Overview of the ITU Development Sector (ITU-D)

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Overview

• Introduction to NTIA/OIA
• History of ITU-D
• ITU-D Structure
• ITU-D Focus Areas: Study Group 1
• ITU-D Focus Areas: Study Group 2
• How ITU-D Operates
• ITU-D Coordination
• How to Participate in ITU-D
NTIA’s Office of International Affairs

• Formulates and promotes national telecommunications and information policies for presentation in multilateral and international organization settings.

• Provides key leadership to the Department of Commerce’s Internet Policy Task Force

• Supports NTIA’s role as the executive branch expert on issues relating to the Internet’s domain name system (DNS) and its security, a critical aspect of the Internet infrastructure.
History of ITU-D

• Established by the 1992 Additional Plenipotentiary Conference in Geneva.

• First World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) held in 1994 in Buenos Aires.

• Subsequent WTDCs have continually refined study questions and focus areas for ITU-D.
ITU-D Structure

World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC)

Director

Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT)

Study Groups

Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG)
How ITU-D Operates

• World Telecommunications Development Conference (WTDC)
  – Convenes every four years*
  – Develops an Action Plan, Declaration, Strategic Plan and Operational Plan
  – Last WTDC: October 9-20, 2017 in Buenos Aires

• Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG)
  – ITU-D governing body between two WTDCs
  – Advises the Director of the Development Sector

• ITU-D Study Groups

• Other workshops, seminars, meetings

• Direct assistance
ITU-D Focus Areas: Study Group 1

• Study Group 1: Enabling environment for the development of telecommunications/ICTs
  – National telecommunication/ICT policy, regulatory, technical and strategy development.
  – Economic policies and methods for determining costs of services.
  – Access to telecommunication/ICT services for rural and remote areas.
  – Access to telecommunication/ICT services for persons with disabilities and specific needs.
  – Migration and adoption of digital broadcasting and implementation of new services.
ITU-D Focus Areas: Study Group 2

- Study Group 2: ICT applications, cybersecurity, emergency telecommunications and climate-change
  - Services and applications supported by telecommunications/ICTs.
  - Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs.
  - Use of telecommunications/ICTs in monitoring and mitigating the impact of climate change.
  - Combating counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices and mobile device theft.
  - Implementation of conformance and interoperability testing.
  - Human exposure to electromagnetic fields and the disposal of e-waste.
ITU-D Coordination

• ITU-D coordinates its work with the work of ITU-R and ITU-T.

• Coordination is often conducted through the issuance of liaison statements between relevant study groups of the three sectors.

• U.S. Priority: inter-sectoral coordination to reduce duplication of work.
ITU-D: How to Participate

- Categories of ITU-D Membership:
  - Member States
  - Sector Members
  - Associate Members

- ITU Fellowships
Thank You!

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