World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-14)

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TITLE:	ITU-D Study Group 1 and 2 Questions for the next Study Period (2014-2018)

This document is submitted for consideration by the Conference.

This document presents the proposal for a revised Question as adopted by the last meetings of the Study Groups (September 2013) as well as the results of the discussions concerning the future of the existing Questions in both Study Groups in preparation for the forthcoming study period.

During their meetings in September 2013, ITU-D Study Groups 1 and 2 discussed the future of the Questions in each Study Group. While each Rapporteur Group proposed a way forward for their Question, only one draft revised Question was adopted by the plenary meetings and was submitted for endorsement to the 18th session of TDAG in the framework of the preparation for WTDC-14.

Proposal for a revised Question

- **Study Group 2 Question 10-3/2 – Telecommunications/ICTs for rural and remote areas**

On the future of Study Group 2 Question 10-3/2, the proposal submitted by the Rapporteur (document 2/319) was considered. The full agreed text for the proposed revised Study Group 2 Question 10-3/2 can be found in **Annex 1**.

Discussion concerning the future of ITU-D Study Group 1 and 2 Questions

The Rapporteur Groups for each of the Study Group 1 and 2 Question discussed the future of their respective Question. The below provides information on the way forward discussed for these Questions. During the Study Group 1 and 2 meeting and 18th session of TDAG members were invited to submit proposals with respect to these Questions for which there was no agreement during the Study Group meetings.

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ITU-D Study Group 1 Questions

- **Question 7-3/1 – Implementation of universal access to broadband services**

The proposal submitted by Thales Communications (France) (document 1/257) was discussed. It proposes merging of Questions in order to have one main Question focusing on broadband services and another one on consumer protection. Ideas for a future Question dedicated to broadband were also shared by the representatives from India and Rwanda. No agreed proposal for a revised Question was presented for consideration by Study Group 1.

- **Question 10-3/1 – The impact of the licensing and authorization regime and other relevant regulatory measures on competition in a converged telecommunications/ICT environment**

The Group suggested not continuing further study of the Question as currently formulated as licensing and competition has been studied during the last three cycles. The idea of a new Question that could focus on emerging issues that arise from the cross-sectoral nature of the ICT market, where new applications, services and players bring a host of emerging regulatory matters such as copyright, intellectual property rights, digital management and financial transactions was shared with the meeting. No agreed proposal for this new Question was presented for consideration by Study Group 1.

- **Question 12-3/1 – Tariff policies, tariff models and methods of determining the costs of services on national telecommunication networks, including next-generation networks**

The Rapporteur Group presented a proposal for a revised Question titled "Economic policies and methods of determining the costs of services related to national telecommunication/ICT networks, including next generation (NGN) networks" using the agreed template (document 1/284). The revision was approved by the Rapporteur and Vice Rapporteurs for the Question, however there was no final agreement on a proposal for the revised Question in the Study Group 1 plenary.

- **Question 18-2/1 – Enforcing national policies and regulations on consumer protection notably in a converging environment**

The proposal submitted by Thales Communications (France) (document 1/257) was discussed. In this regard it was mentioned that consumer protection could be considered under a Question titled "Consumer information, protection and rights: laws, regulation, economic bases, and consumer networks". The proposal received support during the Rapporteur Group meeting; however, no agreed proposal for the revised Question was presented for consideration by Study Group 1. Following the meeting a revised version of the document was prepared and approved by the Rapporteur and Vice Rapporteurs for 18-2/1. The proposal was shared with TDAG in Annex 4 to the SG1 Chairman's report (document TDAG13-18/18).

- **Question 19-2/1 – Implementation of IP telecommunication services in developing countries**

The proposal submitted by Thales Communications (France) (document 1/255) presents a revision to the Question. The proposal asks that the revised Question study issues related to the introduction of IPv6. No agreed proposal for the revised Question was presented for consideration by Study Group 1.

- **Question 20-1/1 – Access to telecommunication services and information and communication technologies (ICTs) by persons with disabilities**

In discussing the future of Question 20-1/1 it was highlighted that issues related to accessibility and persons with disabilities should be considered cross-cutting and the goal should be to mainstream these aspects into all Questions under study. The participants who noted the need to continue the Question during the next study period asked for the Question to refer to persons

with "specific needs" and include people with "age-related disabilities". One participant asked that the Question cover economic, policy and legal frameworks and measures to ensure that vendors provide accessible equipment and services. A proposal that had been submitted to the Americas RPM to include in Resolution 58 persons with age-related disabilities was also mentioned. No agreed proposal for the revised Question was presented for consideration by Study Group 1.

