



# **AFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION**

**2<sup>ND</sup> AFRICAN PREPARATORY MEETING FOR ITU WORLD  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE (WTDC-25) –  
WINDHOEK, NAMIBIA**

**15 – 17 JULY 2024**

**FINAL REPORT**

# **FINAL REPORT OF THE 2<sup>ND</sup> AFRICAN PREPARATORY MEETING FOR WTDC-25 NAMIBIA, JULY 15 –17, 2024**

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> African Preparatory Meeting for World Telecommunications Development Conference (WTDC-25) was organized in hybrid format by the African Telecommunication Union (ATU) and kindly hosted by the Government of Namibia through the Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia (CRAN). The meeting took place at Droombos Vineyard Country Hotel, Windhoek, Namibia from 15 to 17 July, 2024 and followed by the first preparatory meeting for the ITU plenipotentiary Conference 2026 (PP-26) held 18 and 19 July 2024.

The main objectives of the 2nd preparatory meeting was:

- i. To consider the report of the 1<sup>st</sup> African Preparatory Meeting for WTDC-25 held in Nairobi, Kenya, on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024.
- ii. To update Member States on the WTDC-25 preparations by BDT
- iii. To update Member States on WTDC-25 preparations from other Regional Telecommunications Organizations
- iv. To consider reports by Chairs of ATU WG1, 2 and 3 for WTDC-25 preparations on the ongoing discussions
- v. To consider the preliminary contributions of ATU Members and RECs for WTDC-25
- vi. To finalize the list of priorities and topics of interest for WTDC-25 agenda items and appointment of country coordinators
- vii. To formulate the preliminary AfCPs
- viii. To consider African candidatures for the ITU-D Study Groups and TDAG positions.

## **2. PARTICIPANTS**

The meeting was attended physically and virtually by over 120 participants from the following 32 Member Countries namely: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central Africa Republic, Comoros, Cote d'Ivoire, DRC, Egypt, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Mauritius, Morocco, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

The following institutions and organizations were also represented:

- International Telecommunications Union, (ITU); and
- Two (2) Associate Members (GSOA and Apple).

## **3. OPENING CEREMONY**

At the join-opening ceremony of the ATU 2nd African Preparatory Meeting for the World Telecommunication Development Conference 2025 (WTDC-25) and the 1st preparatory for the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2026 (PP-26), the welcoming remarks were given, in the following order, by:

1. **Mr. Elvis Nashilongo**, Vice Chairperson of the Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia (CRAN) Board of Directors. He welcomed dignitaries and various delegates from African countries participating physically and online to Windhoek, and Namibia's political, economic, and cultural center. He further:

- Emphasized the crucial nature of the ATU meetings for shaping the future of telecommunications in Africa. These meetings serve as a platform to discuss and strategize on issues such as broadband expansion, digital infrastructure development, and digital literacy.
- Stressed the shared vision among African nations to use Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) to drive socio-economic development and bridge the digital divide.
- Encouraged delegates to engage actively, share insights, and explore opportunities for cooperation. He emphasized the importance of a collaborative spirit to achieve common goals and aspirations.

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2. **Dr. Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava**, Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, ITU (by Video message); he expressed his pleasure to address the meeting and thanked the Government of Namibia for hosting the event.

- Recalled his participation in the 1st African Preparatory Meeting in Nairobi and noted the high attendance and active participation. Highlighted the successful implementation of projects under the Kigali Action Plan, including mobilizing around 30 million USD and establishing 17 Acceleration Centres, six of which are in Africa.
- Discussed the journey towards WTDC-25, including the upcoming Regional Development Meetings (RPMs) and preparations at the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group.
- Urged participants to consider Africa's Regional Initiatives and support topics that would achieve universal, affordable, and sustainable development in Africa.
- Announced the re-establishment of a dedicated division within the Telecommunication Development Bureau to focus on the Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs), and Small Island Developing States (SIDS).
- Wished the participants a productive meeting.

