



# Collection of the basic texts adopted by the Plenipotentiary Conference

2015





**Collection of the  
basic texts of the  
International  
Telecommunication  
Union  
adopted by the  
Plenipotentiary  
Conference**

**Edition 2015**



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## Message from the Secretary-General

The year 2015 marks the 150th anniversary of the International Telecommunication Union. From the first International Telegraph Convention signed in 1865 to the present Constitution and Convention, the Union has grown from its original 20 Members to 193 Member States and over 800 Sector Members, Associates and Academia members from the information and communication technology (ICT) sector.

For a century and a half since 1865, ITU has been at the centre of advances in communications – from telegraphy through to the modern world of satellites, mobile phones and the Internet. The ITU's 150th anniversary is therefore not only be a celebration of the founding of ITU, but also a tribute to the incredible engineering feat which is today's ICT and telecommunication ecosystem; the ecosystem which now underpins societies and economies around the world, and which will be the foundation of an environmentally sustainable future.

The story of ITU is one of international cooperation, among governments, private companies and other stakeholders. In 2014, the Plenipotentiary Conference set out a shared vision that Member States have committed to achieve by 2020 to ensure, in collaboration with all stakeholders, that ICTs enable and accelerate growth and development and benefit everyone on the planet.

The strength of the ITU is based, to a large extent, on the basic texts, which established a binding, global framework for international telecommunications and set forth the structure of the Union, its diverse membership and far-reaching activities to promote ICTs and telecommunications.

I have the pleasure to present these consolidated basic texts of the Union, adopted by the Plenipotentiary Conference, which are based on the Final Acts of the Additional Plenipotentiary Conference (Geneva, 1992) and the Final Acts of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Kyoto, 1994; Minneapolis, 1998; Marrakesh, 2002; Antalya 2006; Guadalajara, 2010; Busan, 2014). I hope that you will find this collection of the basic texts both useful and convenient.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of three stylized Chinese characters: 赵 (Zhao), 子 (zi), and 麟 (lin).

March, 2015

Houlin Zhao  
Secretary-General

## Explanatory notes

- 1 The Constitution (CS) and Convention (CV) and their respective Annexes are those adopted by the Additional Plenipotentiary Conference (Geneva, 1992), incorporating the amendments adopted by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Kyoto, 1994), the Plenipotentiary Conference (Minneapolis, 1998), the Plenipotentiary Conference (Marrakesh, 2002), the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006) and the Plenipotentiary Conference (Guadalajara, 2010). The CS and CV have not been amended by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Busan, 2014).
- 2 The margin numbers of the CS, CV and Annexes are located in the left-hand margin, sometimes accompanied by the symbol "PP-94" referring to the Plenipotentiary Conference (Kyoto, 1994) and/or "PP-98" referring to the Plenipotentiary Conference (Minneapolis, 1998) and/or "PP-02" referring to the Plenipotentiary Conference (Marrakesh, 2002) and/or "PP-06" referring to the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006) and/or "PP-10" referring to the Plenipotentiary Conference (Guadalajara, 2010).

Examples:

- a) A simple margin number, e.g.,

**496**

indicates a provision adopted by the Additional Plenipotentiary Conference (Geneva, 1992) and not amended since then.

- b) A simple margin number accompanied by PP-94, PP-98, PP-02, PP-06 or PP-10, e.g.,

**485   or   136   or   61   or   209**  
**PP-94            PP-98            PP-02            PP-06**

indicates a provision adopted by the Additional Plenipotentiary Conference (Geneva, 1992) and amended by a subsequent conference, in these examples PP-94, PP-98, PP-02, and PP-06.

- c) A simple margin number accompanied by more than one of PP-94, PP-98, PP-02, PP-06, and PP-10, e.g.,

**468**

**PP-98**  
**PP-06**  
**PP-10**

indicates a provision adopted by the Additional Plenipotentiary Conference (Geneva, 1992) and amended by subsequent conferences, in this example PP-98, PP-06 and PP-10.

- d) A margin number followed by a letter and accompanied by PP-94, PP-98, PP-02, PP-06 or PP-10, e.g.,

**59A or 241A or 207A or 480B**  
**PP-94 PP-98 PP-02 PP-06**

indicates a provision added by a conference, in these examples PP-94, PP-98, PP-02 and PP-06.

- e) A margin number followed by a letter and accompanied by more than one of PP-94, PP-98, PP-02, PP-06 and PP-10, e.g.,

**161E**

**PP-98**  
**PP-02**  
**PP-06**

indicates a provision added by a conference, in this example PP-98, and amended by subsequent conferences, in this example PP-02 and PP-06.

- 3 The symbol "(SUP)" indicates a provision or series of provisions deleted by PP-94, PP-98, PP-02, PP-06 or PP-10.



- 4 In the CS and CV, except in certain cases where particular margin/chapter/ section/article/paragraph numbers have had to be revised editorially for reasons of logical order or consistency, the numbering in the Final Acts of the adopting or amending plenipotentiary conference has been retained. Thus, the letters A, B, C, etc. are retained in added provisions; the Latin suffixes *bis*, *ter*, *quater*, etc. are retained in added paragraphs; and chapters/sections/articles have not been renumbered when text has been deleted (e.g., the Convention "jumps" from Chapter II to Chapter IV, because Chapter III no longer exists). This will facilitate cross-referencing with the Final Acts of the plenipotentiary conference concerned and make it possible to trace the evolution of the CS and CV texts through successive plenipotentiary conferences.
- 5 The General Rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union were adopted by PP-02 and amended by PP-06 and PP-10. They have not been amended by PP-14. These General Rules comprise:
- the General Provisions regarding conferences and assemblies, made up of the provisions of Articles 26 to 30 of the Convention, transferred by PP-02 into this new instrument;
  - the Rules of Procedure of conferences, assemblies and meetings of ITU;
  - the procedures for electing the Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-General, the Directors of the Bureaux of the Sectors, the members of the Radio Regulations Board and the Member States of the Council, adopted by PP-02; and
  - the procedures for amendment, adoption and entry into force, likewise adopted by PP-02.

The margin numbers to these General Rules are located in the left-hand margin.

- 6 The Optional Protocol on the compulsory settlement of disputes was adopted during the Additional Plenipotentiary Conference (Geneva, 1992), and has not been amended since.

- 7 The decisions, resolutions and recommendations are those currently in force. The place and date, i.e. "(Kyoto, 1994)", "(Minneapolis, 1998)", "(Marrakesh, 2002)", "(Antalya, 2006)", "(Guadalajara, 2010)" and "(Busan, 2014)" indicate adoption by PP-94, PP-98, PP-02, PP-06, PP-10 or PP-14, respectively, while "(Rev. Minneapolis, 1998)", "(Rev. Marrakesh, 2002)", "(Rev. Antalya, 2006)", "(Rev. Guadalajara, 2010)" or "(Rev. Busan, 2014)" indicate adoption by a plenipotentiary conference and revision by a subsequent plenipotentiary conference, i.e. PP-98, PP-02, PP-06, PP-10 or PP-14, respectively. Each decision, resolution and recommendation is, moreover, accompanied by an indication of the plenipotentiary conference which adopted it, and, as the case may be, of any subsequent conference having revised it, e.g. on page 301, Resolution 48, adopted by PP-94 and amended by PP-98, PP-02, PP-06, PP-10 and PP-14 successively.

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*(Kyoto, 1994) – (Rev. Minneapolis, 1998) – (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002) – (Rev. Antalya, 2006) – (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) – (Rev. Busan, 2014)*

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- 8 The present collection also contains a full list of the decisions, resolutions and recommendations adopted, revised or abrogated by PP-94, PP-98, PP-02, PP-06, PP-10 and PP-14.

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\*) *Note by the General Secretariat:* For missing decision and resolution numbers, see list of adopted, revised or abrogated decisions, resolutions and recommendations on page 845.

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**CONSTITUTION OF  
THE INTERNATIONAL  
TELECOMMUNICATION UNION\***

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\* The language used in the basic instruments of the Union (Constitution and Convention) is to be considered as gender neutral.





# CONSTITUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

## Preamble

- 1** While fully recognizing the sovereign right of each State to regulate its telecommunication and having regard to the growing importance of telecommunication for the preservation of peace and the economic and social development of all States, the States Parties to this Constitution, as the basic instrument of the International Telecommunication Union, and to the Convention of the International Telecommunication Union (hereinafter referred to as "the Convention") which complements it, with the object of facilitating peaceful relations, international cooperation among peoples and economic and social development by means of efficient telecommunication services, have agreed as follows:

## CHAPTER I

### Basic Provisions

#### ARTICLE 1

#### Purposes of the Union

- 2** 1 The purposes of the Union are:
- 3** a) to maintain and extend international cooperation  
**PP-98** among all its Member States for the improvement and rational use of telecommunications of all kinds;

- 3A**  
**PP-98**      *a bis*) to promote and enhance participation of entities and organizations in the activities of the Union and foster fruitful cooperation and partnership between them and Member States for the fulfilment of the overall objectives as embodied in the purposes of the Union;
- 4**  
**PP-98**      *b*) to promote and to offer technical assistance to developing countries in the field of telecommunications, and also to promote the mobilization of the material, human and financial resources needed for its implementation, as well as access to information;
- 5**            *c*) to promote the development of technical facilities and their most efficient operation with a view to improving the efficiency of telecommunication services, increasing their usefulness and making them, so far as possible, generally available to the public;
- 6**            *d*) to promote the extension of the benefits of the new telecommunication technologies to all the world's inhabitants;
- 7**            *e*) to promote the use of telecommunication services with the objective of facilitating peaceful relations;
- 8**  
**PP-98**      *f*) to harmonize the actions of Member States and promote fruitful and constructive cooperation and partnership between Member States and Sector Members in the attainment of those ends;
- 9**            *g*) to promote, at the international level, the adoption of a broader approach to the issues of telecommunications in the global information economy and society, by cooperating with other world and regional intergovernmental organizations and those non-governmental organizations concerned with telecommunications.

- 10**                    2    To this end, the Union shall in particular:
- 11**  
**PP-98**                    a)   effect allocation of bands of the radio-frequency spectrum, the allotment of radio frequencies and the registration of radio-frequency assignments and, for space services, of any associated orbital position in the geostationary-satellite orbit or of any associated characteristics of satellites in other orbits, in order to avoid harmful interference between radio stations of different countries;
- 12**  
**PP-98**                    b)   coordinate efforts to eliminate harmful interference between radio stations of different countries and to improve the use made of the radio-frequency spectrum for radiocommunication services and of the geostationary-satellite and other satellite orbits;
- 13**                    c)   facilitate the worldwide standardization of telecommunications, with a satisfactory quality of service;
- 14**  
**PP-98**                    d)   foster international cooperation and solidarity in the delivery of technical assistance to the developing countries and the creation, development and improvement of telecommunication equipment and networks in developing countries by every means at its disposal, including through its participation in the relevant programmes of the United Nations and the use of its own resources, as appropriate;
- 15**                    e)   coordinate efforts to harmonize the development of telecommunication facilities, notably those using space techniques, with a view to full advantage being taken of their possibilities;

- 16**  
PP-98
- f)* foster collaboration among Member States and Sector Members with a view to the establishment of rates at levels as low as possible consistent with an efficient service and taking into account the necessity for maintaining independent financial administration of telecommunications on a sound basis;
- 17**
- g)* promote the adoption of measures for ensuring the safety of life through the cooperation of telecommunication services;
- 18**
- h)* undertake studies, make regulations, adopt resolutions, formulate recommendations and opinions, and collect and publish information concerning telecommunication matters;
- 19**
- i)* promote, with international financial and development organizations, the establishment of preferential and favourable lines of credit to be used for the development of social projects aimed, *inter alia*, at extending telecommunication services to the most isolated areas in countries;
- 19A**  
PP-98
- j)* promote participation of concerned entities in the activities of the Union and cooperation with regional and other organizations for the fulfilment of the purposes of the Union.

## ARTICLE 2

**Composition of the Union**

**20**  
PP-98

The International Telecommunication Union is an intergovernmental organization in which Member States and Sector Members, having well-defined rights and obligations, cooperate for the fulfilment of the purposes of the Union. It shall, having regard to the principle of universality and the desirability of universal participation in the Union, be composed of:

**21**  
PP-98

*a)* any State which is a Member State of the International Telecommunication Union as a Party to any International Telecommunication Convention prior to the entry into force of this Constitution and the Convention;

**22**

*b)* any other State, a Member of the United Nations, which accedes to this Constitution and the Convention in accordance with Article 53 of this Constitution;

**23**  
PP-98

*c)* any other State, not a Member of the United Nations, which applies for membership of the Union and which, after having secured approval of such application by two-thirds of the Member States of the Union, accedes to this Constitution and the Convention in accordance with Article 53 of this Constitution. If such application for membership is made during the interval between two plenipotentiary conferences, the Secretary-General shall consult the Member States of the Union; a Member State shall be deemed to have abstained if it has not replied within four months after its opinion has been requested.

## ARTICLE 3

PP-98

**Rights and Obligations of Member States  
and Sector Members****24**  
PP-98

1 Member States and Sector Members shall have the rights and shall be subject to the obligations provided for in this Constitution and the Convention.

**25**  
PP-98

2 Rights of Member States in respect of their participation in the conferences, meetings and consultations of the Union are:

**26**  
PP-98

a) all Member States shall be entitled to participate in conferences, shall be eligible for election to the Council and shall have the right to nominate candidates for election as officials of the Union or as members of the Radio Regulations Board;

**27**  
PP-98

b) subject to the provisions of Nos. 169 and 210 of this Constitution, each Member State shall have one vote at all plenipotentiary conferences, all world conferences and all Sector assemblies and study group meetings and, if it is a Member State of the Council, all sessions of that Council. At regional conferences, only the Member States of the region concerned shall have the right to vote;

**28**  
PP-98

c) subject to the provisions of Nos. 169 and 210 of this Constitution, each Member State shall also have one vote in all consultations carried out by correspondence. In the case of consultations regarding regional conferences, only the Member States of the region concerned shall have the right to vote.

- 28A**  
PP-98
- 3 In respect of their participation in activities of the Union, Sector Members shall be entitled to participate fully in the activities of the Sector of which they are members, subject to relevant provisions of this Constitution and the Convention:
- 28B**  
PP-98
- a) they may provide chairmen and vice-chairmen of Sector assemblies and meetings and world telecommunication development conferences;
- 28C**  
PP-98
- b) they shall be entitled, subject to the relevant provisions of the Convention and relevant decisions adopted in this regard by the Plenipotentiary Conference, to take part in the adoption of Questions and Recommendations and in decisions relating to the working methods and procedures of the Sector concerned.

## ARTICLE 4

### Instruments of the Union

- 29**
- 1 The instruments of the Union are:
- this Constitution of the International Telecommunication Union,
  - the Convention of the International Telecommunication Union, and
  - the Administrative Regulations.
- 30**
- 2 This Constitution, the provisions of which are complemented by those of the Convention, is the basic instrument of the Union.

**31**  
PP-98

3 The provisions of both this Constitution and the Convention are further complemented by those of the Administrative Regulations, enumerated below, which regulate the use of telecommunications and shall be binding on all Member States:

- International Telecommunication Regulations,
- Radio Regulations.

**32**

4 In the case of inconsistency between a provision of this Constitution and a provision of the Convention or of the Administrative Regulations, the Constitution shall prevail. In the case of inconsistency between a provision of the Convention and a provision of the Administrative Regulations, the Convention shall prevail.

## ARTICLE 5

### Definitions

**33**

Unless the context otherwise requires:

**34**

*a)* the terms used in this Constitution and defined in its Annex, which forms an integral part of this Constitution, shall have the meanings assigned to them in that Annex;

**35**

*b)* the terms – other than those defined in the Annex to this Constitution – used in the Convention and defined in the Annex thereto, which forms an integral part of the Convention, shall have the meanings assigned to them in that Annex;

**36**

*c)* other terms defined in the Administrative Regulations shall have the meanings therein assigned to them.



## ARTICLE 6

**Execution of the Instruments of the Union**

**37**  
PP-98

1 The Member States are bound to abide by the provisions of this Constitution, the Convention and the Administrative Regulations in all telecommunication offices and stations established or operated by them which engage in international services or which are capable of causing harmful interference to radio services of other countries, except in regard to services exempted from these obligations in accordance with the provisions of Article 48 of this Constitution.

**38**  
PP-98

2 The Member States are also bound to take the necessary steps to impose the observance of the provisions of this Constitution, the Convention and the Administrative Regulations upon operating agencies authorized by them to establish and operate telecommunications and which engage in international services or which operate stations capable of causing harmful interference to the radio services of other countries.

## ARTICLE 7

**Structure of the Union**

**39**

The Union shall comprise:

**40**

*a)* the Plenipotentiary Conference, which is the supreme organ of the Union;

**41**

*b)* the Council, which acts on behalf of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

**42**

*c)* world conferences on international telecommunications;

- 43** d) the Radiocommunication Sector, including world and regional radiocommunication conferences, radiocommunication assemblies and the Radio Regulations Board;
- 44**  
PP-98 e) the Telecommunication Standardization Sector, including world telecommunication standardization assemblies;
- 45** f) the Telecommunication Development Sector, including world and regional telecommunication development conferences;
- 46** g) the General Secretariat.

## ARTICLE 8

### Plenipotentiary Conference

- 47**  
PP-98 1 The Plenipotentiary Conference shall be composed of delegations representing Member States. It shall be convened every four years.
- 48**  
PP-98 2 On the basis of proposals by Member States and taking account of reports by the Council, the Plenipotentiary Conference shall:
- 49** a) determine the general policies for fulfilling the purposes of the Union prescribed in Article 1 of this Constitution;
- 50**  
PP-94  
PP-98 b) consider the reports by the Council on the activities of the Union since the previous plenipotentiary conference and on the policy and strategic planning of the Union;

- 51**  
**PP-98**  
**PP-02**
- c)* in the light of its decisions taken on the reports referred to in No. 50 above, establish the strategic plan for the Union and the basis for the budget of the Union, and determine related financial limits, until the next plenipotentiary conference, after considering all relevant aspects of the work of the Union in that period;
- 51A**  
**PP-98**
- c bis)* establish, using the procedures described in Nos. 161D to 161G of this Constitution, the total number of contributory units for the period up to the next plenipotentiary conference on the basis of the classes of contribution announced by Member States;
- 52**
- d)* provide any general directives dealing with the staffing of the Union and, if necessary, fix the basic salaries, the salary scales and the system of allowances and pensions for all the officials of the Union;
- 53**
- e)* examine the accounts of the Union and finally approve them, if appropriate;
- 54**  
**PP-98**
- f)* elect the Member States which are to serve on the Council;
- 55**
- g)* elect the Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux of the Sectors as elected officials of the Union;
- 56**
- h)* elect the members of the Radio Regulations Board;
- 57**  
**PP-94**  
**PP-98**
- i)* consider and adopt, if appropriate, proposals for amendments to this Constitution and the Convention, put forward by Member States, in accordance with the provisions of Article 55 of this Constitution and the relevant provisions of the Convention, respectively;

- 58**                    *j)*    conclude or revise, if necessary, agreements between the Union and other international organizations, examine any provisional agreements with such organizations concluded by the Council on behalf of the Union, and take such measures in connection therewith as it deems appropriate;
- 58A**  
**PP-98**  
**PP-02**                    *j bis)* adopt and amend the General Rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union;
- 59**                    *k)*    deal with such other telecommunication questions as may be necessary.
- 59A**  
**PP-94**                    3    Exceptionally, in the interval between two ordinary Plenipotentiary Conferences, it shall be possible to convene an extraordinary Plenipotentiary Conference with a restricted agenda to deal with specific matters:
- 59B**  
**PP-94**                    *a)*    by a decision of the preceding ordinary Plenipotentiary Conference;
- 59C**  
**PP-94**  
**PP-98**                    *b)*    should two-thirds of the Member States individually so request the Secretary-General;
- 59D**  
**PP-94**  
**PP-98**                    *c)*    at the proposal of the Council with the approval of at least two-thirds of the Member States.

## ARTICLE 9

**Principles Concerning Elections and Related Matters**

- 60** 1 The Plenipotentiary Conference, at any elections referred to in Nos. 54 to 56 of this Constitution, shall ensure that:
- 61** *a)* the Member States of the Council are elected with due regard to the need for equitable distribution of the seats on the Council among all regions of the world;  
**PP-02**
- 62** *b)* the Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux shall be elected among the candidates proposed by Member States as their nationals and shall all be nationals of different Member States, and at their election due consideration should be given to equitable geographical distribution amongst the regions of the world; due consideration should also be given to the principles embodied in No. 154 of this Constitution;  
**PP-94**  
**PP-98**  
**PP-02**
- 63** *c)* the members of the Radio Regulations Board shall be elected in their individual capacity from among the candidates proposed by Member States as their nationals. Each Member State may propose only one candidate. The members of the Radio Regulations Board shall not be nationals of the same Member State as the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau; at their election, due consideration should be given to equitable geographical distribution amongst the regions of the world and to the principles embodied in No. 93 of this Constitution.  
**PP-94**  
**PP-98**  
**PP-02**
- 64** 2 Provisions relating to taking up duties, vacancy and re-eligibility are contained in the Convention.  
**PP-02**

## ARTICLE 10

**The Council**

**65** 1 1) The Council shall be composed of Member States  
PP-98 elected by the Plenipotentiary Conference in accordance  
with the provisions of No. 61 of this Constitution.

**66** 2) Each Member State of the Council shall appoint a  
PP-02 person to serve on the Council who may be assisted by one  
or more advisers.

**67** (SUP)  
PP-02

**68** 3 In the interval between Plenipotentiary Conferences,  
the Council shall act, as governing body of the Union, on  
behalf of the Plenipotentiary Conference within the limits of  
the powers delegated to it by the latter.

**69** 4 1) The Council shall take all steps to facilitate the  
PP-98 implementation by the Member States of the provisions of  
this Constitution, of the Convention, of the Administrative  
Regulations, of the decisions of the Plenipotentiary  
Conference, and, where appropriate, of the decisions of  
other conferences and meetings of the Union, and perform  
any duties assigned to it by the Plenipotentiary Conference.

**70** 2) The Council shall consider broad  
PP-98 telecommunication policy issues in accordance with the  
PP-02 guidelines given by the Plenipotentiary Conference to  
ensure that the Union's policies and strategy fully respond  
to changes in the telecommunication environment.

**70A**  
**PP-02**

2 *bis*) The Council shall prepare a report on the policy and strategic planning recommended for the Union, together with their financial implications, using the specific data prepared by the Secretary-General under No. 74A below.

**71**

3) It shall ensure the efficient coordination of the work of the Union and exercise effective financial control over the General Secretariat and the three Sectors.

**72**

4) It shall contribute, in accordance with the purposes of the Union, to the development of telecommunications in the developing countries by every means at its disposal, including through the participation of the Union in the appropriate programmes of the United Nations.

## ARTICLE 11

### General Secretariat

**73**

1) The General Secretariat shall be directed by a Secretary-General, assisted by one Deputy Secretary-General.

**73 bis**  
**PP-06**

The Secretary-General shall act as the legal representative of the Union.

**73A**  
**PP-98**

2) The functions of the Secretary-General are specified in the Convention. In addition, the Secretary-General shall:

**74**  
**PP-98**

a) coordinate the Union's activities, with the assistance of the Coordination Committee;

**74A**  
**PP-98**  
**PP-02**

b) prepare, with the assistance of the Coordination Committee, and provide to the Member States and Sector Members, such specific information as may be required for the preparation of a report on the policies and strategic plan for the Union, and coordinate the implementation of the plan; this report shall be communicated to the Member States and Sector Members for review during the last two regularly scheduled sessions of the Council before a plenipotentiary conference;

**75**  
**PP-98**

c) take all the actions required to ensure economic use of the Union's resources and be responsible to the Council for all the administrative and financial aspects of the Union's activities;

**76**  
**PP-06**

(SUP)

**76A**  
**PP-98**

3) The Secretary-General may act as depositary of special arrangements established in conformity with Article 42 of this Constitution.

**77**

2 The Deputy Secretary-General shall be responsible to the Secretary-General; he shall assist the Secretary-General in the performance of his duties and undertake such specific tasks as may be entrusted to him by the Secretary-General. He shall perform the duties of the Secretary-General in the absence of the latter.



## CHAPTER II

### Radiocommunication Sector

#### ARTICLE 12

#### Functions and Structure

**78**  
PP-98

1 1) The functions of the Radiocommunication Sector shall be, bearing in mind the particular concerns of developing countries, to fulfil the purposes of the Union, as stated in Article 1 of this Constitution, relating to radiocommunication:

- by ensuring the rational, equitable, efficient and economical use of the radio-frequency spectrum by all radiocommunication services, including those using the geostationary-satellite or other satellite orbits, subject to the provisions of Article 44 of this Constitution, and
- by carrying out studies without limit of frequency range and adopting recommendations on radiocommunication matters.

**79**

2) The precise responsibilities of the Radiocommunication Sector and the Telecommunication Standardization Sector shall be subject to continuing review, in close cooperation, with regard to matters of common interest to both Sectors, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention. Close coordination shall be carried out between the Radiocommunication, Telecommunication Standardization and Telecommunication Development Sectors.

**80**

2 The Radiocommunication Sector shall work through:

- 81** a) world and regional radiocommunication conferences;
- 82** b) the Radio Regulations Board;
- 83** c) radiocommunication assemblies;  
PP-98
- 84** d) radiocommunication study groups;
- 84A** *d bis)* the Radiocommunication Advisory Group;  
PP-98
- 85** e) the Radiocommunication Bureau, headed by the elected Director.
- 86** 3 The Radiocommunication Sector shall have as members:
- 87** a) of right, the administrations of all Member States;  
PP-98
- 88** b) any entity or organization which becomes a Sector  
PP-98 Member in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention.

## ARTICLE 13

### **Radiocommunication Conferences and Radiocommunication Assemblies**

- 89** 1 A world radiocommunication conference may partially or, in exceptional cases, completely, revise the Radio Regulations and may deal with any question of a worldwide character within its competence and related to its agenda; its other duties are specified in the Convention.

**90**  
**PP-98**  
**PP-06**

2 World radiocommunication conferences shall normally be convened every three to four years; however, following the application of the relevant provisions of the Convention, such a conference need not be convened or an additional one may be convened.

**91**  
**PP-98**  
**PP-06**

3 Radiocommunication assemblies shall also normally be convened every three to four years, and may be associated in place and time with world radiocommunication conferences so as to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Radiocommunication Sector. Radiocommunication assemblies shall provide the necessary technical bases for the work of the world radiocommunication conferences and respond to all requests from world radiocommunication conferences. The duties of the radiocommunication assemblies are specified in the Convention.

**92**  
**PP-98**

4 The decisions of a world radiocommunication conference, of a radiocommunication assembly and of a regional radiocommunication conference shall in all circumstances be in conformity with this Constitution and the Convention. The decisions of a radiocommunication assembly or of a regional radiocommunication conference shall also in all circumstances be in conformity with the Radio Regulations. When adopting resolutions and decisions, the conferences shall take into account the foreseeable financial implications and should avoid adopting resolutions and decisions which might give rise to expenditure in excess of the financial limits laid down by the Plenipotentiary Conference.

## ARTICLE 14

**Radio Regulations Board**

- 93** 1 The Radio Regulations Board shall consist of elected members thoroughly qualified in the field of radiocommunications and possessing practical experience in the assignment and utilization of frequencies. Each member shall be familiar with the geographic, economic and demographic conditions within a particular area of the world. They shall perform their duties for the Union independently and on a part-time basis.
- 93A** 18 *bis*) The Radio Regulations Board is composed of not more than either 12 members, or of a number corresponding to 6% of the total number of Member States, whichever is the greater.  
**PP-98**
- 94** 2 The duties of the Radio Regulations Board shall consist of:
- 95** a) the approval of Rules of Procedure, which include technical criteria, in accordance with the Radio Regulations and with any decision which may be taken by competent radiocommunication conferences. These Rules of Procedure shall be used by the Director and the Bureau in the application of the Radio Regulations to register frequency assignments made by Member States. These Rules shall be developed in a transparent manner and shall be open to comment by administrations and, in case of continuing disagreement, the matter shall be submitted to the next world radiocommunication conference;  
**PP-98**  
**PP-02**
- 96** b) the consideration of any other matter that cannot be resolved through the application of the above Rules of Procedure;

- 97**  
**PP-98**
- c) the performance of any additional duties, concerned with the assignment and utilization of frequencies, as indicated in No. 78 of this Constitution, in accordance with the procedures provided for in the Radio Regulations, and as prescribed by a competent conference or by the Council with the consent of a majority of the Member States, in preparation for, or in pursuance of the decisions of, such a conference.
- 98**
- 3 1) In the exercise of their Board duties, the members of the Radio Regulations Board shall serve, not as representing their respective Member States nor a region, but as custodians of an international public trust. In particular, each member of the Board shall refrain from intervening in decisions directly concerning the member's own administration.
- 99**  
**PP-98**
- 2) No member of the Board shall request or receive instructions relating to the exercise of his duties for the Union from any government or a member thereof, or from any public or private organization or person. Members of the Board shall refrain from taking any action or from participating in any decision which may be incompatible with their status defined in No. 98 above.
- 100**  
**PP-98**
- 3) Member States and Sector Members shall respect the exclusively international character of the duties of the members of the Board and refrain from attempting to influence them in the performance of their Board duties.
- 101**
- 4 The working methods of the Radio Regulations Board are defined in the Convention.

## ARTICLE 15

PP-98

**Radiocommunication Study Groups  
and Advisory Group****102**  
PP-98

The respective duties of the radiocommunication study groups and advisory group are specified in the Convention.

## ARTICLE 16

**Radiocommunication Bureau****103**

The functions of the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau are specified in the Convention.

## CHAPTER III

### Telecommunication Standardization Sector

#### ARTICLE 17

#### Functions and Structure

**104**  
**PP-98**

1) The functions of the Telecommunication Standardization Sector shall be, bearing in mind the particular concerns of the developing countries, to fulfil the purposes of the Union relating to telecommunication standardization, as stated in Article 1 of this Constitution, by studying technical, operating and tariff questions and adopting recommendations on them with a view to standardizing telecommunications on a worldwide basis.

**105**

2) The precise responsibilities of the Telecommunication Standardization and Radiocommunication Sectors shall be subject to continuing review, in close cooperation, with regard to matters of common interest to both Sectors, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention. Close coordination shall be carried out between the Radiocommunication, Telecommunication Standardization and Telecommunication Development Sectors.

**106**

2) The Telecommunication Standardization Sector shall work through:

**107**  
**PP-98**

a) world telecommunication standardization assemblies;

**108**

b) telecommunication standardization study groups;

- 108A**  
PP-98            *b bis*) the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group;
- 109**            c) the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau headed by the elected Director.
- 110**            3 The Telecommunication Standardization Sector shall have as members:
- 111**  
PP-98            a) of right, the administrations of all Member States;
- 112**  
PP-98            b) any entity or organization which becomes a Sector Member in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention.

## ARTICLE 18

PP-98

### **World Telecommunication Standardization Assemblies**

- 113**  
PP-98            1 The duties of world telecommunication standardization assemblies are specified in the Convention.
- 114**  
PP-98            2 World telecommunication standardization assemblies shall be convened every four years; however, an additional assembly may be held in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention.
- 115**  
PP-98            3 Decisions of world telecommunication standardization assemblies must in all circumstances be in conformity with this Constitution, the Convention and the Administrative Regulations. When adopting resolutions and decisions, the assemblies shall take into account the foreseeable financial implications and should avoid adopting resolutions and decisions which might give rise to expenditure in excess of the financial limits laid down by the Plenipotentiary Conference.



## ARTICLE 19

PP-98

**Telecommunication Standardization Study Groups  
and Advisory Group**116  
PP-98

The respective duties of the telecommunication standardization study groups and advisory group are specified in the Convention.

## ARTICLE 20

**Telecommunication Standardization Bureau**

117

The functions of the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau are specified in the Convention.

## CHAPTER IV

### Telecommunication Development Sector

#### ARTICLE 21

#### Functions and Structure

- 118** 1) 1) The functions of the Telecommunication Development Sector shall be to fulfil the purposes of the Union as stated in Article 1 of this Constitution and to discharge, within its specific sphere of competence, the Union's dual responsibility as a United Nations specialized agency and executing agency for implementing projects under the United Nations development system or other funding arrangements so as to facilitate and enhance telecommunications development by offering, organizing and coordinating technical cooperation and assistance activities.
- 119** 2) 2) The activities of the Radiocommunication, Telecommunication Standardization and Telecommunication Development Sectors shall be the subject of close cooperation with regard to matters relating to development, in accordance with the relevant provisions of this Constitution.
- 120** 2 Within the foregoing framework, the specific functions of the Telecommunication Development Sector shall be to:
- 121** a) raise the level of awareness of decision-makers concerning the important role of telecommunications in the national economic and social development programme, and provide information and advice on possible policy and structural options;

- 122**  
PP-98            *b)* promote, especially by means of partnership, the development, expansion and operation of telecommunication networks and services, particularly in developing countries, taking into account the activities of other relevant bodies, by reinforcing capabilities for human resources development, planning, management, resource mobilization, and research and development;
- 123**            *c)* enhance the growth of telecommunications through cooperation with regional telecommunications organizations and with global and regional development financing institutions, monitoring the status of projects included in its development programme to ensure that they are properly executed;
- 124**            *d)* activate the mobilization of resources to provide assistance in the field of telecommunications to developing countries by promoting the establishment of preferential and favourable lines of credit, and cooperating with international and regional financial and development institutions;
- 125**            *e)* promote and coordinate programmes to accelerate the transfer of appropriate technologies to the developing countries in the light of changes and developments in the networks of the developed countries;
- 126**            *f)* encourage participation by industry in telecommunication development in developing countries, and offer advice on the choice and transfer of appropriate technology;
- 127**            *g)* offer advice, carry out or sponsor studies, as necessary, on technical, economic, financial, managerial, regulatory and policy issues, including studies of specific projects in the field of telecommunications;

- 128**            *h)* collaborate with the other Sectors, the General Secretariat and other concerned bodies in developing a general plan for international and regional telecommunication networks so as to facilitate the coordination of their development with a view to the provision of telecommunication services;
- 129**            *i)* in carrying out the above functions, give special attention to the requirements of the least developed countries.
- 130**            3    The Telecommunication Development Sector shall work through:
- 131**            *a)* world and regional telecommunication development conferences;
- 132**            *b)* telecommunication development study groups;
- 132A**  
PP-98            *b bis)* the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group;
- 133**            *c)* the Telecommunication Development Bureau headed by the elected Director.
- 134**            4    The Telecommunication Development Sector shall have as members:
- 135**  
PP-98            *a)* of right, the administrations of all Member States;
- 136**  
PP-98            *b)* any entity or organization which becomes a Sector Member in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention.

## ARTICLE 22

**Telecommunication Development Conferences**

- 137** 1 Telecommunication development conferences shall be a forum for the discussion and consideration of topics, projects and programmes relevant to telecommunication development and for the provision of direction and guidance to the Telecommunication Development Bureau.
- 138** 2 Telecommunication development conferences shall comprise:
- 139** a) world telecommunication development conferences;
- 140** b) regional telecommunication development conferences.
- 141** 3 There shall be, between two Plenipotentiary Conferences, one world telecommunication development conference and, subject to resources and priorities, regional telecommunication development conferences.
- 142** 4 Telecommunication development conferences shall not  
PP-98 produce Final Acts. Their conclusions shall take the form of resolutions, decisions, recommendations or reports. These conclusions must in all circumstances be in conformity with this Constitution, the Convention and the Administrative Regulations. When adopting resolutions and decisions, the conferences shall take into account the foreseeable financial implications and should avoid adopting resolutions and decisions which might give rise to expenditure in excess of the financial limits laid down by the Plenipotentiary Conference.
- 143** 5 The duties of telecommunication development conferences are specified in the Convention.

## ARTICLE 23

PP-98

**Telecommunication Development Study Groups  
and Advisory Group****144**  
PP-98

The respective duties of telecommunication development study groups and advisory group are specified in the Convention.

## ARTICLE 24

**Telecommunication Development Bureau****145**

The functions of the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau are specified in the Convention.

PP-02

## CHAPTER IVA

**Working Methods of the Sectors****145A**

PP-02

The radiocommunication assembly, the world telecommunication standardization assembly and the world telecommunication development conference may establish and adopt working methods and procedures for the management of the activities of their respective Sectors. These working methods and procedures must be compatible with this Constitution, the Convention and the Administrative Regulations, and in particular Nos. 246D to 246H of the Convention.

## CHAPTER V

### Other Provisions Concerning the Functioning of the Union

#### ARTICLE 25

##### World Conferences on International Telecommunications

**146** 1 A world conference on international telecommunications may partially, or in exceptional cases, completely revise the International Telecommunication Regulations and may deal with any question of a worldwide character within its competence and related to its agenda.

**147**  
**PP-98** 2 Decisions of world conferences on international telecommunications shall in all circumstances be in conformity with this Constitution and the Convention. When adopting resolutions and decisions, the conferences shall take into account the foreseeable financial implications and should avoid adopting resolutions and decisions which might give rise to expenditure in excess of the financial limits laid down by the Plenipotentiary Conference.

#### ARTICLE 26

##### Coordination Committee

**148** 1 The Coordination Committee shall consist of the Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-General and the Directors of the three Bureaux. It shall be presided over by the Secretary-General, and in his absence by the Deputy Secretary-General.



- 149**                    2    The Coordination Committee shall act as an internal management team which advises and gives the Secretary-General practical assistance on all administrative, financial, information system and technical cooperation matters which do not fall under the exclusive competence of a particular Sector or of the General Secretariat and on external relations and public information. In its considerations, the Committee shall keep fully in view the provisions of this Constitution, the Convention, the decisions of the Council and the interests of the Union as a whole.

## ARTICLE 27

### **Elected Officials and Staff of the Union**

- 150**                    1    1) In the performance of their duties, neither the elected officials nor the staff of the Union shall seek or accept instructions from any government or from any other authority outside the Union. They shall refrain from acting in any way which is incompatible with their status as international officials.
- 151**  
**PP-98**                    2)    Member States and Sector Members shall respect the exclusively international character of the duties of these elected officials and of the staff of the Union, and refrain from trying to influence them in the performance of their work.
- 152**                    3)    No elected official or any member of the staff of the Union shall participate in any manner or have any financial interest whatsoever in any enterprise concerned with telecommunications, except as part of their duties. However, the term “financial interest” is not to be construed as applying to the continuation of retirement benefits accruing in respect of previous employment or service.

**153**  
PP-98                    4) In order to ensure the efficient operation of the Union, any Member State a national of which has been elected Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General or Director of a Bureau shall refrain, as far as possible, from recalling that national between two plenipotentiary conferences.

**154**                    2    The paramount consideration in the recruitment of staff and in the determination of the conditions of service shall be the necessity of securing for the Union the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity. Due regard shall be paid to the importance of recruiting the staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible.

## ARTICLE 28

### Finances of the Union

- 155**                    1    The expenses of the Union shall comprise the costs of:
- 156**                    a) the Council;
- 157**                    b) the General Secretariat and the Sectors of the Union;
- 158**                    c) Plenipotentiary Conferences and world conferences on international telecommunications.
- 159**  
PP-98                    2    The expenses of the Union shall be met from:
- 159A**  
PP-98                    a) the contributions of its Member States and Sector Members;
- 159B**  
PP-98                    b) other revenues as identified in the Convention or in the Financial Regulations.
- 159C**  
PP-98                    2 *bis*) Each Member State and Sector Member shall pay a sum equivalent to the number of units in the class of contribution it has chosen in accordance with Nos. 160 to 161I below.

- 159D**  
**PP-98**  
**PP-02**                    2 *ter*) Expenses incurred by the regional conferences referred to in No. 43 of this Constitution shall be borne:
- 159E**  
**PP-02**                    a) by all the Member States of the region concerned, in accordance with their class of contribution;
- 159F**  
**PP-02**                    b) by any Member States of other regions which have participated in such conferences, in accordance with their class of contribution;
- 159G**  
**PP-02**                    c) by authorized Sector Members and other authorized organizations which have participated in such conferences, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention.
- 160**  
**PP-98**                    3    1) Member States and Sector Members shall be free to choose their class of contribution for defraying Union expenses.
- 161**  
**PP-98**                                       2) The choice by Member States shall be made at a plenipotentiary conference in accordance with the scale of classes of contribution and conditions contained in the Convention and with the procedures described below.
- 161A**  
**PP-98**                                       3) The choice by Sector Members shall be made in accordance with the scale of classes of contribution and conditions contained in the Convention and with the procedures described below.
- 161B**  
**PP-98**                    3 *bis*) 1) At its session preceding the plenipotentiary conference, the Council shall fix the provisional amount of the contributory unit, on the basis of the draft financial plan for the corresponding period and total number of contributory units.

**161C**  
PP-98  
PP-06

2) The Secretary-General shall inform the Member States and Sector Members of the provisional amount of the contributory unit as determined under No. 161B above and invite the Member States to notify, no later than four weeks prior to the date set for the opening of the plenipotentiary conference, the class of contribution they have provisionally chosen.

**161D**  
PP-98

3) The plenipotentiary conference shall, during its first week, determine the provisional upper limit of the amount of the contributory unit resulting from the steps taken by the Secretary-General in pursuance of Nos. 161B and 161C above, and taking account of any changes in class of contribution notified by Member States to the Secretary-General as well as classes of contribution remaining unchanged.

**161E**  
PP-98  
PP-02  
PP-06

4) Bearing in mind the draft financial plan as revised, the plenipotentiary conference shall, as soon as possible, determine the definitive upper limit of the amount of the contributory unit and set the date, which shall be at the latest on Monday of the final week of the plenipotentiary conference, by which Member States, upon invitation by the Secretary-General, shall announce their definitive choice of class of contribution.

**161F**  
PP-98

5) Member States which have failed to notify the Secretary-General of their decision by the date set by the plenipotentiary conference shall retain the class of contribution previously chosen.

**161G**  
PP-98

6) The plenipotentiary conference shall then approve the definitive financial plan on the basis of the total number of contributory units corresponding to the definitive classes of contribution chosen by the Member States and classes of contribution of the Sector Members at the date on which the financial plan is approved.

**161H**  
PP-98

*3ter*) 1) The Secretary-General shall inform the Sector Members of the definitive upper limit of the amount of the contributory unit and invite them to notify, within three months from the closing date of the plenipotentiary conference, the class of contribution they have chosen.

**161I**  
PP-98

2) Sector Members which have failed to notify the Secretary-General of their decision within this three-month period shall retain the class of contribution previously chosen.

**162**  
PP-98

3) Amendments to the scale of classes of contribution adopted by a plenipotentiary conference shall apply for the selection of the class of contribution during the following plenipotentiary conference.

**163**  
PP-94  
PP-98

4) The class of contribution chosen by a Member State or a Sector Member is applicable as of the first biennial budget after a plenipotentiary conference.

**164**  
PP-98

(SUP)

**165**  
**PP-98**  
**PP-10**

5 When choosing its class of contribution, a Member State shall not reduce it by more than 15 per cent of the number of units chosen by the Member State for the period preceding the reduction, rounding down to the nearest lower number of units in the scale, for contributions of three or more units; or by more than one class of contribution, for contributions below three units. The Council shall indicate to it the manner in which the reduction shall be gradually implemented over the period between plenipotentiary conferences. However, under exceptional circumstances such as natural disasters necessitating international aid programmes, the Plenipotentiary Conference may authorize a greater reduction in the number of contributory units when so requested by a Member State which has established that it can no longer maintain its contribution at the class originally chosen.

**165A**  
**PP-98**

5 *bis*) Under exceptional circumstances such as natural disasters necessitating international aid programmes, the Council may authorize a reduction in the number of contributory units when so requested by a Member State which has established that it can no longer maintain its contribution at the class originally chosen.

**165B**  
**PP-98**

5 *ter*) Member States and Sector Members may at any time choose a class of contribution higher than the one already adopted by them.

**166 and 167**  
**PP-98**

(SUP)

**168**  
**PP-98**

8 Member States and Sector Members shall pay in advance their annual contributory shares, calculated on the basis of the biennial budget approved by the Council as well as of any adjustment adopted by the Council.

- 169**  
PP-98
- 9 A Member State which is in arrears in its payments to the Union shall lose its right to vote as defined in Nos. 27 and 28 of this Constitution for so long as the amount of its arrears equals or exceeds the amount of the contribution due for the two preceding years.
- 170**  
PP-98
- 10 Specific provisions governing the financial contributions by Sector Members and by other international organizations are contained in the Convention.

## ARTICLE 29

### Languages

- 171**  
PP-06
- 1 1) The official languages of the Union shall be Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.
- 172**
- 2) In accordance with the relevant decisions of the Plenipotentiary Conference, these languages shall be used for drawing up and publishing documents and texts of the Union, in versions equivalent in form and content, as well as for reciprocal interpretation during conferences and meetings of the Union.
- 173**
- 3) In case of discrepancy or dispute, the French text shall prevail.
- 174**
- 2 When all participants in a conference or in a meeting so agree, discussions may be conducted in fewer languages than those mentioned above.

## ARTICLE 30

### Seat of the Union

- 175**
- The seat of the Union shall be at Geneva.

## ARTICLE 31

**Legal Capacity of the Union**

**176**  
PP-98

The Union shall enjoy in the territory of each of its Member States such legal capacity as may be necessary for the exercise of its functions and the fulfilment of its purposes.

## ARTICLE 32

PP-02

**General Rules of Conferences, Assemblies  
and Meetings of the Union**

**177**  
PP-98  
PP-02

1 The General Rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union adopted by the Plenipotentiary Conference shall apply to the preparation of conferences and assemblies and to the organization of the work and conduct of the discussions of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union, as well as to the election of Member States of the Council, of the Secretary-General, of the Deputy Secretary-General, of the Directors of the Bureaux of the Sectors and of the members of the Radio Regulations Board.

**178**  
PP-98  
PP-02

2 Conferences, assemblies and the Council may adopt such rules as they consider to be essential in addition to those in Chapter II of the General Rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union. Such additional rules must, however, be compatible with this Constitution, the Convention and the aforesaid Chapter II; those adopted by conferences or assemblies shall be published as documents of the conference or assembly concerned.



## CHAPTER VI

**General Provisions Relating to  
Telecommunications**

## ARTICLE 33

**The Right of the Public to Use the International  
Telecommunication Service****179**  
**PP-98**

Member States recognize the right of the public to correspond by means of the international service of public correspondence. The services, the charges and the safeguards shall be the same for all users in each category of correspondence without any priority or preference.

## ARTICLE 34

**Stoppage of Telecommunications****180**  
**PP-98**

1 Member States reserve the right to stop, in accordance with their national law, the transmission of any private telegram which may appear dangerous to the security of the State or contrary to its laws, to public order or to decency, provided that they immediately notify the office of origin of the stoppage of any such telegram or any part thereof, except when such notification may appear dangerous to the security of the State.

**181**  
**PP-98**

2 Member States also reserve the right to cut off, in accordance with their national law, any other private telecommunications which may appear dangerous to the security of the State or contrary to its laws, to public order or to decency.

## ARTICLE 35

**Suspension of Services**

**182**  
**PP-98**

Each Member State reserves the right to suspend the international telecommunication service, either generally or only for certain relations and/or for certain kinds of correspondence, outgoing, incoming or in transit, provided that it immediately notifies such action to each of the other Member States through the Secretary-General.

## ARTICLE 36

**Responsibility**

**183**  
**PP-98**

Member States accept no responsibility towards users of the international telecommunication services, particularly as regards claims for damages.

## ARTICLE 37

**Secrecy of Telecommunications**

- 184**  
PP-98
- 1 Member States agree to take all possible measures, compatible with the system of telecommunication used, with a view to ensuring the secrecy of international correspondence.
- 185**
- 2 Nevertheless, they reserve the right to communicate such correspondence to the competent authorities in order to ensure the application of their national laws or the execution of international conventions to which they are parties.

## ARTICLE 38

**Establishment, Operation and Protection of  
Telecommunication Channels and Installations**

- 186**  
PP-98
- 1 Member States shall take such steps as may be necessary to ensure the establishment, under the best technical conditions, of the channels and installations necessary to carry on the rapid and uninterrupted exchange of international telecommunications.
- 187**
- 2 So far as possible, these channels and installations must be operated by the methods and procedures which practical operating experience has shown to be the best. They must be maintained in proper operating condition and kept abreast of scientific and technical progress.
- 188**  
PP-98
- 3 Member States shall safeguard these channels and installations within their jurisdiction.

**189**  
PP-98

4 Unless other conditions are laid down by special arrangements, each Member State shall take such steps as may be necessary to ensure maintenance of those sections of international telecommunication circuits within its control.

**189A**  
PP-98

5 Member States recognize the necessity of taking practical measures to prevent the operation of electrical apparatus and installations of all kinds from disrupting the operation of telecommunication installations within the jurisdiction of other Member States.

## ARTICLE 39

### **Notification of Infringements**

**190**  
PP-98

In order to facilitate the application of the provisions of Article 6 of this Constitution, Member States undertake to inform and, as appropriate, assist one another with regard to infringements of the provisions of this Constitution, of the Convention and of the Administrative Regulations.

## ARTICLE 40

### **Priority of Telecommunications Concerning Safety of Life**

**191**

International telecommunication services must give absolute priority to all telecommunications concerning safety of life at sea, on land, in the air or in outer space, as well as to epidemiological telecommunications of exceptional urgency of the World Health Organization.

## ARTICLE 41

**Priority of Government Telecommunications****192**

Subject to the provisions of Articles 40 and 46 of this Constitution, government telecommunications (see Annex to this Constitution, No. 1014) shall enjoy priority over other telecommunications to the extent practicable upon specific request by the originator.

## ARTICLE 42

**Special Arrangements****193****PP-98**

Member States reserve for themselves, for the operating agencies recognized by them and for other agencies duly authorized to do so, the right to make special arrangements on telecommunication matters which do not concern Member States in general. Such arrangements, however, shall not be in conflict with the terms of this Constitution, of the Convention or of the Administrative Regulations, so far as concerns the harmful interference which their operation might cause to the radio services of other Member States, and in general so far as concerns the technical harm which their operation might cause to the operation of other telecommunication services of other Member States.