- **Question 22-1/1 – Securing information and communication networks: best practices for developing a culture of cybersecurity**

On the future of Question 22-1/1, the Group agreed on some areas that require further study: 1. Work should continue on best practices for service providers and telecommunications companies. 2. Work should continue on evolving threats relating to spam and evolving countermeasures. 3. Work should continue on child online protection. 4. The compendium of Cybersecurity Country Case Studies should be continued, and that some synthesis be considered based on all of the contributions. 5. The survey taken should remain open, and work continue on understanding the results relating to persons with disabilities, in collaboration with Question 20-1/1. 6. Work be considered on abuse of numbering, within the context of developing countries and appropriate best practices. No agreed proposal for the revised Question was presented for consideration by Study Group 1.

- **Question 23/1 – Strategies and policies concerning human exposure to electromagnetic fields**

The proposal for the revised Question submitted by Thales Communications (France) (document 1/256) was mentioned. The proposal includes a number of areas which the future Question with the proposed title "Strategies and policies concerning human exposure, including that of children, to electromagnetic and electrical fields" could study. No agreed proposal for the revised Question was presented for consideration by Study Group 1.

- **Question 24/1 – Strategies and policies for the proper disposal or reuse of telecommunications/ICT waste material**

In discussing the future of Question 24/1, there was support to continue the study on this Question but revising it to be more specific and focused. No agreed proposal for the revised Question was presented for consideration by Study Group 1.

ITU-D Study Group 2 Questions

- **Question 9-3/2 – Identification of study topics in the ITU-T and ITU-R study groups which are of particular interest to developing countries**

The proposal submitted by Thales Communications (France) (document 2/284) presents a revision to the Question, divided into two main parts. The Group had suggested during its meeting that the four topics suggested in part 2 of the contribution could be part of other Questions as it would not be appropriate to include these in the mandate of the Question as the scope of the Question should not be expanded. No agreed proposal for the revised Question was presented for consideration by Study Group 2.

Question 11-3/2 – Examination of terrestrial digital sound and television broadcasting technologies and systems, interoperability of digital terrestrial systems with existing analogue networks, and strategies and methods of migration from analogue terrestrial techniques to digital techniques

The proposal submitted by Thales Communications (France) (document 2/282) was noted. The proposed title of the revised Question is "Usage of terrestrial television service frequency bands by electronic communication services (digital dividends): regulatory, socioeconomic, technological

and financial aspects (licenses and transfer costs)". It was drawn to the attention of SG2 that the proposal contains some issues which are within the mandate of the SG1. ITU-R is also dealing with this subject and thus further consideration of the proposal would be needed. No agreed proposal for the revised Question was presented for consideration by Study Group 2.

- **Question 14-3/2 – Information and telecommunications/ICTs for e-Health**

In discussing the future of the Question, it was mentioned that new items that are leading to the emergence of innovative personal healthcare services can be considered as part of the revised Question. A proposal to consolidate Questions studying different ICT applications, e.g. e-government, e-health, etc., under one Question on ICT Applications, received considerable support by the meeting. No agreed proposal for the revised Question was presented for consideration by Study Group 2.

- **Question 17-3/2 – Progress on e-government activities and identification of areas of application of e-government for the benefit of developing countries**

On the future of Question 17-3/2, the proposal submitted by Thales Communications (France) (document 2/283) was considered. It suggests that the new question should address the concept of "connected governance" and be titled: ""Online administration (electronic governance) services implementation and application areas for the benefit of developing countries". As for Question 14-3/2, the suggestion to consolidate all Questions which deal with ICT applications was noted. No agreed proposal for the revised Question was presented for consideration by Study Group 2.

- **Question 22-1/2 – Utilization of telecommunications/ICTs for disaster preparedness, mitigation and response**

On the future of Question 22-1/2, the Rapporteur noted that no proposals had been received for discussion by the Group. It was however mentioned that there had already been proposals to the RPMs to continue ITU-D's work on emergency communications and in this regard the work on Q22-1/2 could continue. No agreed proposal for the revised Question was presented for consideration by Study Group 2.