3. **Ms. Doreen Bogdan-Martin**, Secretary-General of the International Telecommunications Union (by Video message), where she highlighted the following:

- Emphasized the pivotal nature of the second Preparatory Meeting for WTDC-25 and the first Preparatory Meeting for PP-26 for Africa, which she said, will mark a turning point where Africans are taking ownership of their digital future.
- Highlighted the successful Global Symposium for Regulators held in Uganda, the endorsement of the Continental Artificial Intelligence Strategy, and the African Digital Compact.

- Mentioned UN Secretary-General **Mr. António Guterres's** call for accelerated connectivity investments in Africa to ensure the continent's equality on the global stage.
  - Discussed the outcomes of the recent ITU Council session, including support for the transformation roadmap, adoption of the Oversight Charter, strengthening ITU's regional presence, and support for child online protection.
  - Outlined the four overarching themes of the agenda: being fit for purpose, improving governance, achieving organizational excellence, and delivering as One ITU. Stressed the need for universal connectivity and sustainable digital transformation.
  - Urged African countries to actively participate in the WTDC and PP processes to ensure a strong presence in upcoming international forums.
  - Mentioned key upcoming events, such as the UN Summit of the Future, WTSA-24 in India, and the 20-year review of WSIS.
  - Encouraged African countries to play a key role in shaping a more inclusive, innovative, and sustainable digital future. Expressed anticipation for the outcomes of the preparatory meetings.
4. **Mr. John OMO**, Secretary General of the African Telecommunications Union (ATU). Welcomed attendees to the joint Africa Preparatory Meetings for WTDC-25 and PP-26, expressing his appreciation to Namibia's administration for hosting the meetings in Windhoek.
- He highlighted the role of these meetings in ensuring well-prepared participation in WTDC-25 and PP-26.
  - Noted the success of the first African Preparatory Meeting held in Kenya, where a permanent bureau and three working groups were established to coordinate preparations and develop African Common Proposals for WTDC agenda items.
  - Noted that the current meeting aims to review regional initiatives, discuss emerging ICT issues, receive preliminary proposals, and strategize for strong African representation in ITU-D Study Groups and TDAG positions.
  - Stressed the need to learn from past experiences, strategize effectively, and ensure strong support for African candidates in upcoming ITU elections to enhance the region's influence in global ICT decisions.
  - Highlighted Africa's progress in ICT, noting increased mobile broadband penetration but also emphasizing the need to address challenges such as the digital divide and limited high-speed internet access.
  - Urged participants to identify areas of interest for Africa and adopt a regional preparation structure to align with global ICT trends and priorities.
  - Encouraged collaboration, determination, and solidarity among African nations to achieve successful outcomes at WTDC-25 and PP-26

**5. Hon. Emma Theofelus**, Minister of Information & Communication Technology (MICT) of Namibia delivered the keynote address with the following remarks:

- Welcomed all dignitaries, and various distinguished delegates from African countries, both physical and online attendees.
- She emphasized the critical nature of the meetings, noting their role in shaping the future of telecommunications in Africa and beyond.
- Highlighted the pivotal role of the ATU in harnessing telecommunications for economic growth, connectivity, and improving citizens' wellbeing.
- Stressed the importance of collaboration and sharing best practices to drive development and expansion of telecommunication infrastructure across Africa.
- Encouraged attendees to approach the meetings with a spirit of solidarity and work towards a more connected, prosperous, and inclusive Africa.
- extended a warm welcome to all attendees, expressing hope for productive and successful meetings and declared the meeting open.

#### **4. AGENDA AND WORKPROGRAM**

The Agenda and Work Program were adopted as attached in Annex ...

#### **5. CONSIDERATION OF MEETING BUREAU**

The meeting was Chaired by Ms. Regina Fleur ASSOUMOU BESSOU of Cote d'Ivoire. It was noted that the rapporteurs for the 2<sup>nd</sup> African Preparatory Meeting for WTDC-25 from Zambia and Gabon were not present. Ghana and Senegal were then nominated to act as interim rapporteurs for the meeting.