## ARTICLE 43

**Regional Conferences, Arrangements  
and Organizations****194**  
**PP-98**

Member States reserve the right to convene regional conferences, to make regional arrangements and to form regional organizations, for the purpose of settling telecommunication questions which are susceptible of being treated on a regional basis. Such arrangements shall not be in conflict with either this Constitution or the Convention.

## CHAPTER VII

**Special Provisions for Radio**

## ARTICLE 44

PP-98

**Use of the Radio-Frequency Spectrum and  
of the Geostationary-Satellite and  
Other Satellite Orbits****195**  
PP-02

1 Member States shall endeavour to limit the number of frequencies and the spectrum used to the minimum essential to provide in a satisfactory manner the necessary services. To that end, they shall endeavour to apply the latest technical advances as soon as possible.

**196**  
PP-98

2 In using frequency bands for radio services, Member States shall bear in mind that radio frequencies and any associated orbits, including the geostationary-satellite orbit, are limited natural resources and that they must be used rationally, efficiently and economically, in conformity with the provisions of the Radio Regulations, so that countries or groups of countries may have equitable access to those orbits and frequencies, taking into account the special needs of the developing countries and the geographical situation of particular countries.

## ARTICLE 45

**Harmful Interference**

**197**  
PP-98

1 All stations, whatever their purpose, must be established and operated in such a manner as not to cause harmful interference to the radio services or communications of other Member States or of recognized operating agencies, or of other duly authorized operating agencies which carry on a radio service, and which operate in accordance with the provisions of the Radio Regulations.

**198**  
PP-98

2 Each Member State undertakes to require the operating agencies which it recognizes and the other operating agencies duly authorized for this purpose to observe the provisions of No. 197 above.

**199**  
PP-98

3 Further, the Member States recognize the necessity of taking all practicable steps to prevent the operation of electrical apparatus and installations of all kinds from causing harmful interference to the radio services or communications mentioned in No. 197 above.

## ARTICLE 46

**Distress Calls and Messages**

**200**

Radio stations shall be obliged to accept, with absolute priority, distress calls and messages regardless of their origin, to reply in the same manner to such messages, and immediately to take such action in regard thereto as may be required.



## ARTICLE 47

**False or Deceptive Distress, Urgency, Safety  
or Identification Signals**

**201**  
**PP-98**

Member States agree to take the steps required to prevent the transmission or circulation of false or deceptive distress, urgency, safety or identification signals, and to collaborate in locating and identifying stations under their jurisdiction transmitting such signals.

## ARTICLE 48

**Installations for National Defence Services**

**202**  
**PP-98**

1 Member States retain their entire freedom with regard to military radio installations.

**203**

2 Nevertheless, these installations must, so far as possible, observe statutory provisions relative to giving assistance in case of distress and to the measures to be taken to prevent harmful interference, and the provisions of the Administrative Regulations concerning the types of emission and the frequencies to be used, according to the nature of the service performed by such installations.

**204**

3 Moreover, when these installations take part in the service of public correspondence or other services governed by the Administrative Regulations, they must, in general, comply with the regulatory provisions for the conduct of such services.

## CHAPTER VIII

### **Relations With the United Nations, Other International Organizations and Non-Member States**

#### ARTICLE 49

##### **Relations With the United Nations**

**205**

The relationship between the United Nations and the International Telecommunication Union is defined in the Agreement concluded between these two organizations.

#### ARTICLE 50

##### **Relations With Other International Organizations**

**206**  
**PP-02**

In furtherance of complete international coordination on matters affecting telecommunication, the Union should cooperate with international organizations having related interests and activities.

## ARTICLE 51

**Relations With Non-Member States**

**207**  
**PP-98**

Each Member State reserves for itself and for the recognized operating agencies the right to fix the conditions on which it admits telecommunications exchanged with a State which is not a Member State of the Union. If a telecommunication originating in the territory of such a State is accepted by a Member State, it must be transmitted and, in so far as it follows the telecommunication channels of a Member State, the obligatory provisions of this Constitution, of the Convention and of the Administrative Regulations and the usual charges shall apply to it.

## CHAPTER IX

**Final Provisions**

## ARTICLE 52

**Ratification, Acceptance or Approval**

**208**  
PP-98

1 This Constitution and the Convention shall be simultaneously ratified, accepted or approved by any signatory Member State, in accordance with its constitutional rules, in one single instrument. This instrument shall be deposited, in as short a time as possible, with the Secretary-General. The Secretary-General shall notify the Member States of each deposit of any such instrument.

**209**  
PP-98

2 1) During a period of two years from the date of entry into force of this Constitution and the Convention, a signatory Member State, even though it may not have deposited an instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval, in accordance with No. 208 above, shall enjoy the rights conferred on Member States in Nos. 25 to 28 of this Constitution.

**210**  
PP-98

2) From the end of a period of two years from the date of entry into force of this Constitution and the Convention, a signatory Member State which has not deposited an instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval, in accordance with No. 208 above, shall no longer be entitled to vote at any conference of the Union, at any session of the Council, at any meeting of any of the Sectors of the Union, or during any consultation by correspondence conducted in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution and of the Convention until it has so deposited such an instrument. Its rights, other than voting rights, shall not be affected.

- 211** 3 After the entry into force of this Constitution and the Convention in accordance with Article 58 of this Constitution, an instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval, shall become effective on the date of its deposit with the Secretary-General.

## ARTICLE 53

### Accession

- 212**  
PP-98 1 A Member State which is not a signatory to this Constitution and the Convention, or, subject to the provisions of Article 2 of this Constitution, any other State referred to in that Article, may accede to this Constitution and the Convention at any time. Such accession shall be made simultaneously in the form of one single instrument covering both this Constitution and the Convention.
- 213**  
PP-98 2 The instrument of accession shall be deposited with the Secretary-General, who shall notify the Member States of each deposit of any such instrument when it is received and shall forward to each of them a certified copy thereof.
- 214** 3 After the entry into force of this Constitution and the Convention in accordance with Article 58 of this Constitution, an instrument of accession shall become effective on the date of its deposit with the Secretary-General, unless otherwise specified therein.

## ARTICLE 54

**Administrative Regulations**

**215** 1 The Administrative Regulations, as specified in Article 4 of this Constitution, are binding international instruments and shall be subject to the provisions of this Constitution and the Convention.

**216** 2 Ratification, acceptance or approval of this Constitution and the Convention, or accession to these instruments, in accordance with Articles 52 and 53 of this Constitution, shall also constitute consent to be bound by the Administrative Regulations adopted by competent world conferences prior to the date of signature of this Constitution and the Convention. Such consent is subject to any reservation made at the time of signature of the Administrative Regulations or revisions thereof to the extent that the reservation is maintained at the time of deposit of the instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

**216A** **PP-98** 2 *bis*) The Administrative Regulations referred to in No. 216 above shall remain in force, subject to such revisions as may be adopted in application of Nos. 89 and 146 of this Constitution and brought into force. Any revision of the Administrative Regulations, either partial or complete, shall enter into force on the date or dates specified therein only for the Member States which, prior to such date or dates, have notified the Secretary-General of their consent to be bound by that revision.

**217**  
**PP-98**

(SUP)

- 217A**  
PP-98
- 3 *bis*) A Member State shall notify its consent to be bound by a partial or complete revision of the Administrative Regulations by depositing with the Secretary-General an instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval of that revision or of accession thereto or by notifying the Secretary-General of its consent to be bound by that revision.
- 217B**  
PP-98
- 3 *ter*) Any Member State may also notify the Secretary-General that its ratification, acceptance or approval of, or accession to, amendments to this Constitution or the Convention in accordance with Article 55 of the Constitution or Article 42 of the Convention shall constitute consent to be bound by any revision of the Administrative Regulations, either partial or complete, adopted by a competent conference prior to the signature of the said amendments to this Constitution or to the Convention.
- 217C**  
PP-98
- 3 *quater*) The notification referred to in No. 217B above shall be given at the time of the deposit by the Member State of its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval of, or accession to, the amendments to this Constitution or to the Convention.
- 217D**  
PP-98
- 3 *quater*) Any revision of the Administrative Regulations shall apply provisionally, as from the date of entry into force of the revision, in respect of any Member State that has signed the revision and has not notified the Secretary-General of its consent to be bound in accordance with Nos. 217A and 217B above. Such provisional application only takes effect if the Member State in question did not oppose it at the time of signature of the revision.
- 218**  
PP-98
- 4 Such provisional application shall continue for a Member State until it notifies the Secretary-General of its decision concerning its consent to be bound by any such revision.

**219 to 221**  
PP-98

(SUP)

**221A**  
PP-98

5 *bis*) If a Member State fails to notify the Secretary-General of its decision concerning its consent to be bound under No. 218 above within thirty-six months following the date or dates of entry into force of the revision, that Member State shall be deemed to have consented to be bound by that revision.

**221B**  
PP-98

5 *ter*) Any provisional application within the meaning of No. 217D or any consent to be bound within the meaning of No. 221A shall be subject to any reservation as may have been made by the Member State concerned at the time of signature of the revision. Any consent to be bound within the meaning of Nos. 216A, 217A, 217B and 218 above shall be subject to any reservation as may have been made by the Member State concerned at the time of signature of the Administrative Regulations or revision thereto, provided that it maintains the reservation when notifying the Secretary-General of its consent to be bound.

**222**  
PP-98

(SUP)

**223**  
PP-98

7 The Secretary-General shall inform Member States promptly of any notification received pursuant to this Article.



## ARTICLE 55

**Provisions for Amending this Constitution**

- 224**  
PP-98  
PP-02
- 1 Any Member State may propose any amendment to this Constitution. Any such proposal shall, in order to ensure its timely transmission to, and consideration by, all the Member States, reach the Secretary-General not later than eight months prior to the opening date fixed for the plenipotentiary conference. The Secretary-General shall, as soon as possible, but not later than six months prior to the latter date, publish any such proposal for the information of all the Member States.
- 225**  
PP-98
- 2 Any proposed modification to any amendment submitted in accordance with No. 224 above may, however, be submitted at any time by a Member State or by its delegation at the plenipotentiary conference.
- 226**
- 3 The quorum required at any Plenary Meeting of the Plenipotentiary Conference for consideration of any proposal for amending this Constitution or modification thereto shall consist of more than one half of the delegations accredited to the Plenipotentiary Conference.
- 227**
- 4 To be adopted, any proposed modification to a proposed amendment as well as the proposal as a whole, whether or not modified, shall be approved, at a Plenary Meeting, by at least two-thirds of the delegations accredited to the Plenipotentiary Conference which have the right to vote.
- 228**  
PP-98  
PP-02
- 5 Unless specified otherwise in the preceding paragraphs of this Article, which shall prevail, the General Rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union shall apply.

**229**  
PP-98

6 Any amendments to this Constitution adopted by a plenipotentiary conference shall, as a whole and in the form of one single amending instrument, enter into force at a date fixed by the conference between Member States having deposited before that date their instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval of, or accession to, both this Constitution and the amending instrument. Ratification, acceptance or approval of, or accession to, only a part of such an amending instrument shall be excluded.

**230**  
PP-98

7 The Secretary-General shall notify all Member States of the deposit of each instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

**231**

8 After entry into force of any such amending instrument, ratification, acceptance, approval or accession in accordance with Articles 52 and 53 of this Constitution shall apply to the Constitution as amended.

**232**

9 After entry into force of any such amending instrument, the Secretary-General shall register it with the Secretariat of the United Nations, in accordance with the provisions of Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations. No. 241 of this Constitution shall also apply to any such amending instrument.

## ARTICLE 56

**Settlement of Disputes**

**233**  
PP-98

1 Member States may settle their disputes on questions relating to the interpretation or application of this Constitution, of the Convention or of the Administrative Regulations by negotiation, through diplomatic channels, or according to procedures established by bilateral or multilateral treaties concluded between them for the settlement of international disputes, or by any other method mutually agreed upon.

**234**  
PP-98

2 If none of these methods of settlement is adopted, any Member State party to a dispute may have recourse to arbitration in accordance with the procedure defined in the Convention.

**235**  
PP-98

3 The Optional Protocol on the Compulsory Settlement of Disputes Relating to this Constitution, to the Convention, and to the Administrative Regulations shall be applicable as between Member States parties to that Protocol.

## ARTICLE 57

**Denunciation of this Constitution and  
the Convention**

**236**  
PP-98

1 Each Member State which has ratified, accepted, approved or acceded to this Constitution and the Convention shall have the right to denounce them. In such a case, this Constitution and the Convention shall be denounced simultaneously in one single instrument, by a notification addressed to the Secretary-General. Upon receipt of such notification, the Secretary-General shall advise the other Member States thereof.

- 237** 2 Such denunciation shall take effect at the expiration of a period of one year from the date of receipt of its notification by the Secretary-General.

## ARTICLE 58

### Entry into Force and Related Matters

- 238**  
PP-02 1 This Constitution and the Convention, adopted by the Additional Plenipotentiary Conference (Geneva, 1992), shall enter into force on 1 July 1994 between Member States having deposited before that date their instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.
- 239** 2 Upon the date of entry into force specified in No. 238 above, this Constitution and the Convention shall, as between Parties thereto, abrogate and replace the International Telecommunication Convention (Nairobi, 1982).
- 240** 3 In accordance with the provisions of Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Secretary-General of the Union shall register this Constitution and the Convention with the Secretariat of the United Nations.
- 241**  
PP-98 4 The original of this Constitution and the Convention drawn up in the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish languages shall remain deposited in the archives of the Union. The Secretary-General shall forward, in the languages requested, a certified true copy to each of the signatory Member States.
- 242** 5 In the event of any discrepancy among the various language versions of this Constitution and the Convention, the French text shall prevail.

## ANNEX

**Definition of Certain Terms Used in this  
Constitution, the Convention and  
the Administrative Regulations of  
the International Telecommunication Union**

**1001** For the purpose of the above instruments of the Union, the following terms shall have the meanings defined below:

**1001A** *Member State:* A State which is considered to be a  
PP-98 Member of the International Telecommunication Union in application of Article 2 of this Constitution.

**1001B** *Sector Member:* An entity or organization authorized in  
PP-98 accordance with Article 19 of the Convention to participate in the activities of a Sector.

**1002** *Administration:* Any governmental department or service responsible for discharging the obligations undertaken in the Constitution of the International Telecommunication Union, in the Convention of the International Telecommunication Union and in the Administrative Regulations.

**1003** *Harmful Interference:* Interference which endangers the functioning of a radionavigation service or of other safety services or seriously degrades, obstructs or repeatedly interrupts a radiocommunication service operating in accordance with the Radio Regulations.

**1004** *Public Correspondence:* Any telecommunication which the offices and stations must, by reason of their being at the disposal of the public, accept for transmission.

**1005**  
PP-98

*Delegation:* The totality of the delegates and, should the case arise, any representatives, advisers, attachés, or interpreters sent by the same Member State.

Each Member State shall be free to make up its delegation as it wishes. In particular, it may include in its delegation, *inter alia*, in the capacity of delegates, advisers or attachés, persons belonging to any entity or organization authorized in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention.

**1006**  
PP-98

*Delegate:* A person sent by the government of a Member State to a plenipotentiary conference, or a person representing a government or an administration of a Member State at another conference or at a meeting of the Union.

**1007**

*Operating Agency:* Any individual, company, corporation or governmental agency which operates a telecommunication installation intended for an international telecommunication service or capable of causing harmful interference with such a service.

**1008**  
PP-98

*Recognized Operating Agency:* Any operating agency, as defined above, which operates a public correspondence or broadcasting service and upon which the obligations provided for in Article 6 of this Constitution are imposed by the Member State in whose territory the head office of the agency is situated, or by the Member State which has authorized this operating agency to establish and operate a telecommunication service on its territory.

**1009**

*Radiocommunication:* Telecommunication by means of radio waves.

- 1010**            *Broadcasting Service:* A radiocommunication service in which the transmissions are intended for direct reception by the general public. This service may include sound transmissions, television transmissions or other types of transmission.
- 1011**            *International Telecommunication Service:* The offering of a telecommunication capability between telecommunication offices or stations of any nature that are in or belong to different countries.
- 1012**            *Telecommunication:* Any transmission, emission or reception of signs, signals, writing, images and sounds or intelligence of any nature by wire, radio, optical or other electromagnetic systems.
- 1013**            *Telegram:* Written matter intended to be transmitted by telegraphy for delivery to the addressee. This term also includes radiotelegrams unless otherwise specified.
- 1014**            *Government Telecommunications:* Telecommunications originating with any:
- Head of State;
  - Head of government or members of a government;
  - Commanders-in-Chief of military forces, land, sea or air;
  - diplomatic or consular agents;
  - the Secretary-General of the United Nations; Heads of the principal organs of the United Nations;
  - the International Court of Justice,
- or replies to government telecommunications mentioned above.
- 1015**            *Private Telegrams:* Telegrams other than government or service telegrams.

**1016**

*Telegraphy:* A form of telecommunication in which the transmitted information is intended to be recorded on arrival as a graphic document; the transmitted information may sometimes be presented in an alternative form or may be stored for subsequent use.

**Note:** A graphic document records information in a permanent form and is capable of being filed and consulted; it may take the form of written or printed matter or of a fixed image.

**1017**

*Telephony:* A form of telecommunication primarily intended for the exchange of information in the form of speech.



**CONVENTION OF  
THE INTERNATIONAL  
TELECOMMUNICATION UNION\***

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\* The language used in the basic instruments of the Union (Constitution and Convention) is to be considered as gender neutral.



# CONVENTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

## CHAPTER I

### Functioning of the Union

#### SECTION 1

#### ARTICLE 1

#### Plenipotentiary Conference

- 1** 1) The Plenipotentiary Conference shall be convened in accordance with the relevant provisions of Article 8 of the Constitution of the International Telecommunication Union (hereinafter referred to as "the Constitution").
- 2** 2) If practicable, the precise place and the exact dates of a plenipotentiary conference shall be set by the preceding plenipotentiary conference; failing this, they shall be fixed by the Council with the concurrence of the majority of the Member States.
- 3** 2) 1) The precise place and the exact dates of the next Plenipotentiary Conference, or either one of these, may be changed:
- 4** a) when at least one-quarter of the Member States have individually proposed a change to the Secretary-General; or
- 5** b) on a proposal of the Council.
- 6** 2) Any such change shall require the concurrence of a majority of the Member States.

PP-98

PP-98

PP-98

## ARTICLE 2

### Elections and Related Matters

#### The Council

- 7**  
PP-98
- 1 Except in the case of vacancies arising in the circumstances described in Nos. 10 to 12 below, the Member States elected to the Council shall hold office until the date on which a new Council is elected. They shall be eligible for reelection.
- 8**  
PP-98
- 2 1) If, between two plenipotentiary conferences, a seat becomes vacant on the Council, it shall pass by right to the Member State from the same region as the Member State whose seat is vacated which had obtained at the previous election the largest number of votes among those not elected.
- 9**  
PP-98
- 2) When for any reason a vacant seat cannot be filled according to the procedure of No. 8 above, the Chairman of the Council shall invite the other Member States of the region to seek election within one month of such an invitation being issued. At the end of this period, the Chairman of the Council shall invite Member States to elect a new Member State of the Council. The election shall be carried out by secret ballot by correspondence. The same majority as indicated above will be required. The new Member State of the Council shall hold office until the election of the new Council by the next competent plenipotentiary conference.
- 10**
- 3 A seat on the Council shall be considered vacant:
- 11**  
PP-02
- a) when a Member State of the Council does not have a representative in attendance at two consecutive ordinary sessions of the Council;
- 12**  
PP-98
- b) when a Member State resigns its membership of the Council.

## Elected officials

- 13**  
PP-06
- 1 The Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux shall take up their duties on the dates determined by the Plenipotentiary Conference at the time of their election. They shall normally remain in office until dates determined by the following plenipotentiary conference, and they shall be eligible for re-election once only for the same post. Re-election shall mean that it is possible for only a second term, regardless of whether it is consecutive or not.
- 14**
- 2 If the post of Secretary-General falls vacant, the Deputy Secretary-General shall succeed to it and shall remain in office until a date determined by the following Plenipotentiary Conference. When under these conditions the Deputy Secretary-General succeeds to the office of the Secretary-General, the post of Deputy Secretary-General shall be considered to fall vacant on that same date and the provisions of No. 15 below shall be applied.
- 15**
- 3 If the post of Deputy Secretary-General falls vacant more than 180 days prior to the date set for the convening of the next Plenipotentiary Conference, the Council shall appoint a successor for the balance of the term.
- 16**
- 4 If the posts of the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General fall vacant simultaneously, the Director who has been longest in office shall discharge the duties of Secretary-General for a period not exceeding 90 days. The Council shall appoint a Secretary-General and, if the vacancies occur more than 180 days prior to the date set for the convening of the next Plenipotentiary Conference, a Deputy Secretary-General. An official thus appointed by the Council shall serve for the balance of the term for which his predecessor was elected.

- 17** 5 If the post of a Director becomes unexpectedly vacant, the Secretary-General shall take the necessary steps to ensure that the duties of that Director are carried out until the Council shall appoint a new Director at its next ordinary session following the occurrence of such a vacancy. A Director so appointed shall serve until the date fixed by the next Plenipotentiary Conference.
- 18** 6 Subject to the relevant provisions of Article 27 of the Constitution, the Council shall provide for the filling of any vacancy in the post of Secretary-General or Deputy Secretary-General in the situation described in the relevant provisions of the present Article at an ordinary session, if held within 90 days after a vacancy occurs, or at a session convened by the Chairman within the periods specified in those provisions.
- 19** 7 Any period of service in the post of an elected official pursuant to an appointment under Nos. 14 to 18 above shall not affect eligibility for election or re-election to such a post.

### **Members of the Radio Regulations Board**

- 20** 1 The members of the Radio Regulations Board shall take up their duties on the dates determined by the Plenipotentiary Conference at the time of their election. They shall remain in office until dates determined by the following plenipotentiary conference, and shall be eligible for reelection once only. Re-election shall mean that it is possible for only a second term, regardless of whether it is consecutive or not.
- PP-06

**21**  
PP-02

2 If, in the interval between two plenipotentiary conferences, a member of the Board resigns or is no longer in a position to perform his duties, the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau, shall invite the Member States of the region concerned to propose candidates for the election of a replacement at the next session of the Council. However, if the vacancy occurs more than 90 days before a session of the Council or after the session of the Council preceding the next plenipotentiary conference, the Member State concerned shall designate, as soon as possible and within 90 days, another national as a replacement who will remain in office until the new member elected by the Council takes office or until the new members of the Board elected by the next plenipotentiary conference take office, as appropriate. The replacement shall be eligible for election by the Council or by the Plenipotentiary Conference, as appropriate.

**22**  
PP-02

3 A member of the Radio Regulations Board is considered no longer in a position to perform his duties after three consecutive absences from the Board meetings. The Secretary-General shall, after consultation with the Board's Chairman as well as the member of the Board and the Member State concerned, declare existence of a vacancy in the Board and shall proceed as stipulated in No. 21 above.

## ARTICLE 3

PP-98

**Other Conferences and Assemblies**

**23**  
PP-98

1 In conformity with the relevant provisions of the Constitution, the following world conferences and assemblies of the Union shall normally be convened within the period between two plenipotentiary conferences:

**24**  
PP-98

a) one or two world radiocommunication conferences;

**25**  
PP-98

b) one world telecommunication standardization assembly;

**26**

c) one world telecommunication development conference;

**27**  
PP-98

d) one or two radiocommunication assemblies.

**28**

2 Exceptionally, within the period between Plenipotentiary Conferences:

**29**  
PP-98

(SUP)

**30**  
PP-98

– an additional world telecommunication standardization assembly may be convened.

**31**

3 These actions shall be taken:

**32**

a) by a decision of a Plenipotentiary Conference;

**33**  
PP-98

b) on the recommendation of the previous world conference or assembly of the Sector concerned, if approved by the Council; in the case of a radiocommunication assembly, the recommendation of the assembly shall be transmitted to the following world radiocommunication conference for comments for the attention of the Council;

**34**  
PP-98

c) at the request of at least one-quarter of the Member States, which shall individually address their requests to the Secretary-General; or



- 35** d) on a proposal of the Council.
- 36** 4 A regional radiocommunication conference shall be convened:
- 37** a) by a decision of a Plenipotentiary Conference;
- 38** b) on the recommendation of a previous world or regional radiocommunication conference if approved by the Council;
- 39** c) at the request of at least one-quarter of the Member  
**PP-98** States belonging to the region concerned, which shall individually address their requests to the Secretary-General; or
- 40** d) on a proposal of the Council.
- 41** 5 1) The precise place and the exact dates of a world or  
**PP-98** regional conference or an assembly of a Sector may be fixed by a plenipotentiary conference.
- 42** 2) In the absence of such a decision, the Council shall  
**PP-98** determine the precise place and the exact dates of a world conference or an assembly of a Sector with the concurrence of a majority of the Member States, and of a regional conference with the concurrence of a majority of the Member States belonging to the region concerned; in both cases the provisions of No. 47 below shall apply.
- 43** 6 1) The precise place and the exact dates of a  
conference or assembly may be changed:
- 44** a) at the request of at least one-quarter of the Member  
**PP-98** States in the case of a world conference or an assembly of a Sector, or of at least one-quarter of the Member States belonging to the region concerned in the case of a regional conference. Their requests shall be addressed individually to the Secretary-General, who shall transmit them to the Council for approval; or
- 45** b) on a proposal of the Council.

**46**  
PP-98

2) In the cases specified in Nos. 44 and 45 above, the changes proposed shall not be finally adopted until accepted by a majority of the Member States, in the case of a world conference or an assembly of a Sector, or by a majority of the Member States belonging to the region concerned, in the case of a regional conference, subject to the provisions of No. 47 below.

**47**  
PP-98  
PP-02

7 In the consultations referred to in Nos. 42, 46, 118, 123 and 138 of this Convention and in Nos. 26, 28, 29, 31 and 36 of the General Rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union, Member States which have not replied within the time-limits specified by the Council shall be regarded as not participating in the consultations, and in consequence shall not be taken into account in computing the majority. If the number of replies does not exceed one-half of the Member States consulted, a further consultation shall take place, the results of which shall be decisive regardless of the number of votes cast.

**48**

8 1) World conferences on international telecommunications shall be held upon decision by the Plenipotentiary Conference.

**49**

2) The provisions for the convening of, the adoption of the agenda of, and the participation in a world radiocommunication conference shall, as appropriate, equally apply to world conferences on international telecommunications.

## SECTION 2

### ARTICLE 4

#### **The Council**

- 50**  
PP-94  
PP-98
- 1) The number of Member States of the Council shall be determined by the Plenipotentiary Conference which is held every four years.
- 50A**  
PP-94  
PP-98
- 2) This number shall not exceed 25% of the total number of Member States.
- 51**
- 2) 1) The Council shall hold an ordinary session annually at the seat of the Union.
- 52**
- 2) During this session it may decide to hold, exceptionally, an additional session.
- 53**  
PP-98
- 3) Between ordinary sessions, it may be convened, as a general rule at the seat of the Union, by the Chairman at the request of a majority of its Member States, or on the initiative of the Chairman under the conditions provided for in No. 18 of this Convention.
- 54**
- 3) The Council shall take decisions only in session. Exceptionally, the Council in session may agree that any specific issue shall be decided by correspondence.
- 55**  
PP-98
- 4) At the beginning of each ordinary session, the Council shall elect its own Chairman and Vice-Chairman from among the representatives of its Member States, taking into account the principle of rotation between the regions. They shall serve until the opening of the next ordinary session and shall not be eligible for re-election. The Vice-Chairman shall serve as Chairman in the absence of the latter.

**56**  
PP-98  
5 The person appointed to serve on the Council by a Member State of the Council shall, so far as possible, be an official serving in, or directly responsible to, or for, their telecommunication administration and qualified in the field of telecommunication services.

**57**  
PP-98  
PP-02  
6 Only the travelling, subsistence and insurance expenses incurred by the representative of each Member State of the Council, belonging to the category of developing countries, the list of which is established by the United Nations Development Programme, in that capacity at Council sessions, shall be borne by the Union.

**58**  
PP-06  
(SUP)

**59**  
8 The Secretary-General shall act as Secretary of the Council.

**60**  
PP-98  
9 The Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux may participate as of right in the deliberations of the Council, but without taking part in the voting. Nevertheless, the Council may hold meetings confined to the representatives of its Member States.

**60A**  
PP-98  
PP-02  
9 *bis*) A Member State which is not a Member State of the Council may, with prior notice to the Secretary-General, send one observer at its own expense to meetings of the Council, its committees and its working groups. An observer shall not have the right to vote.

**60B**  
PP-02  
PP-06  
9 *ter*) Sector Members may attend, as observers, meetings of the Council, its committees and its working groups, subject to the conditions established by the Council, including conditions relating to the number of such observers and the procedures for appointing them.

- 61**  
PP-98                    10 The Council shall consider each year the report prepared by the Secretary-General on implementation of the strategic plan adopted by the Plenipotentiary Conference and shall take appropriate action.
- 61A**  
PP-02                    10 *bis*) While at all times respecting the financial limits as adopted by the Plenipotentiary Conference, the Council may, as necessary, review and update the strategic plan which forms the basis of the corresponding operational plans and inform the Member States and Sector Members accordingly.
- 61B**  
PP-02                    10 *ter*) The Council shall adopt its own Rules of Procedure.
- 62**  
                              11 The Council shall, in the interval between two Plenipotentiary Conferences, supervise the overall management and administration of the Union; it shall in particular:
- 62A**  
PP-02                    1) receive and review the specific data for strategic planning that is provided by the Secretary-General as noted in No. 74A of the Constitution and, in the last but one ordinary session of the Council before the next plenipotentiary conference, initiate the preparation of a draft new strategic plan for the Union, drawing upon input from Member States, Sector Members and the Sector advisory groups, and produce a coordinated draft new strategic plan at least four months before that plenipotentiary conference;
- 62B**  
PP-02                    1 *bis*) establish a calendar for the development of strategic and financial plans for the Union, and of operational plans for each Sector and for the General Secretariat, so as to allow for the development of appropriate linkage among the plans;

- 63                   1 *ter*) approve and revise the Staff Regulations and the Financial Regulations of the Union and any other regulations as it may consider necessary, taking account of current practice of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies applying the common system of pay, allowances and pensions;
- 64                   2)   adjust as necessary:
- 65                   a)   the basic salary scales for staff in the professional and higher categories, excluding the salaries for posts filled by election, to accord with any changes in the basic salary scales adopted by the United Nations for the corresponding common system categories;
- 66                   b)   the basic salary scales for staff in the general services categories to accord with changes in the rates applied by the United Nations and the specialized agencies at the seat of the Union;
- 67                   c)   the post adjustment for professional and higher categories, including posts filled by election, in accordance with decisions of the United Nations for application at the seat of the Union;
- 68                   d)   the allowances for all staff of the Union, in accordance with any changes adopted in the United Nations common system;
- 69                   3)   take decisions to ensure equitable geographical distribution and representation of women in the Professional and higher categories in the staff of the Union and monitor the implementation of such decisions;
- PP-98
- 70                   4)   decide on proposals for major organizational changes within the General Secretariat and the Bureaux of the Sectors of the Union consistent with the Constitution and this Convention, submitted to it by the Secretary-General following their consideration by the Coordination Committee;

**71**

5) examine and decide on plans concerning Union posts and staff and human resources development programmes covering several years, and give guidelines for the staffing of the Union, including on staffing levels and structures, taking into account the guidelines given by the Plenipotentiary Conference and the relevant provisions of Article 27 of the Constitution;

**72**

6) adjust, as necessary, the contributions payable by the Union and its staff to the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, in accordance with the Fund's rules and regulations, as well as the cost of living allowances to be granted to beneficiaries of the Union Staff Superannuation and Benevolent Funds on the basis of the practice followed by the Fund;

**73**

**PP-98**  
**PP-02**  
**PP-06**

7) review and approve the biennial budget of the Union, and consider the budget forecast (included in the financial operating report prepared by the Secretary-General under No. 101 of this Convention) for the two-year period following a given budget period, taking account of the decisions of the Plenipotentiary Conference in relation to No. 50 of the Constitution and of the financial limits set by the Plenipotentiary Conference in accordance with No. 51 of the Constitution; it shall ensure the strictest possible economy but be mindful of the obligation upon the Union to achieve satisfactory results as expeditiously as possible. In so doing, the Council shall take into account the priorities established by the Plenipotentiary Conference as expressed in the strategic plan for the Union, the views of the Coordination Committee as contained in the report by the Secretary-General mentioned in No. 86 of this Convention and the financial operating report mentioned in No. 101 of this Convention. The Council shall carry out an annual review of income and expenditure with a view to effecting adjustments, where appropriate, in accordance with resolutions and decisions of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

- 74** 8) arrange for the annual audit of the accounts of the Union prepared by the Secretary-General and approve them, if appropriate, for submission to the next Plenipotentiary Conference;
- 75**  
**PP-98** 9) arrange for the convening of the conferences and assemblies of the Union and provide, with the consent of a majority of the Member States in the case of a world conference or assembly, or of a majority of the Member States belonging to the region concerned in the case of a regional conference, appropriate directives to the General Secretariat and the Sectors of the Union with regard to their technical and other assistance in the preparation for and organization of conferences and assemblies;
- 76** 10) take decisions in relation to No.28 of this Convention;
- 77** 11) decide upon the implementation of any decisions which have been taken by conferences and which have financial implications;
- 78** 12) to the extent permitted by the Constitution, this Convention and the Administrative Regulations, take any other action deemed necessary for the proper functioning of the Union;
- 79**  
**PP-98**  
**PP-02** 13) take any necessary steps, with the agreement of a majority of the Member States, provisionally to resolve questions not covered by the Constitution, this Convention and the Administrative Regulations and which cannot await the next competent conference for settlement;



**80**  
PP-94  
PP-06

14) be responsible for effecting the coordination with all international organizations referred to in Articles 49 and 50 of the Constitution and, to this end, conclude, on behalf of the Union, provisional agreements with the international organizations referred to in Article 50 of the Constitution and in Nos. 269B and 269C of this Convention, and with the United Nations in application of the Agreement between the United Nations and the International Telecommunication Union; these provisional agreements shall be submitted to the Plenipotentiary Conference in accordance with the relevant provision of Article 8 of the Constitution;

**81**  
PP-98  
PP-02

15) send to Member States, within 30 days after each of its sessions, summary records on the activities of the Council and other documents deemed useful;

**82**

16) submit to the Plenipotentiary Conference a report on the activities of the Union since the previous Plenipotentiary Conference and any appropriate recommendations.

### SECTION 3

#### ARTICLE 5

#### **General Secretariat**

**83**

1 The Secretary-General shall:

**84**

a) be responsible for the overall management of the Union's resources; he may delegate the management of part of these resources to the Deputy Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux, in consultation as necessary with the Coordination Committee;

- 85**                    *b)* coordinate the activities of the General Secretariat and the Sectors of the Union, taking into account the views of the Coordination Committee, with a view to assuring the most effective and economical use of the resources of the Union;
- 86**  
**PP-98**                    *c)* prepare, with the assistance of the Coordination Committee, and submit to the Council a report indicating changes in the telecommunication environment since the last plenipotentiary conference and containing recommended action relating to the Union's future policies and strategy, together with their financial implications;
- 86A**  
**PP-98**                    *c bis)* coordinate implementation of the strategic plan adopted by the Plenipotentiary Conference and prepare an annual report on this implementation for review by the Council;
- 87**                    *d)* organize the work of the General Secretariat and appoint the staff of that Secretariat in accordance with the directives of the Plenipotentiary Conference and the rules established by the Council;
- 87A**  
**PP-98**  
**PP-02**                    *d bis)* prepare annually a four-year rolling operational plan of activities to be undertaken by the staff of the General Secretariat consistent with the strategic plan, covering the subsequent year and the following three-year period, including financial implications, taking due account of the financial plan as approved by the plenipotentiary conference; this four-year operational plan shall be reviewed by the advisory groups of all three Sectors, and shall be reviewed and approved annually by the Council;

- 88** e) undertake administrative arrangements for the Bureaux of the Sectors of the Union and appoint their staff on the basis of the choice and proposals of the Director of the Bureau concerned, although the final decision for appointment or dismissal shall rest with the Secretary-General;
- 89** f) report to the Council any decisions taken by the United Nations and the specialized agencies which affect common system conditions of service, allowances and pensions;
- 90** g) ensure the application of any regulations adopted by the Council;
- 91** h) provide legal advice to the Union;
- 92** i) supervise, for administrative management purposes, the staff of the Union with a view to assuring the most effective use of personnel and the application of the common system conditions of employment for the staff of the Union. The staff appointed to assist directly the Directors of the Bureaux shall be under the administrative control of the Secretary-General and shall work under the direct orders of the Directors concerned but in accordance with administrative guidelines given by the Council;
- 93** j) in the interest of the Union as a whole and in consultation with the Directors of the Bureaux concerned, temporarily reassign staff members from their appointed position as necessary to meet fluctuating work requirements at headquarters;

- 94 k) make, in agreement with the Director of the Bureau concerned, the necessary administrative and financial arrangements for the conferences and meetings of each Sector;
- 95 l) taking into account the responsibilities of the Sectors, undertake appropriate secretariat work preparatory to and following conferences of the Union;
- 96 PP-06 m) prepare recommendations for the first meeting of the heads of delegation referred to in No. 49 of the General Rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union, taking into account the results of any regional consultation;
- 97 n) provide, where appropriate in cooperation with the inviting government, the secretariat of conferences of the Union, and provide the facilities and services for meetings of the Union, in collaboration, as appropriate, with the Director concerned, drawing from the Union's staff as he deems necessary in accordance with No. 93 above. The Secretary-General may also, when so requested, provide the secretariat of other telecommunication meetings on a contractual basis;
- 98 o) take necessary action for the timely publication and distribution of service documents, information bulletins, and other documents and records prepared by the General Secretariat and the Sectors, communicated to the Union or whose publication is requested by conferences or the Council; the list of documents to be published shall be maintained by the Council, following consultation with the conference concerned, with respect to service documents and other documents whose publication is requested by conferences;

- 99**                    *p)* publish periodically, with the help of information put at his disposal or which he may collect, including that which he may obtain from other international organizations, a journal of general information and documentation concerning telecommunication;
- 100**  
**PP-98**  
**PP-06**                    *q)* after consultation with the Coordination Committee and making all possible economies, prepare and submit to the Council a biennial draft budget covering the expenditures of the Union, taking account of the financial limits laid down by the Plenipotentiary Conference. This draft shall consist of a consolidated budget, including cost-based and results-based budget information for the Union, prepared in accordance with the budget guidelines issued by the Secretary-General, and comprising two versions. One version shall be for zero growth of the contributory unit, the other for a growth less than or equal to any limit fixed by the Plenipotentiary Conference, after any drawing on the Reserve Account. The budget resolution, after approval by the Council, shall be sent for information to all Member States;
- 101**                    *r)* with the assistance of the Coordination Committee, prepare an annual financial operating report in accordance with the Financial Regulations and submit it to the Council. A recapitulative financial operating report and accounts shall be prepared and submitted to the next Plenipotentiary Conference for examination and final approval;
- 102**  
**PP-98**                    *s)* with the assistance of the Coordination Committee, prepare an annual report on the activities of the Union which, after approval by the Council, shall be sent to all Member States;

- 102A**  
**PP-98**            *s bis*) manage the special arrangements referred to in No. 76A of the Constitution, the cost of this management being borne by the signatories of the arrangement in a manner agreed between them and the Secretary-General;
- 103**            *t*) perform all other secretarial functions of the Union;
- 104**            *u*) perform any other functions entrusted to him by the Council.
- 105**  
**PP-06**            2 The Secretary-General or the Deputy Secretary-General may participate, in an advisory capacity, in conferences of the Union; the Secretary-General or his representative may participate in an advisory capacity in all other meetings of the Union.

## SECTION 4

### ARTICLE 6

#### **Coordination Committee**

- 106**            1    1) The Coordination Committee shall assist and advise the Secretary-General on all matters mentioned under the relevant provisions of Article 26 of the Constitution and the relevant Articles of this Convention.
- 107**                   2) The Committee shall be responsible for ensuring coordination with all the international organizations mentioned in Articles 49 and 50 of the Constitution as regards representation of the Union at conferences of such organizations.

- 108** 3) The Committee shall examine the progress of the work of the Union and assist the Secretary-General in the preparation of the report referred to in No. 86 of this Convention for submission to the Council.
- 109**  
**PP-98** 2 The Committee shall endeavour to reach conclusions unanimously. In the absence of the support of the majority in the Committee, its Chairman may in exceptional circumstances take decisions, on the Chairman's own responsibility, when judging that the decision of the matters in question is urgent and cannot await the next session of the Council. In such circumstances the Chairman shall report promptly in writing on such matters to the Member States of the Council, setting forth the reasons for such action together with any other written views submitted by other members of the Committee. If in such circumstances the matters are not urgent, but nevertheless important, they shall be submitted for consideration by the next session of the Council.
- 110** 3 The Chairman shall convene the Committee at least once a month; the Committee may also be convened when necessary at the request of two of its members.
- 111**  
**PP-02**  
**PP-06** 4 A report shall be made of the proceedings of the Coordination Committee and shall be made available to the Member States.

## SECTION 5

**Radiocommunication Sector**

## ARTICLE 7

**World Radiocommunication Conference**

- 112** 1 In accordance with No. 90 of the Constitution, a world radiocommunication conference shall be convened to consider specific radiocommunication matters. A world radiocommunication conference shall deal with those items which are included in its agenda adopted in accordance with the relevant provisions of this Article.
- 113** 2 1) The agenda of a world radiocommunication conference may include:
- 114** a) the partial or, exceptionally, complete revision of the Radio Regulations referred to in Article 4 of the Constitution;
- 115** b) any other question of a worldwide character within the competence of the conference;
- 116** c) an item concerning instructions to the Radio Regulations Board and the Radiocommunication Bureau regarding their activities, and a review of those activities;
- 117** d) the identification of topics to be studied by the radiocommunication assembly and the radiocommunication study groups, as well as matters that the assembly shall consider in relation to future radiocommunication conferences.
- PP-98**



- 118**  
PP-94  
PP-98
- 2) The general scope of this agenda should be established four to six years in advance, and the final agenda shall be established by the Council preferably two years before the conference, with the concurrence of a majority of the Member States, subject to the provisions of No. 47 of this Convention. These two versions of the agenda shall be established on the basis of the recommendations of the world radiocommunication conference, in accordance with No. 126 of this Convention.
- 119**
- 3) This agenda shall include any question which a Plenipotentiary Conference has directed to be placed on the agenda.
- 120**
- 3 1) This agenda may be changed:
- 121**  
PP-98
- a) at the request of at least one-quarter of the Member States. Such requests shall be addressed individually to the Secretary-General, who shall transmit them to the Council for approval; or
- 122**
- b) on a proposal of the Council.
- 123**  
PP-98
- 2) The proposed changes to the agenda of a world radiocommunication conference shall not be finally adopted until accepted by a majority of the Member States, subject to the provisions of No. 47 of this Convention.
- 124**
- 4 The conference shall also:
- 125**
- 1) consider and approve the report of the Director of the Bureau on the activities of the Sector since the last conference;
- 126**
- 2) recommend to the Council items for inclusion in the agenda of a future conference and give its views on such agendas for at least a four-year cycle of radiocommunication conferences, together with an estimate of the financial implications;

- 127** 3) include, in its decisions, instructions or requests, as appropriate, to the Secretary-General and the Sectors of the Union.
- 128** 5 The Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the radiocommunication assembly, or of relevant study groups, may participate in the associated world radiocommunication conference.

## ARTICLE 8

### Radiocommunication Assembly

- 129** 1 A radiocommunication assembly shall deal with and issue, as appropriate, recommendations on questions adopted pursuant to its own procedures or referred to it by the Plenipotentiary Conference, any other conference, the Council or the Radio Regulations Board.
- 129A**  
**PP-02** 1 *bis*) The radiocommunication assembly is authorized to adopt the working methods and procedures for the management of the Sector's activities in accordance with No. 145A of the Constitution.
- 130** 2 With regard to No. 129 above, the radiocommunication assembly shall:
- 131**  
**PP-98** 1) consider the reports of study groups prepared in accordance with No. 157 of this Convention and approve, modify or reject the draft recommendations contained in those reports, and consider the reports of the radiocommunication advisory group prepared in accordance with No. 160H of this Convention;

- 132** 2) bearing in mind the need to keep the demands on the resources of the Union to a minimum, approve the programme of work arising from the review of existing questions and new questions and determine the priority, urgency, estimated financial implications and time-scale for the completion of their study;
- 133** 3) decide, in the light of the approved programme of work derived from No. 132 above, on the need to maintain, terminate or establish study groups, and allocate to each of them the questions to be studied;
- 134** 4) group questions of interest to the developing countries as far as possible, in order to facilitate their participation in the study of those questions;
- 135** 5) give advice on matters within its competence in response to requests from a world radiocommunication conference;
- 136**  
**PP-98** 6) report to the following world radiocommunication conference on the progress in matters that may be included in the agenda of future radiocommunication conferences;
- 136A**  
**PP-02** 7) decide on the need to maintain, terminate or establish other groups and appoint their chairmen and vice-chairmen;
- 136B**  
**PP-02** 8) establish the terms of reference for the groups referred to in No. 136A above; such groups shall not adopt questions or recommendations.

**137** 3 A radiocommunication assembly shall be presided over by a person designated by the government of the country in which the meeting is held or, in the case of a meeting held at the seat of the Union, by a person elected by the assembly itself. The Chairman shall be assisted by Vice-Chairmen elected by the assembly.

**137A** 4 A radiocommunication assembly may assign specific matters within its competence, except those relating to the procedures contained in the Radio Regulations, to the radiocommunication advisory group indicating the action required on those matters.  
**PP-98**  
**PP-02**

## ARTICLE 9

### **Regional Radiocommunication Conferences**

**138** The agenda of a regional radiocommunication conference may provide only for specific radiocommunication questions of a regional nature, including instructions to the Radio Regulations Board and the Radiocommunication Bureau regarding their activities in respect of the region concerned, provided such instructions do not conflict with the interests of other regions. Only items included in its agenda may be discussed by such a conference. The provisions contained in Nos. 118 to 123 of this Convention shall apply to a regional radiocommunication conference, but only with regard to the Member States of the region concerned.  
**PP-98**

## ARTICLE 10

**Radio Regulations Board**

**139**  
PP-98

(SUP)

**140**  
PP-02

2 In addition to the duties specified in Article 14 of the Constitution, the Board shall:

1) consider reports from the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau on investigations of harmful interference carried out at the request of one or more of the interested administrations, and formulate recommendations with respect thereto;

2) also, independently of the Radiocommunication Bureau, at the request of one or more of the interested administrations, consider appeals against decisions made by the Radiocommunication Bureau regarding frequency assignments.

**141**  
PP-02

3 The members of the Board shall participate, in an advisory capacity, in radiocommunication conferences. In this case, they shall not participate in these conferences as members of their national delegations.

**141A**  
PP-02

3 *bis*) Two members of the Board, designated by the Board, shall participate, in an advisory capacity, in plenipotentiary conferences and radiocommunication assemblies. In these cases, the two members designated by the Board shall not participate in these conferences or assemblies as members of their national delegations.

**142**

4 Only the travelling, subsistence and insurance expenses incurred by the members of the Board in the exercise of their duties for the Union shall be borne by the Union.

**142A**  
**PP-02**

4 *bis*) The members of the Board shall, while in the exercise of their duties for the Union, as specified in the Constitution and Convention, or while on mission for the Union, enjoy functional privileges and immunities equivalent to those granted to the elected officials of the Union by each Member State, subject to the relevant provisions of the national legislation or other applicable legislation in each Member State. Such functional privileges and immunities are granted to members of the Board for the purposes of the Union and not for their personal advantage. The Union may and shall withdraw the immunity granted to a member of the Board whenever it considers that such immunity is contrary to the orderly administration of justice and its withdrawal is not prejudicial to the interests of the Union.

**143**

5 The working methods of the Board shall be as follows:

**144**

1) The members of the Board shall elect from their own members a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman for a period of one year. Thereafter the Vice-Chairman shall succeed the Chairman each year and a new Vice-Chairman shall be elected. In the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, the Board shall elect a temporary Chairman for the occasion from among its members.

**145**  
**PP-02**

2) The Board shall normally hold up to four meetings a year, of up to five days' duration, generally at the seat of the Union, at which at least two-thirds of its members shall be present, and may carry out its duties using modern means of communication. However, if the Board deems necessary, depending upon the matters to be considered, it may increase the number of its meetings. Exceptionally, the meetings may be of up to two weeks' duration.

**146** 3) The Board shall endeavour to reach its decisions unanimously. If it fails in that endeavour, a decision shall be valid only if at least two-thirds of the members of the Board vote in favour thereof. Each member of the Board shall have one vote; voting by proxy is not allowed.

**147** 4) The Board may make such internal arrangements as it considers necessary in conformity with the provisions of the Constitution, this Convention and the Radio Regulations. Such arrangements shall be published as part of the Board's Rules of Procedure.

## ARTICLE 11

### **Radiocommunication Study Groups**

**148** 1 Radiocommunication study groups are set up by a radiocommunication assembly.

**149**  
**PP-98** 2 1) The radiocommunication study groups shall study questions adopted in accordance with a procedure established by the radiocommunication assembly and prepare draft recommendations to be adopted in accordance with the procedure set forth in Nos. 246A to 247 of this Convention.

**149A**  
**PP-98** 1 *bis*) The radiocommunication study groups shall also study topics identified in resolutions and recommendations of world radiocommunication conferences. The results of such studies shall be included in recommendations or in the reports prepared in accordance with No. 156 below.

