BDT MEMBER COMMUNIQUÉ

New joint declaration promotes IPv6 to foster digital resilience, sustainable development and enhanced connectivity for all

Geneva, 7 March 2025 – The Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) signed a Joint Declaration with RIPE Network Coordination Centre (RIPE NCC), on 'Promoting and Developing Internet Infrastructure, IPv6 Deployment and Capacity Building' on 3 February at the Regional Development Forum for the Arab States in Amman, Jordan.

Internet Protocol (IP) addresses are fundamental resources for the digital economy. The deployment of IPv6 in all countries is needed to meet the growing demands for world connectivity, but there are a number of developing countries that still require expert technical assistance to make this deployment effective.

"This declaration reflects our shared commitment to advancing digital development and global connectivity," said Dr Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava. "Many developing countries experience some challenges in the IPv6 deployment process. The collaboration and cooperation of all relevant stakeholders is key to carrying out the deployment. This joint declaration with RIPE NCC will boost our ongoing efforts, and help to encourage the exchange of best practices and unify joint efforts of all stakeholders."

"This declaration represents a commitment to action in the areas that define our work, ensuring more people than ever benefit from our achievements. As a trusted technical authority, the RIPE NCC will work hand in hand with the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) of the ITU to bring technical expertise to decision-making, drive knowledge-sharing, and forge synergies that strengthen Internet infrastructure and accelerate IPv6 deployment—bringing meaningful connectivity to the 2.6 billion unconnected," said Hans Petter Holen, CEO and Managing Director, RIPE NCC. "Our unwavering dedication to inclusive capacity-building will help to ensure that no one is left behind in the digital era. The ITU BDT's leadership in bridging the digital divide is commendable, and today's declaration marks a decisive step forward in achieving this shared vision for a secure, sustainable and open Internet."

As mandated by Member States through World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) 2021 Resolution 63 (Rev. Kigali, 2021) on Internet Protocol (IP), BDT is active in advancing broadband Internet, latest-generation technologies and IPv6 development and deployment, as well as conduct trainings.

Through the joint declaration, BDT and RIPE NCC will work together on:
- Capacity-building initiatives, including training programs on IPv6 deployment and secure Internet operations.

- Joint advocacy for a sustainable and inclusive internet ecosystem aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals.
- Promoting internet resilience and connectivity in underserved regions, particularly in the least developed countries.

About the International Telecommunication Union
The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is the United Nations agency for digital technologies, driving innovation for people and the planet with 194 Member States and a membership of over 1,000 companies, universities, civil society, and international and regional organizations. Established in 1865, ITU coordinates the global use of the radio spectrum and satellite orbits, establishes international technology standards, drives universal connectivity and digital services, and is helping to make sure that everyone benefits from sustainable digital transformation, including the most remote communities. From artificial intelligence (AI) to quantum, from satellites and submarine cables to advanced mobile and wireless broadband networks, ITU is committed to connecting the world and beyond. Learn more: http://www.itu.int

About RIPE NCC
RIPE Network Coordination Centre (RIPE NCC), as the Regional Internet Registry (RIR) for Europe, the Middle East, and Central Asia, is responsible for allocating and registering Internet number resources, including IPv4, IPv6, and Autonomous System Numbers (ASNs). Through technical coordination, registration services, and policy development support, the RIPE NCC strengthens the resilience and interoperability of the global Internet. It fosters a collaborative environment by empowering the RIPE community through capacity-building, data-driven insights and reporting, stakeholder engagement and community-driven initiatives.