#### **6. REPORT ON THE OUTCOME OF THE 1ST AFRICAN PREPARATORY MEETING FOR WTDC-25**

Ms. Slimani gave an overview of the 1<sup>st</sup> Preparatory Meeting for WTDC-25 which was held in Nairobi Kenya, from 08-09 February 2024. She indicated that the meeting attracted about 220 participants from 35 Member States and was also attended by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), Eleven (11) Associate Members and Three (3) Regional Organizations. Ms. Slimani gave an outline of the outcomes of the meeting and the following key developments were noted;

##### **6a) Preparations for WTDC-22**

- i. Four Regional Initiatives were adopted;
- ii. Nineteen (19) WTDC Resolutions were revised
- iii. Three (3) new draft proposals;

- iv. Twelve (12) proposed study questions, six (6) from Study Group one and six (6) from Study Group two.

### **6b) Outcomes from WTDC-22**

- 80% existing resolutions and recommendations were revised.
- The New draft resolutions were adopted
- The New Regional Initiatives were approved
- Seven 7 Study questions as proposed for each Study Group 1 and 2 were approved
- The GIGA project was also an important highlight under the New Resolution on connecting all Schools to the Internet.

### **6c) Implementation of WTDC-22 main results, including Regional Initiatives in the Africa Region**

**Ms. Meriem Slimani**, ATU Coordinator, presented the current state of the implementation of the WTDC-22 results and highlighted the following outcomes:

- 67 projects under implementation with a project budget of 65 Million Swiss Franc. 36% of the funds are being utilized for African Projects. By 2023, a total of 23 million Swiss Franc had been mobilized in funding and 18.2 million went to supporting interventions that benefited the African region. She also mentioned other ongoing ITU/BDT projects in Africa:

### **6d) ATU preparation for WTDC-25**

The following structure was adopted by Membership for the WTDC -25 preparation

#### **Plenary Group**

**Chair-Person :** Ms. Regina Fleur Assoumou Bessou (Cote d'Ivoire),  
**Vice-Chair:** Mr. Christopher (Kenya),  
**1<sup>st</sup> Rapporteurs:** Ms. Sharon NKUMBWA (Zambia)  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Rapporteur:** Dr. Christian NZENGUE PEGNET (Gabon)

#### **WG1: Declarations, Action Plan, Thematic priorities & Regional Initiatives**

**Chair:** Mr. Amr Safwat - Egypt  
**Vice-Chair:** Dr. Oloyede Abdulkarim - Nigeria

#### **WG2: Working Methods & Study Questions**

**Chair:** Ms. Caecilia Nyamutswa – Zimbabwe  
**Vice-Chair:** Dr. Mohammed El Haj – Sudan

#### **WG3: Resolutions on Development related issues & Streamlining**

**Chair:** Mr. CAPO Amah Vinyo – Togo  
**Vice-Chair:** Ms. Honey Makola - South Africa

The following are provisionally adopted priority issues for the region:

- Bridge digital divide WTDC-22 (Doc. Ref. Res. 37, 19)
- Digital technologies and Job Creation WTDC-22 (Doc. Ref. Res. 77, 89)
- Digital Businesses, Digital Innovation Ecosystem & Entrepreneurship WTDC-22 (Doc. Ref. Res. 90)
- Digital Skills WTDC-22 (Doc. Ref. Res. 40)
- Gender balance/ or bridging gender divide, support NOW initiative to empower & inspire women joining digitalization and this network. WTDC-22 (Doc. Ref. Res.76, 55)
- More engagement of the youth in future meetings/events. WTDC-22 (Doc. Ref. Res.76)
- Cybersecurity and Privacy WTDC-22 (Doc. Ref. Res.45)
- Telecom/ICT statistics and measurements which are key elements for drawing up evidence based public policies. WTDC-22 (Doc. Ref. Res.8)
- Digital Platforms WTDC-22 (Doc. Ref. Res.89)
- Boost Digital financial services (Access and use of digital financial services)

#### **6e) Update on ATU's progress of work on preparation for WTDC-25**

The ATU Consultant on WTDC-25 preparations, **Dr. Nagwa Shenawy**, gave an overview of the progress towards preparations for WTDC-25. In her presentation, she highlighted the following:

- The ATU Structure for WTDC25 preparations: 3WGs + SOP Group and their respective mandates
- Areas of priority;
- Progress on preparatory work by the ATU Secretariat
- Recommendations on the way forward.