- 150**  
PP-98                    2) The study of the above questions and topics shall, subject to No. 158 below, focus on the following:
- 151**  
PP-98                    a) use of the radio-frequency spectrum in terrestrial and space radiocommunication and of the geostationary-satellite and other satellite orbits;
- 152**                    b) characteristics and performance of radio systems;
- 153**                    c) operation of radio stations;
- 154**                    d) radiocommunication aspects of distress and safety matters.
- 155**  
PP-98                    3) These studies shall not generally address economic questions, but when they involve comparing technical or operational alternatives, economic factors may be taken into consideration.
- 156**                    3 The radiocommunication study groups shall also carry out preparatory studies of the technical, operational and procedural matters to be considered by world and regional radiocommunication conferences and elaborate reports thereon in accordance with a programme of work adopted in this respect by a radiocommunication assembly or following instructions by the Council.
- 157**                    4 Each study group shall prepare for the radiocommunication assembly a report indicating the progress of work, the recommendations adopted in accordance with the consultation procedure contained in No.149 above and any draft new or revised recommendations for consideration by the assembly.



- 158** 5 Taking into account No. 79 of the Constitution, the tasks enumerated in Nos. 151 to 154 above and in No. 193 of this Convention in relation to the Telecommunication Standardization Sector shall be kept under continuing review by the Radiocommunication Sector and the Telecommunication Standardization Sector with a view to reaching common agreement on changes in the distribution of matters under study. The two Sectors shall cooperate closely and adopt procedures to conduct such a review and reach agreements in a timely and effective manner. If agreement is not reached, the matter may be submitted through the Council to the Plenipotentiary Conference for decision.
- 159** 6 In the performance of their studies, the radiocommunication study groups shall pay due attention to the study of questions and to the formulation of recommendations directly connected with the establishment, development and improvement of telecommunications in developing countries at both the regional and international levels. They shall conduct their work giving due consideration to the work of national, regional and other international organizations concerned with radiocommunication and cooperate with them, keeping in mind the need for the Union to maintain its pre-eminent position in the field of telecommunications.
- 160** 7 For the purpose of facilitating the review of activities in the Radiocommunication Sector, measures should be taken to foster cooperation and coordination with other organizations concerned with radiocommunication and with the Telecommunication Standardization Sector and the Telecommunication Development Sector. A radiocommunication assembly shall determine the specific duties, conditions of participation and rules of procedure for these measures.

PP-98

## ARTICLE 11A

**Radiocommunication Advisory Group****160A**  
PP-98  
PP-02

1 The radiocommunication advisory group shall be open to representatives of administrations of Member States and representatives of Sector Members and to chairmen of the study groups and other groups, and will act through the Director.

**160B**  
PP-98

2 The radiocommunication advisory group shall:

**160C**  
PP-98  
PP-02

1) review priorities, programmes, operations, financial matters and strategies related to radiocommunication assemblies, study groups and other groups and the preparation of radiocommunication conferences, and any specific matters as directed by a conference of the Union, a radiocommunication assembly or the Council;

**160CA**  
PP-02

1 *bis*) review the implementation of the operational plan of the preceding period in order to identify areas in which the Bureau has not achieved or was not able to achieve the objectives laid down in that plan, and advise the Director on the necessary corrective measures;

**160D**  
PP-98

2) review progress in the implementation of the programme of work established under No. 132 of this Convention;

**160E**  
PP-98

3) provide guidelines for the work of study groups;

**160F**  
PP-98

4) recommend measures, *inter alia*, to foster cooperation and coordination with other standards bodies, with the Telecommunication Standardization Sector, the Telecommunication Development Sector and the General Secretariat;

**160G**  
PP-98 5) adopt its own working procedures compatible with those adopted by the radiocommunication assembly;

**160H**  
PP-98 6) prepare a report for the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau indicating action in respect of the above items;

**160I**  
PP-02 7) prepare a report for the Radiocommunication Assembly on the matters assigned to it in accordance with No. 137A of this Convention and transmit it to the Director for submission to the assembly.

## ARTICLE 12

### **Radiocommunication Bureau**

**161** 1 The Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau shall organize and coordinate the work of the Radiocommunication Sector. The duties of the Bureau are supplemented by those specified in provisions of the Radio Regulations.

**162** 2 The Director shall, in particular,

**163** 1) in relation to radiocommunication conferences:

**164**  
PP-98  
PP-02 a) coordinate the preparatory work of the study groups and other groups and the Bureau, communicate to the Member States and Sector Members the results of this preparatory work, collect their comments and submit a consolidated report to the conference which may include proposals of a regulatory nature;

- 165**  
PP-02
- b)* participate as of right, but in an advisory capacity, in the deliberations of radiocommunication conferences, of the radiocommunication assembly and of the radiocommunication study groups and other groups. The Director shall make all necessary preparations for radiocommunication conferences and meetings of the Radiocommunication Sector in consultation with the General Secretariat in accordance with No. 94 of this Convention and, as appropriate, with the other Sectors of the Union, and with due regard for the directives of the Council in carrying out these preparations;
- 166**
- c)* provide assistance to the developing countries in their preparations for radiocommunication conferences.
- 167**
- 2) in relation to the Radio Regulations Board:
- 168**
- a)* prepare and submit draft Rules of Procedure for approval by the Radio Regulations Board; they shall include, inter alia, calculation methods and data required for the application of the provisions of the Radio Regulations;
- 169**  
PP-98  
PP-02
- b)* distribute to all Member States the Rules of Procedure of the Board, collect comments thereon received from administrations and submit them to the Board;
- 170**  
PP-02
- c)* process information received from administrations in application of the relevant provisions of the Radio Regulations and regional agreements and their associated Rules of Procedure and prepare it, as appropriate, in a form suitable for publication;

- 171**                    *d)* apply the Rules of Procedure approved by the Board, prepare and publish findings based on those Rules, and submit to the Board any review of a finding which is requested by an administration and which cannot be resolved by the use of those Rules of Procedure;
- 172**                    *e)* in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Radio Regulations, effect an orderly recording and registration of frequency assignments and, where appropriate, the associated orbital characteristics, and keep up to date the Master International Frequency Register; review entries in that Register with a view to amending or eliminating, as appropriate, those which do not reflect actual frequency usage, in agreement with the administration concerned;
- 173**                    *f)* assist in the resolution of cases of harmful interference, at the request of one or more of the interested administrations, and where necessary, make investigations and prepare, for consideration by the Board, a report including draft recommendations to the administrations concerned;
- 174**                    *g)* act as executive secretary to the Board;
- 175**  
**PP-02**                    3) coordinate the work of the radiocommunication study groups and other groups and be responsible for the organization of that work;
- 175A**  
**PP-98**                    3 *bis*) provide the necessary support for the radiocommunication advisory group, and report each year to Member States and Sector Members and to the Council on the results of the work of the advisory group.

**175B**  
**PP-98**  
**PP-02**                    3 *ter*) take practical measures to facilitate the participation of developing countries in the radiocommunication study groups and other groups.

**176**                    4) also undertake the following:

**177**  
**PP-98**                    a) carry out studies to furnish advice with a view to the operation of the maximum practicable number of radio channels in those portions of the spectrum where harmful interference may occur, and with a view to the equitable, effective and economical use of the geostationary-satellite and other satellite orbits, taking into account the needs of Member States requiring assistance, the specific needs of developing countries, as well as the special geographical situation of particular countries;

**178**  
**PP-98**  
**PP-06**                    b) exchange with Member States and Sector Members data in machine-readable and other forms, prepare and keep up to date any documents and databases of the Radiocommunication Sector, and arrange with the Secretary-General, as appropriate, for their publication in the languages of the Union in accordance with No. 172 of the Constitution;

**179**                    c) maintain such essential records as may be required;

**180**  
**PP-98**  
**PP-02**                    d) submit to the world radiocommunication conference a report on the activities of the Radiocommunication Sector since the last conference; if a world radiocommunication conference is not planned, a report on the activities of the Sector covering the period since the last conference shall be submitted to the Council and, for information, to Member States and Sector Members;

- 181** e) prepare a cost-based budget estimate for the requirements of the Radiocommunication Sector and transmit it to the Secretary-General for consideration by the Coordination Committee and inclusion in the Union's budget.
- 181A**  
**PP-98**  
**PP-02** f) prepare annually a rolling four-year operational plan that covers the subsequent year and the following three-year period, including financial implications of activities to be undertaken by the Bureau in support of the Sector as a whole; this four-year operational plan shall be reviewed by the radiocommunication advisory group in accordance with Article 11A of this Convention, and shall be reviewed and approved annually by the Council;
- 182** 3 The Director shall choose the technical and administrative personnel of the Bureau within the framework of the budget as approved by the Council. The appointment of the technical and administrative personnel is made by the Secretary-General in agreement with the Director. The final decision for appointment or dismissal rests with the Secretary-General.
- 183** 4 The Director shall provide technical support, as necessary, to the Telecommunication Development Sector within the framework of the Constitution and this Convention.

## SECTION 6

**Telecommunication Standardization Sector**

PP-98

## ARTICLE 13

**World Telecommunication  
Standardization Assembly****184**  
PP-98

1 In accordance with No. 104 of the Constitution, a world telecommunication standardization assembly shall be convened to consider specific matters related to telecommunication standardization.

**184A**  
PP-02

*1 bis*) The world telecommunication standardization assembly is authorized to adopt the working methods and procedures for the management of the Sector's activities in accordance with No. 145A of the Constitution.

**185**  
PP-98

2 The questions to be studied by a world telecommunication standardization assembly, on which recommendations shall be issued, shall be those adopted pursuant to its own procedures or referred to it by the Plenipotentiary Conference, any other conference, or the Council.

**186**  
PP-98

3 In accordance with No. 104 of the Constitution, the assembly shall:

**187**  
PP-98  
PP-02

*a*) consider the reports of study groups prepared in accordance with No. 194 of this Convention and approve, modify or reject draft recommendations contained in those reports, and consider the reports of the telecommunication standardization advisory group in accordance with Nos. 197H and 197I of this Convention;



- 188**                    *b)* bearing in mind the need to keep the demands on the resources of the Union to a minimum, approve the programme of work arising from the review of existing questions and new questions and determine the priority, urgency, estimated financial implications and time-scale for the completion of their study;
- 189**                    *c)* decide, in the light of the approved programme of work derived from No. 188 above, on the need to maintain, terminate or establish study groups and allocate to each of them the questions to be studied;
- 190**  
PP-98                    *d)* group, as far as practicable, questions of interest to the developing countries to facilitate their participation in these studies;
- 191**                    *e)* consider and approve the report of the Director on the activities of the Sector since the last conference.
- 191A**  
PP-02                    *f)* decide on the need to maintain, terminate or establish other groups and appoint their chairmen and vice-chairmen;
- 191B**  
PP-02                    *g)* establish the terms of reference for the groups referred to in No. 191A above; such groups shall not adopt questions or recommendations.
- 191C**  
PP-98                    4    A world telecommunication standardization assembly may assign specific matters within its competence to the telecommunication standardization advisory group indicating the action required on those matters.
- 191D**  
PP-98  
PP-02                    5    A world telecommunication standardization assembly shall be presided over by a chairman designated by the government of the country in which the meeting is held or, in the case of a meeting held at the seat of the Union, by a chairman elected by the assembly itself. The chairman shall be assisted by vice-chairmen elected by the assembly.

## ARTICLE 14

**Telecommunication Standardization  
Study Groups****192**  
**PP-98**

1) Telecommunication standardization study groups shall study questions adopted in accordance with a procedure established by the world telecommunication standardization assembly and prepare draft recommendations to be adopted in accordance with the procedure set forth in Nos. 246A to 247 of this Convention.

**193**

2) The study groups shall, subject to No. 195 below, study technical, operating and tariff questions and prepare recommendations on them with a view to standardizing telecommunications on a worldwide basis, including recommendations on interconnection of radio systems in public telecommunication networks and on the performance required for these interconnections. Technical or operating questions specifically related to radiocommunication as enumerated in Nos. 151 to 154 of this Convention shall be within the purview of the Radiocommunication Sector.

**194**  
**PP-98**

3) Each study group shall prepare for the world telecommunication standardization assembly a report indicating the progress of work, the recommendations adopted in accordance with the consultation procedure contained in No. 192 above, and any draft new or revised recommendations for consideration by the assembly.

- 195** 2 Taking into account No. 105 of the Constitution, the tasks enumerated in No. 193 above and those enumerated in Nos. 151 to 154 of this Convention in relation to the Radiocommunication Sector shall be kept under continuing review by the Telecommunication Standardization Sector and the Radiocommunication Sector with a view to reaching common agreement on changes in the distribution of matters under study. The two Sectors shall cooperate closely and adopt procedures to conduct such a review and reach agreements in a timely and effective manner. If agreement is not reached, the matter may be submitted through the Council to the Plenipotentiary Conference for decision.
- 196** 3 In the performance of their studies, the telecommunication standardization study groups shall pay due attention to the study of questions and to the formulation of recommendations directly connected with the establishment, development and improvement of telecommunications in developing countries at both the regional and international levels. They shall conduct their work giving due consideration to the work of national, regional and other international standardization organizations, and cooperate with them, keeping in mind the need for the Union to maintain its pre-eminent position in the field of worldwide standardization for telecommunications.
- 197**  
**PP-98** 4 For the purpose of facilitating the review of activities in the Telecommunication Standardization Sector, measures should be taken to foster cooperation and coordination with other organizations concerned with telecommunication standardization and with the Radiocommunication Sector and the Telecommunication Development Sector. A world telecommunication standardization assembly shall determine the specific duties, conditions of participation and rules of procedure for these measures.

PP-98

## ARTICLE 14A

**Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group****197A**  
PP-98  
PP-02

1 The telecommunication standardization advisory group shall be open to representatives of administrations of Member States and representatives of Sector Members and to chairmen of the study groups and other groups.

**197B**  
PP-98

2 The telecommunication standardization advisory group shall:

**197C**  
PP-98

1) review priorities, programmes, operations, financial matters and strategies for activities in the Telecommunication Standardization Sector;

**197CA**  
PP-02

1 *bis*) review the implementation of the operational plan of the preceding period in order to identify areas in which the Bureau has not achieved or was not able to achieve the objectives laid down in that plan, and advise the Director on the necessary corrective measures;

**197D**  
PP-98

2) review progress in the implementation of the programme of work established under No.188 of this Convention;

**197E**  
PP-98

3) provide guidelines for the work of study groups;

**197F**  
PP-98

4) recommend measures, *inter alia*, to foster cooperation and coordination with other relevant bodies, with the Radiocommunication Sector, the Telecommunication Development Sector and the General Secretariat;

**197G**  
PP-98

5) adopt its own working procedures compatible with those adopted by the world telecommunication standardization assembly;

**197H**  
**PP-98**                    6) prepare a report for the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau indicating action in respect of the above items.

**197I**  
**PP-98**                    7) prepare a report for the world telecommunication standardization assembly on the matters assigned to it in accordance with No. 191A and transmit it to the Director for submission to the assembly.

## ARTICLE 15

### **Telecommunication Standardization Bureau**

**198**                    1    The Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau shall organize and coordinate the work of the Telecommunication Standardization Sector.

**199**                    2    The Director shall, in particular:

**200**  
**PP-98**  
**PP-02**                    a) update annually the work programme approved by the world telecommunication standardization assembly, in consultation with the chairmen of the telecommunication standardization study groups and other groups;

**201**  
**PP-98**  
**PP-02**                    b) participate, as of right, but in an advisory capacity, in the deliberations of world telecommunication standardization assemblies and of the telecommunication standardization study groups and other groups. The Director shall make all necessary preparations for assemblies and meetings of the Telecommunication Standardization Sector in consultation with the General Secretariat in accordance with No. 94 of this Convention and, as appropriate, with the other Sectors of the Union, and with due regard for the directives of the Council concerning these preparations;

**202**  
PP-98

*c)* process information received from administrations in application of the relevant provisions of the International Telecommunication Regulations or decisions of the world telecommunication standardization assembly and prepare it, where appropriate, in a suitable form for publication;

**203**  
PP-98  
PP-06

*d)* exchange with Member States and Sector Members data in machine-readable and other forms, prepare and, as necessary, keep up to date any documents and databases of the Telecommunication Standardization Sector, and arrange with the Secretary-General, as appropriate, for their publication in the languages of the Union in accordance with No. 172 of the Constitution;

**204**  
PP-98

*e)* submit to the world telecommunication standardization assembly a report on the activities of the Sector since the last assembly; the Director shall also submit to the Council and to the Member States and Sector Members such a report covering the two-year period since the last assembly, unless a second assembly is convened;

**205**

*f)* prepare a cost-based budget estimate for the requirements of the Telecommunication Standardization Sector and transmit it to the Secretary-General for consideration by the Coordination Committee and inclusion in the Union's budget.

- 205A**  
**PP-98**  
**PP-02**
- g)* prepare annually a rolling four-year operational plan that covers the subsequent year and the following three-year period, including financial implications of activities to be undertaken by the Bureau in support of the Sector as a whole; this four-year operational plan shall be reviewed by the telecommunication standardization advisory group in accordance with Article 14A of this Convention, and shall be reviewed and approved annually by the Council;
- 205B**  
**PP-98**
- h)* provide the necessary support for the telecommunication standardization advisory group, and report each year to Member States and Sector Members and to the Council on the results of its work;
- 205C**  
**PP-98**
- i)* provide assistance to developing countries in the preparatory work for world standardization assemblies, particularly with regard to matters of a priority nature for those countries.
- 206**
- 3 The Director shall choose the technical and administrative personnel of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau within the framework of the budget as approved by the Council. The appointment of the technical and administrative personnel is made by the Secretary-General in agreement with the Director. The final decision on appointment or dismissal rests with the Secretary-General.
- 207**
- 4 The Director shall provide technical support, as necessary, to the Telecommunication Development Sector within the framework of the Constitution and this Convention.

## SECTION 7

**Telecommunication Development Sector**

## ARTICLE 16

**Telecommunication Development Conferences**

- 207A**  
PP-02            1    The world telecommunication development conference is authorized to adopt the working methods and procedures for the management of the Sector's activities in accordance with No. 145A of the Constitution.
- 208**            1 *bis*) In accordance with No. 118 of the Constitution, the duties of the telecommunication development conferences shall be as follows:
- 209**  
PP-06            a)   world telecommunication development conferences shall establish work programmes and guidelines for defining telecommunication development questions and priorities and shall provide direction and guidance for the work programme of the Telecommunication Development Sector. They shall decide, in the light of the above-mentioned programmes of work, on the need to maintain, terminate or establish study groups and allocate to each of them the questions to be studied;
- 209A**  
PP-02            a *bis*) decide on the need to maintain, terminate or establish other groups and appoint their chairmen and vice-chairmen;
- 209B**  
PP-02            a *ter*) establish the terms of reference for the groups referred to in No. 209A above; such groups shall not adopt questions or recommendations.



- 210**  
PP-02
- b) regional telecommunication development conferences shall consider questions and priorities relating to telecommunication development, taking into account the needs and characteristics of the region concerned, and may also submit recommendations to world telecommunication development conferences;
- 211**
- c) the telecommunication development conferences should fix the objectives and strategies for the balanced worldwide and regional development of telecommunications, giving particular consideration to the expansion and modernization of the networks and services of the developing countries as well as the mobilization of the resources required for this purpose. They shall serve as a forum for the study of policy, organizational, operational, regulatory, technical and financial questions and related aspects, including the identification and implementation of new sources of funding;
- 212**
- d) world and regional telecommunication development conferences, within their respective sphere of competence, shall consider reports submitted to them and evaluate the activities of the Sector; they may also consider telecommunication development aspects related to the activities of the other Sectors of the Union.
- 213**  
PP-98
- 2 The draft agenda of telecommunication development conferences shall be prepared by the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau and be submitted by the Secretary-General to the Council for approval with the concurrence of a majority of the Member States in the case of a world conference, or of a majority of the Member States belonging to the region concerned in the case of a regional conference, subject to the provisions of No. 47 of this Convention.

**213A**  
PP-98  
PP-02

3 A telecommunication development conference may assign specific matters within its competence to the telecommunication development advisory group, indicating the recommended action on those matters.

## ARTICLE 17

### **Telecommunication Development Study Groups**

**214**

1 Telecommunication development study groups shall deal with specific telecommunication questions of general interest to developing countries, including the matters enumerated in No. 211 above. Such study groups shall be limited in number and created for a limited period of time, subject to the availability of resources, shall have specific terms of reference on questions and matters of priority to developing countries and shall be task-oriented.

**215**

2 Taking into account No. 119 of the Constitution, the Radiocommunication, Telecommunication Standardization and Telecommunication Development Sectors shall keep the matters under study under continuing review with a view to reaching agreement on the distribution of work, avoiding duplication of effort and improving coordination. The Sectors shall adopt procedures to conduct such reviews and reach such agreement in a timely and effective manner.

**215A**  
PP-98

3 Each telecommunication development study group shall prepare for the world telecommunication development conference a report indicating the progress of work and any draft new or revised recommendations for consideration by the conference.

**215B**  
PP-98

4 Telecommunication development study groups shall study questions and prepare draft recommendations to be adopted in accordance with the procedures set out in Nos. 246A to 247 of this Convention.

PP-98

## ARTICLE 17A

### Telecommunication Development Advisory Group

**215C**  
PP-98  
PP-02  
PP-06

1 The telecommunication development advisory group shall be open to representatives of administrations of Member States and representatives of Sector Members and to chairmen and vice-chairmen of study groups and other groups, and will act through the Director.

**215D**  
PP-98

2 The telecommunication development advisory group shall:

**215E**  
PP-98

1) review priorities, programmes, operations, financial matters and strategies for activities in the Telecommunication Development Sector;

**215EA**  
PP-02

1 *bis*) review the implementation of the operational plan of the preceding period in order to identify areas in which the Bureau has not achieved or was not able to achieve the objectives laid down in that plan, and advise the Director on the necessary corrective measures.

- 215F**  
PP-98                    2) review progress in the implementation of the programme of work established under No. 209 of this Convention;
- 215G**  
PP-98                    3) provide guidelines for the work of study groups;
- 215H**  
PP-98                    4) recommend measures, *inter alia*, to foster cooperation and coordination with the Radiocommunication Sector, the Telecommunication Standardization Sector and the General Secretariat, as well as with other relevant development and financial institutions.
- 215I**  
PP-98                    5) adopt its own working procedures compatible with those adopted by the world telecommunication development conference.
- 215J**  
PP-98                    6) prepare a report for the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau indicating action in respect of the above items.
- 215JA**  
PP-02                    6 *bis*) prepare a report for the world telecommunication development conference on the matters assigned to it in accordance with No. 213A of this Convention and transmit it to the Director for submission to the conference.
- 215K**  
PP-98                    3 Representatives of bilateral cooperation and development aid agencies and multilateral development institutions may be invited by the Director to participate in the meetings of the advisory group.

## ARTICLE 18

PP-98

### **Telecommunication Development Bureau**

- 216**                    1 The Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau shall organize and coordinate the work of the Telecommunication Development Sector.

- 217**                    2    The Director shall, in particular:
- 218**  
**PP-02**                    a)   participate as of right, but in an advisory capacity, in the deliberations of the telecommunication development conferences and of the telecommunication development study groups and other groups. The Director shall make all necessary preparations for conferences and meetings of the Telecommunication Development Sector in consultation with the General Secretariat in accordance with No. 94 of this Convention and, as appropriate, with the other Sectors of the Union, and with due regard for the directives of the Council in carrying out these preparations;
- 219**                    b)   process information received from administrations in application of the relevant resolutions and decisions of the Plenipotentiary Conference and telecommunication development conferences and prepare it, where appropriate, in a suitable form for publication;
- 220**  
**PP-06**                    c)   exchange with members data in machine-readable and other forms, prepare and, as necessary, keep up to date any documents and databases of the Telecommunication Development Sector, and arrange with the Secretary-General, as appropriate, for their publication in the languages of the Union in accordance with No. 172 of the Constitution;
- 221**                    d)   assemble and prepare for publication, in cooperation with the General Secretariat and the other Sectors of the Union, both technical and administrative information that might be especially useful to developing countries in order to help them to improve their telecommunication networks. Their attention shall also be drawn to the possibilities offered by the international programmes under the auspices of the United Nations;

- 222**  
PP-98
- e)* submit to the world telecommunication development conference a report on the activities of the Sector since the last conference; the Director shall also submit to the Council and to the Member States and Sector Members such a report covering the two-year period since the last conference;
- 223**  
PP-98
- f)* prepare a cost-based budget estimate for the requirements of the Telecommunication Development Sector and transmit it to the Secretary-General for consideration by the Coordination Committee and inclusion in the Union's budget;
- 223A**  
PP-98  
PP-02
- g)* prepare annually a rolling four-year operational plan that covers the subsequent year and the following three-year period, including financial implications of activities to be undertaken by the Bureau in support of the Sector as a whole; this four-year operational plan shall be reviewed by the telecommunication development advisory group in accordance with Article 17A of this Convention, and shall be reviewed and approved annually by the Council;
- 223B**  
PP-98
- h)* provide the necessary support for the telecommunication development advisory group, and report each year to the Member States and Sector Members and to the Council on the results of its work.
- 224**  
PP-98
- 3 The Director shall work collegially with the other elected officials in order to ensure that the Union's catalytic role in stimulating telecommunication development is strengthened and shall make the necessary arrangements with the Director of the Bureau concerned for initiating suitable action, including the convening of information meetings on the activities of the Sector concerned.

**225**  
PP-98

4 At the request of the Member States concerned, the Director, with the assistance of the Directors of the other Bureaux and, where appropriate, the Secretary-General, shall study and offer advice concerning their national telecommunication problems; where a comparison of technical alternatives is involved, economic factors may be taken into consideration.

**226**

5 The Director shall choose the technical and administrative personnel of the Telecommunication Development Bureau within the framework of the budget as approved by the Council. The appointment of the personnel is made by the Secretary-General in agreement with the Director. The final decision for appointment or dismissal rests with the Secretary-General.

**227**  
PP-98

(SUP)

## SECTION 8

### Provisions Common to the Three Sectors

## ARTICLE 19

### Participation of Entities and Organizations Other than Administrations in the Union's Activities

**228**

1 The Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux shall encourage the enhanced participation in the activities of the Union of the following entities and organizations:

**229**  
PP-98

a) recognized operating agencies, scientific or industrial organizations and financial or development institutions which are approved by the Member State concerned;

- 230**  
PP-98                    *b)* other entities dealing with telecommunication matters which are approved by the Member State concerned;
- 231**                    *c)* regional and other international telecommunication, standardization, financial or development organizations.
- 232**                    2 The Directors of the Bureaux shall maintain close working relations with those entities and organizations which are authorized to participate in the activities of one or more of the Sectors of the Union.
- 233**  
PP-98                    3 Any request from an entity listed in No. 229 above to participate in the work of a Sector, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Constitution and this Convention, approved by the Member State concerned shall be forwarded by the latter to the Secretary-General.
- 234**  
PP-98                    4 Any request from an entity referred to in No. 230 above submitted by the Member State concerned shall be handled in conformity with a procedure established by the Council. Such a request shall be reviewed by the Council with respect to its conformity with the above procedure.
- 234A**  
PP-98                    4 *bis*) Alternatively, a request from an entity listed in No. 229 or 230 above to become a Sector Member may be sent direct to the Secretary-General. Those Member States authorizing such entities to send a request directly to the Secretary-General shall inform the latter accordingly. Entities whose Member State has not provided such notice to the Secretary-General shall not have the option of direct application. The Secretary-General shall regularly update and publish a list of those Member States that have authorized entities under their jurisdiction or sovereignty to apply directly.



**234B**  
PP-98

4 *ter*) Upon receipt, directly from an entity, of a request under No. 234A above, the Secretary-General shall, on the basis of criteria defined by the Council, ensure that the function and purposes of the candidate are in conformity with the purposes of the Union. The Secretary-General shall then, without delay, inform the applicant's Member State inviting approval of the application. If the Secretary-General receives no objection from the Member State within four months, a reminder telegram shall be sent. If the Secretary-General receives no objection within four months after the date of dispatch of the reminder telegram, the application shall be regarded as approved. If an objection is received from the Member State by the Secretary-General, the applicant shall be invited by the Secretary-General to contact the Member State concerned.

**234C**  
PP-98

4 *quater*) When authorizing direct application, a Member State may notify the Secretary-General that it assigns authority to the Secretary-General to approve any application by an entity under its jurisdiction or sovereignty.

**235**  
PP-06

5 Any request from any entity or organization listed in No. 231 above (other than those referred to in Nos. 269B and 269C of this Convention) to participate in the work of a Sector shall be sent to the Secretary-General and acted upon in accordance with procedures established by the Council.

**236**  
PP-06

6 Any request from an organization referred to in Nos. 269B to 269D of this Convention to participate in the work of a Sector shall be sent to the Secretary-General, and the organization concerned shall be included in the lists referred to in No. 237 below.

**237**  
PP-98  
PP-06

7 The Secretary-General shall compile and maintain lists of all entities and organizations referred to in Nos. 229 to 231 and Nos. 269B to 269D of this Convention that are authorized to participate in the work of each Sector and shall, at appropriate intervals, publish and distribute these lists to all Member States and Sector Members concerned and to the Director of the Bureau concerned. That Director shall advise such entities and organizations of the action taken on their requests, and shall inform the relevant Member States.

**238**  
PP-98

8 The conditions of participation in the Sectors by entities and organizations contained in the lists referred to in No. 237 above are specified in this Article, in Article 33 and in other relevant provisions of this Convention. The provisions of Nos. 25 to 28 of the Constitution do not apply to them.

**239**  
PP-94  
PP-98

9 A Sector Member may act on behalf of the Member State which has approved it, provided that the Member State informs the Director of the Bureau concerned that it is authorized to do so.

**240**  
PP-98  
PP-06

10 Any Sector Member has the right to denounce such participation by notifying the Secretary-General. Such participation may also be denounced, where appropriate, by the Member State concerned or, in case of the Sector Member approved pursuant to No. 234C above, in accordance with criteria and procedures determined by the Council. Such denunciation shall take effect at the end of six months from the date when notification is received by the Secretary-General.

- 241** 11 The Secretary-General shall delete from the list of entities and organizations any entity or organization that is no longer authorized to participate in the work of a Sector, in accordance with criteria and procedures determined by the Council.
- 241A  
PP-98** 12 The assembly or conference of a Sector may decide to admit entities or organizations to participate as Associates in the work of a given study group or subgroups thereof following the principles set out below:
- 241B  
PP-98** 1) An entity or organization referred to in Nos. 229 to 231 above may apply to participate in the work of a given study group as an Associate.
- 241C  
PP-98** 2) In cases where a Sector has decided to admit Associates, the Secretary-General shall apply to the applicants the relevant provisions of this Article, taking account of the size of the entity or organization and any other relevant criteria.
- 241D  
PP-98** 3) Associates admitted to participate in a given study group are not entered in the list referred to in No. 237 above.
- 241E  
PP-98** 4) The conditions governing participation in the work of a study group are specified in Nos. 248B and 483A of this Convention.

## ARTICLE 20

**Conduct of Business of Study Groups**

- 242**  
PP-98
- 1 The radiocommunication assembly, the world telecommunication standardization assembly and the world telecommunication development conference shall appoint the chairman and one vice-chairman or more for each study group. In appointing chairmen and vice-chairmen, particular consideration shall be given to the requirements of competence and equitable geographical distribution, and to the need to promote more efficient participation by the developing countries.
- 243**  
PP-98
- 2 If the workload of any study group requires, the assembly or conference shall appoint such additional vice-chairmen as it deems necessary.
- 244**
- 3 If, in the interval between two assemblies or conferences of the Sector concerned, a study group Chairman is unable to carry out his duties and only one Vice-Chairman has been appointed, then that Vice-Chairman shall take the Chairman's place. In the case of a study group for which more than one Vice-Chairman has been appointed, the study group at its next meeting shall elect a new Chairman from among those Vice-Chairmen and, if necessary, a new Vice-Chairman from among the members of the study group. It shall likewise elect a new Vice-Chairman if one of the Vice-Chairmen is unable to carry out his duties during that period.
- 245**
- 4 Study groups shall conduct their work as far as possible by correspondence, using modern means of communication.

- 246** 5 The Director of the Bureau of each Sector, on the basis of the decisions of the competent conference or assembly, after consultation with the Secretary-General and coordination as required by the Constitution and Convention, shall draw up the general plan of study group meetings.
- 246A**  
**PP-98** 5 *bis*) 1) Member States and Sector Members shall adopt questions to be studied in accordance with procedures established by the relevant conference or assembly, as appropriate, including the indication whether or not a resulting recommendation shall be the subject of a formal consultation of Member States.
- 246B**  
**PP-98** 2) Recommendations resulting from the study of the above questions are adopted by a study group in accordance with procedures established by the relevant conference or assembly, as appropriate. Those recommendations which do not require formal consultation of Member States for their approval shall be considered as approved.
- 246C**  
**PP-98** 3) A recommendation requiring formal consultation of Member States shall be either treated in accordance with No. 247 below or transmitted to the relevant conference or assembly, as appropriate.
- 246D**  
**PP-98** 4) Nos. 246A and 246B above shall not be used for questions and recommendations having policy or regulatory implications such as:
- 246E**  
**PP-98** a) questions and recommendations approved by the Radiocommunication Sector relevant to the work of radiocommunication conferences, and other categories of questions and recommendations that may be decided by the radiocommunication assembly;
- 246F**  
**PP-98** b) questions and recommendations approved by the Telecommunication Standardization Sector which relate to tariff and accounting issues, and relevant numbering and addressing plans;

- 246G**  
**PP-98** c) questions and recommendations approved by the Telecommunication Development Sector which relate to regulatory, policy and financial issues;
- 246H**  
**PP-98** d) questions and recommendations where there is any doubt about their scope.
- 247**  
**PP-98** 6 Study groups may initiate action for obtaining approval from Member States for recommendations completed between two assemblies or conferences. The procedures to be applied for obtaining such approval shall be those approved by the competent assembly or conference, as appropriate.
- 247A**  
**PP-98** 6 *bis*) Recommendations approved in application of Nos. 246B or 247 above shall have the same status as ones approved by the conference or assembly itself.
- 248** 7 Where necessary, joint working parties may be established for the study of questions requiring the participation of experts from several study groups.
- 248A**  
**PP-98** 7 *bis*) Following a procedure developed by the Sector concerned, the Director of a Bureau may, in consultation with the chairman of the study group concerned, invite an organization which does not participate in the Sector to send representatives to take part in the study of a specific matter in the study group concerned or its subordinate groups.
- 248B**  
**PP-98** 7 *ter*) An Associate, as referred to in No. 241A of this Convention, will be permitted to participate in the work of the selected study group without taking part in any decision-making or liaison activity of that study group.

- 249** 8 The Director of the relevant Bureau shall send the final reports of the study groups to the administrations, organizations and entities participating in the Sector. Such reports shall include a list of the recommendations approved in conformity with No. 247 above. These reports shall be sent as soon as possible and, in any event, in time for them to be received at least one month before the date of the next session of the conference concerned.

## ARTICLE 21

### **Recommendations from One Conference to Another**

- 250** 1 Any conference may submit to another conference of the Union recommendations within its field of competence.
- 251**  
**PP-06** 2 Such recommendations shall be sent to the Secretary-General in good time for assembly, coordination and communication, as laid down in No. 44 of the General Rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union.

## ARTICLE 22

**Relations Between Sectors and With  
International Organizations**

- 252** 1 The Directors of the Bureaux may agree, after appropriate consultation and coordination as required by the Constitution, the Convention and the decisions of the competent conferences or assemblies, to organize joint meetings of study groups of two or three Sectors, in order to study and prepare draft recommendations on questions of common interest. Such draft recommendations shall be submitted to the competent conferences or assemblies of the Sectors concerned.
- 253** 2 Conferences or meetings of a Sector may be attended in an advisory capacity by the Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-General, the Directors of the Bureaux of the other Sectors, or their representatives, and members of the Radio Regulations Board. If necessary, they may invite, in an advisory capacity, representatives of the General Secretariat or of any other Sector which has not considered it necessary to be represented.
- 254** 3 When a Sector is invited to participate in a meeting of an international organization, its Director is authorized to make arrangements for its representation in an advisory capacity, taking into account the provisions of No. 107 of this Convention.



## CHAPTER II

## Specific Provisions Regarding Conferences and Assemblies

PP-98  
PP-02

## ARTICLE 23

PP-02

### Admission to Plenipotentiary Conferences

**255 to 266**  
PP-02

(SUP)

**267**  
PP-02

1 The following shall be admitted to plenipotentiary conferences:

**268**

*a)* delegations;

**268A**  
PP-02

*b)* the elected officials, in an advisory capacity;

**268B**  
PP-02

*c)* the Radio Regulations Board, in accordance with No. 141A of this Convention, in an advisory capacity;

**269**  
PP-94  
PP-02  
PP-06

*d)* observers of the following organizations, agencies and entities, to participate in an advisory capacity:

**269A**  
PP-02

*i)* the United Nations;

**269B**  
PP-02

*ii)* regional telecommunication organizations mentioned in Article 43 of the Constitution;

**269C**  
PP-02

*iii)* intergovernmental organizations operating satellite systems;

**269D**  
PP-02

*iv)* the specialized agencies of the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency;

**269E** e) observers from the Sector Members referred to in  
**PP-02** Nos. 229 and 231 of this Convention.  
**PP-06**

**269F** 2 The General Secretariat and the three Bureaux of the  
**PP-02** Union shall be represented at the conference in an advisory  
 capacity.

## ARTICLE 24

**PP-02**

### **Admission to Radiocommunication Conferences**

**270 to 275** (SUP)  
**PP-02**

**276** 1 The following shall be admitted to radiocommunication  
**PP-02** conferences:

**277** a) delegations;

**278** b) observers of organizations and agencies referred to in  
**PP-02** Nos. 269A to 269D of this Convention, to participate in  
**PP-06** an advisory capacity;

**279** c) observers of other international organizations invited in  
**PP-02** accordance with the relevant provisions of Chapter I of  
**PP-06** the General Rules of conferences, assemblies and  
 meetings of the Union, to participate in an advisory  
 capacity;

**280** d) observers from Sector Members of the  
**PP-98** Radiocommunication Sector;  
**PP-06**

**281** (SUP)  
**PP-02**

- 282**  
PP-98  
PP-02
- e) observers of Member States participating in a non-voting capacity in a regional radiocommunication conference of a region other than that to which the said Member States belong;
- 282A**  
PP-02
- f) in an advisory capacity, the elected officials, when the conference is discussing matters coming within their competence, and the members of the Radio Regulations Board.

## ARTICLE 25

PP-98  
PP-02

**Admission to Radiocommunication Assemblies,  
World Telecommunication Standardization  
Assemblies and Telecommunication  
Development Conferences**

**283 to 294**  
PP-02

(SUP)

**295**  
PP-02

1 The following shall be admitted to the assembly or conference:

**296**

a) delegations;

**296 bis**  
PP-06

b) representatives of Sector Members concerned;

**297**  
PP-02  
PP-06

c) observers, to participate in an advisory capacity, from:

**297 bis**  
PP-06

i) the organizations and agencies referred to in Nos. 269A to 269D of this Convention

**298**  
PP-02

(SUP)

**298A to B**  
PP-06

(SUP)

**298C**                            *iii)* any other regional organization or other  
**PP-02**                            international organization dealing with matters of  
**PP-06**                            interest to the assembly or conference;

**298D to F**                    (SUP)  
**PP-06**

**298G**                            2    The elected officials, the General Secretariat and the  
**PP-02**                            Bureaux of the Union, as appropriate, shall be represented  
at the assembly or conference in an advisory capacity. Two  
members of the Radio Regulations Board, designated by the  
Board, shall participate in radiocommunication assemblies in  
an advisory capacity.

**PP-02**                            (SUP)                            ARTICLES 26 to 30

## ARTICLE 31

### Credentials for Conferences

**324**                            1    The delegation sent by a Member State to a  
**PP-98**                            plenipotentiary conference, a radiocommunication  
conference or a world conference on international  
telecommunications shall be duly accredited in accordance  
with Nos. 325 to 331 below.

**325**                            2    1) Accreditation of delegations to Plenipotentiary  
Conferences shall be by means of instruments signed by the  
Head of State, by the Head of Government or by the  
Minister for Foreign Affairs.

**326**                            2) Accreditation of delegations to the other  
conferences referred to in No. 324 above shall be by means  
of instruments signed by the Head of State, by the Head of  
Government, by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or by the  
Minister responsible for questions dealt with during the  
conference.

- 327**  
PP-98                    3) Subject to confirmation prior to the signature of the Final Acts, by one of the authorities mentioned in Nos. 325 or 326 above, a delegation may be provisionally accredited by the head of the diplomatic mission of the Member State concerned to the host government. In the case of a conference held in the Swiss Confederation, a delegation may also be provisionally accredited by the head of the permanent delegation of the Member State concerned to the United Nations Office at Geneva.
- 328**                    3    Credentials shall be accepted if they are signed by one of the competent authorities mentioned in Nos. 325 to 327 above, and fulfil one of the following criteria:
- 329**                    –    they confer full powers on the delegation;
- 330**                    –    they authorize the delegation to represent its government, without restrictions;
- 331**                    –    they give the delegation, or certain members thereof, the right to sign the Final Acts.
- 332**  
PP-98                    4    1) A delegation whose credentials are found to be in order by the Plenary Meeting shall be entitled to exercise the right to vote of the Member State concerned, subject to the provisions of Nos. 169 and 210 of the Constitution, and to sign the final acts.
- 333**                    2) A delegation whose credentials are found not to be in order by the Plenary Meeting shall not be entitled to exercise the right to vote or to sign the Final Acts until the situation has been rectified.

**334**  
PP-98  
PP-02

5 Credentials shall be deposited with the secretariat of the conference as early as possible; to that end, Member States should send their credentials, prior to the opening date of the conference, to the Secretary-General who shall transmit them to the secretariat of the conference as soon as the latter has been established. The committee referred to in No. 68 of the General Rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union shall be entrusted with the verification thereof and shall report on its conclusions to the Plenary Meeting within the time specified by the latter. Pending the decision of the Plenary Meeting thereon, any delegation shall be entitled to participate in the conference and to exercise the right to vote of the Member State concerned.

**335**  
PP-98

6 As a general rule, Member States should endeavour to send their own delegations to conferences of the Union. However, if a Member State is unable, for exceptional reasons, to send its own delegation, it may give the delegation of another Member State powers to vote and sign on its behalf. Such powers must be conveyed by means of an instrument signed by one of the authorities mentioned in Nos. 325 or 326 above.

**336**

7 A delegation with the right to vote may give to another delegation with the right to vote a mandate to exercise its vote at one or more meetings at which it is unable to be present. In such a case it shall, in good time, notify the Chairman of the conference in writing.

**337**

8 A delegation may not exercise more than one proxy vote.

- 338** 9 Credentials and transfers of powers sent by telegram shall not be accepted. Nevertheless, replies sent by telegram to requests by the Chairman or the secretariat of the conference for clarification of credentials shall be accepted.
- 339** 10 A Member State or an authorized entity or organization  
**PP-98** intending to send a delegation or representatives to a telecommunication standardization assembly, a telecommunication development conference or a radiocommunication assembly shall so inform the Director of the Bureau of the Sector concerned, indicating the names and functions of the members of the delegation or of the representatives.

PP-98

(SUP)

## CHAPTER III

## ARTICLE 32

PP-02

**General Rules of Conferences, Assemblies  
and Meetings of the Union**

**339A**

PP-98

PP-02

1 The General Rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union are adopted by the Plenipotentiary Conference. The provisions governing the procedure for amending those Rules and the entry into force of amendments are contained in the Rules themselves.

**340**

PP-98

PP-02

2 The General Rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union shall apply without prejudice to the amendment provisions contained in Article 55 of the Constitution and in Article 42 of this Convention.

## ARTICLE 32A

PP-98

**Right to Vote**

**340A**

PP-98

1 At all meetings of a conference, assembly or other meeting, the delegation of a Member State duly accredited by that Member State to take part in the work of the conference, assembly or other meeting shall be entitled to one vote in accordance with Article 3 of the Constitution.

**340B**

PP-98

2 The delegation of a Member State shall exercise the right to vote under the conditions described in Article 31 of this Convention.



**340C**  
**PP-98**

3 When a Member State is not represented by an administration at a radiocommunication assembly, a world telecommunication standardization assembly or a telecommunication development conference, the representatives of the recognized operating agencies of the Member State concerned shall, as a whole, and regardless of their number, be entitled to a single vote, subject to the provisions of No. 239 of this Convention. The provisions of Nos. 335 to 338 of this Convention concerning the transfer of powers shall apply to the above conferences and assemblies.

## ARTICLE 32B

**PP-98**

### **Reservations**

**340D**  
**PP-98**

1 As a general rule, any delegation whose views are not shared by the remaining delegations shall endeavour, as far as possible, to conform to the opinion of the majority.

**340E**  
**PP-98**

2 Any Member State that, during a plenipotentiary conference, reserves its right to make reservations as specified in its declaration when signing the final acts, may make reservations regarding an amendment to the Constitution or to this Convention until such time as its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval of or accession to the amendment has been deposited with the Secretary-General.

**340F**  
PP-98

3 If any decision appears to a delegation to be such as to prevent its government from consenting to be bound by the revision of the Administrative Regulations, this delegation may make reservations, final or provisional, regarding that decision, at the end of the conference adopting that revision; any such reservations may be made by a delegation on behalf of a Member State which is not participating in the competent conference and which has given that delegation proxy powers to sign the final acts in accordance with the provisions of Article 31 of this Convention.

**340G**  
PP-98

4 A reservation made following a conference shall only be valid if the Member State which made it formally confirms it when notifying its consent to be bound by the amended or revised instrument adopted by the conference at the close of which it made the reservation in question.

**341 to 467**  
PP-98

(SUP)

## CHAPTER IV

### Other Provisions

#### ARTICLE 33

#### Finances

**468**  
PP-98  
PP-06  
PP-10

1 1) The scale from which each Member State, subject to the provisions of No. 468A below, and Sector Member, subject to the provisions of No. 468B below, shall choose its class of contribution, in conformity with the relevant provisions of Article 28 of the Constitution, shall be as follows:

From the 40 unit class to the 2 unit class:  
in steps of one unit

Below the 2 unit class, as follows:

1 1/2 unit class  
1 unit class  
1/2 unit class  
1/4 unit class  
1/8 unit class  
1/16 unit class

**468A**  
PP-98

1 *bis*) Only Member States listed by the United Nations as least developed countries and those determined by the Council may select the 1/8 and 1/16 unit classes of contribution.

**468B**  
PP-98

1 *ter*) Sector Members may not select a class of contribution lower than 1/2 unit, with the exception of Sector Members of the Telecommunication Development Sector, which may select the 1/4, 1/8 and 1/16 unit classes. However, the 1/16 unit class is reserved for Sector Members of developing countries as determined by the list established by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to be reviewed by the ITU Council.

**469**  
PP-98

2) In addition to the classes of contribution listed in No. 468 above, any Member State or Sector Member may choose a number of contributory units over 40.

**470**  
PP-98

3) The Secretary-General shall communicate promptly to each Member State not represented at the Plenipotentiary Conference the decision of each Member State as to the class of contribution to be paid by it.

**471**  
PP-98

(SUP)

**472**  
PP-98

2 1) Every new Member State and Sector Member shall, in respect of the year of its accession or admission, pay a contribution calculated as from the first day of the month of accession or admission, as the case may be.

**473**  
PP-98

2) Should a Member State denounce the Constitution and this Convention or a Sector Member denounce its participation in a Sector, its contribution shall be paid up to the last day of the month in which such denunciation takes effect in accordance with No. 237 of the Constitution or No. 240 of this Convention, respectively.

**474**  
PP-98

3 The amounts due shall bear interest from the beginning of the fourth month of each financial year of the Union at 3% (three per cent) per annum during the following three months, and at 6% (six per cent) per annum from the beginning of the seventh month.

**475**  
PP-98

(SUP)

**476**  
PP-94  
PP-98  
PP-02  
PP-06

4 1) The organizations referred to in Nos. 269A to 269E of this Convention and other organizations also specified in Chapter II thereof (unless they have been exempted by the Council, subject to reciprocity) and Sector Members referred to in No. 230 of this Convention which participate, in accordance with the provisions of this Convention, in a plenipotentiary conference, in a conference, assembly or meeting of a Sector of the Union, or in a world conference on international telecommunications, shall share in defraying the expenses of the conferences, assemblies and meetings in which they participate on the basis of the cost of these conferences and meetings and in accordance with the Financial Regulations. Nevertheless, Sector Members will not be charged separately for their attendance at a conference, assembly or meeting of their respective Sectors, except in the case of regional radiocommunication conferences.

**477**  
PP-94  
PP-98

2) Any Sector Member appearing in the lists mentioned in No. 237 of this Convention shall share in defraying the expenses of the Sector in accordance with Nos. 480 and 480A below.

**478 and 479**  
PP-98

(SUP)

**480**  
PP-94  
PP-98

5) The amount of the contribution per unit payable towards the expenses of each Sector concerned shall be set at 1/5 of the contributory unit of the Member States. These contributions shall be considered as Union income. They shall bear interest in accordance with the provisions of No. 474 above.

**480A**  
PP-98  
PP-06

5 *bis*) When a Sector Member contributes to defraying the expenses of the Union under No. 159A of the Constitution, the Sector for which the contribution is made should be identified.

**480B**  
PP-06

5 *ter*) Under exceptional circumstances, the Council may authorize a reduction in the number of contributory units when so requested by a Sector Member which has established that it can no longer maintain its contribution at the class originally chosen.

**481 to 483**  
PP-98

(SUP)

**483A**  
PP-98

4 *bis*) Associates as described in No. 241A of this Convention shall share in defraying the expenses of the Sector and the study group and subordinate groups in which they participate, as determined by the Council.

**484**  
PP-94  
PP-98

5 The Council shall determine criteria for the application of cost recovery for some products and services of the Union.

**485**  
PP-94

6 The Union shall maintain a reserve account in order to provide working capital to meet essential expenditures and to maintain sufficient cash reserves to avoid resorting to loans as far as possible. The amount of the reserve account shall be fixed annually by the Council on the basis of expected requirements. At the end of each biennial budgetary period all budget credits which have not been expended or encumbered will be placed in the reserve account. Other details of this account are described in the Financial Regulations.

**486**  
PP-94

7 1) The Secretary-General may, in agreement with the Coordination Committee, accept voluntary contributions in cash or kind, provided that the conditions attached to such voluntary contributions are consistent, as appropriate, with the purposes and programmes of the Union and with the programmes adopted by a conference and in conformity with the Financial Regulations, which shall contain special provisions for the acceptance and use of such voluntary contributions.