- **Question 24/2 – ICT and climate change**

In discussing the future of the Question, the following issues were mentioned as being relevant: good practices related to establishing policies for ICT and climate change, creation of a framework for inter-ministry cooperation on policy development and policy implementation, good practices related to the development of a national strategy for tacking climate change, how to use social media to drive action on the ground through various initiatives and awareness creation, how to develop capacity building programmes, and development of a toolkit on ICT and climate change. No agreed proposal for the revised Question was presented for consideration by Study Group 2.

- **Question 25/2 – Access technology for broadband telecommunications including IMT, for developing countries**

On the future of Question 25/2, the proposal submitted by the Rapporteur (document 2/316) was considered. The meeting discussed the possibility of merging Questions which deal with broadband. No agreed proposal for the revised Question was presented for consideration by Study Group 2.

- **Question 26/2 – Migration from existing networks to next-generation networks for developing countries: technical, regulatory and policy aspects**

On the future of the Question two proposals were considered: one from the representative from Belarus focusing on IPv6 with the proposed Question title "Assistance in the coordinated transition to IPv6 in developing countries using ITU experience" (document 2/311) and one from the

Rapporteur (document 2/317). It was also noted that submarine optical cables and high-speed optical fibre networks (FTTx) may also be included to scope of the Question. No agreed proposal for the revised Question was presented for consideration by Study Group 2.

- **Resolution 9 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010) – Participation of countries, particularly developing countries, in spectrum management**

In discussing the future of Resolution 9, some additional items mentioned included: spectrum management trends, spectrum monitoring practices, best practices in utilization of the digital dividend, and spectrum management training programmes. The topic of wireless networks from the point of view of frequency/technologies (XAN) was also suggested. The importance of avoiding overlap with ITU-R activities, and rather use its results, was highlighted. No agreed proposal for the revised Question was presented for consideration by Study Group 2.

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Annex 1: Revision of ITU-D Study Group 2 Question 10-3/2 agreed on at the September 2013 meeting

Title: Telecommunications/ICTs for rural and remote areas

1. Statement of the situation

Digital divide exists not only between the developed and developing countries but also between the rural and urban areas of within the countries. The divide also exists between the individuals and families with based on their economic status and literacy. This exists between young and old people, between normal persons and persons with disability. The economic, literacy, age group and ability issues are more prominent in the rural and remote areas than urban areas.

Migration of the population from rural and remote areas to urban areas is a general trend observed in most of the least developed and developing countries causing socio-economic problems such as acceleration of poverty in urban cities resulting from the lack of job opportunities, high cost of urban life, and housing problem, etc. Similar migration has been observed from the LDCs and developing countries to the developed countries as the migrant workers. Global urban population is said to surpass the rural population in 2014 according to the UN's statistics. The potential use of the resources in the rural and remotes areas for the development of such areas have not been explored because of the lack of potential human resources in such areas due to migration and apparent lack of opportunities. Whether telecommunications/ICTs could be an effective measure to minimize the trends of urbanization by improving the life of dwellers in rural and remote communities needs to be seriously considered as feasible challenge under the study of this question. Variety of multimedia services, i.e. e-applications and e-services will be made available over the rapidly developing fixed or mobile broadband communications infrastructure. However, the penetration of broadband infrastructure in the rural and remote areas of developing or least developing countries is not as fast as developed countries according to the ITU's ICT indicators. The goals of WSIS and UN Millennium development goals for improving connectivity are still under the challenging stage in the most of developing and least developing countries to achieve. ITU's goal "connecting the unconnected" remains a challenge when we consider both Internet and broadband in the rural and remote areas.

The important aspect related to installation of cost effective and sustainable basic broadband infrastructure for various multimedia services and applications in rural and remote areas needs further studies and specific outcome needs to be made available for the vendor community to develop a suitable solution to meet the specific challenges in the rural and remote areas. The existing network systems are most of the time primarily defined for urban areas where necessary support infrastructure (adequate power, building/shelter, accessibility, skilled manpower to operate etc.) for setting up a telecommunication network is assumed to exist. Hence the current systems need to meet more adequately the rural specific requirements in order to be mass deployed.

Some of the known challenges and according to the analysis of recent survey by ITU-D, that developing countries planning to spread ICT to rural and isolated areas must be tackled are the following ones:

1) Shortage of power-particularly when national grid is not available
2) Exorbitant cost of maintaining power backup usually diesel generator and its associated environmental hazards

3) Difficult terrain
4) Difficult access and transportation
5) Lack of trained and skilled human resources
6) Installation and maintenance of networks
7) Very high operating cost
8) Low potential ARPU
9) Sparsely populated and scattered population cluster.