She made the following recommendations and way forward:

- Member States to submit proposals and contributions to the various Working Groups;
- Member State to prepare inputs to TDAG working groups meetings in September 2024 which will *inter alia* , consider an Agenda on WTDC-25 Declaration;
- Re-assessment for the current priorities, initiatives and projects;
- Identify WTDC resolutions that are important and of interest to the African region; and,
- Set milestones for the input documents for the next 3-4 months.

The Secretariat agreed on the need to set priorities, initiatives and projects as well as to outline the Resolutions that are important and of interest to the African region but pointed out that these would be clearer before the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> prep meetings.

It was noted that considering the challenges with travelling in Africa, the Secretariat should coordinate the meeting schedules and communicate far in advance to enable members prepare.

#### **7. UPDATE BY ITU ON THE WTDC-25 PREPARATORY PROCESS AND HIGHLIGHTS ON THE MAIN OUTCOMES OF TDAG AND ITS RAPPORTEUR GROUPS (RGs)**

Dr Emmanuel Manasseh, ITU Regional Acting Director for Africa gave the update by the BDT on the WTDC -25 preparatory process.

In his Presentation, Dr. Emmanuel Manasseh highlighted the following key topics:

- 1- The WTDC-25 preparation process: The WTDC-25 Conference will take place in Baku, Azerbaijan from 17 to 28 November 2025 and in Between the ITU-D RPM is scheduled to take place in April 2025 hosted by Kenya;
- 2- Outcomes of the TDAG-24 and Study Groups Activities: The key agenda items discussed during the TDAG meeting 2024 were about the Implementation of the Kigali Action Plan, Projects, ITU-D Study Group activities; Membership, partnerships, Private sector-related matters; and preparations for WTDC-25 for which the TDAG established 4 working Groups (WGs), as Follows: WG on future questions, WG on the Declaration, WG on Resolution streamlining and WG on Thematic Priorities;
- 3- Implementation of Kigali Action plan;
- 4- Projects in Africa in the following areas: Capacity Building, Giga project for connecting schools, EW4ALL, Innovation Alliance and Digital transformation; including Partner to Connect
- 5- UN process through WSIS and SDGs 2030.

The SG thanked the ITU Regional Director for the report and noted the need for ITU to work closely with the ATU Secretariat in order to realize the regional initiatives and harmonize activities to avoid duplication of efforts and conflicts in the region.

## **8. UPDATE ON THE WTDC-25 PREPARATIONS FROM OTHER REGIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS ORGANIZATIONS**

There were no presentations from other Regional Telecommunications Organizations (RTOs).

## **9. REPORT BY CHAIRS OF ATU WG1, 2 AND 3 FOR WTDC -25 PREPARATIONS ON THE OUTCOMES OF ONGOING DISCUSSIONS**

The ATU General Secretariat organized the following online meetings:

- Plenary group meeting: this meeting considered and adopted the final structure as well as the respective ToRs for the established Working Groups 1,2 and 3 including the areas of priority to be addressed by the WTDC-25;
- WG1 meeting: this meeting took note of the presentation done by Dr. Abdulkarim on the comparison between Buenos Aires (2017) and Kigali (2022) WTDC declaration, Action plan, Regional Initiatives and Thematic Priorities and Members shared their priorities as preliminary inputs such as AI, Data governance, Global Digital Compact, Emergency communications, etc. to be considered when drafting the African common contribution to the WTDC agenda.
- WG2 meeting: this meeting considered Resolutions 2 and focused on the ITU-D Study Groups 1 and 2 mandates and their associated study questions including Study Questions (SQ) respective ToRs and highlighted the need to synergize with other ATU working groups to reflect the African priorities on the same.