**487**  
PP-94

2) Such voluntary contributions shall be reported by the Secretary-General to the Council in the financial operating report as well as in a summary indicating for each case the origin, proposed use and action taken with respect to each voluntary contribution.

## ARTICLE 34

### **Financial Responsibilities of Conferences**

**488**

1 Before adopting proposals or taking decisions with financial implications, the conferences of the Union shall take account of all the Union's budgetary provisions with a view to ensuring that they will not result in expenses beyond the credits which the Council is empowered to authorize.

**489**

2 No decision of a conference shall be put into effect if it will result in a direct or indirect increase in expenses beyond the credits that the Council is empowered to authorize.

## ARTICLE 35

### **Languages**

**490**  
PP-98

1 1) Languages other than those mentioned in the relevant provisions of Article 29 of the Constitution may be used:

**491**  
PP-98

a) if an application is made to the Secretary-General to provide for the use of an additional language or languages, oral or written, on a permanent or an ad hoc basis, provided that the additional cost so incurred shall be borne by those Member States which have made or supported the application;

**492**  
PP-98

b) if, at conferences and meetings of the Union, after informing the Secretary-General or the Director of the Bureau concerned, any delegation itself makes arrangements at its own expense for oral translation from its own language into any one of the languages referred to in the relevant provision of Article 29 of the Constitution.

**493**  
PP-98

2) In the case provided for in No. 491 above, the Secretary-General shall comply to the extent practicable with the application, having first obtained from the Member States concerned an undertaking that the cost incurred will be duly repaid by them to the Union.

**494**

3) In the case provided for in No. 492 above, the delegation concerned may, furthermore, if it wishes, arrange at its own expense for oral translation into its own language from one of the languages referred to in the relevant provision of Article 29 of the Constitution.

**495**  
PP-98

2 Any of the documents referred to in the relevant provisions of Article 29 of the Constitution may be published in languages other than those specified therein, provided that the Member States requesting such publication undertake to defray the whole of the cost of translation and publication involved.



## CHAPTER V

### Various Provisions Related to the Operation of Telecommunication Services

#### ARTICLE 36

##### Charges and Free Services

**496** The provisions regarding charges for telecommunications and the various cases in which free services are accorded are set forth in the Administrative Regulations.

#### ARTICLE 37

##### Rendering and Settlement of Accounts

**497**  
**PP-98** 1 The settlement of international accounts shall be regarded as current transactions and shall be effected in accordance with the current international obligations of the Member States and Sector Members concerned in those cases where their governments have concluded arrangements on this subject. Where no such arrangements have been concluded, and in the absence of special agreements made under Article 42 of the Constitution, these settlements shall be effected in accordance with the Administrative Regulations.

**498**  
**PP-98** 2 Administrations of Member States and Sector Members which operate international telecommunication services shall come to an agreement with regard to the amount of their debits and credits.

- 499**            3    The statement of accounts with respect to debits and credits referred to in No. 498 above shall be drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Regulations, unless special arrangements have been concluded between the parties concerned.

## ARTICLE 38

### **Monetary Unit**

- 500**  
**PP-98**            In the absence of special arrangements concluded between Member States, the monetary unit to be used in the composition of accounting rates for international telecommunication services and in the establishment of international accounts shall be:

- either the monetary unit of the International Monetary Fund
- or the gold franc,

both as defined in the Administrative Regulations. The provisions for application are contained in Appendix 1 to the International Telecommunication Regulations.

## ARTICLE 39

### **Intercommunication**

- 501**            1    Stations performing radiocommunication in the mobile service shall be bound, within the limits of their normal employment, to exchange radiocommunications reciprocally without distinction as to the radio system adopted by them.

- 502** 2 Nevertheless, in order not to impede scientific progress, the provisions of No. 501 above shall not prevent the use of a radio system incapable of communicating with other systems, provided that such incapacity is due to the specific nature of such system and is not the result of devices adopted solely with the object of preventing intercommunication.
- 503** 3 Notwithstanding the provisions of No. 501 above, a station may be assigned to a restricted international service of telecommunication, determined by the purpose of such service, or by other circumstances independent of the system used.

## ARTICLE 40

### **Secret Language**

- 504** 1 Government telegrams and service telegrams may be expressed in secret language in all relations.
- 505**  
**PP-98** 2 Private telegrams in secret language may be admitted between all Member States with the exception of those which have previously notified, through the Secretary-General, that they do not admit this language for that category of correspondence.
- 506**  
**PP-98** 3 Member States which do not admit private telegrams in secret language originating in or destined for their own territory must let them pass in transit, except in the case of suspension of service provided for in Article 35 of the Constitution.

## CHAPTER VI

### Arbitration and Amendment

#### ARTICLE 41

#### **Arbitration: Procedure** (see Article 56 of the Constitution)

- 507** 1 The party which appeals to arbitration shall initiate the arbitration procedure by transmitting to the other party to the dispute a notice of the submission of the dispute to arbitration.
- 508** 2 The parties shall decide by agreement whether the arbitration is to be entrusted to individuals, administrations or governments. If within one month after notice of submission of the dispute to arbitration, the parties have been unable to agree upon this point, the arbitration shall be entrusted to governments.
- 509** 3 If arbitration is to be entrusted to individuals, the arbitrators must neither be nationals of a State party to the dispute, nor have their domicile in the States parties to the dispute, nor be employed in their service.
- 510** 4 If arbitration is to be entrusted to governments, or to administrations thereof, these must be chosen from among the Member States which are not involved in the dispute, but which are parties to the agreement, the application of which caused the dispute.  
**PP-98**
- 511** 5 Within three months from the date of receipt of the notification of the submission of the dispute to arbitration, each of the two parties to the dispute shall appoint an arbitrator.

- 512** 6 If more than two parties are involved in the dispute, an arbitrator shall be appointed in accordance with the procedure set forth in Nos. 510 and 511 above, by each of the two groups of parties having a common position in the dispute.
- 513** 7 The two arbitrators thus appointed shall choose a third arbitrator who, if the first two arbitrators are individuals and not governments or administrations, must fulfil the conditions indicated in No. 509 above, and in addition must not be of the same nationality as either of the other two arbitrators. Failing an agreement between the two arbitrators as to the choice of a third arbitrator, each of these two arbitrators shall nominate a third arbitrator who is in no way concerned in the dispute. The Secretary-General shall then draw lots in order to select the third arbitrator.
- 514** 8 The parties to the dispute may agree to have their dispute settled by a single arbitrator appointed by agreement; or alternatively, each party may nominate an arbitrator, and request the Secretary-General to draw lots to decide which of the persons so nominated is to act as the single arbitrator.
- 515** 9 The arbitrator or arbitrators shall be free to decide upon the venue and the rules of procedure to be applied to the arbitration.
- 516** 10 The decision of the single arbitrator shall be final and binding upon the parties to the dispute. If the arbitration is entrusted to more than one arbitrator, the decision made by the majority vote of the arbitrators shall be final and binding upon the parties.
- 517** 11 Each party shall bear the expense it has incurred in the investigation and presentation of the arbitration. The costs of arbitration other than those incurred by the parties themselves shall be divided equally between the parties to the dispute.

- 518** 12 The Union shall furnish all information relating to the dispute which the arbitrator or arbitrators may need. If the parties to the dispute so agree, the decision of the arbitrator or arbitrators shall be communicated to the Secretary-General for future reference purposes.

## ARTICLE 42

### **Provisions for Amending this Convention**

- 519**  
PP-98 1 Any Member State may propose any amendment to this Convention. Any such proposal shall, in order to ensure its timely transmission to, and consideration by, all the Member States, reach the Secretary-General not later than eight months prior to the opening date fixed for the Plenipotentiary Conference. The Secretary-General shall, as soon as possible, but not later than six months prior to the latter date, forward any such proposal to all the Member States.
- 520**  
PP-98 2 Any proposed modification to any amendment submitted in accordance with No. 519 above may, however, be submitted at any time by a Member State or by its delegation at the Plenipotentiary Conference.
- 521** 3 The quorum required at any Plenary Meeting of the Plenipotentiary Conference for consideration of any proposal for amending this Convention or modification thereto shall consist of more than one half of the delegations accredited to the Plenipotentiary Conference.

- 522** 4 To be adopted, any proposed modification to a proposed amendment as well as the proposal as a whole, whether or not modified, shall be approved, at a Plenary Meeting, by more than half of the delegations accredited to the Plenipotentiary Conference which have the right to vote.
- 523**  
**PP-98**  
**PP-02** 5 Unless specified otherwise in the preceding paragraphs of this Article, which shall prevail, the General Rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union shall apply.
- 524**  
**PP-98** 6 Any amendments to this Convention adopted by a plenipotentiary conference shall, as a whole and in the form of one single amending instrument, enter into force at a date fixed by the conference between Member States having deposited before that date their instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval of, or accession to, both this Convention and the amending instrument. Ratification, acceptance or approval of, or accession to, only a part of such an amending instrument shall be excluded.
- 525** 7 Notwithstanding No. 524 above, the Plenipotentiary Conference may decide that an amendment to this Convention is necessary for the proper implementation of an amendment to the Constitution. In that case, the amendment to this Convention shall not enter into force prior to the entry into force of the amendment to the Constitution.
- 526**  
**PP-98** 8 The Secretary-General shall notify all Member States of the deposit of each instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.
- 527** 9 After entry into force of any such amending instrument, ratification, acceptance, approval or accession in accordance with Articles 52 and 53 of the Constitution shall apply to this Convention as amended.

**528**

10 After the entry into force of any such amending instrument, the Secretary-General shall register it with the Secretariat of the United Nations, in accordance with the provisions of Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations. No. 241 of the Constitution shall also apply to any such amending instrument.



## ANNEX

**Definition of Certain Terms Used in this Convention  
and the Administrative Regulations of the  
International Telecommunication Union**

**1000** For the purpose of the above instruments of the Union, the following terms shall have the meanings defined below:

**1001** *Expert:* A person sent by either:

- a) the Government or the administration of his country, or
- b) an entity or an organization authorized in accordance with Article 19 of this Convention, or
- c) an international organization

to participate in tasks of the Union relevant to his area of professional competence.

**1002** *Observer:* A person sent by a Member State, organization, agency or entity to attend a conference, assembly or meeting of the Union or the Council, without the right to vote and in accordance with the relevant provisions of the basic texts of the Union.  
PP-94  
PP-98  
PP-06

**1003** *Mobile Service:* A radiocommunication service between mobile and land stations, or between mobile stations.

**1004** *Scientific or Industrial Organization:* Any organization, other than a governmental establishment or agency, which is engaged in the study of telecommunication problems or in the design or manufacture of equipment intended for telecommunication services.

**1005**

*Radiocommunication*: Telecommunication by means of radio waves.

*Note 1*: Radio waves are electromagnetic waves of frequencies arbitrarily lower than 3 000 GHz, propagated in space without artificial guide.

*Note 2*: For the requirements of Nos. 149 to 154 of this Convention, the term "radiocommunication" also includes telecommunications using electromagnetic waves of frequencies above 3 000 GHz, propagated in space without artificial guide.

**1006**

*Service Telecommunication*: A telecommunication that relates to public international telecommunications and that is exchanged among the following:

- administrations,
- recognized operating agencies, and
- the Chairman of the Council, the Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-General, the Directors of the Bureaux, the members of the Radio Regulations Board, and other representatives or authorized officials of the Union, including those working on official matters outside the seat of the Union.

**GENERAL RULES OF CONFERENCES,  
ASSEMBLIES AND MEETINGS OF THE UNION**



## **GENERAL RULES OF CONFERENCES, ASSEMBLIES AND MEETINGS OF THE UNION**

- 1**            1    These General Rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union (hereinafter referred to as "these General Rules") shall apply to conferences, assemblies and meetings of the International Telecommunication Union (hereinafter referred to as "the Union"). In the event of inconsistency between a provision of these General Rules and a provision of the Constitution or the Convention, the latter instruments shall prevail.
  
- 2**            2    Meetings of a Sector, other than conferences or assemblies, may adopt working procedures which are compatible with those adopted by the competent conference or assembly of the Sector in question. In the event of inconsistency between those working procedures and a provision of these General Rules, the latter shall prevail.
  
- 3**            3    These General Rules shall apply without prejudice to the amendment provisions contained in Article 55 of the Constitution and in Article 42 of the Convention.

## CHAPTER I

**General Provisions Regarding Conferences  
and Assemblies****1 Invitation to plenipotentiary conferences when  
there is an inviting government**

- 4           1    The precise place and the exact dates of the conference shall be fixed in accordance with the provisions of Article 1 of the Convention, following consultations with the inviting government.
- 5           2    1) One year before the date of opening of the conference, the inviting government shall send an invitation to the government of each Member State.
- 6                 2) These invitations may be sent directly or through the Secretary-General or through another government.
- 7           3    The Secretary-General shall invite as observers the organizations, agencies and entities referred to in Article 23 of the Convention.
- 8           4    1) The replies of the Member States must reach the inviting government at least one month before the date of opening of the conference and should include whenever possible full information on the composition of the delegation.
- 9                 2) These replies may be sent directly to the inviting government or through the Secretary-General or through another government.
- 10           3) The replies of the organizations, agencies and entities referred to in Article 23 of the Convention must reach the Secretary-General one month before the opening date of the conference.

## **2 Invitation to radiocommunication conferences when there is an inviting government**

- 11** 1 The precise place and exact dates of the conference shall be fixed in accordance with the provisions of Article 3 of the Convention, following consultations with the inviting government.
- 12** 2 1) Subject to the relevant provisions of Article 24 of the Convention, the provisions of Nos. 5 to 10 above shall apply to radiocommunication conferences.  
**PP-06**
- 13** 2) Member States should inform the Sector Members of the invitation they have received to participate in a radiocommunication conference.
- 14** 3 1) The inviting government, in agreement with or on a proposal by the Council, may notify the international organizations other than those referred to in Nos. 269A to 269D of the Convention which may be interested in sending observers to participate in the conference.  
**PP-06**
- 15** 2) The interested international organizations referred to in No. 14 above shall send an application for admission to the inviting government within a period of two months from the date of notification.
- 16** 3) The inviting government shall assemble the requests and the conference itself shall decide whether the organizations concerned are to be admitted.

**3 Invitation to radiocommunication assemblies, world telecommunication standardization assemblies and telecommunication development conferences when there is an inviting government**

- 17** 1 The precise place and exact dates of each assembly or conference shall be fixed in accordance with the provisions of Article 3 of the Convention, following consultations with the inviting government.
- 18** 2 One year before the date of the opening of the assembly or conference, the Secretary-General, after consultation with the Director of the Bureau concerned, shall send an invitation to:
- 19** a) the administration of each Member State;
- 20** b) the Sector Members concerned;
- 21** c) the organizations and agencies referred to in the relevant provisions of Article 25 of the Convention.
- 22** 3 The replies must reach the Secretary-General at least one month before the date of opening of the assembly or conference and should, whenever possible, include full information on the composition of the delegation or representation.



#### **4 Procedure for convening or cancelling world conferences or assemblies at the request of Member States or on a proposal of the Council**

- 23** 1 The procedures to be applied for convening a second world telecommunication standardization assembly in the interval between successive plenipotentiary conferences and fixing its precise place and exact dates or for cancelling the second world radiocommunication conference or the second radiocommunication assembly are set forth in the following provisions.
- 24** 2 1) Any Member State wishing to have a second world telecommunication standardization assembly convened shall so inform the Secretary-General, indicating the proposed place and dates of the assembly.
- 25** 2) On receipt of similar requests from at least one-quarter of the Member States, the Secretary-General shall inform immediately all Member States thereof by the most appropriate means of telecommunication, asking them to indicate, within six weeks, whether or not they agree to the proposal.
- 26** 3) If a majority of the Member States, determined in accordance with No. 47 of the Convention, agree to the proposal as a whole, that is to say, if they accept the proposed place and dates, the Secretary-General shall so inform immediately all Member States by the most appropriate means of telecommunication.
- 27** 4) If the proposal accepted is for an assembly elsewhere than at the seat of the Union, the Secretary-General, with the assent of the government concerned, shall take the necessary steps to convene the assembly.

- 28**                    5) If the proposal as a whole (place and dates) is not accepted by the majority of the Member States determined in accordance with No. 47 of the Convention, the Secretary-General shall inform the Member States of the replies received, requesting them to give a final reply on the point or points under dispute within six weeks of receipt.
- 29**                    6) Such points shall be regarded as adopted when they have been approved by a majority of the Member States, determined in accordance with No. 47 of the Convention.
- 30**                    3    1) Any Member State wishing to have a second world radiocommunication conference or a second radiocommunication assembly cancelled shall so inform the Secretary-General. On receipt of similar requests from at least one-quarter of the Member States, the Secretary-General shall inform immediately all Member States thereof by the most appropriate means of telecommunication, asking them to indicate, within six weeks, whether or not they agree to the proposal.
- 31**                    2) If a majority of the Member States, determined in accordance with No. 47 of the Convention, agrees to the proposal, the Secretary-General shall so inform immediately all Member States by the most appropriate means of telecommunication and the conference or assembly shall be cancelled.
- 32**                    4    The procedures indicated in Nos. 25 to 31 above, with the exception of No. 30, shall also be applicable when the proposal to convene a second world telecommunication standardization assembly or to cancel a second world radiocommunication conference or a second radiocommunication assembly is initiated by the Council.

- 33**                    5    Any Member State wishing to have a world conference on international telecommunications convened shall propose it to the Plenipotentiary Conference; the agenda, precise place and exact dates of such a conference shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of Article 3 of the Convention.

## **5    Procedure for convening regional conferences at the request of Member States or on a proposal of the Council**

- 34**                                       In the case of a regional conference, the procedure described in Nos. 24 to 29 above shall be applicable only to the Member States of the region concerned. If the conference is to be convened on the initiative of the Member States of the region, it will suffice for the Secretary-General to receive concordant requests from a quarter of the total number of Member States in that region. The procedure described in Nos. 25 to 29 above shall also be applicable when the proposal to convene such a conference is initiated by the Council.

## **6    Provisions for conferences and assemblies when there is no inviting government**

- 35**                                       When a conference or an assembly is to be held without an inviting government, the provisions of Sections 1, 2 and 3 above shall apply. The Secretary-General shall take the necessary steps to convene and organize the conference or assembly at the seat of the Union, after agreement with the Government of the Swiss Confederation.

## **7 Change in the place or dates of a conference or an assembly**

**36** 1 The provisions of Sections 4 and 5 for convening a conference or assembly shall apply, by analogy, when a change in the precise place and/or exact dates of a conference or assembly is requested by Member States or is proposed by the Council. However, such changes shall only be made if a majority of the Member States concerned, determined in accordance with No. 47 of the Convention, have pronounced in favour.

**37** 2 It shall be the responsibility of any Member State proposing a change in the precise place or exact dates of a conference or assembly to obtain for its proposal the support of the requisite number of other Member States.

**38** 3 Where the issue arises, the Secretary-General shall indicate, in the communication referred to in No. 25 above, the probable financial consequences of a change in the place or dates, as, for example, when there has been an outlay of expenditure in preparing for the conference or assembly at the place initially chosen.

## **8 Time-limits and conditions for submission of proposals and reports to conferences**

**39** 1 The provisions of this section shall apply to the Plenipotentiary Conference, world and regional radiocommunication conferences and world conferences on international telecommunications.

**40** 2 Immediately after the invitations have been despatched, the Secretary-General shall ask Member States to submit, at least four months before the start of the conference, their proposals for the work of the conference.

- 41** 3 All proposals the adoption of which will involve amendment of the text of the Constitution or the Convention or revision of the Administrative Regulations must carry references identifying by their marginal numbers those parts of the text which will require such amendment or revision. The reasons for the proposal must be given, as briefly as possible, in each case.
- 42** 4 Each proposal received from a Member State shall be annotated by the Secretary-General to indicate its origin by means of the symbol established by the Union for that Member State. Where a proposal is made jointly by more than one Member State the proposal shall, to the extent practicable, be annotated with the symbol of each Member State.
- 43** 5 The Secretary-General shall communicate the proposals to all Member States as they are received.
- 44**  
PP-06 6 The Secretary-General shall assemble and coordinate the proposals received from Member States and shall communicate them to Member States as they are received, but in any case at least two months before the opening of the conference, making them available by electronic means. Elected officials and staff members of the Union, as well as those observers that may attend conferences in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention, shall not be entitled to submit proposals.
- 45** 7 The Secretary-General shall also assemble reports received from Member States, the Council and the Sectors of the Union and recommendations by conferences and shall communicate them to Member States, along with any reports by the Secretary-General, at least four months before the opening of the conference. The reports shall also be made available by electronic means.

**46**           8   Proposals received after the time-limit specified in No. 40 above shall be communicated to all Member States by the Secretary-General as soon as practicable, and made available by electronic means.

**47**           9   The provisions of this chapter shall apply without prejudice to the amendment provisions contained in Article 55 of the Constitution and in Article 42 of the Convention.

## CHAPTER II

### Rules of Procedure of Conferences, Assemblies and Meetings

#### 9 Order of seating

- 48 At meetings of the conference, delegations shall be seated in the alphabetical order of the French names of the Member States represented.

#### 10 Inauguration of the conference

- 49 1) The inaugural meeting of the conference shall be preceded by a meeting of the heads of delegation in the course of which it shall prepare the agenda for the first plenary meeting and make proposals for the organization, chairmanships and vice-chairmanships of the conference and its committees, taking into account the principles of rotation, geographical distribution, the necessary competence and the provisions of No. 53 below.
- 50 2) The chairman of the meeting of heads of delegation shall be appointed in accordance with the provisions of Nos. 51 and 52 below.
- 51 2) 1) The conference shall be opened by a person appointed by the inviting government.
- 52 2) When there is no inviting government, it shall be opened by the oldest head of delegation.
- 53 3) 1) The chairman of the conference shall be elected at the first plenary meeting; generally, the chairman shall be a person nominated by the inviting government.
- 54 2) If there is no inviting government, the chairman shall be chosen, taking into account the proposal made by the heads of delegation at the meeting described in No. 49 above.

- 55 4 The first plenary meeting shall also:
- 56 a) elect the vice-chairmen of the conference;
- 57 b) set up the conference committees and elect their  
respective chairmen and vice-chairmen;
- 58 c) designate the conference secretariat, in accordance  
with No. 97 of the Convention; the secretariat may be  
reinforced, in case of need, by staff provided by the  
administration of the inviting government.

## **11 Powers of the chairman of the conference**

- 59 1 The chairman, in addition to the other prerogatives  
conferred upon the chairman under these Rules of  
Procedure, shall open and close the meetings of the Plenary  
Meeting, direct the deliberations, ensure that the Rules of  
Procedure are applied, give the floor to speakers, put  
questions to the vote, and announce the decisions adopted.
- 60 2 The chairman shall have the general direction of all the  
work of the conference, and shall ensure that order is  
maintained at plenary meetings. The chairman shall rule on  
motions of order and points of order and, in particular, shall  
be empowered to propose that discussion on a question be  
postponed or closed, or that a meeting be suspended or  
adjourned. The chairman, if finding it appropriate to do so,  
may also decide to postpone the convening of a plenary  
meeting.
- 61 3 It shall be the duty of the chairman to protect the right  
of each delegation to express its opinion freely and fully on  
the point at issue.
- 62 4 The chairman shall ensure that discussion is limited to  
the point at issue, and may interrupt any speaker who  
departs therefrom and request such speakers to confine  
their remarks to the subject under discussion.



## **12 Setting up of committees**

- 63           1   The Plenary Meeting may set up committees to consider matters referred to the conference. These committees may in turn set up subcommittees. Committees and subcommittees may set up working groups.
- 64           2   Subcommittees and working groups shall be set up when necessary.
- 65           3   Subject to the provisions of Nos. 63 and 64 above, the following committees shall be set up:

### **12.1 Steering Committee**

- 66           *a)* This committee shall normally be composed of the chairman of the conference or meeting, who shall be its chairman, the vice-chairmen of the conference and the chairmen and vice-chairmen of committees.
- 67           *b)* The Steering Committee shall coordinate all matters connected with the smooth execution of work and shall plan the order and number of meetings, avoiding overlapping wherever possible in view of the limited number of members of some delegations.

### **12.2 Credentials Committee**

- 68           A plenipotentiary conference, a radiocommunication conference or a world conference on international telecommunications shall appoint a credentials committee, the mandate of which shall be to verify the credentials of delegations to these conferences. This committee shall report on its conclusions to the Plenary Meeting within the time specified by the latter.

### **12.3 Editorial Committee**

- 69 a) The texts prepared in the various committees, which shall be worded as far as possible in their definitive form by these committees, taking account of the views expressed, shall be submitted to an editorial committee charged with perfecting their form without altering the sense and, where appropriate, with combining them with those parts of former texts which have not been altered.
- 70 b) The texts shall be submitted by the Editorial Committee to the Plenary Meeting, which shall approve them, or refer them back to the appropriate committee for further examination.

### **12.4 Budget Control Committee**

- 71 a) At the opening of each conference, the Plenary Meeting shall appoint a budget control committee to determine the organization and the facilities available to the delegates, and to examine and approve the accounts for expenditure incurred throughout the duration of the conference. In addition to the members of delegations who wish to participate, this committee shall include a representative of the Secretary-General, of the Director of the Bureau concerned, and, where there is an inviting government, a representative of that government.
- 72 b) Before the budget approved by the Council for the conference is exhausted, the Budget Control Committee, in collaboration with the secretariat of the conference, shall present an interim statement of the expenditure to the Plenary Meeting. The Plenary Meeting shall take this statement into account in considering whether, in view of the progress being made, a prolongation of the conference after the date when the approved budget will be exhausted is justified.

- 73** c) At the end of each conference, the Budget Control Committee shall present a report to the Plenary Meeting showing, as accurately as possible, the estimated total expenditure of the conference, as well as an estimate of the costs that may be entailed by the execution of the decisions taken by such conference.
- 74** d) After consideration and approval by the Plenary Meeting, this report, together with the observations of the Plenary Meeting, shall be transmitted to the Secretary-General for submission to the Council at its next ordinary session.

## **13 Composition of committees**

### **13.1 Plenipotentiary conferences**

- 75** Subject to No. 66 of these General Rules, committees shall be composed of the delegates of Member States. Unless otherwise decided by the plenary meeting, the observers referred to in Nos. 269A to 269E of the Convention shall be authorized to attend such committees, with the exception of the steering, credentials, budget control and editorial committees.
- PP-06**

### **13.2 Radiocommunication conferences and world conferences on international telecommunications**

- 76** 1 Subject to No. 66 of these General Rules, committees of radiocommunication conferences shall be composed of the delegates of Member States. Unless otherwise decided by the plenary meeting, the observers referred to in Nos. 278, 279, 280 and, as appropriate, 282 of the Convention shall be authorized to attend such committees, with the exception of the steering, credentials, budget control and editorial committees.
- PP-06**

**76A**  
PP-06

2 Subject to No. 66 of these General Rules, committees of world conferences on international telecommunications shall be composed of the delegates of Member States. Unless otherwise decided by the plenary meeting, the observers referred to in Nos. 278 and 279 of the Convention and observers of Sector Members shall be authorized to attend such committees, with the exception of the steering, credentials, budget control and editorial committees.

**77**  
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### **13.3 Radiocommunication assemblies, world telecommunication standardization assemblies and telecommunication development conferences**

**78**  
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In addition to delegates of Member States and representatives of any entity or organization included in the relevant list referred to in No. 237 of the Convention, the committees of radiocommunication assemblies, of world telecommunication standardization assemblies and of telecommunication development conferences, with the exception of the steering, budget control and editorial committees, may be attended by the observers referred to in Article 25 of the Convention.

## **14 Chairmen and vice-chairmen of subcommittees**

**79**

The chairman of each committee shall propose to the committee the choice of the chairmen and vice-chairmen of the subcommittees which may be set up.

## **15 Summons to meetings**

- 80** Plenary meetings and meetings of committees, subcommittees and working groups shall be announced in good time in the meeting place of the conference.

## **16 Proposals presented before the opening of the conference**

- 81** Proposals presented before the opening of the conference shall be allocated by the Plenary Meeting to the appropriate committees set up in accordance with Section 12 above. Nevertheless, the Plenary Meeting itself shall be entitled to deal with any proposal.

## **17 Proposals or amendments presented during the conference**

- 82** 1 Proposals or amendments presented after the opening of the conference shall be delivered to the chairman of the conference, to the chairman of the appropriate committee or to the secretariat of the conference for publication and distribution as conference documents.
- 83** 2 No written proposal or amendment may be presented unless signed by the head or deputy head of the delegation concerned. In the absence of the head and deputy head of delegation, any delegate who is authorized by the head of the delegation to act on behalf of the head of the delegation shall be able to sign any proposal or amendment.
- 84** 3 The chairman of the conference or of a committee, a subcommittee or a working group may at any time submit proposals likely to accelerate the debates.
- 85** 4 Every proposal or amendment shall give, in precise and exact terms, the text to be considered.

86 5 1) The chairman of the conference or the chairman of the appropriate committee, subcommittee or working group shall decide in each case whether a proposal or amendment submitted during a meeting shall be made orally or presented in writing for publication and distribution in accordance with No. 82 above.

87 2) The texts of all major proposals to be put to the vote shall be distributed in good time in the working languages of the conference, in order that they may be studied before discussion.

88 3) In addition, the chairman of the conference, on receiving proposals or amendments referred to in No. 82 above, shall refer them to the appropriate committee or to the Plenary Meeting as the case may be.

89 6 Any authorized person may read, or may ask to have read, at a plenary meeting any proposal or amendment they have submitted during the conference, and shall be allowed to explain their reasons therefor.

### **18 Conditions required for discussion of or decision or vote on any proposal or amendment**

90 1 No proposal or amendment may be discussed unless it is supported by at least one other delegation when it comes to be considered.

91 2 Each proposal or amendment duly supported shall be submitted for discussion and thereafter for decision, if necessary by a vote.

### **19 Proposals or amendments passed over or postponed**

92 When a proposal or an amendment has been passed over or when its examination has been postponed, the delegation sponsoring it shall be responsible for seeing that it is considered later.

## **20 Rules for debates in plenary meetings**

### **20.1 Quorum**

- 93** For a valid decision to be taken at a plenary meeting, more than half of the delegations accredited to the conference and having the right to vote must be present or represented at the meeting. This provision applies without prejudice to any provision in the Constitution or the Convention requiring a special majority for the adoption of any amendment thereto.

### **20.2 Order of debates**

- 94** 1) Persons desiring to speak must first obtain the consent of the chairman. As a general rule, they shall begin by announcing in what capacity they speak.
- 95** 2) Speakers must express themselves slowly and distinctly, separating their words and pausing as necessary in order that everybody may understand their meaning.

### **20.3 Motions of order and points of order**

- 96** 1) During debates, any delegation may, when it thinks fit, submit a motion of order or raise a point of order, which shall at once be settled by the chairman in accordance with these Rules of Procedure. Any delegation may appeal against the chairman's ruling, which shall however stand unless a majority of the delegations present and voting are against it.
- 97** 2) A delegation submitting a motion of order shall not, during its speech, discuss the substance of the matter in question.

## **20.4 Priority of motions of order and points of order**

- 98           The motions and points of order mentioned in No. 96 above shall be dealt with in the following order:
- 99           *a)* any point of order regarding the application of these Rules of Procedure, including voting procedures;
- 100          *b)* suspension of a meeting;
- 101          *c)* adjournment of a meeting;
- 102          *d)* postponement of debate on the matter under discussion;
- 103          *e)* closure of debate on the matter under discussion;
- 104          *f)* any other motions of order or points of order that may be submitted, in which case it shall be for the chairman to decide the relative order in which they shall be considered.

## **20.5 Motion for suspension or adjournment of a meeting**

- 105           During the discussion of a question, a delegation may move that the meeting be suspended or adjourned, giving reasons for its proposal. If the proposal is seconded, the floor shall be given to two speakers to oppose the suspension or adjournment and solely for that purpose, after which the motion shall be put to the vote.

## **20.6 Motion for postponement of debate**

- 106           During discussion of any question, a delegation may move that the debate be postponed for a stated period. Once such a proposal has been made, any discussion thereon shall be limited to no more than three speakers not counting the person submitting the proposal, one for the motion and two against, after which the motion shall be put to the vote.



## **20.7 Motion for closure of debate**

**107**

A delegation may at any time move that discussions on the point at issue be closed. In such cases the floor shall be given to not more than three speakers, one for the motion and two against, after which the motion shall be put to the vote. If the motion succeeds, the chairman will immediately call for a vote on the point at issue.

## **20.8 Limitation of speeches**

**108**

1) The Plenary Meeting may, if necessary, decide how many speeches any one delegation may make on any particular point, and how long they may last.

**109**

2) However, as regards questions of procedure, the chairman shall limit the speaking time allowed to a maximum of five minutes.

**110**

3) When a speaker has exceeded the time allowed, the chairman shall notify the meeting and request the speaker to conclude briefly.

## **20.9 Closing the list of speakers**

**111**

1) During the debate, the chairman may rule that the list of speakers wishing to take the floor be read. The chairman shall add the names of other delegations which indicate that they wish to speak and may then, with the assent of the meeting, rule that the list be closed. Nevertheless, as an exceptional measure, the chairman may if finding it appropriate to do so rule that a reply may be made to any previous statement, even after the list of speakers has been closed.

**112**

2) The list of speakers having been exhausted, the chairman shall declare discussion on the matter closed.

## **20.10 Questions of competence**

- 113** Any question of competence that may arise shall be settled before a vote is taken on the substance of the matter under discussion.

## **20.11 Withdrawal and resubmission of a motion**

- 114** The author of a motion may withdraw it before it is put to a vote. Any motion, whether amended or not, which has been withdrawn from debate may be resubmitted or taken up by the author of the amendment or by another delegation.

## **21 Voting**

### **21.1 Definition of a majority**

- 115** 1) A majority shall consist of more than half the delegations present and voting.
- 116** 2) In computing a majority, delegations abstaining shall not be taken into account.
- 117** 3) In case of a tie, a proposal or amendment shall be considered rejected.
- 118** 4) For the purpose of these Rules of Procedure, a "delegation present and voting" shall be a delegation voting for or against a proposal.

### **21.2 Non-participation in voting**

- 119** Delegations which are present but do not take part in a particular vote or expressly state they do not wish to take part shall not be considered as absent, for the purpose of determining a quorum as defined in No. 93 above, nor as abstaining for the purpose of applying the provisions of No. 121 below.

### 21.3 Special majority

**120** In cases concerning the admission of new Member States, the majority described in Article 2 of the Constitution shall apply.

### 21.4 Abstentions of more than fifty per cent

**121** When the number of abstentions exceeds half the number of votes cast (for, against, abstentions), consideration of the matter under discussion shall be postponed to a later meeting, at which time abstentions shall not be taken into account.

### 21.5 Voting procedures

- 122** 1) The voting procedures are as follows:
- 123** a) by a show of hands as a general rule unless a roll call under *b)* or secret ballot under *c)* has been requested;
- 124** b) by a roll call in the alphabetical order of the French names of the Member States present and entitled to vote:
- 125** 1 if at least two delegations, present and entitled to vote, so request before the beginning of the vote and if a secret ballot under *c)* has not been requested, or
- 126** 2 if the procedure under *a)* shows no clear majority;
- 127** c) by a secret ballot, if at least five of the delegations present and entitled to vote so request before the beginning of the vote.

128           2) The chairman shall, before commencing a vote, observe any request as to the manner in which the voting shall be conducted, and then shall formally announce the voting procedure to be applied and the issue to be submitted to the vote. The chairman shall then declare the beginning of the vote and, when the vote has been taken, shall announce the results.

129           3) In the case of a secret ballot, the secretariat shall at once take steps to ensure the secrecy of the vote.

130           4) Voting may be conducted by an electronic system if a suitable system is available and if the conference so decides.

### **21.6 Prohibition of interruptions once the vote has begun**

131           No delegation may interrupt once a vote has begun, unless to raise a point of order in connection with the way in which the vote is being taken. The point of order cannot include any proposal entailing a change in the vote that is being taken or a change in the substance of the question put to the vote. Voting shall begin with the chairman's announcement that the voting has begun and shall end with the chairman's announcement of its results.

### **21.7 Reasons for votes**

132           The chairman shall authorize any delegations which so request to give the reasons for their vote, after the vote has been taken.

### **21.8 Voting on parts of a proposal**

133           1) When the author of a proposal so requests, or when the meeting thinks fit, or when the chairman, with the approval of the author, so proposes, that proposal shall be sub-divided and its various sections put to the vote separately. The parts of the proposal which have been adopted shall then be put to the vote as a whole.

- 134                    2) If all the sections of a proposal are rejected, the proposal shall be regarded as rejected as a whole.

### **21.9 Order of voting on concurrent proposals**

- 135                    1) When there are two or more proposals on any one matter, they shall be put to the vote in the order in which they were presented, unless the meeting decides to the contrary.

- 136                    2) After each vote, the meeting shall decide whether or not the following proposal shall be voted on.

### **21.10 Amendments**

- 137                    1) Any proposal for modification consisting only of a deletion from, an addition to, or a change in, a part of the original proposal shall be considered an amendment.

- 138                    2) Any amendment to a proposal accepted by the delegation submitting the proposal shall at once be embodied in the original proposal.

- 139                    3) No proposal for modification shall be regarded as an amendment if the meeting considers it to be incompatible with the original proposal.

### **21.11 Voting on amendments**

- 140                    1) When an amendment to a proposal is submitted, a vote shall first be taken on the amendment.

**141**                    2) When two or more amendments to a proposal are submitted, the amendment furthest from the original text shall be put to the vote first; if this amendment does not obtain the support of the majority, of the remaining amendments, that furthest from the proposal shall then be put to the vote and the same procedure shall be followed until a subsequent amendment gains the support of the majority; if all the amendments submitted have been considered and none has gained a majority, the unamended proposal shall be put to the vote.

**142**                    3) If one or more amendments are adopted, the proposal thus amended shall then be put to the vote.

### **21.12 Repetition of a vote**

**143**                    1) In the committees, subcommittees or working groups of a conference or a meeting, a proposal, a part of a proposal or an amendment which has already been decided by a vote within one of the committees, subcommittees or working groups may not be put to the vote again within the same committee, subcommittee or working group. This shall apply irrespective of the voting procedure chosen.

**144**                    2) In plenary meetings, a proposal, a part of a proposal or an amendment shall not be put to the vote again unless:

**145**                    a) the majority of the Member States entitled to vote so request, and

**146**                    b) the request for a repetition of the vote is made at least one full day after the vote has been taken. This period shall not apply on the last day of a conference or other meeting.

## **22 Rules for debates and voting procedures in committees and subcommittees**

- 147** 1 The chairmen of all committees and subcommittees shall have powers similar to those conferred by Section 11 above on the chairman of the conference.
- 148** 2 The provisions of Section 20 above for the conduct of debates in the Plenary Meeting shall also apply to the discussions in committees and subcommittees, except in the matter of the quorum.
- 149** 3 The provisions of Section 21 above shall also apply to votes taken in committees and subcommittees.

## **23 Minutes of plenary meetings of plenipotentiary conferences, radiocommunication conferences and world conferences on international telecommunications**

- 150** 1 The minutes of plenary meetings of the above-mentioned conferences shall be drawn up by the secretariat of the conference, which shall ensure that they are distributed to delegations as early as possible, and in any event not later than five working days after each meeting.
- 151** 2 After the minutes have been distributed, delegations may submit in writing to the secretariat of the conference any corrections they consider to be justified; this shall be done in the shortest possible time. This shall not prevent them from presenting amendments orally during the meeting at which the minutes are approved.

152 3 1) As a general rule, the minutes shall contain only proposals and conclusions, together with the principal arguments on which they are based, presented in terms as concise as possible.

153 2) However, any delegation shall have the right to require the insertion in the minutes, either summarized or in full, of any statement it has made during the debates. In this case, the delegation should, as a general rule, announce this at the beginning of its statement in order to facilitate the work of the reporters and must itself hand in the text to the secretariat of the conference within two hours after the end of the meeting.

154 4 The right accorded in No. 153 above regarding the insertion of statements in the minutes shall in all cases be used with discretion.

## **24 Reports of plenary meetings of radiocommunication assemblies, world telecommunication standardization assemblies, telecommunication development conferences, committees and subcommittees**

155 2 Plenary meetings of the above-mentioned assemblies and conferences and committees and subcommittees may prepare any interim reports they deem necessary and, if circumstances warrant, they may submit, at the end of their work, a final report recapitulating in concise terms the proposals and conclusions resulting from the studies entrusted to them.



## **25 Approval of minutes of plenary meetings of plenipotentiary conferences, radiocommunication conferences and world conferences on international telecommunications, and reports**

**156**           1) As a general rule, at the beginning of each plenary meeting of the above-mentioned conferences the chairman shall inquire whether there are any comments on the minutes of the previous meeting. The minutes shall be considered approved if no amendments have been handed in to the secretariat and no objection is made orally. Otherwise, the appropriate amendments shall be made in the minutes.

**157**           2) Any interim or final report must be approved by the Plenary Meeting, committee or subcommittee concerned.

**158**           2) 1) The minutes of the last plenary meetings of the above-mentioned conferences shall be examined and approved by the chairman.

## **26 Numbering**

**159**           1) The numbers of the chapters, articles and paragraphs of the texts subjected to revision shall be preserved until the first reading in the Plenary Meeting. The passages added shall bear provisionally the number of the last preceding paragraph in the original text, with the addition of "A", "B", etc.

**160**           2) The final numbering of the chapters, articles and paragraphs shall normally be entrusted to the Editorial Committee after their adoption at the first reading but may, by a decision of the Plenary Meeting, be entrusted to the Secretary-General.

## **27 Final approval**

- 161** The texts of the final acts of a plenipotentiary conference, a radiocommunication conference or a world conference on international telecommunications shall be considered final when they have been approved at the second reading in the Plenary Meeting.

## **28 Signature**

- 162** The texts of the final acts approved by the conferences referred to in No.161 above shall be submitted for signature, in the alphabetical order of the Member States' names in French, to the delegates provided with the powers defined in Article 31 of the Convention.

## **29 Relations with the press and the public**

- 163** 1 Official releases to the press about the work of the conference shall be issued only as authorized by the chairman of the conference.
- 164** 2 The press and the public may, to the extent practicable, be present at conferences in accordance with the guidelines approved by the meeting of heads of delegations referred to in No. 49 above and with the practical arrangements made by the Secretary-General. The presence of the press and the public shall in no way disturb the normal conduct of the work of the meeting.
- 165** 3 Other meetings of the Union shall not be open to the press and the public, unless the meeting in question decides otherwise.

### **30 Franking privileges**

**166**

During the conference, members of delegations, representatives of Member States of the Council, members of the Radio Regulations Board, senior officials of the General Secretariat and of the Sectors of the Union attending the conference and the staff of the secretariat of the Union seconded to the conference shall be entitled to postal, telegram, telephone and telex franking privileges to the extent arranged by the host government in agreement with the other governments and recognized operating agencies concerned.

## CHAPTER III

### Election Procedures

**167** These election procedures shall apply to the election of the Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux of the Sectors, to the election of the members of the Radio Regulations Board, and to the election of the Member States which are to serve on the Council, in accordance with Articles 8 and 9 of the Constitution.

#### **31 General rules on election procedures**

**168** 1) At least six months prior to the opening of the conference, the Secretary-General shall invite Member States to submit candidatures.

**169** 2) Each candidature shall be accompanied by the curriculum vitae of the candidate, with the exception of candidatures for the election of Member States to the Council.

**170** 3) Candidatures must reach the Secretary-General not later than 23.59 hours (Geneva time) on the twenty-eighth day prior to the conference. That date shall be stated in the invitation sent by the Secretary-General.

**171** 4) Candidatures shall be published as conference documents as soon as they have been received by the Secretary-General.

**172** 5) Elections shall begin on the fourth calendar day of  
PP-06 the conference.

**173** 6) Elections shall be held in the following order:  
1) Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General and Directors of the Bureaux of the Sectors, 2) members of the Radio Regulations Board and 3) Member States of the Council.

- 174                   7) Elections shall be held by secret ballot.
- 175                   8) Elections should preferably be held using an electronic system when a suitable system is available and if the conference does not decide otherwise.
- 176                   9) Whenever ballot papers are used, before proceeding to the vote, one teller for each region shall be designated by the chairman of the conference from among the delegations present. The chairman of the conference shall hand them the list of delegations entitled to vote and the list of candidates.
- 177                   10) Provisions relating to the right to vote and proxy votes are given in the Convention.

### **32 Specific rules of procedure for the election of the Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux of the Sectors**

- 178                   1) a) Elections shall be carried out in three stages, as follows: first, the election of the Secretary-General; second, the election of the Deputy Secretary-General; and third, the election of the Directors of the Bureaux of the Sectors. The election of the Deputy Secretary-General shall only start upon completion of the election of the Secretary-General. The election of the Directors of the Bureaux shall only start upon completion of the election of the Deputy Secretary-General.
- 179                   b) If there is only one candidate for the post of Secretary-General or for the post of Deputy Secretary-General, elections shall be carried out in two stages: first, the election of the Secretary-General and Deputy Secretary-General, and then the election of the Directors of the Bureaux of the Sectors. The second group of elections shall only start upon completion of the first group of elections.

- 180** 2) The same candidate may not stand for election to more than one post.
- 181** 3) Before proceeding to the elections pertaining to each stage, each delegation entitled to vote shall receive:
- 182** a) a list of the posts included in the stage, bearing the names of all candidates in French alphabetical order, together with the names of the Member States which have nominated the candidates; or
- 183** b) when ballot papers are used to hold the elections, a separate ballot paper for each of the posts included in the stage, bearing the names of all candidates in French alphabetical order, together with the names of the Member States which have nominated the candidates.
- 184** 4) Each delegation should indicate the candidate it supports:
- 185** a) by electronic means; or
- 186** b) when ballot papers are used to hold the elections, on its ballot paper by means of an "X" in the box against the name of that candidate.
- 187** 5) Any candidate obtaining the majority (see No. 115 above) shall be elected.
- 188** 6) Blank ballot papers shall be considered as abstentions. Ballot papers with more than one box marked, or bearing any mark other than an "X" inside a box, or bearing any mark whatsoever outside the boxes, shall be considered as invalid and shall not be counted. In computing the majority, delegations abstaining from voting shall not be taken into account.
- 189** 7) When the number of abstentions exceeds half the number of votes cast, the provisions of No. 121 above shall apply.

- 190** 8) When the counting of the votes is completed, the chairman of the conference shall announce the results of the ballot in the following order:
- number of delegations entitled to vote;
  - number of delegations absent;
  - number of abstentions;
  - number of invalid ballot papers;
  - number of votes recorded;
  - number of votes constituting the required majority;
  - number of votes secured by each of the candidates, in ascending order of the number of votes;
  - name of the elected candidate, if any.
- 191** 9) When, in the first ballot, no candidate obtains the necessary majority of the votes, then one or – if required – two further ballots shall be held after successive intervals of at least six hours, unless the conference decides otherwise, from the announcement of the results.
- 192** 10) When, after the third ballot, no candidate has obtained the necessary majority of votes, then, after an interval of at least twelve hours, unless the conference decides otherwise, from the announcement of the results, a fourth ballot shall be held in which the two candidates having the largest number of votes at the third ballot shall be voted upon.
- 193** 11) If however, after the third ballot, there is a tie between several candidates so that the two candidates to be voted upon at the fourth ballot cannot be selected, then one or, if necessary, two additional ballots shall first be held, after successive intervals of at least six hours, unless the conference decides otherwise, from the announcement of the results, to decide between the candidates in question.

- 194** 12) When there is a tie in both the additional ballots mentioned in No. 193 above, then the eldest of the candidates still in contention shall be declared elected.

### **33 Specific rules of procedure for the election of the members of the Radio Regulations Board**

- 195**  
**PP-06** 1) The total number of members of the Radio Regulations Board and the number of seats per region of the world shall be decided in accordance with Nos. 63 and 93A of the Constitution.
- 196** 2) Before proceeding to the vote, each delegation entitled to vote shall receive:
- 197** a) a list bearing the names, in French alphabetical order, of the candidates, together with the names of the Member States which have nominated the candidates, grouped into the regions of the world; or
- 198** b) when ballot papers are used to hold the elections, a respective ballot paper bearing the names, in French alphabetical order, of the candidates, together with the names of the Member States which have nominated the candidates, grouped into the regions of the world.
- 199** 3) Each delegation shall indicate the names of the candidates it supports, up to a maximum of the number of candidates per region whose election is permitted according to No. 195 above:
- 200** a) by electronic means; or
- 201** b) when ballot papers are used to hold the elections, on its ballot paper by means of an "X" in the box against each of these names.



- 202 4) Ballot papers bearing more than the permitted number of "X" per region shall be considered invalid and shall not be counted for the region or regions concerned. Ballot papers bearing any mark other than an "X" inside a box, or bearing any mark whatsoever outside the boxes, shall be considered invalid and shall not be counted.
- 203 5) After the count, a list shall be drawn up by the secretariat of the candidates in each region in decreasing order of the number of votes obtained. This list shall be handed to the chairman of the conference, after verification by the tellers in the case that ballot papers were used to hold the elections.
- 204 6) The candidates per region receiving the largest number of votes within the limit of the number of seats to be filled shall be elected as members of the Radio Regulations Board.
- 205 7) When required, a special ballot shall be held to decide between candidates for the same region having received an equal number of votes after an interval of at least six hours, unless the conference decides otherwise, from the announcement of the results.
- 206 8) When there is still a tie between several candidates for the same region following the special ballot, the eldest of the candidates still in contention shall be declared elected.

### **34 Specific rules of procedure for the election of the Member States of the Council**

- 207  
PP-10 1) The total number of Member States to be elected and the number of seats per region of the world shall be decided in accordance with No. 61 of the Constitution and No. 50A of the Convention and the methodology adopted by the Plenipotentiary Conference.

