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| APTlogogreen3 | ASIA-PACIFIC TELECOMMUNITY | **Document No.:** |  |  |
| **The 3rd Meeting of the APT Preparatory Group for WTDC-21 (APT WTDC21-3)** | **APT WTDC21-3/**  **OUT-07** |  |  |
| 5-8 October 2021, Virtual/Online Meeting | 08 October 2021 |  |  |

Chair, WG1

**APT VIEW[[1]](#footnote-1)**

Revised proposal for ITU-D thematic priorities (wtdc)

1. **INTRODUCTION**

The 3rd Meeting of the APT Preparatory Group for WTDC-21 was held as a Virtual/Online Meeting from 5 to 8 October 2021.

In relation to the revised proposal for ITU-D Thematic Priorities (WTDC), the meeting considered the inputs put forward by the Chairman of APT WTDC-21 who is also the Chairman of the TDAG-WG-RDTP. The meeting concluded that the revised proposal for ITU-D Thematic Priorities (WTDC) needed to be updated to reflect the views of APT Member Administrations.

In this context, the meeting agreed with four Thematic Priorities.

1. **PROPOSAL**

The Member Administrations who attended the 3rd Meeting of the APT Preparatory Group for WTDC-21 propose the following four (4) Thematic Priorities for consideration at the forthcoming TDAG meeting as well as the second meeting of the Inter-Regional Meeting to Prepare WTDC-21 (IRM-2).

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| 1. **Connectivity:** The focus of this Thematic Priority is on the deployment of modern, available, secure, accessible, and affordable telecommunication/ICT infrastructure and services and bridging the digital divides. This Thematic Priority seeks to foster the development of infrastructure and services by utilizing existing as well as new and emerging telecommunication/ICT services and technologies , connectivity solutions and new business models. In doing so, providing assistance to Member States on technical and organizational aspects of **cybersecurity and building confidence, trust and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs is of vital importance**. |
| 1. **Digital Transformation:** The focus of this Thematic Priority is on the development and use of telecommunications/ICTs and applications and services to close the Digital Divide and empower people and societies for sustainable development. This is of critical importance as societies adapt to changes, including those in the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic and other global disasters in future. In so doing, there is a need to recognize the needs of marginalized groups (e.g., women, youth and persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs). |
| 1. **Enabling Environment:** The focus of this Thematic Priority is on fostering an enabling policy and regulatory environment conducive to sustainable telecommunication/ICT development that encourages investment in infrastructure and ICTs. This Thematic Priority comprises key enablers that underpin ITU’s work to deliver on the Connectivity and Digital Society priorities. |
| 1. **Resource Mobilization and International Cooperation:** The focus of this Thematic Priority is on mobilizing and attracting resources and fostering international cooperation on telecommunication/ICT development issues. This Thematic Priority is also cross cutting by providing resources and fostering international cooperation to deliver relevant global outcomes. The needs of developing countries, countries with economies in transition and particularly those of LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS, as well as underserved and vulnerable populations should be prioritized and given due attention. |

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1. This document was considered and accepted by consensus at the APT WTD21-3 meeting held as a Virtual/Online Meeting from 5 to 8 October 2021. The meeting was attended by the Administrations of Australia,

   Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Samoa, Singapore and Thailand. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)