- **WG3 meeting:** Considered areas of priorities proposed by the ATU consultant and received Members inputs accordingly. The meeting examined two proposals from Namibia and GSOA and encouraged Members to share their preliminary contributions to start the discussions and the draft of the AFCPs.
- **The SOP Group meeting:** Considered the ITU Strategic Plan and proposed to receive from ITU an evaluation on the implementation of the projects and actions adopted by WTDC-22 before preparing inputs to the WTDC-25 SOP and to work closely with WG1 and 2 to harmonize the African positions.

It was noted that due to the limited number of contributions, the WGs have held only one meeting each and not much progress had been made. Member States were encouraged to nominate experts to join WGs and contribute to their work. The chair requested the various WGs leaderships to submit their respective meeting schedules to enable ATU Secretariat to consolidate and share early enough.

## **10. PRESENTATION ON WTDC DECLARATION**

Dr. Oloyede Abdulkarim, one of the TDAG vice-chairs for Africa region, gave an overview of the ITU Declaration and provided contextual analysis of the Bueno Aires Declaration and Kigali Declaration. He also made recommendation to guide ATU Members in the preparatory meetings for WTDC-25. The SG mentioned that the Secretariat would work with Dr. Abdulkarim to get a summarized version of his presentation to help the WGs in their preparation for the WTDC-25. The Chair requested Dr. Abdulkarim to work with the Secretariat in order to develop a matrix summarizing the recommendations made in his presentation. The document would serve as the basis for the African Group to develop its positions for the upcoming WTDC-25 and she encouraged WG chairs to review it.

The ATU SG informed the meeting that the ATU Administrative Council had approved the proposal to admit academia to participate in the work of the Union and that the Secretariat would soon issue Circular Letters to the Member States calling for academia to participate in the work of the Union.

## **11. PRESENTATION BY ITU ON EARLY WARNING FOR ALL (EW4ALL).**

The BDT made a presentation on the Early Warning for all (EW4ALL) initiatives based on PP Resolution 136, WTDC Resolution 34 as well as the UN set targets of ensuring that everyone should be protected by early warning systems by 2027. The objective of the ITU initiative is to support countries to develop National Emergency Telecommunication Plan (NETP). The ITU links this initiative to the work under Pillar 3 on Warning Dissemination and Communication. The presentation provided deployment use cases and scenarios in a typical cellular communication environment, satellite direct to handset and AI based disaster management. It mentioned that in Africa, the EW4All roll-out workshops have been held in Burundi, Chad, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, South Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda and urged other countries to consider participating in the programme.

Considering the interest of this topic to members, it was proposed that ITU and ATU work together, for example, by organizing workshop to enlighten members and as well a possible development of regional framework and joint projects on the subject.

## **12. PRESENTATION OF CONTRIBUTIONS FOR WTDC-25 AGENDA ITEMS BY ATU MEMBERS AND RECS**

The meeting received contributions from member states namely, Cote D'Ivoire, Kenya, Nigeria, Namibia, Senegal, Sudan and Zimbabwe as well as GSOA. The contributions were on WTDC Declaration, Action Plan, Thematic priorities, Regional Initiatives, Working Methods, Study Questions, Resolutions on development related issues and Streamlining of Resolutions. After brief introduction of the contributions, they were allocated to the appropriate WGs: 1, 2 and 3 as per their terms of reference and mandates.

Detailed discussions of these contributions took place during the WGs breakout sessions. The report of the WGs outputs are attached in annexes 1, 2, and 3.