- 208** 2) Before proceeding to the vote, each delegation entitled to vote shall receive:
- 209** a) a list bearing the names, in French alphabetical order, of the Member States which are candidates, grouped into the regions of the world; or
- 210** b) when ballot papers are used to hold the elections, a single ballot paper bearing the names, in French alphabetical order, of the Member States which are candidates, grouped into the regions of the world.
- 211** 3) Each delegation shall indicate the names of the Member States it supports, but not more Member States per region than the number of countries whose election is permitted according to No. 207 above:
- 212** a) by electronic means; or
- 213** b) when ballot papers are used to hold the elections, on its ballot paper by means of an "X" in the box against each of these names.
- 214** 4) Ballot papers bearing more than the maximum permitted number of "X" per region shall be considered as invalid and shall not be counted for the region or regions concerned. Ballot papers bearing any mark other than an "X" inside a box, or bearing any mark whatsoever outside the boxes, shall be considered invalid and shall not be counted.
- 215** 5) After the count, a list shall be drawn up by the secretariat of candidate Member States in each region in decreasing order of the number of votes obtained. This list shall be handed to the chairman of the conference, after verification by the tellers in the case that ballot papers were used to hold the elections.

- 216** 6) Those Member States which obtain the highest number of votes among the candidates from their region, within the limit of the number of seats to be filled for that region, shall be elected to the Council.
- 217** 7) If, for any region, several Member States tie for the last seat or seats, then a special ballot shall be held, after an interval of at least six hours, unless the conference decides otherwise, from the announcement of the results, to decide between the candidates.
- 218** 8) When there is a tie after the special ballot, the Chairman of the conference shall draw lots to determine the Member State(s) which shall be declared elected.

## CHAPTER IV

**Proposal, Adoption and Entry into Force of  
Amendments to These General Rules**

- 219** 1 Any Member State may propose, at a plenipotentiary conference, any amendment to these General Rules. Amendments proposed must be submitted in conformity with the relevant provisions of Chapter I above.
- 220** 2 The quorum required for the examination of any proposed amendment to these General Rules shall be as indicated in Section 20.1 above.
- 221** 3 In order to be adopted, any proposed amendment must be approved at a plenary meeting by more than half of the delegations accredited to the plenipotentiary conference which have the right to vote.
- 222** 4 Unless otherwise decided by the plenipotentiary conference itself by a decision adopted by a two-thirds majority of the delegations accredited to the plenipotentiary conference which have the right to vote, amendments to these General Rules adopted in accordance with the provisions of this chapter shall enter into force, for all conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union, on the date of signature of the final acts of the plenipotentiary conference which adopted them.

## **OPTIONAL PROTOCOL**

ON THE COMPULSORY SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES RELATING  
TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
TELECOMMUNICATION UNION,  
TO THE CONVENTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
TELECOMMUNICATION UNION AND  
TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS



## **OPTIONAL PROTOCOL**

### **on the Compulsory Settlement of Disputes Relating to the Constitution of the International Telecommunication Union, to the Convention of the International Telecommunication Union and to the Administrative Regulations**

At the time of signing the Constitution of the International Telecommunication Union and the Convention of the International Telecommunication Union (Geneva, 1992), the undersigned Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Optional Protocol on the Compulsory Settlement of Disputes.

The Members of the Union, parties to this Optional Protocol,

expressing the desire to resort to compulsory arbitration, so far as they are concerned, for the settlement of any disputes concerning the interpretation or application of the Constitution, the Convention or of the Administrative Regulations mentioned in Article 4 of the Constitution,

have agreed upon the following provisions:

#### **ARTICLE 1**

Unless one of the methods of settlement listed in Article 56 of the Constitution has been chosen by common agreement, disputes concerning the interpretation or application of the Constitution, the Convention or the Administrative Regulations mentioned in Article 4 of the Constitution shall, at the request of one of the parties to the dispute, be submitted for compulsory arbitration. The procedure to be followed is laid down in Article 41 of the Convention, paragraph 5 (No. 511) of which shall be amplified as follows:

“5. Within three months from the date of receipt of the notification of the submission of the dispute to arbitration, each of the two parties to the dispute shall appoint an arbitrator. If one of the parties has not appointed an arbitrator within this time-limit, this appointment shall be made, at the request of the other party, by the Secretary-General who shall act in accordance with Nos. 509 and 510 of the Convention.”

## ARTICLE 2

This Protocol shall be open to signature by Members at the same time as they sign the Constitution and the Convention. It shall be ratified, accepted or approved by any Signatory Member in accordance with its constitutional rules. It may be acceded to by any Members parties to the Constitution and the Convention and by any States which become Members of the Union. The instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession shall be deposited with the Secretary-General.

## ARTICLE 3

This Protocol shall come into force for the Parties hereto, who have ratified, accepted, approved or acceded to it, on the same date as the Constitution and the Convention, provided that at least two instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession in its respect have been deposited on that date. Otherwise, it shall come into force on the thirtieth day after the date on which the second instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession is deposited.

## ARTICLE 4

This Protocol may be amended by the Parties hereto during a Plenipotentiary Conference of the Union.

## ARTICLE 5

Each Member party to this Protocol may denounce it by a notification addressed to the Secretary-General, such denunciation taking effect at the expiration of a period of one year from the date of receipt of its notification by the Secretary-General.



## ARTICLE 6

The Secretary-General shall notify all Members:

- a) of the signatures appended to this Protocol and of the deposit of each instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession;
- b) of the date on which this Protocol shall have come into force;
- c) of the date of entry into force of any amendment;
- d) of the effective date of any denunciation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed this Protocol in each of the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish languages, in a single copy within which, in case of discrepancy, the French text shall prevail, and which shall remain deposited in the archives of the International Telecommunication Union, which shall forward a copy to each of the signatory countries.

Done at Geneva, 22 December 1992



**DECISIONS**

**RESOLUTIONS**

**RECOMMENDATIONS**



## DECISION 3 (MINNEAPOLIS, 1998)

### **Treatment of decisions, resolutions and recommendations of plenipotentiary conferences**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Minneapolis, 1998),

*considering*

a) that the adoption of a permanent Constitution and Convention of the International Telecommunication Union by the Additional Plenipotentiary Conference (Geneva, 1992) has contributed to the efficiency of plenipotentiary conferences;

b) that, at past plenipotentiary conferences, all the decisions, resolutions and recommendations of the preceding conference have been examined and a new set adopted, even if it repeats, totally or partially, some of the previous output;

c) that the Plenipotentiary Conference (Kyoto, 1994) started a new numbering system for decisions, resolutions and recommendations, independent of the numbering system used in previous plenipotentiary conferences;

d) that these practices concerning decisions, resolutions and recommendations are not ideal, in that they have resulted in certain inefficiencies and potential for confusion;

e) that a new numbering system for decisions, resolutions and recommendations is required in order to avoid confusion,

*decides*

1 that resolutions of an ITU plenipotentiary conference remain in effect unless they are revised or abrogated by a subsequent plenipotentiary conference;

2 that the final acts of a plenipotentiary conference should also include:

- the full text of new and revised resolutions, together with a list of their titles and numbers;
- a list of abrogated resolutions showing their titles and numbers, but no text;

3 that resolutions should be identified as follows:

3.1 resolutions not amended:

- i) a resolution of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Kyoto, 1994) the text of which is not amended by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Minneapolis, 1998) should continue to be identified by its existing number, with the addition of "(Kyoto, 1994)" after the number, e.g. Resolution AAA (Kyoto, 1994);
- ii) resolutions not amended by plenipotentiary conferences subsequent to the Plenipotentiary Conference (Minneapolis, 1998) should retain their existing designation;

3.2 new resolutions:

new resolutions adopted by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Minneapolis, 1998) and subsequent plenipotentiary conferences should be numbered consecutively, starting from the next number to the last one adopted at the preceding plenipotentiary conference, together with the city and the year in parentheses, e.g. Resolution BBB (Minneapolis, 1998);

3.3 revised resolutions:

resolutions revised at the Plenipotentiary Conference (Minneapolis, 1998) and subsequent plenipotentiary conferences should retain the same number as before, together with the abbreviation "Rev.", the city and the year in parentheses, e.g. Resolution CCC (Rev. Minneapolis, 1998);

4 that decisions and recommendations of plenipotentiary conferences should also be treated in the manner described in *decides* 1 to 3.3 above.

## DECISION 5 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Revenue and expenses for the Union for the period 2016-2019**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*considering*

the strategic plans and goals established for the Union and its Sectors for the period 2016-2019, and the priorities identified therein,

*considering further*

a) Resolution 91 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on general principles for cost recovery;

b) that, in the consideration of the draft financial plan of the Union for 2016-2019, the challenge to increase revenues in support of increasing programme demands is substantial,

*noting*

that this conference has adopted Resolution 151 (Rev. Busan, 2014), on the implementation of results-based management in ITU, an important component of which relates to planning, programming, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation, and which should lead, *inter alia*, to further strengthening of the financial management system of the Union,

*noting further*

that Resolution 48 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference stresses the importance of the human resources of the Union for the fulfilment of its goals and objectives,

*decides*

1 that the ITU Council is authorized to draw up the two biennial budgets of the Union in such a way that the total expenditure of the General Secretariat and the three Sectors of the Union is balanced by the anticipated revenue, on the basis of Annex 1 to this decision, taking into account the following:

1.1 that the amount of the contributory unit of Member States for the years 2016-2019 shall be CHF 318 000;

1.2 that expenditure on interpretation, translation and text processing in respect of the official languages of the Union shall not exceed CHF 85 million for the years 2016-2019;

1.3 that, when adopting the biennial budgets of the Union, the Council may decide to give the Secretary-General the possibility, in order to meet unanticipated demand, to increase the budget for products or services which are subject to cost recovery, within the limit of the revenue from cost recovery for that activity;

1.4 that the Council shall each year review the revenue and expenses in the budget as well as the different activities and the related expenditure;

2 that, if no plenipotentiary conference is held in 2018, the Council shall establish the biennial budgets of the Union for 2020-2021 and 2022-2023 and thereafter, having first obtained approval for the budgeted annual values of the contributory unit from a majority of the Member States of the Union;

3 that the Council may authorize expenditure in excess of the limits for conferences, meetings and seminars if such excess can be compensated by sums within the expenditure limits accrued from previous years or charged to the following year;

4 that the Council shall, during each budgetary period, assess the changes that have taken place and the changes likely to take place in the current and coming budgetary periods under the following items:

4.1 salary scales, pension contributions and allowances, including post adjustments, established by the United Nations common system and applicable to the staff employed by the Union;

4.2 the exchange rate between the Swiss franc and the United States dollar in so far as this affects the staff costs for those staff members on United Nations scales;



4.3 the purchasing power of the Swiss franc in respect of non-staff items of expenditure;

5 that the Council shall have the task of effecting every possible economy, in particular taking into account the options for reducing expenditure contained in Annex 2 to this decision, and considering the application of the concept of unfunded mandatory activities (UMACs)<sup>1</sup>, and, to this end, that it shall establish the lowest possible authorized level of expenditure commensurate with the needs of the Union, within the limits established by *decides* 1 above, if necessary taking into account the provisions of *decides* 7 below; a set of options for reducing expenditure is given in Annex 2 to this decision;

6 that the following minimum guidelines should be applied in relation to any expenditure reductions:

- a) the internal audit function of the Union should continue to be maintained at a strong and effective level;
- b) there should be no expenditure reductions which would affect cost-recovery income;
- c) fixed costs such as those related to the reimbursement of loans or after-service health insurance (ASHI) should not be subject to expenditure reductions;
- d) there should be no expenditure reductions in regular maintenance costs for ITU buildings which would affect the security or the health of staff;
- e) the information services function in the Union should be maintained at an effective level;

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<sup>1</sup> The concept of UMACs may be applied, where necessary, as a means of highlighting a number of activities within the overall programme of work mandated by the governing bodies of the Union, as well as those support activities which are deemed essential to implement the mandated activities, which could not be accommodated within the financial limits set by the Plenipotentiary Conference. The Secretary-General would be authorized to incur expenditure on these activities provided that savings are achieved or additional income is generated.

7 that the Council, in determining the amount of withdrawals from or allocations to the Reserve Account, should aim under normal circumstances at keeping the Reserve Account at a level above six per cent of total annual expenditure,

*instructs the Secretary-General, with the assistance of the Coordination Committee*

1 to prepare the draft biennial budgets for the years 2016-2017, as well as 2018-2019, on the basis of the associated guidelines in *decides* above, the annexes to this decision and all relevant documents submitted to the Plenipotentiary Conference;

2 to ensure that, in each biennial budget, revenue and expenses are balanced;

3 to draw up and implement a programme of appropriate revenue increases, cost efficiencies and reductions across all ITU operations so as to ensure a balanced budget;

4 to implement the aforementioned programme as soon as possible,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

1 to provide to the Council, no less than seven weeks before its 2015 and 2017 ordinary sessions, complete and accurate data as needed for the development, consideration and establishment of the biennial budget;

2 to undertake studies on the current status of, and forecasts regarding, financial stability and related reserve accounts of the Union under the changing circumstances after the introduction of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS), with a view to developing strategies for long-term financial stability, and to report annually to the Council;

3 to make every effort to achieve balanced biennial budgets, and to bring to the attention of the membership, through the Council Working Group on Financial and Human Resources (CWG-FHR), any of its decisions that may have a financial impact likely to affect the achievement of such a balance,

*instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux*

- 1 to provide to the Council, on an annual basis, a report outlining expenditure relating to each item in Annex 2 to this decision, and to propose appropriate measures to be undertaken to reduce expenditure in each area;
- 2 to make every effort to achieve reductions through a culture of efficiency and economy and to include the savings actually achieved within the overall approved budgets in the above report to Council,

*instructs the Council*

- 1 to authorize the Secretary-General, in accordance with Article 27 of the Financial Regulations and Financial Rules, to allocate to the After-Service Health Insurance (ASHI) Fund, from the Reserve Account, an amount up to that which is actually used to balance the biennial budget from the Reserve Account;
- 2 to review and approve the biennial budgets for 2016-2017 and 2018-2019, giving due consideration to the associated guidelines in *decides* above, the annexes to this decision and all documents submitted to the Plenipotentiary Conference;
- 3 to ensure that, in each biennial budget, revenue and expenses are balanced;
- 4 to consider further appropriations in the event that additional sources of revenue are identified or savings achieved;
- 5 to examine the cost-efficiency and cost-reduction programme drawn up by the Secretary-General;
- 6 to take account of the impact of any cost-reduction programme on the staff of the Union, including the implementation of a voluntary separation and early retirement scheme, where this can be funded from budgetary savings or through a withdrawal from the Reserve Account;

7 in addition to *instructs the Council* 5 above, in view of an unanticipated reduction of revenue due to the drop in classes of contribution from Member States and Sector Members, to authorize a one-time withdrawal from the Reserve Account, within the limits established in *decides* 7 above, in order to minimize the impact on staffing levels in the ITU biennial budgets for 2016-2017 and 2018-2019; any unused funds are to be returned to the Reserve Account at the end of each budgetary period;

8 in considering measures that could be adopted to strengthen control of the finances of the Union, to take into account the financial impact of such issues as ASHI funding, and the medium- to long-term maintenance and/or replacement of buildings at the premises of the Union;

9 to invite the external auditor, the Independent Management Advisory Committee and CWG-FHR to develop recommendations to ensure greater financial control of the finances of the Union, taking into account, *inter alia*, the issues identified in *instructs the Council* 8 above;

10 to consider the report of the Secretary-General relating to the matter referred to in *instructs the Secretary-General* 2 above, and report to the next plenipotentiary conference, as appropriate.

*invites the Council*

to fix, to the extent practicable, the preliminary amount of the contributory unit for the period 2020-2023 at its 2017 ordinary session,

*invites Member States*

to announce their provisional class of contribution for the period 2020-2023 before the end of the calendar year 2017.

## ANNEX 1 TO DECISION 5 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

## Financial plan of the Union for 2016-2019: Revenue and expenses

Amounts in thousands of Swiss francs

	Budget	Budget	Budget	Estimates	Estimates	FP	Variance	%
	2012-2013	2014-2015	2012-2015 a	2016-2017	2018-2019	2016-2019 b	c = b - a	d = c/a
Member States	218'983	225'144	444'127	212'742	212'742	425'484	-18'643	-4.2%
Sector Members	33'127	30'400	63'527	31'750	31'750	63'500	-27	0.0%
Associates	3'409	3'411	6'820	3'910	3'910	7'820	1'000	14.7%
Academia	1'001	400	1'401	400	400	800	-601	-42.9%
Cost recovery	57'100	65'500	122'600	67'250	67'250	134'500	11'900	9.7%
Interest and other revenue	3'600	2'200	5'800	1'800	1'800	3'600	-2'200	-37.9%
Withdrawal: Reserve Account	6'614	4'000	10'614			0	-10'614	-100.0%
<b>Revenue estimates</b>	<b>323'834</b>	<b>331'055</b>	<b>654'889</b>	<b>317'852</b>	<b>317'852</b>	<b>635'704</b>	<b>-19'185</b>	<b>-2.9%</b>
General Secretariat	179'169	184'971	364'140	181'233	184'148	365'381	1'241	0.3%
ITU-R	61'853	62'203	124'056	57'417	60'988	118'405	-5'651	-4.6%
ITU-T	26'200	25'529	51'729	25'658	24'797	50'455	-1'274	-2.5%
ITU-D	56'612	58'352	114'964	55'728	56'735	112'463	-2'502	-2.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>323'834</b>	<b>331'055</b>	<b>654'889</b>	<b>320'036</b>	<b>326'668</b>	<b>646'704</b>	<b>-8'186</b>	<b>-1.2%</b>
Net assets funding				1'000	1'000	2'000	2'000	-
Cost savings*				-6'500	-6'500	-13'000	-13'000	-
<b>Total Expense estimates</b>	<b>323'834</b>	<b>331'055</b>	<b>654'889</b>	<b>314'536</b>	<b>321'168</b>	<b>635'704</b>	<b>-19'186</b>	<b>-2.9%</b>
<b>Revenue less Expenses</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>3'316</b>	<b>-3'316</b>	<b>0</b>		
* Covered by efficiency measures, increase in the number of the contributory units, other revenue, including new financial resources, and possible withdrawal from the Reserve Account upon Council decision								
<b>Financial Plan 2016-2019 by proposed ITU Strategic Goals - RBB format</b>								
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Estimates	Estimates	FP	Variance	%
	2012-2013	2014-2015	2012-2015 a	2016-2017	2018-2019	2016-2019 b	c = b - a	d = c/a
<b>Revenue estimates</b>	<b>323'834</b>	<b>331'055</b>	<b>654'889</b>	<b>317'852</b>	<b>317'852</b>	<b>635'704</b>	<b>-19'185</b>	<b>-2.9%</b>
Goal 1: Growth						226'395		
Goal 2: Inclusiveness						288'543		
Goal 3: Sustainability						70'325		
Goal 4: Innovation & Partnership						50'441		
<b>Total Expense estimates</b>						<b>635'704</b>		
<b>Revenue less Expenses</b>						<b>0</b>		

## ANNEX 2 TO DECISION 5 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

### **Measures for reducing expenses**

- 1) Identification and elimination of duplication (and overlap of functions, activities, workshops, seminars), and centralization of finance and administrative tasks, in order to avoid inefficiencies and to gain from a specialized workforce.
- 2) Coordination and harmonization of all seminars and workshops by a centralized intersectoral task force or department in order to avoid duplication of topics, to optimize management, logistics, coordination and secretariat support and to benefit from synergy between the Sectors and a holistic approach to the subjects covered.
- 3) Full involvement of regional offices in the planning and organization of seminars/workshops/ meetings/conferences, including their preparatory meetings outside Geneva, in order to gain from the utilization of local expertise and local contact networks and to save on travel costs.
- 4) Maximum coordination with regional organizations with a view to organizing collocated events/meetings/conferences, sharing the expenses and minimizing the costs of participation.
- 5) Savings from attrition, redeployment of staff and review and possible reduction of grades of vacant posts, in particular in non-sensitive parts of the General Secretariat and the three Bureaux, in order to reach optimal levels of productivity, efficiency and effectiveness.
- 6) Prioritize staff redeployment for the implementation of new or additional activities. New hiring should be the last option, while taking into account gender balance and geographical distribution.
- 7) The use of consultants should only occur when the relevant skills or experience cannot be found among existing staff and after confirmation of this requirement in writing by senior management.

- 8) Upgrading the capacity-building policy to qualify the staff, including staff in regional offices, for multi-sector proficiency, in order to improve staff mobility and their flexibility for redeployment to new or additional activities.
- 9) The General Secretariat and the three Sectors of the Union should reduce the cost of documentation of conferences and meetings by conducting paperless events/meetings/ conferences and fostering the adoption of ICTs as viable and most sustainable substitutes for paper.
- 10) Reducing to the absolute minimum necessary the printing and distribution of ITU promotional/non-revenue generating publications.
- 11) Implementation of initiatives towards making ITU a completely paperless organization, such as providing Sector reports only online, adopting digital signatures, digital media and digital advertising and promotion, among others.
- 12) Consideration of savings in languages (translation, interpretation) for study group meetings and publications, without prejudice to the goals of Resolution 154 (Rev. Busan, 2014).
- 13) Evaluation and use of alternative translation procedures that could reduce the cost of translations while maintaining or improving their current quality and the accuracy of telecommunication/ICT terminology.
- 14) Implementation of WSIS activities through the redeployment of staff responsible for such activities within the existing resources and, as appropriate, through cost recovery and voluntary contributions.
- 15) Reviewing the number of study group meetings and their duration with a view to reducing their costs and those of other relevant groups.
- 16) Evaluation of regional groups established by ITU study groups in order to avoid duplication and overlap.
- 17) Limitation of the number of days of meetings for the advisory groups to three days per year maximum with interpretation.

- 18) Reduction of the number and duration of physical meetings of the Council working groups, where possible.
- 19) Reduction of the number of Council working groups to the absolute minimum necessary, by combining them into a smaller number of groups, and terminating their activities if no further development has occurred within their scope of activities.
- 20) Regular assessment of the level of achievement of the strategic goals, objectives and outputs with a view to increasing efficiency through the reallocation of budget, when necessary.
- 21) For new activities or those having additional financial resource implications, a "value-added" assessment shall be made in order to justify how the proposed activities differ from current and/or similar activities and to avoid overlap and duplication.
- 22) Sound consideration of the size of, location of and resources allocated to regional initiatives, outputs and assistance to members, the regional presence both in the regions and at headquarters, as well as actions resulting from the outcome of WTDC and the Dubai Action Plan and financed directly as activities from the Sector budget.
- 23) Reduction of the cost of travel on duty, by developing and implementing criteria in order to reduce travel costs. The criteria should consider and aim at minimizing business travel, increasing the minimum number of hours requirement for flying business class, increasing the notice for travel towards 30 days, reducing the extra daily subsistence allowance (DSA) as far as possible, prioritizing the allocation of staff from the regional and area offices, by limiting time on mission as well as through joint representation in meetings, rationalizing the number of staff sent on mission from various departments/divisions of the General Secretariat and the three Bureaux.
- 24) Reduction and/or elimination of travel to meetings the proceedings of which are webcast and captioned, including remote presentation of documents and contributions to these meetings.



- 25) Improving and prioritizing internal electronic working methods in order to reduce travel from regional offices to Geneva and vice versa.
- 26) Taking into account No. 145 of the Convention, a full range of electronic working methods needs to be explored to possibly reduce the costs, number and duration of the Radio Regulations Board meetings in the future, e.g. reduction of the number of meetings in one calendar year from four to three.
- 27) Introduce incentive programmes, such as efficiency taxes, innovation funds and other methods in order to address innovative cross-cutting means of improving the Union's productivity.
- 28) Discontinue to the greatest extent possible communications by fax and traditional postal mail between the Union and Member States and replace it with modern electronic communication methods.
- 29) Appeal to the Member States to reduce the number of issues to be considered by WRCs to the minimum necessary.
- 30) Any additional measures adopted by the Council.

## DECISION 11 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Creation and management of Council working groups**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*considering*

a) that the purposes of the Union are set out in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution;

b) that Article 7 of the Constitution states that the ITU Council acts on behalf of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

c) that Article 10 of the Constitution states that, in the interval between plenipotentiary conferences, the Council shall act, as governing body of the Union, on behalf of the Plenipotentiary Conference within the limits of the powers delegated to it by the latter;

d) that Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019, identifies key issues, goals, strategies and priorities for the Union as a whole, for each of the Sectors and for the General Secretariat;

e) that the Council adopted at its 2011 session Council Resolution 1333 on guiding principles for the creation, management and termination of Council working groups;

f) Resolution 70 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on gender mainstreaming in ITU and promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women through information and communication technologies,

*considering further*

a) that the current Council and working group schedule has caused considerable strain on Member State and Sector Member resources;

b) that the constraints of the world economic situation also serve to further increase the growing demands placed on the activities of the Union and to highlight the limited resources available from Member States and Sector Members;

c) that, in the resulting economic crisis facing the Union, Member States and Sector Members, there is an urgent need to seek innovative ways to rationalize internal costs, optimize resources and improve efficiency,

*recognizing*

that the Council has consistently appointed competent and qualified candidates for the leadership of working groups, but that there remains a need to promote and enhance equitable geographical distribution and gender balance,

*decides*

1 that the Council should decide to create working groups based on key issues, goals, strategies and priorities identified in Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014)<sup>1</sup>;

2 that the Council should decide the working groups' mandates and working procedures consistent with the Rules of Procedure of the Council;

3 that the Council should decide the leadership of the working groups, taking into account *recognizing* above, with a view to promoting and enhancing, *inter alia*, equitable geographical distribution and gender balance;

4 that, to the extent possible, the Council should merge existing working groups with a view to reducing their number and the number and duration of meetings, and with the aim of avoiding duplication of effort, and minimizing budgetary impacts;

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<sup>1</sup> Taking into account the decisions of the Plenipotentiary Conference.

5 that, to the extent possible, the Council should integrate working group meetings into the agenda and time allocation of the annual sessions of the Council;

6 that, if it is not possible to fulfil *decides* 5 above, the meetings of various groups should be collocated in order to hold them in sequence or back-to-back in a cluster;

7 that the Council should consider the results of the actions taken in this regard at its subsequent ordinary sessions.

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*(Guadalajara, 2010) – (Rev. Busan, 2014)*

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## DECISION 12 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Free online access to ITU publications**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*considering*

*a)* that Article 4 of the ITU Constitution defines the Administrative Regulations (i.e. the International Telecommunication Regulations and the Radio Regulations) as instruments of the Union, and that Member States are bound to abide by the provisions of those texts;

*b)* Resolution 123 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on bridging the standardization gap between developing<sup>1</sup> and developed countries, which recognizes that the implementation of recommendations of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) and the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) is a basic step towards bridging the standardization gap between developed and developing countries;

*c)* Resolution 64 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, as well as Resolution 20 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on non-discriminatory access to modern telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) facilities and services, which notes that:

- modern telecommunication/ICT facilities and services are established, in the main, on the basis of ITU-R and ITU-T recommendations;

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

- ITU-R and ITU-T recommendations are the result of the collective efforts of all those taking part in the standardization process within ITU and are adopted by consensus by the members of the Union;
  - limitations on the access to telecommunication/ICT facilities and services on which national telecommunication/ICT development depends and which are established on the basis of ITU-R and ITU-T recommendations constitute an obstacle to the harmonious development and compatibility of telecommunications/ICTs worldwide;
- d)* Resolution 9 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on the participation of countries, particularly developing countries, in spectrum management, which recognizes the importance of facilitating access to radiocommunication-related documentation in order to facilitate the task of radio-frequency spectrum managers;
- e)* Resolution 34 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on the role of telecommunications/ICTs in disaster preparedness, early warning, rescue, mitigation, relief and response, which notes the importance for humankind of ITU publications relating to this area of activity;
- f)* Resolution 47 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on enhancement of knowledge and effective application of ITU recommendations in developing countries, which resolved to invite Member States and Sector Members to engage in activities to enhance knowledge and effective application of ITU-T and ITU-R recommendations in developing countries;
- g)* Council Decision 571 (2014), on free online access to the Administrative Regulations, Council resolutions and decisions and other publications of the Union;
- h)* Council Decision 574 (2013), on free online access to the final reports of WTDCs;

i) Council Decision 542 (2006), which approved free online access to ITU-T recommendations for the general public on a trial basis, later confirmed on a permanent basis by Decision 12 (Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

j) that, according to Council Document C13/81, during the open free online access trial period, income from sales of the Radio Regulations in paper and DVD format in 2012 increased by more than 60 per cent compared with sales in all formats (including online purchases) during the same time interval in 2008 – the year when the previous edition of the Radio Regulations was published;

k) that free online access to the Radio Regulations for the general public, as indicated in Council Documents C13/21, C13/81 and C14/21, had no negative financial impact in 2012 and 2013;

l) the provisions of the WSIS+10 Statement on the implementation of WSIS outcomes and the WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS beyond 2015, adopted at the WSIS+10 High-Level Event, relating to the importance of free access to international standards, which enhance the efficiency of use of telecommunications/ICTs in various areas of human activity, including further development of the information society;

m) that free access to the basic texts of the Union helps to fulfil the core purposes of the Union, as defined in Article 1 of the Constitution,

*recognizing*

a) the difficulty faced by many countries, particularly developing countries, in participating in the activities of ITU-R, ITU-T and ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) study groups;

b) the various actions taken by the Council since 2000 to allow free online access to ITU recommendations and to the basic texts of the Union;

c) numerous requests made by Member States and Sector Members with respect to free online access to ITU-R and ITU-T recommendations, various ITU handbooks, the basic texts of the Union and the rules of procedure;

d) that, following the approval of ITU Council Decisions 542, 571 and 574, there was a considerable increase in downloads of all the publications made available free online under those decisions, as reported annually to the Council, thereby raising public interest in the areas and outcomes of ITU's work and facilitating more active participation of different organizations in the work of ITU;

e) that the financial implications of providing free online access to these publications have been reported as minimal, and have been compensated by the increase in the awareness of the work carried out by the Union in all three Sectors;

f) that, as a result of the introduction of free online access to ITU-R recommendations approved by Council-09, the number of downloads of these recommendations increased almost threefold between 2008 and 2010, thus improving radiocommunication experts' awareness of and participation in the work carried out in ITU-R,

*recognizing further*

a) that there is a general trend towards free online access to ICT-related standards;

b) the strategic need to increase the visibility and availability of ITU outputs;

c) that both of the objectives sought by the trial periods and the policies of free online access to ITU publications have been met, namely: ITU has achieved a great improvement in outreach, and the financial implications for ITU revenues were less than initially forecast;



d) that providing free online access to ITU publications facilitates awareness and participation of developing countries in the work of the Union;

e) that, regarding the instruments of ITU that are intended to be incorporated in national law, Member States have *de facto* freedom to reproduce, translate and publish such texts on official government department websites as well as in official journals or equivalent publications, in accordance with their respective national law,

*noting*

a) that increased involvement in ITU activities is a fundamental step towards enhanced capacity building and ICT development potential in developing countries, which will lead to a reduction of the digital divide;

b) that, in order to increase, improve and facilitate the participation of Member States and Sector Members from developing countries in ITU activities, these members need to be capable of interpreting and implementing ITU technical publications, the basic texts of the Union and the instruments of the Union;

c) that an efficient way to ensure that developing countries have access to ITU publications is to provide them free of charge online,

*noting further*

that providing free online access to ITU publications will reduce the demand for paper copies of these documents, which converges with the current ITU trend of soft format and of organizing paperless meetings, and with the overall goal of the United Nations to reduce paper usage and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions,

*decides*

1 to provide free online access for the general public, on a permanent basis, to ITU-R, ITU-T and ITU-D recommendations and reports; ITU-R handbooks on radio-frequency spectrum management<sup>2</sup>; ITU publications concerning the use of telecommunications/ICTs for ensuring disaster preparedness, early warning, rescue, mitigation, relief and response; the International Telecommunication Regulations; the Radio Regulations; the Rules of Procedure; the basic texts of the Union (Constitution, Convention, General Rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union, decisions, resolutions and recommendations); the final acts of plenipotentiary conferences; the final reports of WTDCs; the ITU Council resolutions and decisions; the final acts of world and regional radiocommunication conferences; and the final acts of world conferences on international telecommunications;

2 that paper copies of all ITU publications listed under *decides* 1 above will continue to be charged for on the basis of a two-tier pricing policy, whereby Member States, Sector Members and Associates pay a price based on cost recovery, whereas for all others, i.e. non-members, a "market price"<sup>3</sup> shall be set,

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<sup>2</sup> These include the ITU-R Handbooks on National Spectrum Management, Computer Aided Techniques for Spectrum Management, and Spectrum Monitoring.

<sup>3</sup> The term "market price" is defined as the price determined by the Sales and Marketing Division, which is established to maximize revenues without being so high as to discourage sales.

*instructs the Secretary-General*

to prepare a report on an ongoing basis on sales and free downloads of ITU publications, software and databases, and to present this report annually to the Council, detailing the following aspects:

- total sales and free downloads per year, covering last five years, beginning in 2009;
- comparison between sales of paper copies and free downloads of electronic copies, per year;
- sales and free downloads by country and by member category,

*instructs the Council*

to examine the report of the Secretary-General and to decide on policies for further improving access to ITU publications, software and databases.

## DECISION 13 (BUSAN, 2014)

**Monitoring mechanism on ITU programmes and projects**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*bearing in mind*

that the Plenipotentiary Conference establishes the strategic plan for the Union as the basis for the budget for the Union and determines related financial limits,

*recognizing*

a) that the ITU Council shall ensure the efficient coordination of the work of the Union and exercise effective financial control over the General Secretariat and the three Sectors,

b) the need to ensure the financial sustainability of the Union,

*decides*

that the Council is to be informed on a regular basis about ongoing ITU programmes and projects, including details on objectives, outputs, funding and donors, starting with Council 2015,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

1 to extend the existing ITU Telecommunication Development Sector projects online database to include all ITU Sectors and the General Secretariat so as to enable improved monitoring throughout their cycles, especially in regard to objectives achieved and cost analysis, and to grant open access to the database for relevant stakeholders;

2 to examine how information on programmes could also be shared with the membership to increase the transparency and financial sustainability of the Union,

3 to clearly indicate ITU programme and project costs in all relevant budget-related reports.

## DECISION 14 (BUSAN, 2014)

**Use of hyperlinks in ITU documents**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*considering*

Document C09/36, which contains a report by the Secretary-General addressing the use of hyperlinks in ITU documents,

*taking into account*

the endorsement by the ITU Council<sup>1</sup> of the recommendations contained in the above report,

*decides*

that final documents submitted for approval shall not contain hyperlinks other than, where appropriate, internal hyperlinks to documents or parts of documents that are stable and have already been approved by the competent organ of the Union, and that the inclusion of an internal hyperlink in a document submitted for approval should not result in implicit approval of the content of the hyperlink's target; rather, any approval must be explicit (this procedure is not applicable to study groups).

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*(Busan, 2014)*

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<sup>1</sup> See § 12.3 of Document C09/90, 22 October 2009.



## RESOLUTION 2 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**World telecommunication/information and  
communication technology policy forum**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*considering*

- a) that the telecommunication environment has undergone considerable changes under the combined influence of advances in technology, the globalization of markets and growing user demand for integrated cross-border services increasingly adapted to their needs;
- b) that restructuring of the telecommunication sector, especially the separation of regulatory and operating functions, the liberalization of services and the continuing appearance of new regulatory players, is possible in the majority of ITU Member States;
- c) that there remains a pressing need for a global framework to exchange information on telecommunication and information and communication technology (ICT) strategies and policies;
- d) that national telecommunication/ICT policies and regulations have to be recognized and understood, so as to allow the development of global markets which can support the harmonious development of telecommunication services;
- e) the important contributions provided by Member States and Sector Members to previous world telecommunication/ICT policy forums (WTPF), and the results achieved by those forums,

*conscious*

a) that the purposes of the Union are, *inter alia*, to promote, at international level, the adoption of a broader approach to the issues of telecommunications/ICTs in the global information economy and society, to promote the extension of the benefits of the new telecommunication technologies to all the world's inhabitants and to harmonize the actions of Member States and Sector Members in the attainment of those ends (cf. the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society);

b) that ITU remains uniquely positioned and is the single forum for the coordination of, exchange of information on, discussion of and harmonization of national, regional and international telecommunication/ICT strategies and policies;

c) that WTPF, which was established by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Kyoto, 1994) and successfully convened in 1996, 1998, 2001, 2009 and 2013, has provided a venue for discussion of global and cross-sectoral issues by high-level participants, thus contributing to the advance of world telecommunications, as well as to the establishment of procedures for the conduct of the forum itself;

d) that WTPF-13 held in Geneva, Switzerland, was a successful edition of these forums, attended by 126 ITU Member States and no fewer than 900 delegates,

*emphasizing*

a) that Member States and Sector Members, realizing the need for constant review of their own telecommunication/ICT policies and legislation, and for coordination in the rapidly changing telecommunication/ICT environment, adopted WTPF as a mechanism for discussing strategies and policies;



- b) that it is necessary for the Union, as an international organization playing a leading and unique role in the field of telecommunications/ICTs, to continue organizing WTPF to facilitate the exchange of information by high-level participants on telecommunication/ICT policies;
- c) that the purpose of WTPF is to provide a venue for exchanging views and information and thereby creating a shared vision among policy-makers worldwide on the issues arising from the emergence of new telecommunication/ICT services and technologies, and to consider any other policy issue in telecommunications/ICTs which would benefit from a global exchange of views, in addition to the adoption of opinions reflecting common viewpoints;
- d) that WTPF should continue to give special attention to the interests and needs of the developing countries<sup>1</sup>, where modern technologies and services can contribute significantly to telecommunication infrastructure development;
- e) the continuing need for allowing adequate preparation time for WTPF;
- f) the importance of regional preparation and consultation prior to convening WTPF,

*resolves*

1 that WTPF, as established by Resolution 2 (Kyoto, 1994) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, shall be maintained, in order to continue discussing and exchanging views and information on telecommunication/ICT policy and regulatory matters, especially on global and cross-sectoral issues;

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

2 that WTPF shall not produce prescriptive regulatory outcomes; however, it shall prepare reports and adopt opinions by consensus for consideration by Member States, Sector Members and relevant ITU meetings;

3 that WTPF shall be open to all Member States and Sector Members; however, if appropriate, by decision of a majority of the representatives of Member States, a special session may be held for Member States only;

4 that WTPF shall be convened on an ad hoc basis to respond quickly to emerging policy issues arising from the changing telecommunication/ICT environment;

5 that WTPF should be convened within existing budgetary resources and, as far as possible, in conjunction with one of the meetings or forums of the Union in order to minimize the impact on the budget of the Union;

6 that the Council shall continue to decide on the duration and the date, allowing ample time for preparations, and on the venue, the agenda and the themes of WTPF;

7 that the agenda and themes shall continue to be based on a report by the Secretary-General, including input from any conference, assembly or meeting of the Union, and on contributions from Member States and Sector Members;

8 that, in order to ensure that they are well focused, discussions at WTPF shall be based solely on a single report by the Secretary-General, and contributions from participants based on that report, prepared in accordance with a procedure adopted by the Council and based on the views of Member States and Sector Members, and WTPF shall not consider drafts of any new Opinions that were not presented during the preparatory period foreseen for drawing up the Secretary-General's report prior to the forum;

9 that broad participation in WTPF and operational efficiency during the forum shall be facilitated,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

to make the necessary preparations for convening WTPF based on *resolves* above,

*instructs the Council*

- 1 to continue to decide on the duration, date, venue, agenda and themes of any future WTPF;
- 2 to adopt a procedure for preparation of the report by the Secretary-General referred to in *resolves* 7 above,

*further instructs the Council*

to submit to the next plenipotentiary conference a report on WTPF for any necessary action.

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*(Kyoto, 1994) – (Rev. Minneapolis, 1998) – (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002) – (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) – (Rev. Busan, 2014)*

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## RESOLUTION 5 (KYOTO, 1994)

### **Invitations to hold conferences or meetings away from Geneva**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Kyoto, 1994),

*considering*

that expenditure on conferences and meetings of the Union is distinctly lower when they are held in Geneva,

*considering, however*

that there are advantages in holding certain conferences and meetings in countries other than the headquarters country,

*bearing in mind*

that the United Nations General Assembly, in Resolution 1202 (XII), decided that meetings of organs of the United Nations should, as a general rule, be held at the headquarters of the organ concerned, but that a meeting could be held away from headquarters if an inviting government agreed to defray the additional expenditure involved,

*recommends*

that world conferences and assemblies of the Union should normally be held at the seat of the Union,

*resolves*

1 that invitations to hold conferences and assemblies of the Union away from Geneva should not be accepted unless the host government agrees to defray the additional expenditure involved;

2 that invitations to hold development conferences and meetings of the study groups of the Sectors away from Geneva should not be accepted unless the host government provides at least adequate premises and the necessary furniture and equipment free of charge, except that in the case of developing countries equipment need not necessarily be provided free of charge by the host government, if the government so requests.

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*(Kyoto, 1994)*

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## RESOLUTION 6 (KYOTO, 1994)

**Attendance of liberation organizations recognized by the United Nations at conferences and meetings of the International Telecommunication Union as observers**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Kyoto, 1994),

*considering*

- a) Article 8 of the Constitution of the International Telecommunication Union (Geneva, 1992), vesting full powers in Plenipotentiary Conferences;
- b) Article 49 of that Constitution, defining the relations of the Union with the United Nations;
- c) Article 50 of that Constitution, defining the relations of the Union with other international organizations,

*having regard to*

relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly dealing with the question of liberation movements,

*resolves*

that the liberation organizations recognized by the United Nations may attend at any time conferences, assemblies and meetings of the International Telecommunication Union as observers,

*instructs the Council*

to take the necessary action to implement this Resolution.

## RESOLUTION 7 (KYOTO, 1994)

**Procedure for defining a region for the purpose of convening  
a regional radiocommunication conference**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Kyoto, 1994),

*recognizing*

- a) that certain provisions of the Constitution and the Convention of the International Telecommunication Union (Geneva, 1992) (in particular No. 43 of the Constitution and No. 138 of the Convention) relate to the convening of a regional radiocommunication conference;
- b) that some regions and areas are defined in the Radio Regulations;
- c) that a Plenipotentiary Conference and a world radiocommunication conference have the competence to define a region for a regional radiocommunication conference;
- d) that, whereas a regional radiocommunication conference may be convened on a proposal by the Council, the Council has not been explicitly authorized to take a decision on the definition of a region,

*considering*

- a) that it may be necessary to define a region for the purpose of convening a regional radiocommunication conference;
- b) that the Council is the most appropriate body for defining a region, when such action is necessary in the interval between competent world radiocommunication conferences or Plenipotentiary Conferences,

*resolves*

- 1 that, if and when it becomes necessary to define a region for the purpose of convening a regional radiocommunication conference, the Council shall propose a definition of the region;

2 that all Members of the proposed region shall be consulted on and all Members of the Union informed of that proposal;

3 that the region shall be deemed to have been defined when two thirds of the Members of the proposed region have responded in the affirmative within a time period determined by the Council;

4 that the composition of the region shall be communicated to all Members,

*invites the Council*

1 to take note of this Resolution and to take any appropriate action;

2 where appropriate, to consider combining the consultation of Members on the definition of the region with the consultation on convening the regional radiocommunication conference.

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*(Kyoto, 1994)*

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## RESOLUTION 11 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

### ITU TELECOM events

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*considering*

- a) that the purposes of the Union, as reflected in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution, include to promote the extension of the benefits of the new telecommunication technologies to all the world's inhabitants and to harmonize the actions of Member States and Sector Members in the attainment of those ends;
- b) that the telecommunication environment is undergoing considerable changes under the combined influence of advances in technology, the globalization of markets and growing user demand for integrated cross-border services adapted to their needs;
- c) that the need for a global framework to exchange information on telecommunication strategies and policies has been evident for many years;
- d) that telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) events are of considerable importance in keeping the membership of the Union and the wider telecommunication/ICT community informed of the latest advances in all fields of telecommunications/ICT and the possibilities of applying these achievements for the benefit of all Member States and Sector Members, particularly the developing countries<sup>1</sup>;

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

e) that ITU TELECOM events fulfil the mandate to keep Member States and Sector Members informed of, and offer a universal opportunity for the display of, state-of-the-art technology concerning all aspects of telecommunications/ICT and related fields of activity, and provide a forum for the exchange of views between Member States and industry;

f) that ITU's participation in national, regional and global exhibitions on telecommunications/ICT and related areas of activity will serve to promote and enhance ITU's image and make it possible, without significant financial expenses, to broaden the promotion of its achievements to the end user, while at the same time attracting new Sector Members and Associates to participate in its activities;

g) the commitments made by Switzerland and the State of Geneva (the headquarters of ITU) towards ITU TELECOM events, notably its exceptional support to the ITU TELECOM World events since 1971 in the form of hosting most of them successfully,

*emphasizing*

a) that it is necessary for the Union, as an international organization playing a leading role in the field of telecommunications/ICT, to continue organizing an annual event to facilitate the exchange of information by high-level participants on telecommunication policies;

b) that the organization of exhibitions is not the main objective of ITU and, if it is decided to arrange such exhibitions in conjunction with TELECOM events, they should preferably be outsourced,

*noting*

a) that an ITU TELECOM Board has been established to advise the Secretary-General in the management of ITU TELECOM events, and will act in accordance with ITU Council decisions;

b) that ITU TELECOM events are also facing challenges, such as the increasing costs of exhibits and the trend towards reducing their size, the specialization of their scope and the need to provide value to industry;

- c) that ITU TELECOM events need to provide value and opportunities for participants to earn a reasonable return on their investments;
- d) that the operational flexibility that the ITU TELECOM management has been afforded in order to meet all the challenges in its field of activity and compete in the commercial environment has proven to be useful;
- e) that ITU TELECOM needs a transition period to adapt to new market conditions;
- f) that ITU has participated as an exhibitor in exhibitions organized by other parties,

*noting further*

- a) that participants, and in particular industry members, are seeking reasonable predictability of time and place of ITU TELECOM events and opportunities to earn a reasonable return on investment;
- b) that there is increased interest in further developing the ITU TELECOM events as a key platform for discussions among policy-makers, regulators and industry leaders;
- c) that there are requests for more competitive raw space costs and participation fees, preferential or discounted hotel prices and adequate numbers of hotel rooms, in order to make the events more accessible and affordable;
- d) that the ITU TELECOM brand should be reinforced by appropriate means of communication in order to remain one of the most respected telecommunication/ICT events;
- e) that there is a need to ensure the financial viability of ITU TELECOM events;

f) that the ITU TELECOM 2009 event incorporated measures called for in Council Resolution 1292 (2008), in regard to giving due consideration to the emerging trend for forums, the need to seek participation from a wider spectrum of industries/businesses, the need to actively encourage Heads of State, Heads of Government, ministerial, CEO and VIP participation, and the need for broader dissemination of forum discussion and outcomes;

g) that the ITU TELECOM events held in Dubai in 2012 and in Bangkok in 2013 were a success and were well attended and highly appreciated,

*resolves*

1 that the Union should, in collaboration with its Member States and its Sector Members, organize ITU TELECOM events related to issues of major importance in the current telecommunication/ICT environment and addressing market trends, technological development and regulatory issues, among others;

2 that the Secretary-General is fully accountable for ITU TELECOM activities (including planning, organization and finance);

3 that ITU TELECOM events should be organized on a predictable and regular basis, preferably at the same time each year, taking due account of the need to ensure that the expectations of all participating stakeholders in such events are met, and, in addition, to ensure that they do not overlap with any major ITU conferences or assemblies;

4 that each ITU TELECOM event shall be financially viable and shall have no negative impact on the ITU budget on the basis of the existing cost-allocation system as determined by the Council;

5 that the Union, in its venue selection process for ITU TELECOM events, shall ensure:

5.1 an open and transparent bidding process, based on the model host-country agreement as approved by the Council, in consultation with Member States;

- 5.2 that preliminary market and feasibility studies are conducted, including consultations with interested participants from all regions;
- 5.3 accessibility and affordability for participants;
- 5.4 the generation of positive revenues from ITU TELECOM events;
- 5.5 that selection of venues for ITU TELECOM events is based on the principle of rotation between regions, and between Member States within regions to the extent possible;
- 6 that the audit of ITU TELECOM accounts shall be carried out by the External Auditor of the Union;
- 7 that, once all expenses have been recovered, a significant part of any generated positive revenues over expenses derived from ITU TELECOM activities shall be transferred to the ICT Development Fund under the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau, for specific telecommunication development projects, primarily in the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

- 1 to define and propose the mandate, the principles and the composition of the ITU TELECOM Board to the Council for approval, with due consideration to ensuring transparency and to appointing some individuals with experience in the organization of telecommunication/ICT events;
- 2 to ensure the appropriate management of all ITU TELECOM events and resources, in line with the regulations of the Union;
- 3 to consider measures that will enable and assist Member States which are capable and willing to do so, particularly developing countries, to host and stage ITU TELECOM events;
- 4 to consult the ITU TELECOM Board, on an ongoing basis, on a broad range of topics;

- 5 to develop a business plan for each proposed event;
- 6 to ensure the transparency of ITU TELECOM events and report on them in a separate annual report to the Council, including:
  - all ITU TELECOM business activities;
  - all activities of the ITU TELECOM Board, including the proposals on the themes and venues for the events;
  - the reasons for the selection of venues for future ITU TELECOM events;
  - financial implications and risks for future ITU TELECOM events, preferably two years in advance;
  - action taken with respect to the use of any positive revenues generated;
- 7 to propose to the 2015 session of the Council a mechanism to implement *resolves* 5;
- 8 to revise the model host-country agreement and use all the means possible to get it approved by the Council as soon as possible, with the said model host-country agreement to include clauses that allow the Union and the host country to make changes deemed necessary as a result of *force majeure* or other performance criteria;
- 9 that an ITU TELECOM event be held every year, ensuring that it does not overlap with any major ITU conferences or assemblies: the determination of the venue shall be based on competitive selection, and the contract negotiation shall be based on the model host-country agreement approved by the Council;
- 10 to ensure that, if an ITU TELECOM event is held in the same year as a plenipotentiary conference, the ITU TELECOM event should preferably take place no later than the plenipotentiary conference;

11 to ensure that there is internal control and that internal and external audits of the accounts for the different ITU TELECOM events are carried out on regular basis;

12 to report annually to the Council on the implementation of this resolution, and to the next plenipotentiary conference on the future evolution of the ITU TELECOM events,

*instructs the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Directors of the Bureaux*

1 to give due consideration, in planning ITU TELECOM events, to the possible synergies with the major ITU conferences and meetings, and vice versa, where justified;

2 to encourage the participation of ITU in national, regional and global telecommunication/ICT events, within the available financial resources,

*instructs the Council*

1 to review the annual report on ITU TELECOM events as described under *instructs the Secretary-General 6* and the mechanism referred to in *instructs the Secretary-General 7* above, and give guidance on future trends for those activities;

2 to review and approve the allocation of part of the positive revenues generated by ITU TELECOM events to development projects within the framework of the ICT Development Fund;

3 to review and approve the Secretary-General's proposals on the principles for a transparent decision-making process on the venues of ITU TELECOM events, including the criteria which serve as a basis for that process; such criteria shall include cost elements, as well as the rotation system as referred to in *resolves 5* and *instructs the Secretary-General 9* above, and the additional costs which may result from holding the events outside the city of the headquarters of the Union;

- 4 to review and approve the Secretary-General's proposals on the mandate and the composition of the ITU TELECOM Board, taking into account *instructs the Secretary-General 1* above;
- 5 to review and approve the model host-country agreement, as soon as possible;
- 6 to review, as appropriate, the frequencies and venue of ITU TELECOM events on the basis of the financial results of these events;
- 7 to report on the future of these events to the next plenipotentiary conference, including proposals for a fresh study on various options and mechanisms in the organization of the events.