More detailed study on challenges of deploying cost effective and sustainable ICT infrastructure in rural and remote areas is expected to be taken up within ITU-D study group taking into account the global perspective.

In many rural and remote areas of the LDCs and developing countries providing shared access through the operation of Multipurpose Community Telecentres (MCT), Public Call Office (PCO), Community Access Centres (CAC), E-posts are still valid for cost effectiveness for sharing infrastructure and facilities by the community residents leading to the goal of provision of individual telecommunication access.

Therefore, it is proposed to deal with the challenges and system requirements of fixed and mobile networks capable of providing broadband services for rural deployments in developing nations.

2.   Question for study

There are a variety of several new and old issues that members will be interested in addressing within the four coming years of this Question. It is proposed that the main new key issue for study is the range and scope of emerging technologies, techniques and solutions that are expected to play a significant role in the provision of multi-media and e-application services for rural and remote areas. Since a market driven approach is not going to be effective to bridge the digital divide between the urban and rural areas, policy and regulatory interventions are critical. This study will also look into the details of such possible interventions and their associated economic and business models for sustainable provision of telecommunications/ICTs/broadband services. It is further proposed that the study should progress in stages to cover a four-year cycle in the following manner:

Step 1 - to continue identification of the full range of potential emerging technologies, techniques and solutions that can significantly impact on the provision of telecommunications/ICTs/broadband services and applications in rural and remote areas,

Step 2 - to continue to investigate and report on how the techniques identified above can be used to best deliver the range of services, and applications required by rural and remote communities and adapted to the needs of their users.

Step 3 - to identify, assess and consolidate the challenges faced by developing countries in setting up a low cost sustainable telecommunication infrastructure in rural areas of developing nations.

Step 4 - to describe the evolution of system requirements for rural network system specifically addressing such identified challenges of rural deployment.

Step 5 - to continue to consider the sustainability of the techniques and solutions identified in the above-mentioned steps.

Step 6 - to identify the policy and regulatory initiatives and interventions made of the member states for providing telecommunications/ICTs/broadband services in the rural and remotes areas

Step 7 - to identify the business models for sustainable deployment of networks and services in the rural and remote areas.

Step 8 - to augment the report on the range of case studies that clearly demonstrate how a range of techniques, based on new technology aimed at providing reduced capital and operating cost solutions, reducing (GHG) emissions and enhancing community participation, can maximize the benefits of broadband telecommunications/ICTs/broadband infrastructure in rural and remote areas.

In dealing with the above studies, the work under way in response to other Questions being dealt with in ITU-D, and close coordination with relevant activities of the Questions, [in particular Questions 14-4/2, 17-2/2, 22-2/2, 25-2/2, 26-2/2 and also Questions 7-3/1 and 12-2/1 , are highly relevant]. In the same way, the studies shall take into account cases related to indigenous communities, isolated and poorly served areas of LDCs, and small island developing states (SIDS) and landlocked developing countries (LLDCs), and highlight their particular needs and other particular situations which need to be considered in developing telecommunications/ICTs/broadband facilities for these areas.

3. Expected output

The output will be a report on the results of the work conducted for each step above, together with one or more recommendations at appropriate times, either during the course of or at the conclusion of the cycle.

4. Timing

The output will be generated on a yearly basis. The output from the first year will be analysed and assessed in order to update the work plan for the next year, and so on.

5. Proposers

The Question was originally approved by WTDC-94, revised by WTDC-98, WTDC-02, WTDC-06, WTDC-10 and WTDC-14.

6. Sources of input

Contributions are expected from Member States, Sector Members and Associates, as well as inputs from relevant BDT programmes, particularly those that have successfully implemented telecommunications/ICTs/broadband projects in rural and remote areas. These contributions will enable those responsible for work on this Question to develop the most appropriate conclusions, recommendations and outputs. The intensive use of case study library, correspondence and on line exchange of information and experiences is encouraged for additional sources of inputs.

7. Target audience

Target audience	Developed countries	Developing countries[1]
Relevant policy-makers	Yes	Yes
Telecom regulators	Yes	Yes
Rural authorities	Yes	Yes
Service providers/operators	Yes	Yes
Manufacturers including software developers	Yes	Yes
Vendors	Yes	Yes

[1] This includes least developed countries (LDCs), small island developing states (SIDS), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and countries with economies in transition.

a) Target audience

Depending on the nature of the output, upper- to middle-level managers among operators and regulators in developing countries including relevant rural authorities are the predominant users of the output. Such study outcome will ensure adequate attention of vendors to focus on their development efforts to meet the needs of developing countries.

b) Proposed methods for the implementation of the results

To be decided during the study period.