## **13. ADOPTION OF THE UPDATED LIST OF PRIORITIES AND TOPICS OF INTEREST FOR WTDC-25 AGENDA AND APPOINTMENT OF COUNTRY COORDINATORS**

The meeting identified areas of priority to be considered as common proposal inputs in the WTDC-25 Declaration, Thematic Priorities, SOP, Regional Initiatives and proposed revised resolutions as follows:

<b>Priority Areas</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Ref Document</b>
Digital transformation	Namibia	Res. 89
Digital Innovation / Data management	Senegal	Res.2 / Study Question
Promoting Startups / entrepreneurship/ SMMEs/ Academia		
Advanced Digital Skills and job creation		
Digital inclusion / Women/ Youth people with disability and	Sudan	Res.76
Sustainable and Green ICTs		
Emerging and satellite Technologies to bridge digital gap	GSOA	
Secure and resilient Digital infrastructure		
LDCs Development		

SDGs 2030		
Affordable meaningful connectivity		
Early Warning and recovery for Pandemic /Natural disasters Conflicts/ Wars;		
ITU-D Working Methods	Cote d'Ivoire Zimbabwe	Res.1
Study questions	Cote d'Ivoire Sudan	Res.2
Inter-regional / sub-regional Coordination and cooperation	Nigeria	Res.21
SOP	Kenya	Strategic plan
Declaration, Action Plan , Thematic priorities and Regional Initiatives	Nigeria	

#### 14. SUMMARY REPORT OF WORKING GROUPS OUTPUTS

- (i) The **WG1 and SOP** was chaired by Amr SAFWAT of Egypt. The group reviewed contributions related to WTDC Declaration, Action plan, Thematic Priorities and Regional initiatives. WG1 agreed on a provisional Theme for the WTDC-25 declaration and the list of topics to be reflected in the core text of the declaration (WG1 report including all revised document is attached in annex 1). It was proposed to the ATU General Secretariat to work with the ITU Regional Office and provide the status of implementation of the 2022 Regional Initiatives to enable members decide the next possible regional initiatives and inputs to the SOP.

Related to the matrix, Dr. Abdulkarim mentioned that it covers four (4) broad categories namely;

- (a) Relation with ITU mandate
- (b) Language and style
- (c) Relevance to Telecommunications/ICTs
- (d) Ease of acceptability of proposals

There were proposals to review the WTDC template/matrix, align with the matrix and improve same. The aspect of '*evaluation*' may have to be considered. The proposed matrix table is attached in **annex 4**.

- (ii) **WG2** chaired by Ms. Caecilia Nyamutswa, Zimbabwe reviewed the Working Methods and Study questions. WG2 considered the Members' contributions on the revision of Resolutions 1 and 2 as well as Study Groups questions (WG2 report including all reviewed documents are attached in annex 2). After the presentation, it was recommended that the proposed questions by WGs should, as much as possible, be aligned with the regional initiatives, declarations, action plan, the thematic priorities as well as AI policy, ethics and governance. A proposal was made for the group to consider studies on guidelines, policies, database, frameworks etc. to meet the current needs. There was also the proposal to align and consider developmental study questions that are related to the outputs of the other 2 sectors studies, in view of the ITU transformational and inter-sector collaboration agenda.
- (iii) **WG3** was chaired Ms. Honey Makola, South Africa. The WG focused on reviewing WTDC Resolutions relevant to the region, proposing new Resolutions of interest to African countries, proposals to streamline WTDC Resolutions in order to avoid conflict or duplication with PP Conference Resolutions, coordinating common positions for WTDC and providing a summary and recommendations on Proposals. The group considered contributions as contained in its report as well as input from GSOA on Satellite technologies to bridge connectivity gap were reviewed (WG3 report including all reviewed document is attached in Annex3).

On the proposal by GSOA and considering the interest of this topic to members, it was proposed for the ATU, GSOA and all other interested stakeholders to work together for example by organizing a workshop to enlighten members as well as possible development of regional framework. GSOA would also submit additional contribution regarding developments in the radio communications space to the next preparatory meeting.

In conclusion, the chair requested the Secretariat to work with the WGs Chairs, the Consultant and agree on the schedules for the next set of WG online meetings in order to progress the work. Contributions for WG online meetings were invited.