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*(Kyoto, 1994) – (Rev. Minneapolis, 1998) – (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002) – (Rev. Antalya, 2006) – (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) – (Rev. Busan, 2014)*

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## RESOLUTION 14 (REV. ANTALYA, 2006)

**Recognition of the rights and obligations  
of all Sector Members of the Union**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Antalya, 2006),

*considering*

- a) that the rights and obligations of Member States and Sector Members of the Union are set out in Article 3 of the ITU Constitution;
- b) that Article 19 of the ITU Convention lists the types of entities and organizations which may be authorized to participate in the activities of the Sectors as Sector Members;
- c) that, except for the provisions of Nos 239 and 340C of the Convention, only Member States have the right to vote, particularly for the approval of recommendations and questions, in accordance with Article 3 of the Constitution,

*recognizing*

that Sector Members referred to in the lists established by the Secretary-General in accordance with No. 237 of the Convention may participate in all activities of the Sector concerned, with the exception of formal votes and some treaty-making conferences, and in this regard each Sector Member is entitled to:

- a) receive from the Bureau of that Sector all the documents which they have requested relating to the Sector's study groups, assemblies or conferences in which they may participate under the relevant provisions of the Convention and under the working methods and procedures of the Sector concerned;
- b) send contributions to study groups, notably those in which they have requested to participate in due time, in accordance with the Sector's working methods and procedures;

- c) send representatives to such meetings, after having announced their names to the Bureau in due time, in accordance with the Sector's working methods and procedures;
- d) propose items for inclusion in the agendas of such meetings, except in relation to the structure and functioning of the Union;
- e) take part in all discussions, and assume responsibilities such as chairmanship or vice-chairmanship of a study group, working party, expert group, rapporteur's group or any other ad hoc group, according to the competence and availability of its experts;
- f) take part in the drafting work and editorial work necessary prior to the adoption of recommendations,

*recognizing further*

that coordination between Member States and Sector Members at the national level has proved to increase the efficiency of the work,

*resolves*

to invite Sector Members to take part in any decision-finding procedure aimed at facilitating the achievement of a consensus in study groups, in particular in the field of standardization,

*invites the world telecommunication development conference, radiocommunication assembly and world telecommunication standardization assembly*

to adopt respective provisions in the working methods and procedures of their Sectors,

*invites administrations of Member States*

to conduct, at the national level, broad coordination among all Sector Members from their countries.

## RESOLUTION 16 (REV. MINNEAPOLIS, 1998)

### **Refinement of the Radiocommunication Sector and Telecommunication Standardization Sector**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Minneapolis, 1998),

*noting*

the report by the Council on the results of the implementation of Resolution 16 (Kyoto, 1994),

*considering*

- a) that ITU should be the pre-eminent global standardization body in the telecommunication field, including radiocommunication;
- b) that ITU is the pre-eminent body for efficient worldwide cooperation in the radio regulatory field;
- c) that the Additional Plenipotentiary Conference (Geneva, 1992) recognized Nos. 78 and 104 of the Constitution as an initial allocation of work between the Radiocommunication (ITU-R) and Telecommunication Standardization (ITU-T) Sectors and outlined general principles and guidelines pertaining to the allocation of work between ITU-R and ITU-T;
- d) that, in application of instructions handed down by the Additional Plenipotentiary Conference (Geneva, 1992), the World Telecommunication Standardization Conference (Helsinki, 1993) and the Radiocommunication Assembly (Geneva, 1993) adopted resolutions that establish procedures for ongoing review and, as appropriate, allocation of work, in order to achieve goals in terms of effectiveness and efficiency;
- e) the need to involve all interested participants of ITU-R and ITU-T in this ongoing review;

f) that, when implementing this resolution, questions that may have implications for the International Telecommunication Regulations and the Radio Regulations require a more cautious approach,

*resolves*

1 that the current process, in conformity with the relevant resolutions of the world telecommunication standardization conference and the radiocommunication assembly which provide for ongoing review of new and existing work and its allocation to ITU-R and ITU-T, shall be maintained;

2 that changes in the allocation of work between ITU-R and ITU-T on matters that may be related to the International Telecommunication Regulations or the Radio Regulations shall not be considered within that process.

## RESOLUTION 21 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Measures concerning alternative calling procedures  
on international telecommunication networks**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recognizing*

- a) Resolution 20 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on procedures for allocation and management of international telecommunication numbering, naming, addressing and identification (NNAI) resources;
- b) Resolution 29 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of WTSA, on alternative calling procedures on international telecommunication networks;
- c) Resolution 22 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on alternative calling procedures on international telecommunication networks, identification of origin and apportionment of revenues in providing international telecommunication services;
- d) that each Member State has the sovereign right to allow or prohibit certain forms of alternative calling procedures in order to address their impact on its national telecommunication networks;
- e) the interests of developing countries<sup>1</sup>;
- f) the interests of consumers and users of telecommunication services;

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

- g) the need of some Member States to identify the origin of calls, taking into account the relevant ITU recommendations;
- h) that some forms of alternative calling procedures may have an impact on quality of service (QoS), quality of experience (QoE) and the performance of telecommunication networks;
- i) the benefits of competition in delivering lower costs and choice to consumers;
- j) that there are a myriad of different stakeholders impacted by alternative calling procedures;
- k) that the understanding of what is an alternative calling procedure has evolved over time,

*considering*

- a) that the use of some alternative calling procedures may adversely affect the economies of developing countries and may seriously hamper the efforts made by those countries to ensure the sound development of their telecommunication/information and communication technology networks and services;
- b) that some forms of alternative calling procedures may have an impact on traffic management, network planning and the quality and performance of telecommunication networks;
- c) that the use of certain alternative calling procedures that are not harmful to networks may contribute to competition in the interests of consumers;
- d) that a number of relevant Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) recommendations, particularly those of ITU-T Study Groups 2 and 3, that address, from several points of view, including technical and financial, the effects of alternative calling procedures on the performance and development of telecommunication networks,

*recalling*

the ITU workshop on "caller ID spoofing" held by ITU-T Study Group 2 in Geneva on 2 June 2014,

*aware*

*a)* that ITU-T has concluded that certain alternative calling procedures such as constant calling (or bombardment or polling) and answer suppression seriously degrade the quality and the performance of the telecommunication networks;

*b)* that appropriate ITU-T study groups and ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) study groups are cooperating on issues related to alternative calling procedures and telecommunication origin identification,

*resolves*

1 to identify and describe all forms of alternative calling procedures and assess their impact on all parties, and to review relevant ITU-T recommendations in order to address any negative effects that alternative calling procedures have on all parties;

2 to encourage administrations and operating agencies authorized by Member States to take the appropriate measures to provide an acceptable level of QoS and QoE, to ensure the delivery of International calling line identification (CLI) and origin identification (OI) information, wherever possible, and consistent with national law, and to ensure the appropriate charging taking into account the relevant ITU recommendations;

3 to develop guidelines for administrations and operating agencies authorized by Member States on the measures that can be considered, within the constraints of their national laws, to address the impact of alternative calling procedures;

4 to request the appropriate ITU-T study groups, particularly Study Groups 2 and 3, and ITU-D study groups, through contributions of Member States and Sector Members, to continue to study:

- i) alternative calling procedures, based on *resolves* 1, in order to update relevant ITU-T recommendations;
- ii) issues related to OI and CLI, in order to take into account the importance of these studies as they relate to next-generation networks and network degradation,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

1 to collaborate on further studies, based on contributions from Member States, Sector Members and other members, in order to evaluate the effects of alternative calling procedures on consumers, the effect on countries with economies in transition, developing countries and especially least developed countries, for sound development of their local telecommunication networks and services in respect of originating and terminating calls using alternative calling procedures;

2 to develop guidelines for Member States and Sector Members with regard to all aspects of alternative calling procedures, based on *resolves* 1 and 4 above;

3 to evaluate the effectiveness of the suggested guidelines for consultation on alternative calling procedures;

4 to collaborate so as to avoid overlap and duplication of effort in studying issues related to different forms of alternative calling procedures,

*invites Member States*

1 to encourage their administrations and operating agencies authorized by Member States to implement the ITU-T recommendations referred to in *considering d)* in order to limit the negative effects that, in some cases, some alternative calling procedures have on developing countries;



2 which permit the use of alternative calling procedures on their territory in accordance with their national regulations to pay due regard to the decisions of other administrations and operating agencies authorized by Member States whose regulations do not permit such alternative calling procedures;

3 to cooperate to resolve difficulties in order to ensure that national laws and regulations of ITU Member States are respected;

4 to contribute to this work,

*invites Sector Members*

1 in their international operations, to pay due regard to the decisions of other administrations whose regulations do not permit such alternative calling procedures;

2 to contribute to this work.

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*(Kyoto, 1994) – (Rev. Minneapolis, 1998) – (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002) – (Rev. Antalya, 2006) – (Rev. Busan, 2014)*

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## RESOLUTION 22 (REV. ANTALYA, 2006)

**Apportionment of revenues in providing international telecommunication services**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Antalya, 2006),

*considering*

- a) the importance of telecommunications/information and communication technology (ICT) for the social and economic development of all countries;
- b) ITU's continued leading role in stimulating the universal development of telecommunications/ICT;
- c) the increasing imbalance, under the current circumstances, between developed and developing countries, in terms of economic growth and technological progress;
- d) that the Independent Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development, in its report "The Missing Link", recommended, *inter alia*, that Member States should consider setting aside a small portion of revenues from calls between developing and industrialized countries to be devoted to telecommunications in developing countries;
- e) that Recommendation D.150 of the Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T), which provides for the apportionment of accounting revenues from international traffic between terminal countries, in principle on a 50/50 basis, has been amended to provide for sharing in a different proportion where there are differences in the costs of providing and operating telecommunication services, although ITU-T has not obtained any information on its implementation;
- f) Resolution 3 (Melbourne, 1988) adopted by the World Administrative Telegraph and Telephone Conference;

*g)* that ITU, in pursuance of Resolution 23 (Nice, 1989) of the Plenipotentiary Conference and as a follow-up to the recommendation in "The Missing Link", carried out a study of the costs of providing and operating international telecommunication services between developing and industrialized countries and established that the cost of providing telecommunication services is much higher in developing countries than in developed ones, and this remains the case;

*h)* that ITU-T has conducted the necessary studies for completion of Recommendation D.140 which establish the principles of cost-oriented accounting rates and accounting-rate shares in each relation,

*recognizing*

*a)* that the continuing social and economic underdevelopment of a large part of the world is one of the most serious problems affecting not only the countries concerned but also the international community as a whole;

*b)* that the development of telecommunication/ICT infrastructure and services is a precondition for social and economic development;

*c)* that inequalities in access to telecommunication facilities globally result in a widening of the gap between the developed and the developing world in terms of economic growth and technological progress;

*d)* that the trend is towards falling costs of international telecommunication transmission and switching, contributing towards a lowering of accounting-rate levels, especially between developed nations, but that the conditions for lowering rates are not uniformly present throughout the world;

*e)* that raising telecommunication network quality and telephone access levels to developed-country levels throughout the world would assist significantly in achieving economic equilibrium and in diminishing existing call and cost imbalances,

*recalling*

- a) the relevant resolutions of various development conferences, especially their declarations on the recognition of the need to pay special attention to the requirements of the least developed countries when devising development cooperation programmes;
- b) the recommendation in “The Missing Link” that Member States should consider a rearrangement of their international traffic accounting procedures in relations between developing and industrialized countries such that a small proportion of call revenue be used for development purposes;
- c) Recommendation 3 (Kyoto, 1994) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, which recommends that developed countries take into account requests for favourable treatment made by developing countries in service, commercial or other relations in telecommunications, thus helping to achieve the desired economic equilibrium conducive to a relaxation of present world tensions,

*noting*

- a) that the concept of network externalities may apply to international traffic between developing and developed countries;
- b) that information regarding the concept of network externalities and its possible application to international traffic may be found in an ITU-T Report;
- c) that if the concept of network externalities were found to apply, it might be appropriate, subject to certain conditions being fulfilled, for the apportionment of accounting revenues to be on a basis other than 50/50, with the higher proportion being payable by the developed country to take account of the value of the network externalities;
- d) that ITU-T is studying the applicability of network externalities to international traffic,

*resolves to urge the Telecommunication Standardization Sector*

- 1 to expedite its work on completing its study on the concept of network externalities for international traffic in relation to both fixed and mobile services;
- 2 to follow up its work on developing the appropriate costing methodologies for both fixed and mobile services;
- 3 to agree on transitional arrangements which may allow for some flexibility, taking into account the situation of the developing countries and the rapidly changing international telecommunication environment;
- 4 to take into consideration the interests of all users of telecommunications as a high priority,

*invites administrations of the Member States*

- 1 to make available to the General Secretariat all the information necessary for the implementation of this resolution;
- 2 to contribute to the work of ITU-T on network externalities, with a view to completing the required studies, taking due account of the legitimate interests of all involved parties,

*instructs the Secretary-General and the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau*

to monitor and report to the Council on progress achieved,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau*

to submit a report to the Council on the implementation of this resolution,

*instructs the Council*

- 1 to review achieved results, and to take all necessary measures so as to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of this resolution;
- 2 to report to the next plenipotentiary conference on the progress made with respect to this resolution.

## RESOLUTION 25 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

### **Strengthening the regional presence**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*considering*

- a) the benefits to the population of telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) and the need to promote their greater availability in developing countries<sup>1</sup>;
- b) that the development of national and regional telecommunication/ICT infrastructures assists in narrowing the national and global digital divides;
- c) the commitment of the ITU Member States to promoting access to telecommunications/ICTs at affordable prices, with special attention to the most disadvantaged,

*bearing in mind*

- a) Resolution 123 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries;
- b) Resolution 5 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on enhanced participation by developing countries in the activities of the Union;
- c) Resolution ITU-R 48 (Rev. Geneva, 2012) of the Radiocommunication Assembly, on strengthening the regional presence in the radiocommunication study group work;

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

d) Resolution 44 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries;

e) Resolution 57 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of WTSA, on strengthening coordination and cooperation among the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R), the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) and the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) on matters of mutual interest;

f) the 2009 United Nations Joint Inspection Unit report, which made a number of recommendations on ways to improve the ITU regional presence,

*recognizing*

a) the difficulty faced by many countries, particularly developing countries with stringent budgetary constraints, in participating in the activities of ITU;

b) the outcome indicators for the objectives and the revised key performance indicators (KPIs) for the outputs as elaborated by the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) following instructions by WTDC-14,

c) that regional offices are an extension of ITU as a whole, and that, therefore, ITU's capacity to hold electronic meetings as provided for by Resolution 167 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference will serve to build up the effectiveness of the Union's activities, including project implementation as set forth in Resolution 157 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference,

*convinced*

a) that the regional presence is a tool of ITU for working as closely as possible with its membership, serving as a channel for disseminating information on its activities, developing closer ties with regional and subregional organizations and providing technical assistance to countries in special need;

b) of the importance of continuing to strengthen coordination between the Radiocommunication Bureau (BR), the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB), the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) and the General Secretariat;

c) that the regional and area offices enable ITU to be more aware of and more responsive to the specific needs of the regions;

d) that resources are limited, and that efficiency and effectiveness are therefore key considerations for activities to be undertaken by ITU, as well as of the need to consolidate the technical expertise and knowledge of the human resources assigned to regional and area offices;

e) that, to be effective, the regional presence must have the necessary level of authority to meet the diverse requirements of the membership;

f) that adequate online access between headquarters and the field offices significantly enhances technical cooperation activities;

g) that all relevant electronic information available at headquarters should also be available to regional offices;

h) that full engagement and commitment from the regional and area offices is fundamental for the successful implementation of the strategic plan for the Union and the Dubai Action Plan,

*noting*

a) the role that should be assumed by the ITU regional offices in executing projects related to the regional initiatives, and the need to promote greater collaboration with the regional telecommunication organizations;

b) that both the Plenipotentiary Conference and the ITU Council have endorsed the principle that regional and area offices should be entrusted with clear and specific functions;



c) that there should be greater cooperation among BDT, the other Bureaux and the General Secretariat in order to encourage participation by the regional offices in their respective spheres;

d) that there is a need for ongoing evaluation of the staffing requirement for regional and area offices,

*noting also*

that regional and area offices represent the presence of the entire Union, that their activities should be linked to ITU headquarters and should reflect the coordinated objectives of all three Sectors, and that regional activities should enhance the effective participation of all members in ITU work,

*resolves*

1 to continue the review of the strengthening of ITU regional presence in the interval between two consecutive plenipotentiary conferences;

2 to strengthen the functions of the regional offices so that they can play a part in the implementation of programmes and projects in the framework of the regional initiatives, within the resources allocated by the financial plan;

3 that regional offices play a key role in facilitating discussions on regional matters and the dissemination of information and results of activities of all three Sectors of the Union, while avoiding the duplication of such functions with headquarters;

4 that the regional and area offices shall be empowered to make decisions within their mandate, while the coordination functions and the balance between ITU headquarters and the regional and area offices should be facilitated and improved;

5 that the regional and area offices should contribute, to the extent practicable, *inter alia*, to the annual four-year rolling operational plans of the General Secretariat and of the three Sectors, with content specific to each regional and area office, linked to the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019 and the Dubai Action Plan, then set up and continue to publish the annual plan/events on the ITU website for implementation;

6 that regional and area offices shall actively engage in the implementation of the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019, in particular with respect to the four strategic goals, all sectoral and intersectoral objectives and following up on the accomplishment of the strategic targets;

7 that regional and area offices shall actively engage in the implementation of the Dubai Action Plan, in particular with respect to the five objectives and their respective outcomes, the 15 outputs and the 30 regional initiatives;

8 that the regional and area offices shall actively engage in the realization of the outcomes, indicators and KPIs as identified by the Dubai Action Plan and by TDAG;

9 that cooperation between the ITU regional and area offices, relevant regional organizations and other international organizations dealing with development and financial matters should continue to be improved, in the interests of optimizing the use of resources and avoiding duplication, and that Member States should be kept updated through BDT, where necessary, in order to ensure that their needs are being met in a coordinated and consultative fashion;

10 that the regional offices shall be fully involved in the organization of regional events/meetings/conferences, in close collaboration with the General Secretariat, the relevant Bureau(x) and the regional organizations, in order to increase efficiency in the coordination of such events, avoid duplication of events/topics and derive benefit from synergy between the Bureaux and regional offices;

11 that, for the effective performance of their duties, regional offices must have sufficient resources, within the resources allocated by the financial plan, including the technological platforms to hold electronic meetings and utilize electronic working methods (EWM) with their respective Member States;

12 that sufficient resources have to be made available in order for BDT to be able to operate effectively in the interests of narrowing the telecommunication gap between the developing and developed countries, thereby supporting endeavours towards bridging the digital divide, and that, accordingly, the regional offices should, in coordination with ITU headquarters, take measures with a view to implementing the objectives as set out in the Dubai Action Plan;

13 that the objectives and outcomes identified in the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019, along with the four-year rolling operational plans of the General Secretariat and the three Sectors and the evaluation criteria identified in annex to this resolution, shall be used to evaluate the regional presence, and, where regional and area offices do not meet the agreed evaluation criteria, the Council should assess the reasons and take the necessary corrective actions that it considers appropriate, in consultation with the countries concerned,

*instructs the Council*

1 to continue to include the regional presence as an item on the agenda of each session of the Council in order to examine its evolution and adopt decisions for its continuing structural adaptation and operation, with the aim of fully meeting the requirements of the Union's membership and giving effect to the decisions adopted at meetings of the Union, and of consolidating the coordination and complementary aspects of activities between ITU and regional and subregional telecommunication organizations;

2 to allocate the appropriate financial resources within the financial limits established by the Plenipotentiary Conference;

3 to report to the next plenipotentiary conference on the progress made in implementing this resolution;

4 to analyse the performance of regional and area offices based on the report of the Secretary-General, the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019, the four-year rolling operational plans of the General Secretariat and the three Sectors and the evaluation criteria identified in annex to this resolution, and to take appropriate measures for improving the ITU regional presence;

5 to analyse the report on the results of the satisfaction survey to be conducted by the Secretary-General;

6 to continue to consider further implementation of the recommendations from the 2009 JIU report (Council Document C09/55),

*instructs the Secretary-General*

1 to facilitate the task of the Council by providing all necessary support for strengthening the regional presence as described in this resolution;

2 to adapt, where necessary, the prevailing terms and conditions of host-country agreement(s) to the changing environment in the respective host country, after prior consultations with countries concerned and the representatives of the regional intergovernmental organizations of the affected countries;

3 to take into consideration the elements for evaluation contained in annex to this resolution;

4 to submit each year to the Council a report on the regional presence containing, for each specific regional office, detailed information on how the goals and objectives identified in the strategic plan for 2016-2019 and the four-year rolling operational plans of the General Secretariat and the three Sectors are being delivered in the context of the results-based management framework; the report should include detailed information on:

i) staffing, including number of staff members and category of employment;

- ii) finances, including budget allocated to the offices and expenditure per objective and output, in accordance with the Dubai Action Plan;
- iii) new developments, such as any extension of activities of the three Sectors, outcomes of projects, including regional initiatives, events/meetings/conferences and regional preparatory meetings, and attraction of new Sector Members, in coordination with regional intergovernmental organizations;

5 to suggest appropriate measures to ensure the effectiveness of ITU's regional presence, including evaluation by JIU or by referring it to any other independent entity, taking into account the elements set out in annex to this resolution;

6 to conduct, once every four years, within the existing financial resources, a survey of the level of satisfaction of Member States, Sector Members and regional telecommunication organizations with ITU's regional presence, and to present the results in a report to the session of Council prior to each plenipotentiary conference,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

1 to implement the following measures for further strengthening the regional presence:

- i) to expand and strengthen the regional and area offices by identifying functions which could be decentralized and implementing them as soon as possible;
- ii) to review the internal administrative procedures pertaining to the work of the regional offices, with a view to their simplification and transparency and enhancing work efficiency;
- iii) to assist countries in implementing the regional initiatives defined in the Dubai Action Plan, in accordance with Resolution 17 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC;

- iv) to establish clear procedures for consulting Member States, in order to prioritize the consolidated regional initiatives and keep Member States informed on project selection and funding;
- v) to solicit specialized input from the regional and area offices to better inform decision-making and address the crucial needs of the ITU membership in the region;
- vi) to provide the regional and area offices with greater flexibility, including, but not limited to:
  - functions relating to the dissemination of information, provision of expert advice and hosting of meetings, courses and seminars;
  - any functions and tasks that may be delegated to them relating to the preparation and implementation of their allocated budgets;
  - ensuring their effective participation in discussions on the future of the Union and on strategic issues concerning the telecommunication/ICT sector,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, in close consultation with the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Radiocommunication Bureau and the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau*

- 1 to take the necessary measures for further strengthening of the regional presence, as described in this resolution, and measures to ensure that BR and TSB activities are effectively covered in the regional and area offices;
- 2 to support the evaluation of the effectiveness of the ITU's regional presence, taking into account the elements set out in annex to this resolution;
- 3 to review and determine the appropriate posts, including permanent posts, in regional and area offices, and provide specialized staff on an as-needed basis to meet particular needs;

- 4 to fill in a timely manner vacant posts in the regional and area offices, where appropriate, planning staff availability and giving due consideration to the regional distribution of staff positions;
- 5 to ensure that the regional and area offices are given sufficient priority among the activities and programmes of the Union as a whole, and that, to supervise the implementation of funds-in-trust projects and projects financed from the ICT Development Fund, they have the required autonomy, the decision-making authority and the appropriate means;
- 6 to take the necessary measures to improve the exchange of information between headquarters and field offices;
- 7 to strengthen the human resource capabilities and provide the regional and area offices with a measure of flexibility in terms of the recruitment of professional staff as well as support staff;

*instructs the Directors of the Radiocommunication Bureau and the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau*

to continue cooperating with the Director of BDT in enhancing the ability of the regional and area offices to provide information on their Sectors' activities, as well as the necessary expertise, to strengthen cooperation and coordination with the relevant regional organizations and to facilitate the participation of all Member States and Sector Members in the activities of the three Sectors of the Union.

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*(Kyoto, 1994) – (Rev. Minneapolis, 1998) – (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002) – (Rev. Antalya, 2006) – (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) – (Rev. Busan, 2014)*

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## ANNEX TO RESOLUTION 25 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

### Elements for evaluation of the ITU regional presence

The evaluation of ITU's regional presence should be based on the functions assigned to its regional offices under Annex A: "Generic activities expected of the regional presence" of Resolution 1143 adopted by the ITU Council at its 1999 session, in *resolves* 2 to 13 of Resolution 25 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference and in other pertinent decisions.

The evaluation of the regional presence should take into account, but not be limited to, the following elements:

- a) the extent of fulfilment of the provisions of Resolution 25 (Rev. Busan, 2014) by the Telecommunication Development Bureau, the General Secretariat and the other two Bureaux, as appropriate;
- b) how further decentralization could ensure greater efficiency at lower cost, taking into consideration accountability and transparency;
- c) a survey, once every four years, of the level of satisfaction of Member States, Sector Members and regional telecommunication organizations with ITU's regional presence;
- d) the extent of possible duplication between the functions of ITU headquarters and the regional offices;
- e) the degree of autonomy in decision-making currently accorded to regional offices, and whether greater autonomy could enhance their efficiency and effectiveness;
- f) the effectiveness of collaboration between the ITU regional offices, regional telecommunication organizations and other regional and international development and financial organizations;



- g) how regional presence and the organization of activities in the regions can enhance the effective participation of all countries in ITU work;
- h) the resources currently made available to the regional offices for reducing the digital divide;
- i) the identification of functions and powers that might be assigned to the regional presence in implementing the Plan of Action adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society;
- j) the optimal structure of the ITU regional presence, including the location and number of regional and area offices.

In preparing this evaluation, input should be sought from Member States and Sector Members which benefit from ITU's regional presence, as well as from the regional offices, from regional and international organizations and from any other relevant entities.

A report on the process and methodology of carrying out this survey should be submitted by the Secretary-General to the Council at its 2015 session. The Council should then consider the appropriate course of action to be taken, with a view to reporting to the 2018 plenipotentiary conference on the matter.

## RESOLUTION 30 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Special measures for the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*considering*

- a) United Nations resolutions on programmes of action for the least developed countries (LDCs), small island developing states (SIDS), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and countries with economies in transition,
- b) Resolution 68/198 of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), on information and communication technologies (ICTs) for development;
- c) UNGA Resolution 68/220, on science, technology and innovation for development;
- d) Resolution 135 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on ITU's role in the development of telecommunications/ICTs, in providing technical assistance and advice to developing countries<sup>1</sup> and in implementing relevant national, regional and interregional projects,

*recognizing*

the importance of telecommunications/ICTs for the development of the countries concerned,

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

*having noted*

- a) Resolution 16 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on special actions and measures for LDCs, SIDS, LLDCs and countries with economies in transition;
- b) Output 4.4 of Objective 4 of the Dubai Action Plan for concentrated assistance to LDCs, SIDS and LLDCs;
- c) Resolution 1 (Dubai, 2012) of the World Conference on International Telecommunications, on special measures for LLDCs and SIDS for greater access to international optical fibre networks,

*concerned*

- a) that the number of LDCs remains high despite the progress that has been made in recent years, and that it is necessary to address the situation;
- b) that the challenges confronting LDCs, SIDS, LLDCs and countries with economies in transition continue to pose a threat to the development agenda of these countries;
- c) that LDCs, SIDS and LLDCs are vulnerable to devastation caused by natural disasters and lack the resources needed to respond effectively to such disasters;
- d) that the geographical location of SIDS and LLDCs is an obstacle to international connectivity of the telecommunication networks with these countries,

*aware*

that improvement of the telecommunication networks and their international interconnectivity in these countries will give an impetus towards social and economic integration and overall development, and provide the opportunity to create knowledge societies,

*recalling*

former Resolution 49 (Doha, 2006) of WTDC, on special actions for LDCs and SIDS,

*instructs the Secretary-General and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

- 1 to continue to review the state of telecommunication/ICT services in LDCs, SIDS, LLDCs and countries with economies in transition, so identified by the United Nations and needing special measures for the development of telecommunications/ICTs, and to identify areas of critical weakness requiring priority action;
- 2 to continue submitting to the ITU Council concrete measures intended to bring about genuine improvements and effective assistance to these countries, from the Special Voluntary Programme for Technical Cooperation, the Union's own resources and other sources of finance;
- 3 to work towards providing the necessary administrative and operational structure for identifying the needs of these countries and for proper administration of the resources appropriated for LDCs, SIDS, LLDCs and countries with economies in transition;
- 4 to propose new and innovative measures, as well as partnerships or alliances with other international and regional bodies, that may generate additional funds or joint projects to be used for telecommunication/ICT development in these countries, in order to get benefits from the opportunities that financial mechanisms offer in using ICT for development, as stated in the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society;
- 5 to report annually on this matter to the Council,

*instructs the Council*

- 1 to consider the above-mentioned reports and take appropriate action so that the Union may continue to display its keen interest and cooperate actively in the development of telecommunication/ICT services in these countries;
- 2 to make appropriations for this purpose from the Special Voluntary Programme for Technical Cooperation, the Union's own resources and any other sources of finance, and promote partnerships among all stakeholders in this regard;

3 to keep the situation under constant review and to report on this matter to the next plenipotentiary conference,

*encourages least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition*

to continue according high priority to telecommunication/ICT activities and projects that promote overall socio-economic development, including those that make it possible to improve international connectivity conditions, by adopting cooperation activities funded from bilateral or multilateral sources, for the benefit of the wider population,

*invites the Member States*

to cooperate with LDCs, SIDS, LLDCs and countries with economies in transition in promoting and supporting regional, subregional, multilateral and bilateral projects and programmes for the development of telecommunications/ICTs and the integration of telecommunication infrastructure making it possible to improve international connectivity conditions.

## RESOLUTION 32 (KYOTO, 1994)

**Technical assistance to the Palestinian Authority  
for the development of telecommunications**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Kyoto, 1994),

*recalling*

- a) the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- b) the peace process now in progress in the Middle East and particularly the agreements signed by Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization,

*considering*

- a) that the peace process has fundamentally changed the situation in the Middle East;
- b) that the fundamental principles of the Constitution and Convention of the International Telecommunication Union (Geneva, 1992) are designed to strengthen peace and security in the world for the development of international cooperation and better understanding among peoples,

*considering further*

- a) that a reliable telecommunication network is essential for consolidation and enhancement of the common understanding among the peoples concerned;
- b) that it is essential for the international community, either jointly through international organizations or by individual action, to assist the Palestinian Authority in developing a modern and reliable telecommunication network infrastructure,

*noting*

- a) the report of the Secretary-General submitted to the Plenipotentiary Conference (Kyoto, 1994) (Document 52);

b) that in a recent study the World Bank recognized that technical assistance in telecommunications for the Palestinian Authority would facilitate the development of a regulatory framework and the transfer of authority over public services from the Israelis to the Palestinians, and help the Palestinian Authority receive training to manage those services,

*resolves*

to explore and study the needs of the Palestinian Authority in order to improve the telecommunication infrastructure and identify where assistance is needed,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

to circulate among Members the results of that study, inviting them to contribute to the improvement of the Palestinian Authority's telecommunication networks,

*invites Members*

to offer assistance needed by the Palestinian Authority based upon that study report, as well as any other available assistance,

*instructs the Council*

- 1 to review that report and, together with the three Sectors of the ITU, to find the means of providing the assistance;
- 2 to cooperate with the World Bank in its projects concerning telecommunications for the Palestinian Authority.

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*(Kyoto, 1994)*

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## RESOLUTION 33 (REV. MARRAKESH, 2002)

**Assistance and support to Bosnia and Herzegovina  
for rebuilding its telecommunication network**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Marrakesh, 2002),

*recalling*

- a) the efforts of the United Nations to promote sustainable development and the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions concerning the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- b) the purposes of the Union as enshrined in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution,

*noting*

- a) with appreciation the efforts deployed by the Secretary-General and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) towards the implementation of previous versions of this resolution;
- b) that the key role played by ITU in the rebuilding of the country's telecommunication sector has been widely recognized;
- c) with appreciation that the mobile monitoring and direction-finding station offered by ITU using TELECOM surplus funds has been very useful for starting the implementation of a radiomonitoring system,

*recognizing*

- a) that considerable progress has been made in the implementation of previous versions of this resolution since its initial adoption in 1994;
- b) that, under the present conditions and in the foreseeable future, Bosnia and Herzegovina will not be able to bring its telecommunication system up to an acceptable level without help from the international community, provided bilaterally or through international organizations,



*resolves*

that the plan of action initiated after the Plenipotentiary Conferences (Kyoto, 1994 and Minneapolis, 1998) within the framework of the activities of the Telecommunication Development Sector of the Union, with specialized assistance from the Radiocommunication Sector and the Telecommunication Standardization Sector, should be continued in order to provide appropriate assistance and support to Bosnia and Herzegovina in rebuilding its telecommunication network and to its Telecommunication Regulatory Authority,

*calls upon Member States*

to offer all possible assistance and support to Bosnia and Herzegovina, either bilaterally or through, and at any rate in coordination with, the special action of the Union referred to above,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

to ensure that ITU's action with regard to Bosnia and Herzegovina is as effective as possible and to report on the matter to the next plenipotentiary conference.

## RESOLUTION 34 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Assistance and support to countries in special need for rebuilding their telecommunication sector**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

- a) the noble principles, purpose and objectives enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as well as in the Declaration of Principles adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society;
- b) the efforts of the United Nations to promote sustainable development;
- c) the purposes of the Union as enshrined in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution,

*recalling further*

- a) Resolution 127 (Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;
- b) Resolution 160 (Antalya, 2006) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;
- c) Resolution 161 (Antalya, 2006) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;
- d) Resolutions 25 and 26 (Rev. Doha, 2006) and 51 and 57 (Doha, 2006) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference,

*recognizing*

- a) that reliable telecommunication systems are indispensable for promoting the socio-economic development of countries, in particular of countries in special need, which are those having suffered from natural disasters, domestic conflicts or war;

b) that, under the present conditions and in the foreseeable future, these countries will not be able to ensure effective operation of their telecommunication sector without help from the international community, provided bilaterally or through international organizations,

*noting*

that the conditions of order and security sought by United Nations resolutions have been only partially achieved and hence Resolution 34 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference has only been partially implemented,

*resolves*

that the special action undertaken by the Secretary-General and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, with specialized assistance from the ITU Radiocommunication Sector and the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector, should continue to be activated in order to provide appropriate assistance and support to countries in special need referred to in the annex to this resolution in rebuilding their telecommunication sector,

*calls upon Member States*

to offer all possible assistance and support to the countries in special need, either bilaterally or through the special action of the Union referred to above, and, in any case, in coordination with that action,

*instructs the Council*

to allocate the necessary funds to the aforesaid action, within the financial limits set by the Plenipotentiary Conference, and proceed with its implementation,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

- 1 to carry out an assessment of the particular needs of each of these countries;
- 2 to ensure adequate resource mobilization, including under the internal budget and the Information and Communication Technology Development Fund, for the implementation of the proposed actions,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

- 1 to coordinate the activities carried out by the three Sectors of the Union in accordance with *resolves* above, to ensure that the Union's action in favour of the countries in special need is as effective as possible, and to report annually on the matter to the Council;
- 2 with the approval of the Council, upon request from the countries concerned, to update the annex to this resolution as needed.

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*(Kyoto, 1994) – (Rev. Minneapolis, 1998) – (Rev. Antalya, 2006) – (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) – (Rev. Busan, 2014)*

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## ANNEX TO RESOLUTION 34 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

### **Afghanistan**

As a result of the past 24 years of war in Afghanistan, the telecommunication system has been destroyed and needs urgent attention for its basic reconstruction.

Within the framework of Resolution 34 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, appropriate assistance and support shall be provided to the Government of Afghanistan in rebuilding its telecommunication system.

### **Burundi, Timor-Leste, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone**

Within the framework of Resolution 34 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, appropriate assistance and support shall be provided to these countries in rebuilding their telecommunication networks.

### **Democratic Republic of the Congo**

The basic telecommunication infrastructure of the Democratic Republic of the Congo has been severely damaged by the conflicts and wars from which the country has suffered for more than a decade.

As part of the reform of the telecommunication sector undertaken by the Democratic Republic of the Congo, involving the separation of the operating and regulatory functions, two regulatory bodies have been instituted along with a basic telecommunication network, which requires adequate financial resources in order to be built.

Within the framework of Resolution 34 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, appropriate assistance and support shall be provided to the Democratic Republic of the Congo for rebuilding its basic telecommunication network.

### **Iraq**

The telecommunication infrastructure in the Republic of Iraq has been destroyed by two and a half decades of war and part of the systems currently in use remains antiquated through long years of use.

Iraq has not received appropriate assistance from ITU due to the security conditions it is experiencing.

Within the framework of activating Resolution 34 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, Iraq shall continue to be supported in order to pursue rebuilding and overhauling its telecommunication infrastructure, establishing institutions, developing human resources and establishing tariffs, by setting up training operations inside and outside Iraqi territory as necessary, seconding experts to address the shortfall in expertise in some areas, meeting requests from the Iraqi Administration for the required specialists and providing other forms of assistance, including technical assistance.

### **Lebanon**

Lebanon's telecommunication facilities have been severely damaged due to wars in that country.

Within the framework of Resolution 34 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, Lebanon shall be provided with appropriate assistance and support in rebuilding its telecommunication network. As Lebanon has not received any financial assistance, it shall continue to be supported within the framework of Resolution 34 (Rev. Busan, 2014) with a view to pursuing work for Lebanon to obtain the necessary financial assistance.

### **Somalia**

The telecommunication infrastructure in the Federal Republic of Somalia has been completely destroyed by two decades and half of war and, in addition, the regulatory framework and the rule of law in the communication sector in the country need to be re-established.

Somalia has not benefited adequately from the Union's assistance over a long period due to war in the country and lack of a functioning government for two and a half decades.

Within the framework of Resolution 34 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, and using funds allocated to the programme of assistance for the least developed countries, a special initiative shall be launched, aimed at providing assistance and support to Somalia in rebuilding and modernizing its telecommunication infrastructure, re-establishing a well-equipped ministry of telecommunications and establishing institutions, and developing telecommunication/information and communication technology policy, legislation and regulation, including a numbering plan, spectrum management, tariff and human resource capacity building, and all other necessary forms of assistance.

### **South Sudan**

The Republic of South Sudan has gone through more than two decades of civil war which shattered lives, destroyed property, broke down institutions and wrecked the existing rudimentary infrastructure. With the onset of peace, South Sudan emerged as a sovereign country, but completely lacking in telecommunication infrastructure, which is now badly needed now for the development of its people.

Within the framework of Resolution 34 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, appropriate assistance and support shall be provided to the Government of the Republic of South Sudan in building its telecommunication system, policy and regulatory framework as well as its capacities.

## RESOLUTION 36 (REV. GUADALAJARA, 2010)

### **Telecommunications/information and communication technology in the service of humanitarian assistance**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Guadalajara, 2010)

*endorsing*

a) Resolution 644 (Rev. WRC-07) of the World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC), on telecommunication resources for disaster mitigation and relief operations;

b) Resolution 646 (WRC-03) of WRC, on public protection and disaster relief;

c) Resolution 673 (WRC-07) of WRC, on radiocommunication use for Earth observation applications;

d) Resolution 34 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on the role of telecommunications/information and communication technology in disaster preparedness, early warning, rescue, mitigation, relief and responses;

e) § 91 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society adopted by the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society,

*considering*

a) that the Intergovernmental Conference on Emergency Telecommunications (Tampere, 1998) adopted the Tampere Convention on the provision of telecommunication resources for disaster mitigation and relief operations, which entered into force on 8 January 2005;



*b)* that the second Tampere Conference on Disaster Communications (Tampere, 2001) invited ITU to study the use of public mobile networks for early warning and the dissemination of emergency information, and the operational aspects of emergency telecommunications such as call prioritization;

*c)* that the third Tampere Conference on Disaster Communications (Tampere, 2006) encouraged wider understanding and cooperation between governments on implementation of the Tampere Convention;

*d)* that the United Nations World Conference on Disaster Reduction (Kobe, Hyogo, 2005) encouraged all States, taking into account their domestic legal requirements, to consider, as appropriate, acceding to, approving or ratifying relevant international legal instruments relating to disaster reduction, such as the Tampere Convention,

*recognizing*

*a)* the seriousness and magnitude of potential disasters that may cause dramatic human suffering;

*b)* that the recent tragic events in the world clearly demonstrate the need for high-quality communications services to assist public-safety and disaster-relief agencies in minimizing risk to human life and to cover the necessary general public information and communication needs in such situations,

*convinced*

*a)* that telecommunications/ICTs play a critical role in disaster detection, early warning, preparedness, response and recovery;

*b)* that the unhindered use of telecommunication/ICT equipment and services is indispensable for the provision of effective and appropriate humanitarian assistance,

*further convinced*

that the Tampere Convention provides the necessary framework for such use of telecommunication/ICT resources,

*resolves to instruct the Secretary-General and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

1 to work closely with the United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator to support Member States which so request in their work towards their national accession to the Tampere Convention;

2 to assist Member States which so request with the development of their practical arrangements for implementation of the Tampere Convention, in close collaboration with the United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator,

*invites Member States*

to work towards their accession to the Tampere Convention as a matter of priority,

*urges Member States Parties to the Tampere Convention*

to take all practical steps for the application of the Tampere Convention and to work closely with the operational coordinator as provided for therein.

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*(Kyoto, 1994) – (Rev. Minneapolis, 1998) – (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002) – (Rev. Antalya, 2006) – (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010)*

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## RESOLUTION 37 (KYOTO, 1994)

**Training of refugees**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Kyoto, 1994),

*having noted*

United Nations General Assembly Resolution 36/68 on the implementation of the declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples and other resolutions relevant to assistance to refugees,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

- 1 to continue his efforts with a view to the application of the United Nations resolution;
- 2 to collaborate fully with the organizations concerned with the training of refugees, both within and outside the United Nations system;
- 3 to report to the next Plenipotentiary Conference on the implementation of this Resolution,

*invites the Members of the Union*

to do even more to receive certain selected refugees and to arrange for their training in telecommunications in professional centres or schools.

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*(Kyoto, 1994)*

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## RESOLUTION 38 (KYOTO, 1994)

**Contributory shares in Union expenditure**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Kyoto, 1994),

*considering*

a) that No. 468 of the Convention of the International Telecommunication Union (Geneva, 1992) allows the least developed countries as listed by the United Nations to contribute to Union expenditure in the 1/8 or 1/16 unit class;

b) that, under this provision, the 1/8 or 1/16 unit class may also be chosen by other countries determined by the Council;

c) that some countries with a small population and a low per capita gross national product may encounter financial difficulties in contributing to Union expenditure in the 1/4 unit class;

d) that it is in the interest of the Union that participation should be universal, that all countries should be encouraged to become Members of the Union and that all Members are able to pay their contributions,

*instructs the Council*

at each session to review, on request, the situation of countries not included in the United Nations list of the least developed countries in order to decide which of them may be considered as being entitled to contribute to Union expenditure in the 1/8 or 1/16 unit class.

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*(Kyoto, 1994)*

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## RESOLUTION 41 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Arrears and special arrears accounts**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*in view of*

the report of the ITU Council to the Plenipotentiary Conference on the situation with regard to amounts owed to the Union by Member States, Sector Members and Associates,

*regretting*

the increasing level of arrears and slow settlement of special arrears accounts,

*considering*

that it is in the interest of all Member States, Sector Members and Associates to maintain the finances of the Union on a sound footing,

*having noted*

that a number of Member States and Sector Members for which special arrears accounts have been established, notwithstanding the provisions of No. 168 of the ITU Constitution, have up to now not complied with their obligation to submit a repayment schedule to the Secretary-General, and to agree on such a schedule with the Secretary-General, and that their special account has accordingly been cancelled,

*urges*

all Member States in arrears, especially those for which special arrears accounts have been cancelled, as well as Sector Members and Associates in arrears, to submit a repayment schedule to the Secretary-General, and to agree on such a schedule with the Secretary-General,

*confirms*

the decision to open any new special arrears account only after the conclusion of an agreement with the Secretary-General establishing a specific repayment schedule at the latest within one year of the receipt of the request for such a special arrears account,

*resolves*

that the amounts due shall not be taken into account when applying No. 169 of the Constitution, provided that the Member States concerned have submitted their repayment schedules to the Secretary-General, and agreed on those schedules with the Secretary-General, and for as long as they strictly comply with them and with the associated conditions, and that failure to comply with the repayment schedule and associated conditions shall result in the cancellation of the special arrears account,

*instructs the Council*

1 to review the guidelines for repayment schedules, including a maximum duration, which would be up to five years for developed countries, up to ten years for developing countries and up to fifteen years for least developed countries, as well as up to five years for Sector Members and Associates;

2 to consider the following appropriate additional measures in exceptional circumstances:

- temporary reduction in class of contribution in conformity with No. 165A of the Constitution and No. 480B of the ITU Convention
- the write-off of interest on overdue payments, subject to each Member State, Sector Member and Associate concerned complying strictly with the agreed repayment schedule for settlement of the unpaid contributions
- a repayment schedule for up to thirty years maximum for countries in special need due to natural disasters, civil conflicts or extreme economic hardship

- an adjustment in the repayment schedule in its initial phase to permit payment of a lower annual amount, provided that the total accrued amount is the same at the end of the repayment schedule;
- 3 to take additional measures in respect of non-compliance with the agreed terms of settlement and/or arrears in payment of annual contributory shares not included in repayment schedules, in particular to include suspending Sector Members' and Associates' participation in the work of the Union,

*authorizes the Secretary-General*

to negotiate and agree upon, with all Member States in arrears, especially those for which special arrears accounts have been cancelled, as well as with Sector Members and Associates in arrears, schedules for the repayment of their debts in accordance with the guidelines established by the Council, and, where appropriate, to submit for decision by the Council proposals for additional measures as indicated under *instructs the Council* above, including those related to non-compliance,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

to inform all Member States, Sector Members and Associates in arrears or having special arrears accounts or cancelled special arrears accounts of this resolution, and to report to the Council on the measures taken and progress made towards the settlement of debts in respect of special arrears accounts or cancelled special arrears accounts, as well as on any non-compliance with the agreed terms of settlement,

*urges Member States and Sector Members and Associates*

to assist the Secretary-General and the Council in the application of this resolution.

## RESOLUTION 45 (REV. MINNEAPOLIS, 1998)

**Assistance given by the Government of the  
Swiss Confederation in connection  
with the finances of the Union**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Minneapolis, 1998),

*considering*

that the Government of the Swiss Confederation, under the existing arrangements, places at the disposal of the Secretary-General, if necessary and if the Secretary-General so requests, funds to meet the temporary cash requirements of the Union,

*further considering*

the assistance provided and the financial arrangements put in place by the Government of the Swiss Confederation enabling the Union to erect the new Montbrillant building,

*resolves to express its appreciation*

to the Government of the Swiss Confederation for its generous assistance in financial matters and hopes that the existing arrangements in this connection may be continued,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

to bring this resolution to the notice of the Government of the Swiss Confederation.