8. Proposed methods of handling the Question

Within Study Group 2.

9. Coordination

The ITU-D study group dealing with this Question will need to coordinate with:

– Focal points of the relevant Questions in BDT.
– Coordinators of relevant project and programme activities in BDT.
– Regional and scientific organizations with mandates covering the subject matter of this Question.
– Other relevant stakeholders as may become apparent within the life of this Question.

Annex 2: Proposed revisions to existing Questions during the 6 RPMs

The six RPMs proposed revisions to the following existing Study Group 1 and 2 Questions:

Question title	RPM and doc. #
Q7-3/1 (Implementation of universal access to broadband services)	
Standardization of technical parameters for triple play services, including broadband provided over the infrastructure of digital addressable cable TV systems	RPM-ASP/16
Identify and assess the use/application of broadband networks for development as well as assess its implication on broadband services in terms of availability and cost effectiveness keeping in view the emerging international traffic level disparities	RPM-ASP/29
Q10-3/1 (The impact of the licensing and authorization regime and other relevant regulatory measures on competition in a converged telecommunication/ICT environment)	
-	
Q12-3/1 (Tariff policies, tariff models and methods of determining the costs of services on national telecommunication networks, including next-generation networks)	
Tariff policies, tariff models and method of regulating international Roaming Charges	RPM-ASP/11
Tariff policies, tariff models and methods of determining the costs of services on national telecommunication networks, including next-generation networks, including studies of policies and best practices for effective information and decision-making on tariffs and reduced costs for roaming services, particularly in regard to data	RPM-AMS/28
Q18-2/1 (Enforcing national policies and regulations on consumer protection notably in a converging environment)	
Enforcing national policies and regulations on consumer protection notably in a converging environment, including analysing and promoting the creation of quality of service indicators	RPM-AMS/28
Q19-2/1 (Implementation of IP telecommunication services in developing countries)	
-	
Q20-1/1 (Access to telecommunication services and information and communication technologies (ICTs) by persons with disabilities)	
Access to telecommunication services and information and communication technologies (ICTs) by persons with disabilities, including promoting the development of integration mechanisms subject to prior identification of requirements	RPM-AMS/28

Question title	RPM and doc. #
Q22-1/1 (Securing information and communication networks: best practices for developing a culture of cybersecurity)	
-	
Q23/1 (Strategies and policies concerning human exposure to electromagnetic fields)	
(Merge with Q24/1) Strategies and policies for the humane use of telecommunications/ICT	RPM-CIS/5
Strategies and policies concerning human exposure to electromagnetic fields, including its scope to relook at the total picture of radiation exposure on human beings in a holistic way	RPM-ASP/28
Q24/1 (Strategies and policies for the proper disposal or reuse of telecommunications/ICT waste material)	
(Merge with Q23/1) Strategies and policies for the humane use of telecommunications/ICT	RPM-CIS/5
Strategies and policies for the proper disposal or reuse of telecommunications/ICT waste material, including achieving effective dissemination and understanding of corresponding best practices, with emphasis on the need to produce strategies coordinated between countries	RPM-AMS/28
Q9-3/2 (Identification of study topics in the ITU-T and ITU-R study groups which are of particular interest to developing countries)	
Intersectoral coordination group dealing with the implementation of ITU standards	RPM-CIS/18
Intersectoral coordination group dealing with the implementation of ITU standards (recommendations) in the interests of end-user	RPM-EUR/INF/15
Q10-3/2 (Telecommunications/ICTs for rural and remote areas)	
(Merge with Qs25 & 26/2) Migration from existing networks to next generation networks for developing countries: technical, economic, regulatory and political aspects	RPM-CIS/5
Preliminary discussion for the revision of Question 10-3/2 for the new Study Period to include the quality of broadband offered in rural areas	AMS-CIS/50
Q11-3/2 (Examination of terrestrial digital sound and television broadcasting technologies and systems, interoperability of digital terrestrial systems with existing analogue networks, and strategies and methods of migration from analogue terrestrial techniques)	
Preliminary discussion for the revision of the Terms of Reference for Question 11-3/2 for the new Study Period to include the optimization of the spectrum usage and points	RPM-AMS/9