## **15. FORMULATION OF THE AFRICAN PRELIMINARY COMMON PROPOSALS ON WTDC-25**

The meeting considered the contributions submitted to the meeting. The meeting agreed that these contributions could, in principle, be considered as preliminary African Common Proposals to be further improved by the WGs. Members were encouraged to submit further contributions in line with the agreed priority areas. Meanwhile the chair invited the Secretariat to provide a preliminary table of AfCPs with focal persons/coordinators within two (2) weeks for review by members. The Chair also requested the Secretariat to organize at least one online African Group meeting before the TDAG Working Groups meetings.

## **16. CONSIDERATION OF AFRICAN CANDIDATURES FOR ITU-D SG1&SG2 AND TDAG CHAIRS, VICE-CHAIRS**

The meeting considered the current Study Groups and TDAG Chair and Vice Chair positions and those that will be vacant at the next study period. It was suggested that going forward, the Secretariat should update the meeting about the participations of study group chairs and vice chairs to guide members in supporting their candidatures for next the study period. It was noted the

proposal of Ghana which was supported by many Members on the possibility of contesting the TDAG chair position by Cote D'Ivoire at the next study period, considering the experience of her candidate in ITU-D activities and her excellent performance as the Chair of IUT-D SG1 and her role in TDAG. The members were invited to consider these positions and submit candidatures within the ITU deadline. The ATU will send a Circular Letter reminding members to that effect.

<b>Group / SG</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Actual Nominee</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>TDAG</b>	vice-chairs	M. Christopher Kemei (Kenya)	2 <sup>nd</sup> term	Vacant
		M. Abdulkarim Oleyede (Nigeria)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Term	Vacant
<b>SG1</b>	Chair	Mrs. Regina Assoumou Bessou (Cote d'Ivoire)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Term	Vacant
	Vice-chairs	Ms. Caecilia NYAMUTSWA (Zimbabwe)	1 <sup>st</sup> Term	Eligible
		Mr Amah Vinyo CAPO (Togo)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Term	Vacant
<b>SG2</b>	Chair	Mr Fadel F. DIGHAM (Egypt)	1 <sup>st</sup> term	Eligible
	Vice-Chairs	Ms Zainab ARDO (Nigeria)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Term	Vacant
		Mr Mohamed LAMINE MINTHE (Guinea)	1 <sup>st</sup> Term	Eligible

### **17. CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT**

The draft report was considered. The meeting agreed to share with the participants the report within two (2) weeks for their further inputs and comments, if any, after which the same would be considered as adopted.

### **18. DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The date and venue for the next physical meeting will be communicated by the General Secretariat following consultations.

### **19. VOTE OF THANKS**

The Vote of Thanks was given by the honorable delegate of Uganda on behalf all participants. In her remarks, she thanked the people of Namibia, the Land of the Brave, and CRAN for the warm hospitality, the interpreters and the technical personal, the ATU Secretary General Mr. John Omo and his team for the good organization, the Chairperson Ms. Regina Fleur Assoumou Bessou and the Members of her bureau for her wise guidance of the work of the meeting and the fruitful outcomes and all esteemed delegates both present and online.

## **20. CLOSING REMARKS**

The closing remarks were expressed by:

Mr. John OMO, ATU SG who thanked the host country and everyone who contributed to the fruitful discussions and outcomes of the meeting as well as the technical teams and interpreters for their continued efforts.

Mrs. Regina Assoumou, the Chairperson, who also thanked the ATU Secretariat, the consultant and all participants for their support and contributions and for facilitating the progress of the work and her mission as chair. She declared the meeting closed.

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**Annexes available in the following link:**

**[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NvBkHqZ1ZEahliZvoDkhuQPznaBjehEv?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NvBkHqZ1ZEahliZvoDkhuQPznaBjehEv?usp=drive_link)**

**1. Report of WG1**

**2. Report of WG2**

**3. Report of WG3**

**4. Matrix**