sector in the international level.
* ITU should play a leading role in Industry 4.0 revolution where 5G and beyond technologies will be the main driver.
* Within the transformation in the converged digital world, increasing OTT competition, M2M solutions and multi service bundles should be taken into consideration while planning ITU’s strategy.
* Internet/Communications of Things, personal information security technologies in a social network environment as well as big data analytics for cybersecurity are also important technological trends that ITU, within its mandate, should be a supportive stakeholder in the studies for bridging the digital divide.

**3-What do you consider to be the top three challenges for the ITU and the top three achievements you would like to see the ITU accomplish in the 2020-2023 timeframe?**

Top three challenges:

* 5G and beyond technologies will provide a huge boost to developing economies. There is a risk of digital divide get bigger if necessary precautions such as capacity building and streamlining of development efforts are not taken. ITU should ensure that no country is left behind.
* ITU offers a debate and resolution environment for public institutions and operators. It should play an active role for the measures to be taken to minimize the negative effects of ICTs on the most vulnerable parts of the global society, especially young people. Within this context, creating a firm base in cyber security domain by promoting international cooperation and coordination is another challenge that ITU would face.
* Losing its effectiveness and being perceived as an “archaic” organization could be seen as another challenge that ITU should overcome in the 2020-2023 timeframe.

Top three achievements:

* Bridging the digital divide and providing broadband for all.
* Providing network security and increasing the number of people having the ability to access to information.
* Increasing its effectiveness and attracting more members from industry and academia.