## RESOLUTION 46 (KYOTO, 1994)

### **Remuneration and representation allowances of elected officials**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Kyoto, 1994),

*having regard to*

Resolution 42 of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Nice, 1989),

*recognizing*

that the salaries of elected officials should be set at an adequate level above those paid to appointed staff in the United Nations common system,

*resolves*

1 that, subject to the measures which could be proposed by the Council to the Members of the Union in accordance with the instructions below, the Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-General, the Directors of the Radiocommunication, Telecommunication Standardization and Telecommunication Development Bureaux shall be paid with effect from 1 January 1995 salaries fixed in relation to the maximum salary paid to appointed staff on the basis of the following percentages:

Secretary-General	134%
Deputy Secretary-General, Directors of the Radiocommunication, Telecommunication Standardization and Telecommunication Development Bureaux	123%

2 that the above percentages shall apply to the net base salary at the dependency rate; all other elements of the remuneration shall be derived therefrom by applying the methodology in force in the United Nations common system, provided that an appropriate percentage is applied to each individual element of the remuneration,

*instructs the Council*

1 if a relevant adjustment is made in common system salary scales, to approve any modification of the salaries of elected officials which might result from the application of the above-mentioned percentages;

2 in the event of overriding factors appearing to the Council to justify a change in the above-mentioned percentages, to propose to the Members of the Union for approval by a majority, revised percentages with appropriate justifications,

*further resolves*

that representation expenses will be reimbursed against vouchers within the following limits:

*Swiss francs per year*

Secretary-General	29 000
Deputy Secretary-General, Directors of the Radiocommunication, Telecommunication Standardization and Telecommunication Development Bureaux	14 500

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*(Kyoto, 1994)*

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## RESOLUTION 48 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Human resources management and development**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recognizing*

No. 154 of the ITU Constitution,

*recalling*

a) Resolution 48 (Rev. Antalya, 2006) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on human resources management and development;

b) the strategic plan for the Union as described in Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, and the need for a highly skilled and motivated workforce to attain the goals contained therein,

*noting*

a) the various policies<sup>1</sup> which impact on the ITU staff including, *inter alia*, the Standards of Conduct for the International Civil Service established by the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC), the ITU Staff Regulations and Staff Rules and the ITU ethics policies;

b) the adoption of a number of resolutions since 1996 by the United Nations General Assembly, highlighting the need for gender balance throughout the United Nations system;

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<sup>1</sup> Such as contractual policy, succession planning, human resources training and development, etc.

c) Decision 517, adopted by the ITU Council at its 2004 session, on strengthening the dialogue between the Secretary-General and the ITU Staff Council;

d) Resolution 1253, adopted by the Council at its 2006 session, establishing the Tripartite Group on Human Resources Management, and the group's various reports to the Council concerning its achievements, such as the elaboration of the strategic plan, the establishment of an ethics policy, and other activities;

e) Resolution 25 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on strengthening the regional presence, and specifically on the importance of the role played by the regional offices in disseminating information on ITU's activities to its Member States and Sector Members;

f) the human resources strategic plan which was adopted by the Council at its 2009 session (Document C09/56) as a living document;

g) the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan on gender equality and the empowerment of women (UN-SWAP),

*considering*

a) the value of the human resources of the Union to the fulfilment of its goals;

b) that ITU's human resources strategies should emphasize the continued importance of maintaining a well-trained, geographically equitable and gender-balanced workforce, while recognizing budget constraints;

c) the value, both to the Union and to the staff, of developing those resources to the fullest extent possible through various human resources development activities, including in-service training and training activities in accordance with staffing levels;

- d) the impact on the Union and its staff of the continuing evolution of activities in the field of telecommunications and the need for the Union and its human resources to adapt to this evolution through training and staff development;
- e) the importance of human resources management and development in support of ITU's strategic orientations and goals,
- f) the need to follow a recruitment policy appropriate to the requirements of the Union, including the redeployment of posts and recruitment of specialists at the start of their career;
- g) the need to achieve equitable geographical distribution of appointed staff of the Union;
- h) the need to facilitate the recruitment of more women in the Professional and higher categories, especially at the senior levels;
- i) the constant advances made in telecommunications and information and communication technology and operation and the corresponding need to recruit specialists of the highest standard of competence,

*resolves*

- 1 that the management and development of ITU's human resources should continue to be compatible with the goals and activities of the Union and with the United Nations common system;
- 2 that ICSC recommendations approved by the United Nations General Assembly should continue to be implemented;
- 3 that, with immediate effect, within available financial resources, and to the extent practicable, vacancies should be filled through greater mobility of existing staff;

4 that internal mobility should, to the extent practicable, be coupled with training so that staff can be used where they are most needed;

5 that internal mobility should be applied, to the extent feasible, to cover needs when staff retire or leave ITU in order to reduce staffing levels without terminating contracts;

6 that, pursuant to *recognizing* above<sup>2</sup>, staff in the Professional and higher categories shall continue to be recruited on an international basis and that posts identified for external recruitment shall be advertised as widely as possible and communicated to the administrations of all Member States of the Union and through the regional offices; however, reasonable promotion possibilities must continue to be offered to existing staff;

7 that, when filling vacant posts by international recruitment, in choosing between candidates who meet the qualification requirements for a post, preference shall be given to candidates from regions of the world which are under-represented in the staffing of the Union, taking into account the balance between female and male staff mandated by the United Nations common system;

8 that, when filling vacant posts by international recruitment and when no candidate fulfils all the qualification requirements, recruitment can take place at one grade below, on the understanding that since not all the requirements of the post are met, the candidate will have to fulfil certain conditions before being given the full responsibilities of the post and promotion to the grade of the post,

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<sup>2</sup> No. 154 of the Constitution: "*2 The paramount consideration in the recruitment of staff and in the determination of the conditions of service shall be the necessity of securing for the Union the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity. Due regard shall be paid to the importance of recruiting the staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible.*"

*instructs the Secretary-General*

- 1 to ensure that human resources management and development help ITU achieve its management goals, taking into account the matters outlined in Annex 1 to this resolution;
  
- 2 to continue to prepare, with the assistance of the Coordination Committee, and in collaboration with the regional offices, and implement medium-term and long-term human resources management and development plans to respond to the needs of the Union, its membership and its staff, including the establishment of benchmarks within these plans;
  
- 3 to study how best practices in human resources management might be applied within the Union, and report to the Council on the relationship between management and staff in the Union;
  
- 4 to fully develop, in the near future, recruitment policies and procedures designed to facilitate equitable geographical and gender representation among appointed staff (see Annex 2 to this resolution);
  
- 5 to recruit, as appropriate within the available financial resources, and taking into account geographical distribution and balance between female and male staff, specialists who are starting their careers at the P.1/P.2 level;
  
- 6 with a view to further training in order to enhance professional competence in the Union, based on consultations with staff members, as appropriate, to examine and report to the Council how a programme of training for both managers and their staff could be implemented within the available financial resources throughout the Union;

7 to continue to submit to the Council annual reports on the implementation of the human resources strategic plan and to provide to the Council, electronically where possible, statistics related to the issues outlined in Annex 1 to this resolution, and on other measures adopted in pursuance of this resolution,

*instructs the Council*

1 to ensure that the necessary staff and financial resources are made available for addressing issues related to human resources management and development in ITU as they emerge, within approved budget levels;

2 to examine the Secretary-General's reports on these matters and to decide on the actions to be taken;

3 to allocate the appropriate resources for in-service training in accordance with an established programme, representing, to the extent practicable, a target of three per cent of the budget allocated to staff costs;

4 to follow with the greatest attention the question of recruitment and to adopt, within existing resources and consistent with the United Nations common system, the measures it deems necessary to secure an adequate number of qualified candidates for Union posts, particularly taking account of *considering b), c) and h)* above.



## ANNEX 1 TO RESOLUTION 48 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

### **Matters for reporting to the Council on staff issues, including staff in regional and area offices, and recruitment issues**

- Alignment between the Union's strategic priorities and staff functions and posts
- Staff career and staff promotion policy
- Contracts policy
- Compliance with United Nations common system policies/recommendations
- Use of best practices
- Staff recruitment processes and openness
- Balance between external and internal recruitment
- Employment of persons with disabilities, including services and facilities for staff with disabilities
- Voluntary separation and early-retirement programmes
- Succession planning
- Short-term posts
- General characteristics of implementation of a human resources development plan indicating outcomes of work designed to "ensure effective and efficient use of human, financial and capital resources, as well as a safe and secure working environment that is conducive to work"

- Total staff development spend, including a breakdown by specific items of the development plan
- Analysis of the consistency of ITU's compensation package with the United Nations common system, with a view to examining all elements of staff compensation together with other human resources elements, in order to seek ways of reducing the burden on the budget
- Improvements to human resources services
- Performance evaluation and appraisals
- Staff in regional and area offices
- In-service training (with interruption of duties)
- External training (with interruption of duties)
- Geographical representation
- Gender balance
- Staff breakdown by age
- Social protection of staff
- Flexibility of working conditions
- Relationship between management and staff
- Workplace diversity
- Use of modern management tools
- Ensuring occupational safety
- Staff morale and measures to improve it

- Reflecting the views of all staff on various aspects of work and relations in the organization using surveys and questionnaires (as required) to collect data
- Conclusions and proposals based on the identification and analysis of strengths and weaknesses (risks) in regard to staff development in the Union and proposed modifications to the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules
- Measures related to facilitating the recruitment of women, as outlined in Annex 2 to this resolution.

## ANNEX 2 TO RESOLUTION 48 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

### **Facilitating the recruitment of women at ITU**

- 1 Within existing budgetary constraints, ITU should advertise vacancy notices as widely as possible to encourage employment applications from qualified and competent women.
- 2 ITU Member States are encouraged to put forward qualified female candidates, wherever possible.
- 3 Vacancy notices should encourage the submission of applications from women.
- 4 ITU recruitment procedures should be amended to ensure that, if the number of applications so allows, at every screening level, a minimum target of 33 per cent of all candidates moving forward to the next level are women.
- 5 Unless there are no qualified female candidates, every short-list of candidates presented to the Secretary-General for appointment must include at least one woman.

## RESOLUTION 51 (REV. MINNEAPOLIS, 1998)

**ITU staff participation in conferences of the Union**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Minneapolis, 1998),

*considering*

- a) that staff are a key element in the achievement of the Union's objectives;
- b) the importance of good human resources management to the achievement of the Union's objectives;
- c) the importance of fruitful working relations between the staff and its employer and of staff participation in the management of the Union,
- d) that it is important for the Staff Council to be consulted by the Secretary-General before decisions of a general nature are taken concerning human resources management and working conditions at ITU, in accordance with Staff Rule 8.1.1.b),

*recognizing*

the rights of staff under Chapter VIII of the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules,

*noting*

the initiative of the Council in creating a consultative group comprising representatives of the secretariat of the Union, staff representatives and Council Members States,

*considering further*

that the participation of staff representatives is beneficial to the Plenipotentiary Conference,

*resolves*

- 1 that staff will be represented by a maximum of two persons who will attend sessions of the ITU Council and plenipotentiary conferences;

2 that the staff representatives will be entitled to state the staff's opinion concerning staff matters at the invitation of the Chairman of the meeting dealing with staff matters, or, as appropriate, at the request of a Member State of the Council, at Council sessions, or of a delegation at plenipotentiary conferences.

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*(Kyoto, 1994) – (Rev. Minneapolis, 1998)*

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## RESOLUTION 53 (KYOTO, 1994)

**Measures to enable the United Nations  
to carry out fully any mandate under Article 75  
of the Charter of the United Nations**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Kyoto, 1994),

*conscious*

of the decision taken by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Malaga-Torremolinos, 1973) to abolish associate membership in the Union and of Additional Protocol III to the International Telecommunication Convention (Nairobi, 1982),

*taking into account*

that the Plenipotentiary Conference (Nice, 1989) decided not to continue the use of additional protocols and adopted its Resolution 47 on the matter which is also the subject of the present Resolution,

*mindful*

of the request recently reiterated by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to continue, as in the past, the application, if the need arises, of measures enabling the United Nations to carry out fully any mandate under Article 75 of the Charter of the United Nations,

*resolves*

1 that the possibility enjoyed by the United Nations, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the International Telecommunication Convention (Montreux, 1965) concerning associated membership, when carrying out any mandate in accordance with Article 75 of the Charter of the United Nations shall be continued under the Constitution and the Convention of the International Telecommunication Union (Geneva, 1992);

2 that each case related to *resolves* 1 shall be considered by the Council of the Union.

## RESOLUTION 55 (KYOTO, 1994)

**Use of the United Nations telecommunication network for the telecommunication traffic of the specialized agencies**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Kyoto, 1994),

*considering*

a) the Agreement between the United Nations and the International Telecommunication Union (Atlantic City, 1947), and in particular Article 16 thereof;

b) that, by its Resolution 50, the Plenipotentiary Conference (Nice, 1989) resolved that the United Nations telecommunication network may carry the traffic of the specialized agencies under specific conditions,

*noting*

a) that the Secretary-General of the United Nations has requested that the International Telecommunication Union take such action as would allow the use of the United Nations telecommunication network by the specialized agencies;

b) that, since 1989, ITU has been collaborating closely with the United Nations Telecommunication Service in the enhancement of the United Nations telecommunication network,

*resolves*

that the United Nations telecommunication network may carry the traffic of the specialized agencies which wish to use it, on condition that:

1 the specialized agencies pay for the telecommunication service on the basis of the cost of operation of the service by the United Nations and tariffs established by administrations within the framework of the Constitution and Convention (Geneva, 1992), Administrative Regulations and practices of the Union;



- 2 the use of the network is restricted to the principal organs of the United Nations, the United Nations offices and programmes, and the specialized agencies of the United Nations;
- 3 the transmissions are limited to information exchanges concerned with the conduct of the business of the United Nations system;
- 4 the network is operated in conformity with the Constitution and Convention (Geneva, 1992), Administrative Regulations and practices of the Union,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

to follow carefully the evolution of the United Nations telecommunication network, to continue cooperation with the United Nations Telecommunication Service and to provide guidance as appropriate,

*further instructs the Secretary-General*

to transmit the text of this Resolution to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

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*(Kyoto, 1994)*

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## RESOLUTION 56 (KYOTO, 1994)

**Possible revision of Article IV, Section 11,  
of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities  
of the Specialized Agencies**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Kyoto, 1994),

*in view of*

Resolution 28 of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Buenos Aires, 1952), Resolution 31 of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Geneva, 1959), Resolution 23 of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Montreux, 1965), Resolution 34 of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Malaga-Torremolinos, 1973), Resolution 40 of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Nairobi, 1982), and Resolution 53 of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Nice, 1989),

*considering*

a) the apparent conflict between the definition of Government Telecommunications contained in the Annex to the Constitution of the International Telecommunication Union (Geneva, 1992) and the provisions of Article IV, Section 11, of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies;

b) that the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies has not been amended in the manner requested by the Plenipotentiary Conferences of Buenos Aires (1952), Geneva (1959), Montreux (1965), Malaga-Torremolinos (1973), Nairobi (1982) and Nice (1989),

*resolves*

to confirm the decisions of the Plenipotentiary Conferences of Buenos Aires (1952), Geneva (1959), Montreux (1965), Malaga-Torremolinos (1973), Nairobi (1982) and Nice (1989) and of the Additional Plenipotentiary Conference (Geneva, 1992) not to include the Heads of the specialized agencies among the authorities listed in the Annex to the Constitution (Geneva, 1992) as entitled to send or reply to Government Telecommunications,

*expresses the hope*

that the United Nations will agree to reconsider the matter and, bearing in mind the above decision, will make the necessary amendment to Article IV, Section 11, of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies,

*instructs the Council*

to take the necessary steps with the appropriate organs of the United Nations with a view to reaching a satisfactory solution.

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*(Kyoto, 1994)*

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## RESOLUTION 57 (KYOTO, 1994)

**Joint Inspection Unit**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Kyoto, 1994),

*recalling*

Resolution 52 of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Nice, 1989),

*having noted*

the relevant section of the report of the Council to the Plenipotentiary Conference (Kyoto, 1994),

*considering*

that it is appropriate that the International Telecommunication Union continue to benefit from the useful role played by the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) as an independent inspection and evaluation unit of the United Nations system,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

to continue to cooperate with the JIU and to submit to the Council reports of the JIU having a bearing on the Union, together with comments he considers appropriate,

*instructs the Council*

to consider the JIU reports submitted by the Secretary-General, and to take action thereon as it deems fit.

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*(Kyoto, 1994)*

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## RESOLUTION 58 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Strengthening of relations between ITU and regional telecommunication organizations and regional preparations for the Plenipotentiary Conference**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

- a) Resolution 58 (Kyoto, 1994) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;
- b) Resolution 112 (Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;
- c) the following resolutions:
  - Resolution 72 (Rev. WRC-07) of the World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC), on world and regional preparations for WRCs;
  - Resolution 43 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on regional preparations for WTSA's;
  - Resolution 31 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on regional preparations for WTDCs, this resolution having been adopted for the first time in 2006, by WTDC-06 in Doha, Qatar,

*acknowledging*

that Article 43 of the ITU Constitution states that: "*Member States reserve the right to convene regional conferences, to make regional arrangements and to form regional organizations, for the purpose of settling telecommunication questions which are susceptible of being treated on a regional basis ...*",

*considering*

- a) that the Union and regional organizations share a common belief that close cooperation can promote regional telecommunication development through, *inter alia*, organizational synergy;
- b) that the six principal regional telecommunication organizations<sup>1</sup>, namely the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT), the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT), the Inter-American Telecommunications Commission (CITEL), the African Telecommunications Union (ATU), the Council of Arab Ministers of Telecommunication and Information represented by the Secretariat-General of the League of Arab States (LAS) and the Regional Commonwealth in the field of Communications (RCC), seek close cooperation with the Union;
- c) that there is a continued need for the Union to strengthen close cooperation with these regional telecommunication organizations, given the increasing importance of regional organizations concerned with regional issues, and to cooperate with them in regard to preparation of conferences and assemblies of the three Sectors and plenipotentiary conferences, through six preparatory meetings in the year preceding the conference;
- d) that the ITU Convention encourages the participation of the regional telecommunication organizations in the Union's activities and provides for their attendance at conferences of the Union as observers;
- e) that all six regional telecommunication organizations have coordinated their preparations for this conference;

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<sup>1</sup> There are eleven regional telecommunication organizations as referred to in Article 43 of the Constitution. The list can be found in Council Resolution 925. The five regional organizations other than the six principal ones may choose to participate in regional preparatory meetings and other activities of the Union.

f) that many common proposals submitted to this conference have been developed by administrations having participated in the preparatory work carried out by the six regional telecommunication organizations;

g) that this consolidation of views at regional level, together with the opportunity for interregional discussions prior to conferences, has eased the task of reaching a consensus during these conferences;

h) that there is a need for overall coordination of the interregional consultations;

i) the benefits of regional coordination as already experienced in the preparation of WRCs and WTDCs, and latterly WTSAs,

*noting*

a) that the Secretary-General's report under former Resolution 16 (Geneva, 1992) of the Additional Plenipotentiary Conference, when available, should facilitate evaluation by the ITU Council of the Union's own regional presence;

b) that the relationship between ITU regional offices and regional telecommunication organizations has proved to be of great benefit;

c) that some ITU Member States are not members of these regional telecommunication organizations mentioned in *considering b)* above,

*taking into account*

the efficiency benefits that plenipotentiary conferences and other Sector conferences and assemblies would gain from an increased amount and level of prior preparation by the Member States,

*resolves*

1 that the Union should continue developing stronger relations with regional telecommunication organizations, including the organization of six ITU regional preparatory meetings for plenipotentiary conferences, as well as other Sector conferences and assemblies as necessary;

2 that the Union, in strengthening its relations with the regional telecommunication organizations and by means of ITU regional preparations for plenipotentiary conferences, world conferences on international telecommunications, radiocommunication conferences and assemblies, WTDCs and WTSAs shall, with assistance of its regional offices when necessary, cover all Member States without exception, even if they do not belong to any of the six regional telecommunication organizations mentioned in *considering b)* above,

*resolves further*

to invite regional telecommunication organizations to continue their preparations for plenipotentiary conferences, including, to the extent possible, the convening of interregional coordination meetings,

*instructs the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with the Directors of the three Bureaux*

1 to continue to consult with Member States and regional and subregional telecommunication organizations on the means by which assistance can be provided in support of their preparations for future plenipotentiary conferences;

2 to follow up on the submission of a report on the results of the aforementioned consultation to the Council for its consideration, taking into account similar experiences, and to report regularly to the Council thereafter;



3 on the basis of such consultations, and ensuring that all the Member States are associated with this process, to assist Member States and regional and subregional telecommunication organizations with preparatory work, in particular for developing countries<sup>2</sup>, in such areas as:

- the organization of ITU preparatory meetings, preferably before or after major ITU events (as referred to in *resolves 2* above);
- facilitating interregional coordination meetings, with the objective of reaching a possible convergence of interregional views on major issues;
- assisting representatives of regional telecommunication organizations to attend the above-mentioned interregional coordination meetings, including, where necessary, by providing, within the budgetary limits of the Union and the approved financial plan, fellowships for representatives of developing countries wishing to attend the above-mentioned meetings;
- identifying major issues to be resolved by the future conferences and assemblies referred to in *resolves 2* above,

*instructs the Council*

to consider the reports submitted and take appropriate measures to strengthen this cooperation, including arranging for dissemination of the findings in the reports and the Council's conclusions to non-Council members and to regional telecommunication organizations, taking into account the actions referred to in *instructs the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with the Directors of the three Bureaux 3* above,

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<sup>2</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

*invites the Member States*

to participate actively in the implementation of this resolution.

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*(Kyoto, 1994) – (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) – (Rev. Busan, 2014)*

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## RESOLUTION 59 (KYOTO, 1994)

### **Request to the International Court of Justice for advisory opinions**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Kyoto, 1994),

*in view of*

a) Article VII of the Agreement between the United Nations and the International Telecommunication Union which provides that requests for advisory opinions may be addressed to the International Court of Justice by the Plenipotentiary Conference, or by the Council acting in pursuance of an authorization by the Plenipotentiary Conference;

b) the decision of the Council “to affiliate the Union to the Administrative Tribunal of the International Labour Organisation”, and the declaration recognizing the jurisdiction of the Tribunal which was made by the Secretary-General pursuant to that decision;

c) the provisions in the Annex to the Statute of the Administrative Tribunal of the International Labour Organisation under which that Statute applies in its entirety to any intergovernmental organization which has recognized the jurisdiction of the Tribunal in accordance with paragraph 5 of Article II of the Statute of the Tribunal;

d) Article XII of the Statute of the Administrative Tribunal of the International Labour Organisation under which, in consequence of the above-mentioned declaration, the Council of the International Telecommunication Union may submit to the International Court of Justice the question of the validity of a decision given by the Tribunal,

*notes*

that the Council is authorized to request advisory opinions from the International Court of Justice as provided under Article XII of the Statute of the Administrative Tribunal of the International Labour Organisation.

## RESOLUTION 60 (KYOTO, 1994)

**Juridical status**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Kyoto, 1994),

*in view of*

the agreement concluded on 22 July 1971 between the Swiss Federal Council and the International Telecommunication Union to define the legal status of this organization in Switzerland and the associated implementing arrangements,

*having noted with satisfaction*

the Council's remarks in section 2.2.7.1 of its report to the Plenipotentiary Conference (Document 20) concerning Resolution 56 of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Nice, 1989),

*instructs the Secretary-General*

to keep the agreement and the manner of its application under review in order to ensure that the privileges and immunities accorded to the ITU are equivalent to those obtained by other organizations of the United Nations family with their headquarters in Switzerland and report to the Council as necessary,

*requests the Council*

to report as necessary on this subject to the next Plenipotentiary Conference.

## RESOLUTION 64 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Non-discriminatory access to modern telecommunication/  
information and communication technology facilities, services  
and applications, including applied research and transfer of  
technology, and e-meetings, on mutually agreed terms**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

- a)* the outcomes of the Geneva (2003) and Tunis (2005) phases of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), especially §§ 15, 18 and 19 of the Tunis Commitment, and §§ 90 and 107 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society;
- b)* Resolution 64 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;
- c)* the outcomes of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), especially Resolution 15 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010), on applied research and transfer of technology, Resolution 20 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010), on non-discriminatory access to modern telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) facilities, services and related applications and Resolution 37 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), on bridging the digital divide;
- d)* the WSIS+10 High-Level Event outcomes (Geneva, 2014), especially those related to transfer of know-how and technology and non-discriminatory access by conducting the needed activities in that regard;
- e)* Resolution 167 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on strengthening ITU capabilities for electronic meetings and means to advance the work of the Union, which emphasizes that there is a need for procedures to ensure fair and equitable participation by all;
- f)* Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference,

*taking into account*

- a) the importance of telecommunications/ICTs for political, economic, social and cultural progress;
- b) the preamble and challenges chapters of the Statement adopted by the WSIS+10 High-Level Event (Geneva, 2014), especially §§ 4 and 8 thereof,

*taking into account also*

- a) that ITU plays an essential role in the promotion of global development of telecommunications/ICTs and ICT applications, within the mandate of ITU, specifically with respect to Action Lines C2, C5 and C6 of the Tunis Agenda, in addition to participating in the implementation of other action lines, particularly Action Lines C7 and C8 of the Tunis Agenda;
- b) that, to this end, the Union coordinates efforts aimed at securing harmonious development of telecommunication/ICT facilities, permitting non-discriminatory access to these facilities and to modern telecommunication services and applications;
- c) that this access will help to bridge the digital divide,

*taking into account further*

the need to draw up proposals on issues determining a worldwide strategy for the development of telecommunications/ICTs and ICT applications, within the mandate of ITU, and to facilitate mobilization of the necessary resources to that end,

*emphasizing*

that fair and equitable e-participation of Member States in ITU meetings will bring considerable benefits by facilitating and widening the scope for participation in ITU work and meetings,

*noting*

- a) that modern telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and applications are established, in the main, on the basis of recommendations of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) and the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R);

b) that ITU-T and ITU-R recommendations are the result of the collective efforts of all those taking part in the standardization process within ITU, and are adopted by consensus by the members of the Union;

c) that limitations on the access to telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and applications on which national telecommunication development depends and which are established on the basis of ITU-T and ITU-R recommendations constitute an obstacle to the harmonious development and compatibility of telecommunications worldwide;

d) Resolution 15 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010), on applied research and transfer of technology;

e) Resolution 20 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010), on non-discriminatory access to modern telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and related applications;

f) the strategic plan for the Union set out in Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference,

*recognizing*

a) that full harmonization of telecommunication networks is impossible unless all countries participating in the work of the Union, without exception, have non-discriminatory access to new telecommunication technologies and modern telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and related applications, including applied research and transfer of technology, on mutually agreed terms, without prejudice to national regulations and international commitments within the competence of other international organizations,

b) that the need to ensure the access of Member States to international telecommunication services should be reaffirmed;

c) Resolution 69 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly,

*resolves*

- 1 to continue, within the mandate of ITU, fulfilling the need to endeavour to ensure non-discriminatory access to telecommunication and information technologies, facilities, services and related applications, including applied research and transfer of technology, on mutually agreed terms, established on the basis of ITU-T and ITU-R recommendations;
- 2 that ITU should facilitate non-discriminatory access to telecommunication and information technologies, facilities, services and applications established on the basis of ITU-T and ITU-R recommendations;
- 3 that ITU should encourage to the greatest extent possible cooperation among the members of the Union on the question of non-discriminatory access to telecommunication and information technologies, facilities, services and applications established on the basis of ITU-T and ITU-R recommendations with a view to satisfying user demand for modern telecommunication/ICT services and applications,

*instructs the Directors of the three Bureaux*

within their respective spheres of competence, to implement this resolution and achieve its goals,

*invites Member States*

- 1 to refrain from taking any unilateral and/or discriminatory actions that could impede technically another Member State from having full access to the Internet, within the spirit of Article 1 of the ITU Constitution and the WSIS principles;
- 2 to help telecommunication/ICT equipment manufacturers and providers of services and applications in ensuring that telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and applications established on the basis of ITU-T and ITU-R recommendations may be generally available to the public without any discrimination, and in facilitating applied research and technology transfer, considering where relevant the WSIS+10 High-Level Event outcomes (Geneva, 2014);
- 3 to explore ways and means for greater collaboration and coordination with one another in the implementation of this resolution,



*instructs the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with the Directors of the three Bureaux*

- 1 to compile and distribute a list of available online services and applications relevant to ITU activities and identify those that cannot be accessed, based on information received from ITU Member States;
- 2 to take appropriate measures and steps to promote broad participation, as far as practical, to ensure the fair and equitable participation of all members in ITU online services and applications;
- 3 to cooperate and coordinate with the relevant organizations to take the appropriate measures to promote access to ITU online services and materials for all ITU members;
- 4 to report to the ITU Council on the implementation of this resolution,

*further instructs the Secretary-General*

to transmit the text of this resolution, including its recommendations, to the Secretary-General of the United Nations with a view to bringing to the attention of the world community the viewpoint of ITU, as a specialized agency of the United Nations, on the issue of non-discriminatory access to new telecommunication and information technologies and modern telecommunication/ICT, services and related applications, within the mandate of ITU, as an important factor for world technological progress, and on applied research and technology transfer between Member States, on mutually agreed terms, as a factor that may help to bridge the digital divide.

## RESOLUTION 66 (REV. GUADALAJARA, 2010)

### **Documents and publications of the Union**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Guadalajara, 2010),

*recalling*

Resolution 66 (Rev. Minneapolis, 1998) of the Plenipotentiary Conference,

*considering*

a) No. 484 of the ITU Convention and Resolution 1 (Kyoto, 1994) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the effective utilization of information resources;

b) the need for efficient marketing and distribution of documentation and publications of the Union in order to promote increased use of ITU recommendations and other publications;

c) the evolution of electronic handling and transmission of information;

d) the continued development of new publishing technologies and methods of distribution;

e) the desirability of cooperation with bodies engaged in relevant standards development;

f) the continued importance of the Union's copyright in its publications;

g) the need to derive revenue from publications;

h) the need to provide a timely and efficient global standardization process;

i) the pricing policies of other relevant standardization bodies,

*considering further*

- a) that a primary purpose of the Union is to extend the benefits of new telecommunication technologies to all the world's inhabitants;
- b) the need to maintain a coherent financing and pricing policy which reflects the costs of production, marketing and distribution, while ensuring the continuity of publications, including the development of new products and the use of modern channels/methods of distribution,

*resolves*

- 1 that documents intended to facilitate the timely development of recommendations of the Union shall be made available also in electronic format and be accessible to any Member State, Sector Member and Associate;
- 2 that, notwithstanding the objectives of free online access, publications of the Union, including all recommendations of the Sectors, shall, where appropriate, also be made available to the Member States, Sector Members and Associates, and to the public in electronic format and through electronic sale or distribution, with appropriate provision for payment to the Union for a particular publication or set of publications requested;
- 3 that a request for any publication of the Union, regardless of its format, obliges those who obtain or purchase the publication to respect the copyright of the Union set forth in that publication;
- 4 that a publication containing a recommendation of an ITU Sector obtained from ITU, regardless of its format, may be utilized by the receiving entity or purchaser for uses including furthering the work of the Union or any relevant standards body or forum developing related standards, providing guidance for product or service development and implementation and serving as support for documentation associated with a product or service;

5 that none of the above is intended to breach the copyright held by the Union, so that any person or entity wishing to reproduce or duplicate all or parts of ITU publications for resale must obtain a specific agreement for such purpose;

6 that a two-tier pricing policy be established whereby Member States, Sector Members and Associates pay a price based on cost recovery, whereas all others, i.e. non-members, should pay a "market price",<sup>1</sup>

*instructs the Secretary-General*

1 to take the necessary steps to facilitate the implementation of this resolution;

2 to ensure that publications in paper format are made available as quickly as possible so as not to deprive Member States, Sector Members and Associates not possessing electronic facilities of access to publications of the Union;

3 to implement, within the financial constraints of the Union, strategies and mechanisms to enable all Member States, Sector Members and Associates to acquire and use the facilities required to access documents and publications of the Union in electronic format;

4 to ensure that prices for all forms of publications of the Union are reasonable in order to promote their wide distribution;

5 to seek consultation with the advisory groups of the three ITU Sectors to assist in developing and updating policies on documents and publications;

6 to report annually to the ITU Council,

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<sup>1</sup> The term "market price" is defined as the price determined by the Sales and Marketing Division, which is established to maximize revenues without being so high as to discourage sales.

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

to implement, as a priority, in close coordination with the Directors of the Radiocommunication and the Telecommunication Standardization Bureaux, strategies and mechanisms to encourage and facilitate the efficient use of web-based documents and publications by the developing countries, and in particular least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

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*(Kyoto, 1994) – (Rev. Minneapolis, 1998) – (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010)*

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## RESOLUTION 68 (REV. GUADALAJARA, 2010)

**World Telecommunication and  
Information Society Day**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Guadalajara, 2010),

*considering*

- a) the value of the annual celebration of World Telecommunication Day and World Information Society Day in supporting the main strategic orientations of the Union;
- b) the rapid rise and evolution of the information society using information and communication technology (ICT), in which information in all its forms is an important element of everyday life,

*bearing in mind*

- a) Resolution 46 (Malaga-Torremolinos, 1973) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, instituting a World Telecommunication Day celebrated annually on 17 May, date of the signature of the first International Telegraph Convention marking the founding of ITU;
- b) United Nations General Assembly Resolution 60/252 of 27 March 2006, stipulating that World Information Society Day shall be celebrated every year on 17 May;
- c) the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society, in which it is acknowledged that there is a need to build more awareness of the Internet;
- d) the exponential growth experienced by Member States of the Union over the past decade in the use of telecommunications and ICT,

*resolves to invite Member States and Sector Members*

to celebrate the day annually by organizing appropriate national programmes with a view to:

- stimulating reflection and exchanges of ideas on the theme adopted by the ITU Council;
- debating the various aspects of the theme with all partners in society;
- formulating a report reflecting national discussions on the issues underlying the theme, to be fed back to ITU and the rest of the membership;
- raising awareness regarding use of preventive mechanisms to avert the growing risks and threats in cyberspace,

*invites the Council*

to adopt, for each World Telecommunication and Information Society Day, a specific theme relating to the main challenges which the changing telecommunication/ICT environment poses for both developed and developing countries,

*invites Member States*

to make available to the Secretary-General reports which may be produced on the main issues discussed at the national level,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

- 1 to circulate to the entire membership a consolidated document based on the national reports submitted in accordance with this resolution for the purpose of fostering the exchange of information and views among and with the membership on a host of selected strategic issues;
- 2 to liaise with the United Nations and consult United Nations agencies.

## RESOLUTION 69 (KYOTO, 1994)

**Provisional application of the Constitution and Convention  
of the International Telecommunication Union (Geneva, 1992)  
by Members of the Union which have not yet become  
States Parties to those instruments**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Kyoto, 1994),

*recalling*

Resolution 1 of the Additional Plenipotentiary Conference of the Union (Geneva, 1992) on the provisional application of certain parts of the Constitution and Convention of the International Telecommunication Union (Geneva, 1992) and Recommendation 1 of that Conference on the deposit of instruments and entry into force of the said Constitution and Convention,

*noting*

that, although the said Constitution and Convention entered into force on 1 July 1994 between Members having deposited their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession before that date, only 56 out of the 184 Members of the Union have deposited with the Secretary-General their respective instruments of consent to be bound by the said treaties,

*mindful*

of its call for expeditious deposit of such instruments as contained in Recommendation 1 of this Conference,



*considering*

that it is indispensable, for the proper functioning of the Union as an intergovernmental organization, that it be governed by one single set of provisions and rules as contained in its basic instrument, the Constitution (Geneva, 1992), and in the Convention (Geneva, 1992), the provisions of which complement those of the said Constitution,

*resolves*

to appeal to all Members of the Union which have not yet become States Parties to the Constitution and Convention of the International Telecommunication Union (Geneva, 1992) provisionally to apply the provisions thereof, until such time as they have become States Parties thereto by depositing with the Secretary-General their respective instruments of consent to be bound by the two treaties, and to confirm that the provisions of No. 210 of the said Constitution shall continue to apply until such time of deposit.

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*(Kyoto, 1994)*

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## RESOLUTION 70 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Mainstreaming a gender perspective in ITU and promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women through information and communication technologies**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

a) the initiative taken by the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) at the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) in adopting Resolution 7 (Valletta, 1998), transmitted to the Plenipotentiary Conference (Minneapolis, 1998), which resolved that an ITU gender task force be established;

b) the endorsement of that resolution by the Plenipotentiary Conference in its Resolution 70 (Minneapolis, 1998), in which the conference resolved, *inter alia*, to incorporate a gender perspective<sup>1</sup> in the implementation of all programmes and plans of ITU;

c) Resolution 44 (Istanbul, 2002) of WTDC, converting the task force on gender issues into a working group on gender issues;

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<sup>1</sup> "Gender perspective": Mainstreaming a gender perspective is the process of assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policies or programmes in all areas and at all levels. It is a strategy for making women's as well as men's concerns and experiences an integral dimension of design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation so that women and men benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated. The ultimate goal is to achieve gender equality. (Source: Report of the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality, third session, New York, 25-27 February 1998)

*d)* Resolution 55 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, which encourages mainstreaming a gender perspective in the activities of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T);

*e)* Resolution 55 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, resolving that the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) should maintain close links and collaborate, as appropriate, with the ITU Gender Task Force established in the framework of the ITU General Secretariat by the ITU Council in 2013 and with the Working Group on Broadband and Gender of the Broadband Commission for Digital Development, reciprocally supporting gender mainstreaming in the Union and joining forces to eliminate inequalities in access to and use of telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs), in the interests of building a non-discriminatory and egalitarian information society;

*f)* Resolution 1327 adopted by the Council at its 2011 session, on ITU's role in ICTs and the empowerment of women and girls;

*g)* ECOSOC Resolution 2012/24, on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system, which welcomed the development of the UN System-Wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-SWAP)<sup>2</sup>;

*h)* the Preamble to the WSIS+10 Statement on implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), which reaffirmed the importance of promoting and maintaining gender equality and women's empowerment, guaranteeing the inclusion of women in the emerging global ICT society, taking into account the mandate of the newly established agency UN Women, the recommendations of the High-Level Panel on the Post-2015 Development Agenda and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted at the fourth World Conference on Women in 1995,

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.unwomen.org/~media/Headquarters/Media/Stories/en/unswap-brochure.pdf>

*noting*

a) United Nations General Assembly Resolution 64/289, on system-wide coherence, adopted on 21 July 2010, establishing the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, which would be known as "UN Women", with the mandate to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women;

b) that the United Nations Chief Executives Board, in April 2013, advocated the United Nations system-wide "Action Plan to measure gender equality and the empowerment of women", under which ITU will participate in the dissemination, coordination and communication and networking activities that are part of the strategy;

c) the conclusions agreed at the 55<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission on the Status of Women of the United Nations, held in March 2011, regarding the access and participation of women and girls in education, training and science and technology

*noting also*

a) the decision of the Council at its 2013 session endorsing the Union's Gender Equality and Mainstreaming Policy (GEM), with the aim of becoming a model organization for gender equality and to leverage the power of telecommunications/ICTs to empower both women and men;

b) that ITU, in its strategic plan, includes gender issues with a view to debating and exchanging ideas to define, throughout the organization, a concrete action plan with deadlines and goals,

*recognizing*

a) that society as a whole, particularly in the context of the information and knowledge society, will benefit from equal participation of women and men in policy-making and decision-making and equal access to communication services for both women and men;

b) that ICTs are tools through which gender equality and women's empowerment can be advanced, and are integral to the creation of societies in which both women and men can substantively contribute and participate;

c) that the outcomes of WSIS, namely the Geneva Declaration of Principles, the Geneva Plan of Action, the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, outlined the concept of the information society, and that continued efforts must be undertaken in this context to bridge the gender digital divide;

d) the WSIS+10 Statement on implementation of the WSIS outcomes states the need to ensure that the information society enables women's empowerment and their full participation on the basis of equality in all spheres of society and in all decision-making processes;

e) that there are a growing number of women in the telecommunication/ICT field with decision-making power, including in relevant ministries, national regulatory authorities and industry, who could promote the work of ITU so as to encourage girls to choose a career in the field of telecommunications/ICT and foster the use of ICTs for the social and economic empowerment of women and girls;

f) that there is a growing need to bridge the digital divide in order to empower women, with special attention to women in rural and marginalized urban areas who are subject to traditional constraints which reinforce discrimination,

*recognizing further*

a) the progress achieved in raising awareness, both within ITU and among Member States, of the importance of mainstreaming gender perspective in all ITU work programmes and of increasing the number of women professionals in ITU, especially at the senior management level, while at the same time working towards the equal access of women and men to posts in the General Service category;

b) the success of the international "Girls in ICT Day" organized by ITU, which is held every year on the fourth Thursday of April;

c) the recent launch of the Gender Equality Mainstreaming – Technology (GEM-TECH) Award, as a special award of ITU and UN Women for outstanding performers and role models in gender equality and mainstreaming in the area of ICTs;

d) the considerable recognition given to the work of ITU in gender and telecommunications/ICT within the United Nations family of organizations, including the GEM-TECH Award, awarded jointly by the United Nations and the Union to role models in the area of gender equality,

*considering*

a) the progress made by ITU, and in particular the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), in the development and implementation of actions and projects that use ICTs for the economic and social empowerment of women and girls, as well as in increasing awareness of the links between gender issues and ICTs within the Union and among Member States and Sector Members;

b) the results achieved by the Working Group on Gender Issues in promoting gender equality;

c) the study conducted by ITU-T on women in telecommunication standardization, exploring perspectives and activities related to mainstreaming a gender perspective in ITU-T and determining the degree to which women are active participants in all ITU-T activities,

*noting further*

a) that there is a need for ITU to study, gather data, analyse, build statistics, assess and evaluate effects and promote a better understanding of the impact of telecommunications/ICTs on gender equality;

- b) that ITU should have a role in establishing gender-relevant indicators for the telecommunication/ICT sector that would contribute to reducing disparities in terms of access to and appropriation of ICTs and to national, regional and international mainstreaming of a gender perspective;
- c) that more work needs to be done to ensure that the gender and equity perspective is mainstreamed in all ITU policies, work programmes, information dissemination activities, publications, study groups, seminars, workshops and conferences;
- d) that there is a need to foster participation of women and girls in the telecommunication/ICT domain at an early age and to provide input for further policy developments in the required areas, so as to ensure that the information and knowledge society contributes to their empowerment;
- e) the need for ICT tools and applications to empower women and facilitate their access to the job market in non-traditional fields,

*taking into account*

the amendments made in Resolution 48 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on human resources management and development, outlining procedures to facilitate the recruitment of women at ITU,

*encourages Member States and Sector Members*

- 1 to undertake further or new actions, promoting the commitment to mainstreaming the gender perspective in government, the public and private and sectors, academia and industry, for the purpose of promoting innovation in telecommunication/ICT learning on an equal footing for men and women so as to foster the empowerment of women and girls, with special emphasis on rural and remote areas;
- 2 to review and revise, as appropriate, their respective policies and practices so as to ensure that recruitment, employment, training and advancement of women and men alike are undertaken on a fair and equitable basis;

3 to facilitate the capacity building and employment of women and men equally in the telecommunication/ICT field, including at senior levels of responsibility in telecommunication/ICT administrations, government and regulatory bodies and intergovernmental organizations and in the private sector;

4 to review their policies and strategies related to the information society so as to ensure the inclusion of a gender perspective in all activities and the fostering of gender balance to secure equal opportunities through the use and appropriation of telecommunications/ICTs;

5 to promote and increase the interest of, and opportunities for, women and girls in telecommunication/ICT careers, with special focus on women and girls in rural areas, during elementary, secondary and higher education and lifelong education;

6 to attract more women and girls to study computer science, and acknowledge the achievements of leading women in relevant areas, particularly in innovation;

7 to encourage more women to take advantage of the opportunities offered by ICTs to establish and develop a business and to foster potential contributions to economic growth,

*resolves*

1 to continue the work being done at ITU, and particularly in BDT, to promote gender equality in telecommunications/ICTs by recommending measures at the international, regional and national level on policies and programmes that improve socio-economic conditions for women, particularly in developing countries<sup>3</sup>;

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<sup>3</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.



2 to accord high priority to the incorporation of gender policies in the management, staffing and operation of ITU, so that ITU can become a leading organization in the implementation of gender-equality values and principles to take advantage of the possibilities offered by ICTs to empower both men and women;

3 to incorporate a gender perspective in the implementation of the ITU strategic plan and financial plan for 2016-2019 as well as in the operational plans of the Sectors and the General Secretariat;

4 to have ITU compile and process statistical data from countries and draw up indicators that take into account gender issues and highlight trends in the sector, as well as the effects and impact of the use and appropriation of telecommunications/ICTs, broken down by gender,

*instructs the Council*

1 to accord high priority to monitoring the implementation of the ITU Gender Equality and Mainstreaming Policy (GEM), so that ITU can become a model organization in terms of gender and leverage the power of telecommunications/ICTs to empower women and men;

2 to continue and expand on the initiatives carried out over the past eight years, and to accelerate the gender and equity mainstreaming process in ITU as a whole, within existing budgetary resources, so as to ensure capacity building and the appointment of women to senior-level positions, including ITU elected positions;

3 to examine the possibility for ITU, in close collaboration with relevant regional organizations, to take appropriate measures to establish a regional platform for women, devoted to using ICT in order to promote gender equality and empowerment of women and girls,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

- 1 to continue to ensure that the gender perspective is incorporated in the work programmes, management approaches and human resources development activities of ITU, and to submit an annual written report to the Council on progress made in the implementation of the GEM policy, reflecting, with statistics broken down by gender, the distribution of women and men by category within ITU, as well as the participation of women and men in ITU conferences and meetings;
- 2 to ensure the inclusion of a gender perspective in all ITU contributions with respect to the priority areas that must be tackled for the implementation of WSIS beyond 2015;
- 3 to give particular attention to gender balance for posts in the Professional and higher categories in ITU, particularly in senior positions;
- 4 to give appropriate priority to gender balance when choosing between candidates who have equal qualifications for a post, taking into account geographical distribution (No. 154 of the ITU Constitution) and the balance between women and men;
- 5 to amend ITU recruitment procedures to ensure that, if the number of qualified and competent candidates so allows, at each recruitment stage, as a target at least one-third of the candidates who move up to the next stage are women;
- 6 to report to the next plenipotentiary conference on the results and progress made on the inclusion of a gender perspective in the work of ITU, and on the implementation of this resolution;
- 7 to make sure, unless there are no women among the qualified candidates, that each short-list submitted to the Secretary-General for appointment includes a woman;
- 8 to ensure gender balance in the composition of ITU statutory committees;

9 to establish an annual GEM prize for ITU members to recognize and commend individual contributions and examples of leadership to promote gender equality;

10 to organize training in mainstreaming the gender perspective for all staff;

11 to continue to support gender mainstreaming in cooperation with other relevant organizations, through special initiatives like the GEM-TECH Award, co-organized by ITU and UN Women;

12 to make efforts to mobilize voluntary contributions from Member States, Sector Members and others for this purpose;

13 to encourage administrations to give equal opportunities to women and men candidates for elected official posts and for membership of the Radio Regulations Board;

14 to encourage the launch of the "Global Network of women ICT decision-makers";

15 to announce a year-long call to action, with a focus on the theme "Women and girls in ICT";

16 to bring this resolution to the attention of the United Nations Secretary-General in an effort to promote greater cooperation and coordination in the policies, programmes and projects being implemented by ITU and interlinking access, use and appropriation of telecommunications/ICT and broadband among women and girls, and to promote gender equality, empowerment and the socio-economic development of women and girls;

17 to fulfil the obligations of submitting reports as required by UN-SWAP,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

1 to continue promoting, among the other United Nations agencies, ITU Member States and Sector Members, the international "Girls in ICT Day", which, since 2011, takes place every fourth Thursday of April, and during which telecommunication/ICT companies, other enterprises with telecommunication/ICT departments, telecommunication/ICT training institutions, universities, research centres and all telecommunication/ICT-related institutions are invited to organize activities

for girls and young women, as well as online training and/or workshops, day camps and summer camps, in order to promote and increase the interest of, and opportunities for, women and girls in telecommunication/ICT careers during elementary, secondary and higher education;

2 to call upon women's organizations and non-governmental and civil-society organizations throughout the world to join in the celebration of the international Girls in ICT Day, as well as to provide online training and/or workshops and day camps, among others;

3 to continue the work of BDT in promoting the use of telecommunications/ICTs for the economic and social empowerment of women and girls, helping them to tackle disparities and facilitating the acquisition of skills for life,

*invites Member States and Sector Members*

1 to make voluntary contributions to ITU to facilitate the implementation of this resolution to the fullest extent possible;

2 to observe annually the international Girls in ICT Day, held on the fourth Thursday of April, to share with BDT lessons learned from the Girls in ICT Day activities whenever necessary, and to invite ICT companies, other companies with ICT departments, ICT training institutions, universities, research centres and all ICT-related institutions to organize an open day for girls;

3 to actively support and participate in the work of BDT in promoting the use of telecommunications/ICTs for the economic and social empowerment of women and girls;

- 4 to actively participate in the launch of a "Global Network of women ICT decision-makers" aimed at promoting the work of ITU in using ICTs for the social and economic empowerment of women and girls, including by building partnerships and building synergies between existing networks at national, regional and international levels, as well as fostering successful strategies to improve gender balance at senior-level positions in telecommunication/ICT administrations, government, regulatory bodies and intergovernmental organizations, including ITU, and in the private sector;
- 5 to highlight the gender perspective in the Questions under study in the ITU-D study groups and the programmes of the Dubai Action Plan;
- 6 to further develop internal tools and programming guidelines in the area of promotion of gender equality in the use of ICTs;
- 7 to collaborate with relevant stakeholders that have significant experience in mainstreaming gender equality in projects and programmes, in order to provide specialized training for women on ICT use;
- 8 to provide support so that women and girls can have access to studies and careers in telecommunications/ICTs, by creating opportunities, fostering their incorporation into teaching and learning processes, and/or encouraging their professional training;
- 9 to support and/or promote the funding of studies, projects and proposals that contribute to overcoming gender inequalities, fostering and promoting telecommunications/ICTs to empower women and girls;
- 10 to nominate on an annual basis deserving organizations and individuals for the GEM-TECH Award.