Question title	RPM and doc. #
Examination of terrestrial digital sound and television broadcasting technologies and systems, interoperability of digital terrestrial systems with existing analogue networks, and strategies and methods of migration from analogue terrestrial techniques, with special emphasis on analysis of the interoperability of different digital services and systems coexisting with different characteristics	RPM-AMS/28
Examination of terrestrial digital sound and television broadcasting technologies and systems, interoperability of digital terrestrial systems with existing analogue networks, and strategies and methods of migration from analogue terrestrial techniques to digital techniques focusing on the use of frequency bands for terrestrial broadcasting (the digital dividend resulting from the transition to terrestrial digital broadcasting), in particular technical, regulatory and economic aspects	RPM-ARB/25
Q14-3/2 (Information and telecommunications/ICTs for e-Health)	
(Merge with Q17-3/2) Information and telecommunications/ICT for development of the information society	RPM-CIS/5
Q17-3/2 (Progress on e-government activities and identification of areas of application of e-government for the benefit of developing countries)	
(Merge with Q14-3/2) Information and telecommunications/ICT for development of the information society	RPM-CIS/5
Q22-1/2 (Utilization of telecommunications/ICTs for disaster preparedness, mitigation and response)	
(Merge with Q24/2) Use of Telecommunications / ICT for disaster preparedness and climate change, mitigation and response	RPM-CIS/5
Q24/2 (ICT and climate change)	
(Merge with Q22-1/2) Use of Telecommunications / ICT for disaster preparedness and climate change, mitigation and response	RPM-CIS/5
Q25/2 (Access technology for broadband telecommunications including IMT, for developing countries)	
(Merge with Qs10-3 & 26/2) Migration from existing networks to next generation networks for developing countries: technical, economic, regulatory and political aspects	RPM-CIS/5
Q26/2 (Migration from existing networks to next-generation networks for developing countries: technical, regulatory and policy aspects)	
(Merge with Qs10-3 & 25/2) Migration from existing networks to next generation networks for developing countries: technical, economic, regulatory and political aspects	RPM-CIS/5
"Assistance in the coordinated transition to IPv6 in developing countries using ITU experience" be included in a future revision of ITU-D Question 26/2 "Migration from existing networks to next-generation networks for developing countries: technical, regulatory and policy aspects"	RPM-CIS/26

Question title	RPM and doc. #
Migration from existing networks to next-generation networks for developing countries: technical, regulatory and policy aspects, including include the production of studies and best practices to ensure the affordability of new technologies for users, taking account of broadband	RPM-AMS/28

Annex 3: Topics for new Questions proposed during the 6 RPMs

The six RPMs proposed for consideration the following new or revised Questions for the next cycle:

Proposed new Questions for study	RPM
Combatting spam	(RPM-AFR) (RPM-ASP)
Compilation of experiences and case studies on NGN migration	(RPM-ARB)
Framing of standard guidelines for regulatory impact analysis to improve the quality of regulatory decision-making	(RPM-ARB) (RPM-AFR) (RPM-CIS) (RPM-ASP) (RPM-AMS)
Protection of the environment and of the population's health	(RPM-ARB)
Power supply for telecommunication/ICT	(RPM-AFR)
Impact of telecommunication/ICT technologies on climate change	(RPM-CIS) (RPM-ASP) (RPM-AMS)
Consumer satisfaction and Quality of Service indicators	(RPM-AFR)
Securing information and communication networks: best practices for developing a culture of cybersecurity	(RPM-ARB) (RPM-AFR) (RPM-ASP) (RPM-AMS)
Bridging the Standardization Gap: studies to identify countries' needs and priorities in capacity building in type-approval, conformity assessment, and other matters	(RPM-CIS)
Strategies for implementation of policies/regulation on the handling of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) in the field of information and communication technologies	(RPM-CIS) (RPM-ARB) (RPM-AFR)
Development of national mobile payment systems based on wireless telecommunication networks.	(RPM ASP) (RPM-AFR)
M2M communications	(RPM-AFR)
ICTs and urban governance in developing countries	(RPM-ARB)
The ICT industry and telecommunication service at the service of road safety in developing countries	(RPM-ARB)
Cloud computing - Opportunities and challenges for developing countries	(RPM-ARB)
Use of the digital economy to rationalize expenditure, increase national resources and address related issues	(RPM-ARB)
Technical, economic and legal challenges related to the transition from analogue to digital in developing countries, including Arab States	(RPM-ARB)

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