## RESOLUTION 71 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*considering*

- a) the provisions of the ITU Constitution and ITU Convention relating to strategic policies and plans;
- b) Article 19 of the Convention, on the participation of Sector Members in the Union's activities;
- c) Resolution 72 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, which underlines the importance of linking strategic, financial and operational plans as a basis for measuring progress in achieving the objectives and goals of ITU,

*noting*

the challenges faced by the Union in achieving its purposes in the constantly changing telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) environment as well as the context for the development and implementation of the strategic plan, as outlined in Annex 1 to this resolution,

*recognizing*

- a) the experience gained in implementing the strategic plan for the Union for 2012-2015;
- b) the recommendations of the report by the United Nations Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) on Strategic Planning in the United Nations system, published in 2012;
- c) that the effective linkage between the strategic plan and the financial plan, which is detailed in Annex 1 to Decision 5 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, can be achieved through reallocation of the resources of the financial plan to the various Sectors, and then to the goals and objectives of the strategic plan, as presented in Annex 3 to this resolution,

*resolves*

to adopt the strategic plan for 2016-2019, contained in Annex 2 to this resolution,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

1 in coordination with the Directors of the three Bureaux, to develop and implement an ITU results framework for the strategic plan of the Union for 2016-2019 (Annex 2), following the principles of results-based budgeting (RBB) and result-based management (RBM);

2 in coordination with the Directors of the three Bureaux, when reporting annually to the ITU Council, to present annual progress reports on the implementation of the strategic plan for 2016-2019 and on the performance of the Union towards the achievement of its goals and objectives, including recommendations to adjust the plan in the light of changes in the telecommunication/ICT environment and/or as a result of the performance evaluation, in particular by:

- i) updating the sections of the strategic plan related to objectives, outcomes and outputs;
- ii) making all modifications necessary to ensure that the strategic plan facilitates the accomplishment of ITU's mission, taking account of proposals by the competent Sector advisory groups, decisions by conferences and by assemblies of the Sectors and changes in the strategic focus of the Union's activities, within the context of the financial limits established by the Plenipotentiary Conference;
- iii) ensuring the linkage between the strategic, financial and operational plans in ITU, and developing the corresponding human resources strategic plan;

3 to distribute these reports to all Member States, after consideration by the Council, urging them to circulate the reports to Sector Members, as well as to those entities and organizations referred to in No. 235 of the Convention which have participated in these activities,

*instructs the Council*

- 1 to oversee further development and implementation of the ITU results framework for the implementation of the strategic plan of the Union for 2016-2019 (Annex 2);
- 2 to oversee further development and implementation of the strategic plan for 2016-2019 in Annex 2 to this resolution, and when necessary adjust the strategic plan, on the basis of the Secretary-General's reports;
- 3 to present an assessment of the results of the strategic plan for 2016-2019 to the next plenipotentiary conference, along with a proposed strategic plan for the period 2020-2023,

*invites the Member States*

to contribute national and regional insights on policy, regulatory and operational matters to the strategic planning process undertaken by the Union in the period before the next plenipotentiary conference, in order to:

- strengthen the effectiveness of the Union in fulfilling its purposes as set out in the instruments of the Union, by cooperating in the implementation of the strategic plan;
- assist the Union in meeting the changing expectations of all its constituents as national structures for the provision of telecommunication/ICT services continue to evolve,

*invites Sector Members*

to communicate their views on the strategic plan of the Union through their relevant Sectors and the corresponding advisory groups.



## ANNEX 1 TO RESOLUTION 71 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

### **Background on the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019**

This background information document includes an introduction to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), its role as a United Nations (UN) specialized agency and the role and mission of the ITU Sectors and governing bodies, as presented in Section 1.

The general assessment presented in Section 2 provides lessons learnt from the implementation of the strategic plan for 2012-2015, and sets out main broad trends shaping the telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) environment/sector relevant for the strategic plan for 2016-2019.

Section 3 introduces Sector-specific situational analyses presenting the role and future of each of the ITU Sectors.

### **1 Introduction**

In accordance with the purposes of ITU, as defined in the ITU Constitution (Article 1, §1-2) and ITU Convention, ITU is committed to connecting the world. In order to achieve this, ITU works to ensure that the global communications infrastructure runs smoothly and efficiently so as to enable everybody to access the benefits of telecommunications/ICTs and assist in mitigating new risks. ITU oversees international spectrum allocation and satellite coordination; works to develop and gain consensus on new telecommunication/ICT standards; and carries out policy analysis and work on the development of an enabling environment as well as providing technical assistance to its Member States.

ITU's work, as determined and guided by its Member States and Sector Members, covers a broad range of issues: from the underlying standards for broadband to spectrum allocation; from basic access technologies to high-speed mobile broadband; from submarine cables to terrestrial optical fibre; from microwave links to satellites; from accessibility to e-health; and

from gender empowerment to interoperability. The work accomplished in ITU in collaboration with governments, the private sector, academia and civil society helps ensure ubiquitous and efficient radio, telephone, television and Internet connectivity.

### **1.1 ITU as a part of the United Nations system: Contributing to a transformative post-2015 development agenda**

As the deadline for the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) approaches, and with the UN Post-2015 Development Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) processes well under way, UN Member States are engaged in the formulation of a single development framework embodying one coherent set of goals, which integrates in a balanced manner the three dimensions of sustainable development identified by the Rio+20 process (social development; economic development; and environmental protection).

Telecommunications/ICTs, including broadband, are essential in accelerating progress towards sustainable development. Such technologies are a key foundation for any development policy and a major enabling tool of any development plan at the national, regional and/or global levels.<sup>1</sup>

Since 2003, the World Summit on Information Society (WSIS) process has been an important instrument for driving global telecommunication/ICT development in support of the global development agenda. As part of its strategy to connect the world, ITU is striving to ensure that telecommunications/ICTs continue to receive the recognition they deserve in the international community and in UN's new approach to ensuring sustainable and equitable development.

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<sup>1</sup> Broadband Commission for Digital Development (2013): The State of Broadband 2013: Universalizing Broadband.

As part of the UN efforts, ITU is also committed to mainstreaming UN priorities in its strategic planning and work, in such areas as gender equality, youth, persons with disabilities, rural populations, older persons and disaster risk reduction, among others. The UN system has also been engaged in a reform process which, *inter alia*, requires business practices to be harmonized, in particular applying the results-based management (RBM) methodology. ITU's strategy takes into account these global priority efforts and reforms.

## **1.2 Governing bodies / Role of the Sectors**

The Union comprises: a) the Plenipotentiary Conference, which is the supreme organ of the Union; b) the ITU Council, which acts on behalf of the Plenipotentiary Conference; c) World conferences on international telecommunications; d) the Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R), including world and regional radiocommunication conferences, radiocommunication assemblies and the Radio Regulations Board; e) the Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T), including world telecommunication standardization assemblies; f) the Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D), including world and regional telecommunication development conferences; and g) the General Secretariat. The three Bureaux (the Radiocommunication Bureau – BR; the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau – TSB; and the Telecommunication Development Bureau – BDT) serve as the secretariat to each respective Sector.

### **1.2.1 ITU governing bodies**

#### **1.2.1.1 Plenipotentiary Conference**

The Union is governed by the Plenipotentiary Conference. The Plenipotentiary Conference is the supreme organ of ITU. It is the decision-making body which determines the direction of the Union and its activities.

### **1.2.1.2 ITU Council**

The ITU Council acts as the Union's governing body in the interval between plenipotentiary conferences. The Council takes all steps to facilitate the implementation of the provisions of the Constitution, the Convention, the Administrative Regulations (International Telecommunication Regulations and Radio Regulations), the decisions of plenipotentiary conferences and, where appropriate, the decisions of other conferences and meetings of the Union. The Council also acts on ITU's policy and strategic planning and is responsible for ensuring the smooth day-to-day running of the Union, coordinating work programmes, approving budgets and controlling finances and expenditure. Its role is to consider broad telecommunication policy issues in order to ensure that the Union's activities, policies and strategies fully respond to today's dynamic, rapidly changing telecommunication/ICT environment/sector.

## **1.2.2 Role and missions of the ITU Sectors**

### **1.2.2.1 ITU Radiocommunication Sector**

The ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) plays a vital role in global management of the radio-frequency spectrum and satellite orbits – limited natural resources which are increasingly in demand from a large and growing number of services such as fixed, mobile, broadcasting, amateur, space research, emergency telecommunications, meteorology, global positioning systems, environmental monitoring and communication services that ensure safety of life on land, at sea and in the skies.

The mission of ITU-R is to ensure the rational, equitable, efficient and economical use of the radio-frequency spectrum by all radiocommunication services, including those using satellite orbits, and to carry out studies and approve recommendations on radiocommunication matters.

### *World Radiocommunication Conference*

The World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC) is held every three to four years. It is the mandate of WRC to review and, if necessary, revise the Radio Regulations, the international treaty governing the use of the radio-frequency spectrum and geostationary-satellite and non-geostationary-satellite orbits. Revisions are made on the basis of an agenda determined by the ITU Council, which takes into account recommendations made by previous WRCs.

### *Radiocommunication Assembly*

The Radiocommunication Assembly (RA) is responsible for the structure, programme and approval of radiocommunication studies. It:

- assigns conference preparatory work and other questions to the study groups;
- responds to other requests from ITU conferences;
- suggests suitable topics for the agenda of future WRCs;
- approves and issues ITU-R recommendations and ITU-R questions developed by the study groups;
- sets the programme for study groups, and disbands or establishes study groups according to need.

### *Radio Regulations Board*

The twelve members of the Radio Regulations Board (RRB) are elected at the Plenipotentiary Conference. They perform their duties independently and on a part-time basis.

The Board:

- approves Rules of Procedure, which are used by the Radiocommunication Bureau in applying the provisions of the Radio Regulations and registering frequency assignments made by the Member States;

- addresses matters referred by the Bureau which cannot be resolved through application of the Radio Regulations and Rules of Procedure;
- considers reports of unresolved interference investigations carried out by the Bureau at the request of one or more administrations, and formulates recommendations;
- provides advice to radiocommunication conferences and radiocommunication assemblies;
- considers appeals against decisions made by the Radiocommunication Bureau regarding frequency assignments;
- performs any additional duties prescribed by a competent conference or by the Council.

#### *ITU-R study groups*

The ITU-R study groups, including the Special Committee on regulatory/procedural matters, develop the technical, operational, regulatory and procedural bases for decisions taken by WRCs. These bases are consolidated by the Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM). The ITU-R study groups also develop international standards (recommendations), reports, opinions and handbooks on radiocommunication matters.

#### *Radiocommunication Advisory Group*

In accordance with Article 11A of the Convention, the Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG) shall: “1) review priorities, programmes, operations, financial matters and strategies related to radiocommunication assemblies, study groups and other groups and the preparation of radiocommunication conferences, and any specific matters as directed by a conference of the Union, a radiocommunication assembly or the Council; 1bis) review the implementation of the operational plan of the preceding period in order to identify areas in which the Bureau has not achieved or was not able to achieve the objectives laid down in that plan, and advise the Director on the necessary corrective measures; 2) review progress in the implementation of the programme of work [...]; 3) provide guidelines for the work of study groups; 4) recommend measures, *inter alia*, to foster cooperation and coordination with other standards bodies, with the Telecommunication Standardization Sector, the Telecommunication Development Sector and

the General Secretariat; [...] 6) prepare a report for the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau indicating action in respect of the above items; 7) prepare a report for the Radiocommunication Assembly on the matters assigned to it in accordance with No.137A of this Convention and transmit it to the Director for submission to the assembly [...]".

### **1.2.2.2 ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector**

The mission of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) is to provide a unique forum for industry and government to work together to foster the development and use of interoperable, non-discriminatory and demand-driven international standards. These standards are based on openness and take into account needs of users, in order to create an environment where users can access affordable services worldwide regardless of underlying technology, particularly in developing countries\*, while establishing links between the activities of ITU-T and the relevant WSIS outcomes.

#### *World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly*

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) sets the overall direction and structure for ITU-T. It meets every four years and defines the general policy for the Sector, establishes study groups, approves their expected work programme for the next four-year period, and appoints their chairmen and vice-chairmen.

#### *Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group*

In accordance with Article 14A of the Convention, the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) shall "1) review ITU-T priorities, programmes, operations, financial matters and strategies for activities in the Telecommunication Standardization Sector; 1bis) review the implementation of the operational plan [...]; 2) review progress in the implementation of the programme of work [...]; 3) provide guidelines for

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\* These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

the work of study groups; 4) recommend measures, *inter alia*, to foster cooperation and coordination with other relevant bodies, with the Radiocommunication Sector, the Telecommunication Development Sector and the General Secretariat; [...] 6) prepare a report for the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau indicating action in respect of the above items; 7) prepare a report for the world telecommunication standardization assembly on the matters assigned to it [...]"

### *ITU-T study groups*

The ITU-T study groups assemble experts from around the world to develop international standards known as ITU-T recommendations, which act as defining elements in the global telecommunication/ICT infrastructure. They enable global communications by ensuring that countries' telecommunication/ICT networks and devices are interoperable.

### **1.2.2.3 ITU Telecommunication Development Sector**

The core mission of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) is to foster international cooperation and solidarity in the delivery of technical assistance and in the creation, development and improvement of telecommunication/ICT equipment and networks in developing countries. ITU-D is required to discharge the Union's dual responsibility as a UN specialized agency and also as an executing agency for implementing projects under the UN development system or other funding arrangements, so as to facilitate and enhance telecommunication/ICT development by offering, organizing and coordinating technical cooperation and assistance activities.

### *World Telecommunication Development Conference*

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) sets the agenda and guidelines for ITU-D for the following four-year cycle, while regional conferences review "work-in-progress" towards the overall objectives and ensure that goals are met. WTDCs serve as forums for the discussion of the digital divide, telecommunications and development by



all stakeholders involved in and concerned with ITU-D's work. In addition, they review the numerous programmes and projects of the Sector and the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT). Results are reported and new projects are launched.

Regional preparatory meetings (RPM) for WTDC bring together the countries in each region to explore and discuss their needs and the present and future projects of the Sector.

#### *Telecommunication Development Advisory Group*

In accordance with Article 17A of the Convention, the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) shall: "1) review priorities, programmes, operations, financial matters and strategies for activities in the Telecommunication Development Sector; 1*bis*) review the implementation of the operational plan of the preceding period in order to identify areas in which the Bureau has not achieved or was not able to achieve the objectives laid down in that plan, and advise the Director on the necessary corrective measures; 2) review progress in the implementation of the programme of work [...]; 3) provide guidelines for the work of study groups; 4) recommend measures, *inter alia*, to foster cooperation and coordination with the Radiocommunication Sector, the Telecommunication Standardization Sector and the General Secretariat, as well as with other relevant development and financial institutions; [...] 6) prepare a report for the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau indicating action in respect of the above items; 6*bis*) prepare a report for the world telecommunication development conference on the matters assigned to it in accordance with No. 213A of this Convention and transmit it to the Director for submission to the conference [...]".

#### *ITU-D study groups*

In support of BDT's knowledge-sharing and capacity-building agenda, the ITU-D study groups study and analyse specific task-oriented telecommunication/ICT questions of priority to developing countries. ITU-D has two study groups, providing a neutral forum for governments, industry and academia to address priority issues for the telecommunication/ICT

sector: ITU-D Study Group 1 addresses issues related to an enabling environment for the development of telecommunications/ICTs; ITU-D Study Group 2 addresses issues related to ICT applications, cybersecurity, emergency telecommunications and climate-change adaptation.

#### **1.2.2.4 Intersectoral activities**

Resolutions and decisions of the Plenipotentiary Conference and the Council foresee other, intersectoral events, forums and conferences, in accordance with the mandate of the Union.

##### *World Conference on International Telecommunications*

The World Conference on International Telecommunications (WCIT) may partially, or in exceptional cases, completely revise the International Telecommunication Regulations and may deal with any question of a worldwide character within its competence and related to its agenda.

## **2 General assessment**

This general assessment briefly reviews the implementation of the strategic plan for the Union for 2012-2015 and identifies main trends and challenges of the telecommunication/ICT environment/sector that will influence and shape ITU's work in future. It specifically recognizes the following:

- Telecommunications/ICTs are growing strongly, and becoming more widely available and pervasive.
- As telecommunications/ICTs become more widespread, the challenges of inequalities and exclusion are becoming greater: special attention must thus be given to bridging the digital divide and ensuring inclusion.

- New risks and challenges emerge with increasing growth and use of telecommunications/ICTs.
- Convergence is occurring on different levels, breaking down silos between different technological sectors. Technologies are evolving rapidly, with accelerating rates of innovation, while becoming more pervasive. The telecommunication/ICT environment/sector is becoming increasingly complex. The evolution and convergence of telecommunications/ICTs will also impact the changing telecommunication/ICT environment/sector.

## **2.1 Brief review of the implementation of strategic plan for the Union for 2012-2015**

The ITU strategic plan for 2012-2015 was adopted in 2010 by the Plenipotentiary Conference in Guadalajara (Mexico). It is structured with a view, *inter alia*, to facilitating implementation of the RBM methodology and linking the strategic goals to ITU's core activities.

The strategic plan for 2012-2015 has allowed ITU to progress towards fulfilling its mission and achieving its goals. A comprehensive overview of its results from 2011<sup>2</sup> to 2014 can be found in the "Report on the Implementation of the strategic plan and on the activities of the Union 2011-2014" (Document PP-14/20).

### *Lessons learned*

On the basis of an analysis of the implementation of the current strategic plan and a thorough review of the practices of other UN organizations, key adjustments needed to the strategic plan for 2016-2019 have been identified, as follows:

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<sup>2</sup> ITU management decided to put the strategic plan for 2012-2015 into place as from 2011, by starting to evaluate and report the activities of the Union according to the structure of the new plan.

- **One vision, mission and set of core values:** The common vision and mission of the Union, and the core values that drive priorities and guide decision-making processes, shall be defined and stated up front in the strategic plan.
  
- **Strong results-based framework:** Strategic planning and operational planning shall follow the same results-based framework, but in a different level of detail. To drill down the principles of RBM, the components of the ITU results-based framework shall include:
  - **ITU strategic goals and targets:** There is a need to define Union-wide strategic goals, to which the three Sectors, the corresponding Bureaux and the General Secretariat all contribute. Global telecommunication/ICT targets may serve as the indicators of achievement at the level of strategic goals, providing baselines and targets for the period of the strategic plan.
  
  - **Objectives and outcomes:** The Sectoral and intersectoral objectives and outcomes shall be set in order to achieve the strategic goals of the Union.
  
  - **Outputs and corresponding activities:** Final products or services delivered by ITU and the corresponding activities that need to be undertaken to produce them shall be defined within the operational planning process. This will ensure proper alignment with the ITU strategic goals and objectives/outcomes, and will allow for any corrective actions during the four-year period of the strategic plan, permitting proper adjustments required by the rapidly changing telecommunication/ICT environment/sector.

- **Clear Implementation criteria:** Appropriate criteria shall be defined to strengthen the linkage between strategic and operational planning, and provide the criteria for prioritizing among different activities of the Union
  
- Strengthening the **RBM methodology:** In order to further improve monitoring of the implementation of the strategic plan and allow for any corrective actions during the four-year period, a comprehensive ITU results framework shall be developed, and shall be supported by the enhancement of the following frameworks:
  - **Performance-management framework:** The performance-management framework shall serve to evaluate not only performance with respect to ITU's activities, but also progress towards achievement of the strategic goals by meeting the global telecommunication/ICT targets.
  
  - **Risk-management framework:** The risk-management framework shall serve to identify, analyse, evaluate and address risks that might have an impact on the performance of the Union in pursuit of its goals and objectives. Risk-mitigation measures defined within the framework shall be considered, planned and implemented via the operational planning process.

## 2.2 The telecommunication/ICT environment/sector

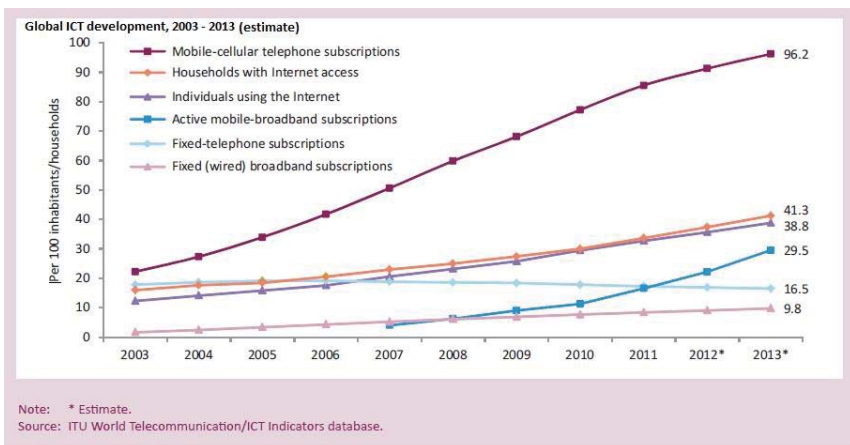
Telecommunications/ICTs are transforming virtually every facet of modern life – in work, business, social and cultural life, as well as entertainment. According to ITU estimates, there were 6.8 billion mobile-cellular subscriptions by end 2013 or almost as many as there were people on the planet, giving a mobile-cellular penetration rate of 96 per cent. There were close to 5 billion people with access to television, and 2.4 billion Internet users by end 2013. New telecommunications/ICTs continue to penetrate countries in all regions of the world, as more and more people get connected.

## 2.2.1 Growth in and evolution of telecommunications/ICTs

Telecommunications/ICTs are evolving rapidly, and have become more widespread and pervasive. Figure 1 shows global telecommunication/ICT development, i.e. increase in levels of access for different types of telecommunications/ICTs over the past decade. Telecommunications/ICTs have become critical infrastructure, supporting not only communications for citizens and organizations, but also other integral services, such as power supply, healthcare and financial services.

The uptake of both fixed (wired)-broadband and, in particular, mobile-broadband services has continued to grow worldwide. Currently, there are three times as many mobile-broadband as fixed-broadband subscriptions (2.1 billion, as against 700 million). Indeed, mobile broadband is the telecommunication/ICT service displaying the sharpest growth rates globally (Figure 1 below), and is contributing to changes in telecommunication/ICT use and uptake and in the type of services that the industry is providing.

**Figure 1 – Global telecommunication/ICT development 2003-2013**



These rapid growth rates will continue and accelerate in the future. For example, Ericsson predicts that the number of smartphone subscriptions is expected to exceed 4 billion by 2018, while mobile-broadband subscriptions are projected to reach 7 billion subscriptions in 2018.<sup>3</sup> Other analysts project that, globally, 4G subscriptions will grow tenfold over five years, from 88 million in 2012 to 864 million in 2017.<sup>4</sup>

As a result of the growth in users, traffic and applications, overall revenues in the telecommunication/ICT sector are expected to continue to rise, but new industry participants seem poised to take an increasing share. Total revenues from traditional telecommunication operators are likely to grow, even though they may lose up to 6.9 per cent in cumulative voice revenues (representing USD 479 billion) to over-the-top (OTT) VoIP services by 2020.<sup>5</sup> In another closely related area, the cloud computing market was worth USD 18 billion in 2011, and was estimated to reach USD 32 billion by 2013,<sup>6</sup> driven by big data stored in the cloud now accounting for two-thirds of data centre traffic worldwide.<sup>7</sup>

Annual global IP traffic is expected to surpass the zettabyte threshold (1.4 zettabytes) by end 2017, driven by the diversification of pay-TV and video streaming services, and other media-rich content.<sup>8</sup> More than 4 billion hours of video are watched on YouTube each month, 30 billion pieces

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<sup>3</sup> Ericsson Traffic Mobility Report.

<sup>4</sup> Pyramid Research quarterly mobile data forecast, February 2013.

<sup>5</sup> Emeka Obiodu and Jeremy Green (2012): *The Future of Voice*, OVUM.

<sup>6</sup> Saul Berman, Lynn Kesterson-Townes, Anthony Marshall and Robini Srivathsa (2012): *The power of Cloud: Driving business model innovation*. IBM Global Business Services.

<sup>7</sup> ITU and CISCO Visual networking index (VNI).

<sup>8</sup> Cisco Visual Networking Index: Forecast and Methodology, 2011-2016.

of content are shared on Facebook every month, and some 400 million tweets are sent per day by about 200 million monthly active users.<sup>9</sup>

The Internet of Things (IoT) is rapidly becoming a reality, and machine-to-machine (M2M) communications are expected to grow significantly in the near future. By 2017, televisions, tablets, smartphones and business Internet M2M modules will register growth rates of 42 per cent, 116 per cent, 119 per cent and 86 per cent, respectively. Traffic from wireless devices will already exceed traffic from wired devices by 2014.<sup>10</sup>

The term "big data" is used to define high-volume, high-velocity and high-variety information assets that demand cost-effective, innovative forms of information processing for enhanced insight and decision making.<sup>11</sup> It is estimated that 40 zettabytes of data will be created by 2020, an increase of 300 times from 2005. Current estimates indicate that 2.5 quintillion bytes of data are created each day. Most companies in the United States have at least 100 terabytes of data stored. Depending on the industry and the organization, big data encompasses information from multiple internal and external sources such as transactions, social media, enterprise content, sensors and mobile devices. As of 2011, the global size of data in healthcare was estimated to be 150 exabytes, and in 2014 it is estimated that there are 420 million wearable wireless health monitors.<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> Sources: McKinsey Global Institute, Twitter, Cisco, Gartner, EMC, SAS, IBM, MEPTec, QAS.

<sup>10</sup> Cisco Visual Networking Index: Forecast and Methodology, 2011-2016.

<sup>11</sup> Definition by Gartner.

<sup>12</sup> Sources: McKinsey Global Institute, Twitter, Cisco, Gartner, EMC, SAS, IBM, MEPTec, QAS.



Telecommunications/ICTs increasingly contribute to social and economic development by enabling access to and the exchange of information and services anywhere and anytime, as well as rapid processing and vast storage of such information, making provision of public and private services more effective, efficient, accessible and affordable. They are also expanding access to markets, improving disaster management and facilitating democratic participation in governance processes. Telecommunication/ICTs provide more cost-efficient and effective ways to preserve and promote local culture. They are bringing down the costs of economic and social activities (for example by replacing transport and postal services), and opening up entirely new business opportunities (such as cloud-based services, mobile applications and services, business process outsourcing and content-related businesses).

In the modern world, telecommunications/ICTs, and broadband networks and services in particular, are vital to countries' economic growth (Box 1) and national competitiveness in the global digital economy. Telecommunication/ICT and broadband networks support rapid and efficient communications across different countries and continents. Not only that, but telecommunication/ICT products and services are part of the higher-value high-tech sector in their own right – the sector which is growing fastest in terms of international trade<sup>13</sup>, and which can sustain even faster growth in incomes. As well as being an economic sector in their own right, today telecommunications/ICTs are enablers leveraging technological competitiveness across other sectors. Broadband is essential for generating new skills and fuelling economic growth and technological change throughout the economy – from agriculture to finance, education, healthcare and modern services.

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<sup>13</sup> World Trade Organization (2013): World Trade Report 2013.

### Box 1: The contribution of telecommunications/ICTs to national development

Widely cited research from the World Bank<sup>14</sup> shows that ICTs, and in particular fast access to the Internet, accelerate economic growth, especially in less developed countries. Examples of the impact of utilization of telecommunication/ICTs include the following:

- It is estimated that by 2025, ICTs could have a global economic impact of the order of trillions of USD.<sup>15</sup> The annual economic benefit of the mobile Internet will be between USD 3.7 trillion and USD 10.8 trillion globally by 2025. Bringing broadband penetration levels in emerging markets up to today's Western European levels could potentially add USD 300-420 billion in GDP and generate 10-14 million jobs.<sup>16</sup>
- A report by the Broadband Commission<sup>17</sup> forecasts that health applications available via mobile broadband will reduce costs, e.g. by allowing physicians to provide care remotely via remote monitoring and diagnosis, or by supporting preventive care. It is estimated that mobile health could save developed countries USD 400 billion in 2017 and save a million lives over five years in sub-Saharan Africa.<sup>18</sup>
- It is estimated that 2.5 billion individuals are unbanked worldwide. ICT financial services represent an opportunity for many nations to achieve financial inclusion of the poor.
- Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) which spend more than 30 per cent of their budget on web technologies grow their revenue nine times as fast as SMEs spending less than 10 per cent.<sup>19</sup>
- ICT solutions represent one of the most innovative and high-potential means of tackling environmental challenges. The ICT sector has been estimated to contribute 2-2.5 per cent of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. However, at the same time the smart use of ICTs can reduce GHG emissions by up to 25 per cent.<sup>20</sup>

Source: Various.

<sup>14</sup> Qiang (2009), as referred to in World Bank (2009): Information and Communications for Development 2009.

<sup>15</sup> McKinsey Global Institute (2013): "Disruptive technologies: Advances that will transform life, business, and the global economy".

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>17</sup> Broadband Commission (2013): The State of Broadband 2013: Universalizing Broadband.

<sup>18</sup> GSMA/PwC (2012): Touching Lives through Mobile Health: Assessment of the Global Market Opportunity.

<sup>19</sup> McKinsey & Company (2009): Mobile broadband for the masses.

<sup>20</sup> The Broadband Commission (2012): The Broadband Bridge: Linking ICT with Climate Action for a Low-Carbon Economy.

## **2.2.2 Inequality and digital exclusion**

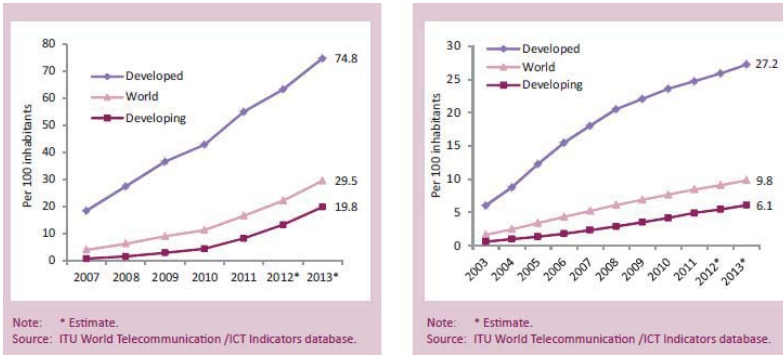
### **2.2.2.1 The digital divide**

Despite this rapid growth in access to and use of telecommunications/ICTs, around 4.4 billion people – nearly two-thirds of the world population – still do not have regular access to the Internet. Furthermore, 92 per cent of the population of the 49 UN-designated least developed countries (LDCs) (which are home to some 890 million people) are still unable to access the world's biggest and most valuable library and marketplace on a regular basis. With 53 per cent of the population in developing countries living in rural areas, the infrastructure challenge to connect all of these people to high-speed Internet is enormous.

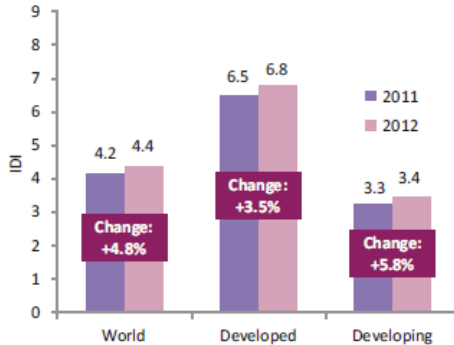
Even more importantly, telecommunication/ICT networks and ICT skills are the foundations on which tomorrow's digital economy will be built. Two-thirds of the global population are therefore currently unable to access or develop the digital skills which will determine future national competitiveness. Box 2 shows the magnitude of the gap between the developed and developing world.

**Box 2: Tracking the digital divide with the ICT Development Index**

**Box Figure 1 – The digital divide: Active mobile-broadband (left graph) and fixed (wired)-broadband subscriptions (right graph)**



**Box Figure 2 – IDI, world and by level of development**



The ITU ICT Development Index (IDI) is a useful tool for comparing differences in telecommunication/ICT development since, as a composite index, it consolidates several telecommunication/ICT indicators into one single value. An analysis of the IDI points to a significant divide between the developed and developing world. In 2012, the average developed-country IDI value was exactly twice as high as the developing-country average. At the same time, the developing-country average IDI value is growing faster, at a rate of 5.8 per cent, as against 3.5 per cent for developed countries. While developed countries are starting to reach saturation levels, in particular in terms of mobile-cellular subscriptions and household telecommunication/ICT access, developing countries, where penetration levels remain much lower, have ample potential for growth.

Source: ITU Measuring the Information Society Report 2013

### 2.2.2.2 The gender digital divide

Women in many countries suffer from a "gender gap" in regard to telecommunications/ICTs – lacking access to related skills, education, technology, networks and capital. A woman in the developing world is 21 per cent less likely to own a mobile phone than her male counterpart.<sup>21</sup> In the developing world, 16 per cent fewer women than men use the Internet (as against only 2 per cent in the developed world), suggesting that, in many countries, women are coming online more slowly and later than men. This has serious implications for the ability of women to use the Internet to access information and develop the vital telecommunication/ICT skills needed to participate and work in today's digital economy.

Closing the gender gap would bring the benefits of wireless to an additional 300 million women,<sup>22</sup> enabling them to fully participate in the economy and unlock their potential. Some 1.3 billion Internet users are women (37 per cent of all women worldwide) and 1.5 billion are men (41 per cent of all men), i.e. the current global Internet gender gap is about 200 million fewer women online.<sup>23</sup> Without action, the global Internet gender gap would be about 350 million in three years' time. Bringing women online is beneficial to society overall – e.g. bringing 600 million additional women and girls online could raise GDP by up to USD 13-18 billion.<sup>24</sup>

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<sup>21</sup> GSMA/Cherie Blair Foundation for Women (2010)

<sup>22</sup> Broadband Commission (2013): The State of Broadband 2013: Universalizing Broadband

<sup>23</sup> ITU (2013): ICT Facts and Figures

<sup>24</sup> Intel, "Women and the Web" report, January 2013

### **2.2.2.3 Telecommunications/ICTs and persons with disabilities**

There are around 1 billion persons with disabilities in the world (or some 15 per cent of the global population), 80 per cent of whom live in developing countries. This important group of people still faces significant barriers that limit their social and economic inclusion. While telecommunications/ICTs have become a fundamental technology to support the independent living of persons with disabilities, important challenges still need to be addressed, namely: (a) bringing down the high cost of assistive technologies (including the cost of the technology, as well as the cost of assessment, training and support services); (b) lack of access to telecommunications/ICTs for persons with disabilities, as well as the lack of policies that would foster widespread availability of such technologies; and (c) limited availability and use of telecommunications/ICTs in general.<sup>25</sup>

#### **2.2.3 Risks and challenges accompanying the growth of telecommunications/ICTs**

The growing role of telecommunications/ICTs holds great promise, but the development of the environment has spawned some "collateral" issues. Breakthroughs in communications bring tremendous benefits, but also create new risks.

##### **2.2.3.1 Building confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs**

With the increasing volume of e-commerce and online financial transactions, the availability of government services, and the popularity of collaborative and social networks, building confidence and maintaining trust in the use of telecommunications/ICTs will continue to be a major challenge. As telecommunications/ICTs continue to be further integrated into the economy and our societies, their continuous availability, reliability and

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<sup>25</sup> Synthesis report of the ICT Consultation in support of the High-Level Meeting on Disability and Development of the sixty-eighth session of the United Nations General Assembly (2013): The ICT Opportunity for a Disability-inclusive Development framework.

security will be increasingly vital to governments, businesses and individuals. Promoting cybersecurity and international cooperation and coordination in this domain remains a key priority.

The cost of global cybercriminal activity is estimated at up to USD 1 trillion,<sup>26</sup> a figure that could triple by 2020 unless companies step up their defences.<sup>27</sup> Threats continue to proliferate – for example, new malware is being discovered every day, hundreds of times more frequently than in the past decade. No fewer than 6.5 million new malwares have been discovered in 2013.<sup>28</sup>

Some 69 per cent of the executives interviewed by the World Economic Forum<sup>29</sup> feared that cyberattackers would remain more sophisticated and efficient than their companies' defence mechanisms. With a large multinational company expecting up to 10 000 cyberattacks per day, nearly 40 per cent of firms surveyed thought their spending on defences was "significantly too little".

Currently, there is a shift from standard forms of cyberattacks and related crimes to more sophisticated ones, exploiting new technological paradigms (e.g. cloud, big and open data, web 2.0, social networks, etc.). Yet countries are still trying to curb the current threats, and therefore will have difficulties in trying to catch up with the rapid evolution of the telecommunication/ICT environment/sector.

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<sup>26</sup> McAfee, Center for Strategic and International Studies (2013): The economic impact of cybercrime and cyber espionage, July 2013

<sup>27</sup> World Economic Forum in collaboration with McKinsey & Company: Risk and Responsibility in a Hyperconnected World, January 2014

<sup>28</sup> Symantec Intelligence Report: January 2013

<sup>29</sup> World Economic Forum in collaboration with McKinsey & Company: Risk and Responsibility in a Hyperconnected World, January 2014

Future projections are difficult to acquire on account of the dynamic and fluid nature of cyberspace. However, it is clear that the growth and evolution of the risks and challenges associated with the use of telecommunications/ICTs is directly proportional to the growth and evolution of the telecommunication/ICT environment/sector itself. Therefore, cybersecurity – or rather building confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs – will remain at the top of the national, regional and international agendas.

### **2.2.3.2 Protection of the most vulnerable**

Young people all over the world are the most active users of telecommunications/ICTs. Today, 30 per cent of the youth population are "digital natives" (a term broadly used to characterize young people with solid telecommunication/ICT experience who are drivers of the information society). ITU's "Measuring the Information Society 2013" report<sup>30</sup> shows that within the next five years, the digital native population in the developing world is expected to double. However, young people and children are also vulnerable to novel forms of risks presented by telecommunications/ICTs, especially when they are ill-prepared to meet these challenges and inadequately protected by legislation. Young people and especially children encounter a range of risks online, including child pornography, grooming, cyberbullying, exposure to harmful content and privacy violations.

A Consumer Reports magazine survey found that 1 million children were harassed, threatened or subjected to other forms of cyberbullying on Facebook in 2011.<sup>31</sup> Other statistics and studies show that 72 per cent of teens have a social networking profile. Nearly half (47 per cent)<sup>32</sup> have

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<sup>30</sup> ITU (2013): Measuring the Information Society

<sup>31</sup> Consumer Reports Magazine survey June 2011

<sup>32</sup> Teen Online & Wireless Safety Survey: Cyberbullying, Sexting and Parental Controls. Cox Communications Teen Online and Wireless Safety Survey in Partnership with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, 2009



a public profile viewable by anyone, and only the 15 per cent<sup>33</sup> have checked the security and privacy settings on their social media account.

Recent initiatives on child online protection focus not only on combating and reducing risks, but also on empowering young people to participate actively in civic and social life online in a responsible and ethical manner as digital citizens. A comprehensive protection and empowerment response requires a multistakeholder approach involving a diverse range of governmental and non-governmental actors.

While significant investments have been made in North America, Europe and parts of Asia to understand children's online behaviour and implement strategies to protect children online, there are still many gaps in our knowledge of the vulnerabilities and needs of young online users in other parts of the world, especially in countries where Internet penetration remains low.

### **2.2.3.3 Telecommunications/ICTs and climate change**

Central to the climate-change issue is the continuing production of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions as a by-product of industrial and commercial life. While the telecommunication/ICT industry is key in addressing climate change, it also accounts for 2 to 2.5 per cent of global GHG emissions or 1 gigatonne of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) annually. Experts estimate that personal computers and other end-user devices are responsible for around 40 per cent of the GHG emissions from ICTs, while telecommunication networks and data centres generate 24 per cent and 23 per cent, respectively. This is supported by the SMART 2020 report,<sup>34</sup> which further suggests that the growth rate of GHG emissions from the telecommunication/ICT industry was 6.1 per cent from 2002 to 2011, although it is expected to slow to 3.8 per cent from 2011 to 2020. The International Energy Agency (IEA) indicates that consumption related to ICTs

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<sup>33</sup> National Cyber Security Alliance (NCSA)-MacAfee Online Safety Study, 2011

<sup>34</sup> SMART 2020: Enabling the low carbon economy in the information age

already accounts for more than 5 per cent of total final global electricity consumption, and total ICT consumption could double by 2022 and climb to three times the 2010 rate by 2030.<sup>35</sup> In addition, the United Nations University indicates that, in 2013 alone, 67 million metric tons of electrical and electronic equipment have been put on the market and 53 million metric tons of e-waste has been disposed of worldwide.

#### **2.2.4 Changing telecommunication/ICT environment/sector**

Fuelled by the evolution to all-IP-based wired and wireless next-generation networks (NGNs), convergence is transforming the telecommunication/ICT sector and providing major opportunities, as well as challenges, to industry operators, regulators and policy-makers alike, on both the national and international scale. Convergence is reshaping relations between previously disparate telecommunication and media platforms, enabling separate vertical services to be provided over unified horizontal platforms. As a result, previously siloed (service-specific) technology platforms are now supporting multiple voice, data and video services and applications. Convergence is blurring boundaries between previously separate service markets and giving rise to a need to review traditional policy and regulatory regimes, including reinforcing public safety issues. The boundaries between fixed and mobile and wireline and wireless are blurring, as telecommunications moves towards hybrid networks, where devices will be able to transfer seamlessly and smoothly from one network to another, without any interruption in service.

New telecommunication/ICT developments such as the combination of mobile Internet and the Internet of Things (IoT) are heralded as some of the most disruptive technologies of the coming decade.<sup>36</sup> In fact, the advent of new digital devices, networks, services and applications represent a profound change that is reshaping major industries.

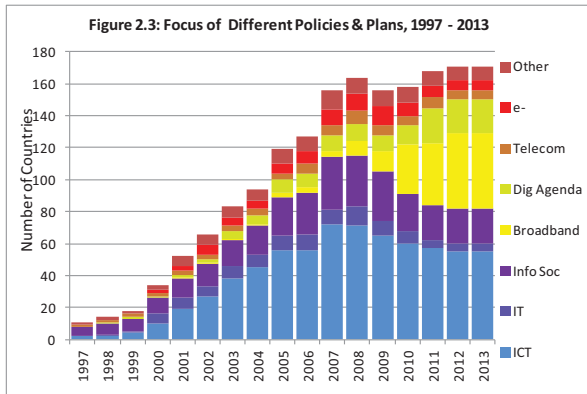
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<sup>35</sup> International Energy Agency: Powering down to save energy need not be a turn-off, January 2013

<sup>36</sup> McKinsey Global Institute (2013): Disruptive technologies: Advances that will transform life, business, and the global economy

Countries are updating and adapting their policies to accommodate and reflect the changes in technologies and markets. As a consequence, national telecommunication/ICT policies are increasingly focusing on broader, cross-sectoral considerations<sup>37</sup> (Figure 2).

**Figure 2 – Evolution in countries' telecommunication/ICT policies over time, 1997-2013**



Source: Broadband Commission (2013): Planning for Progress; Why National Broadband Plans Matter

Adopting appropriate regulatory tools to respond to new market behaviours and the growing need for consumer protection is becoming an increasingly complex proposition for regulators in today's converged environment. This environment is becoming increasingly complex, with multiple players operating in the same markets, but under different regimes: in the provision of voice services, for example, traditional telecommunication operators are not only competing with players in adjacent markets, such as Internet service providers (ISPs) and cable operators, but with players in the layers above, such as OTT content and application providers.

<sup>37</sup> Examples include Chile's Digital Agenda 2004, Digital Czech Republic 2011, Estrategia Ecuador Digital 2.0 in 2011, France's Digital Plan 2010, Digital Gabon 2011, Greece's Digital Strategy 2006, Hungary's Digital Renewal Action Plan 2010, Italy's Italia Digitale plan 2010, Mexico's Digital Agenda 2011, Oman's Digital Strategy, United Kingdom 2005, Uruguay Digital Agenda 2008-2010

The nature of telecommunications/ICTs as cross-sectoral and pervasive infrastructure means that telecommunication/ICT regulators are today forced to look beyond traditional models of regulation, which have historically consisted mainly in regulating access to networks and services, ensuring fair competition, protecting the interests of consumers and advancing universal access. More recently, electronic services, cybersecurity, data protection, privacy and environmental issues have entered into the purview of regulators.<sup>38</sup> The increased use of online applications and services to communicate and do business (such as social media, cloud services, e-payment and other m-banking services) brings a host of new regulatory issues to the fore.

In this highly dynamic digital environment, regulators need to consider whether they are sufficiently equipped to ensure appropriate operation of markets. They also need to identify whether additional measures should be adopted to help ensure a level playing field among operators. In addition, where public funds are requested, clear policies should be adopted with regard to how these should be used.

To adapt to the changing telecommunication/ICT environment/sector, some governments have continued the move towards reform of their institutional and organizational structures by considering merging multiple, separate regulatory authorities, covering different areas of telecommunications and broadcasting, into converged communication/ICT authorities.<sup>39</sup>

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<sup>38</sup> ITU (2012): Trends in telecommunication reform 2012: Smart regulation in a broadband world

<sup>39</sup> ITU (2013): Regulation and consumer protection in a converging environment

As many of the services carried over telecommunication/ICT networks are today transnational and borderless in nature, strengthening cross-border, regional and international cooperation will remain key in ensuring that all citizens of the world can benefit from affordable, secure and safe access anytime, anywhere.

Reviewing existing telecommunication/ICT policy and regulatory frameworks to adapt to the fast-changing digital environment is an ongoing process that requires coordination with multiple stakeholders so as to develop forward-looking approaches to attract and secure the huge and sustained investment in networks which is still needed.

Various international organizations, non-governmental organizations, civil society, multinational companies, academia and foundations are taking a role in this increasingly complex telecommunication/ICT environment/sector. For example, the World Bank Group's new ICT Strategy aims at helping developing countries use telecommunications/ICTs to transform delivery of basic services, drive innovations and productivity gains and improve competitiveness.<sup>40</sup> Other emerging initiatives, such as public-private and multistakeholder partnerships, can potentially contribute significantly to the changing telecommunication/ICT environment/sector. Therefore, collaboration among various established and new players will be important for the future of the telecommunication/ICT environment/sector.

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<sup>40</sup> The World Bank Group (2012): ICT for Greater Development Impact, Sector Strategy

### **3 Situational analysis of the ITU Sectors**

#### **3.1 Situational analysis of ITU-R**

The biggest challenge for the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) is to remain abreast of the rapid and complex changes occurring in the world of international radiocommunications, coupled with a timely response to the needs of the radiocommunication and broadcasting industry in particular and the membership as a whole. In an environment undergoing constant change and with ever greater demands from its members for products and services, ITU-R should ensure that it remains as adaptable and responsive as possible to meet these challenges.

Pursuant to Article 1 of the ITU Constitution, ITU-R is committed to building an enabling environment through management of the international radio-frequency spectrum and satellite-orbit resources. Since the global management of frequencies and orbit resources requires a high level of international cooperation, one of the principal tasks in ITU-R is to facilitate the complex intergovernmental negotiations needed to develop legally binding agreements between sovereign states. These agreements are embodied in the Radio Regulations and in world and regional plans adopted for different space and terrestrial services.

The field of radiocommunications addresses terrestrial and space services that are critical and increasingly important for the development of the global economy in the twenty-first century. The world is witnessing a phenomenal increase in the use of wireless systems in a myriad of applications. International radiocommunication standards (such as those contained in ITU-R recommendations) underpin the entire global communications framework – and will continue to serve as the platform for a whole range of new wireless applications.

The domain of radiocommunications also includes aeronautical telemetry and telecommand systems, satellite services, mobile communications, maritime distress and safety signals, digital broadcasting, satellites for meteorology, and the prediction and detection of natural disasters.

In line with the Radio Regulations, the registration of space and terrestrial notices and their associated publication are central to ITU-R's mission.

The need for continuing development of radiocommunication systems used in disaster mitigation and relief operations has increased, and will be a key challenge for the future. Telecommunications are critical at all phases of disaster management. Aspects of emergency radiocommunication services associated with disasters include, *inter alia*, disaster prediction, detection, alerting and relief.

In the area of climate change, the work of ITU-R focuses on the use of telecommunications/ICTs (different radio and telecommunication technologies and equipment) for weather and climate-change monitoring and for prediction, detection and mitigation of hurricanes, typhoons, thunderstorms, earthquakes, tsunamis, man-made disasters, etc.

Stakeholders, such as government agencies, public and private telecommunication operators, manufacturers, scientific or industrial bodies, international organizations, consultancies, universities, technical institutions, etc., through the processes linked with world radiocommunication conferences and study groups, will need to continue to make decisions on the most profitable and efficient ways to exploit the limited resource of the radio-frequency spectrum and satellite orbits, which will be critical and of increasing economic value for the development of the global economy in the twenty-first century.

In conducting its activities, ITU-R should ensure to strike a proper balance:

- between the need for worldwide harmonization (to benefit from economies of scale, connectivity and interoperability) and the need for flexibility in spectrum allocations;

- between the need to accommodate new systems, applications and technologies as they arise and the need to protect existing radiocommunication services.

### **3.2 Situational analysis of ITU-T**

The ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) operates in a competitive, complex and rapidly evolving environment and ecosystem.

There is a need for high-quality, demand-driven international standards, which should be developed rapidly in line with the principles of global connectivity, openness, affordability, reliability, interoperability and security. Key technologies enabling new services and applications and promoting the building of the information society are emerging and should be taken into account in the work of ITU-T.

While retaining current ITU-T members, new members from industry and academia need to be attracted and encouraged, and the participation of developing countries in the standardization process ("Bridging the standardization gap") needs to be boosted.

Cooperation and collaboration with other standardization bodies and relevant consortia and forums are key to minimizing conflict of work and achieving efficient use of resources, as well as incorporating expertise from outside ITU.

The review of the International Telecommunication Regulations will set a renewed worldwide framework for ITU-T activities.

### **3.3 Situational analysis of ITU-D**

Telecommunications/ICTs are increasingly being recognized by governments around the world as the key engine for economic growth and social development. Furthering development of telecommunications/ICTs around the world has long been at the core of the work of ITU, as a United Nations specialized agency, but has become even more vital over recent years, as technological developments have given telecommunications/ICTs an essential role in every aspect of human lives. Telecommunications/ICTs are not just an end in themselves, but are key enablers of the other sectors.



The progress that has been made since the establishment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in 2000 and the telecommunication/ICT connectivity targets set by WSIS in 2003 and 2005 has been extremely important. Providing the right conditions is key to fully meeting these goals. The priority shall be the development of infrastructure, in particular for broadband communications, and the provision of telecommunication/ICT applications and services. The enhancement of human capacity building and a robust, predictable, enabling regulatory environment will ensure that technological development is sustainable.

Having regard to the importance of local content and its role in developing the use of broadband, countries with language and cultural barriers should pay adequate attention to ensuring a significant proportion of local content. Therefore, generating local content as an enabler for developing the deployment of broadband services and enhancing broadband penetration, developing e-health, e-learning and e-commerce to satisfy demand for local content and encouraging countries with similar or common culture and language to construct local content could help speed up continuing access to broadband services.

In view of the borderless nature of the cyberspace community, the ITU Telecommunication Development sector (ITU-D) acknowledges the importance of international cooperation in enhancing reliability, availability and security in the use of ICTs. Therefore, ITU-D recognizes that there is an urgent need to support countries in developing specific measures in the implementation of their national cybersecurity frameworks, to address the concerns of different stakeholders in this regard and to enable and assist in the sharing of best practices at the global level. Accordingly, ITU will play a key role in facilitating the above-mentioned cooperation.

Among those standing to derive the greatest benefit from telecommunications/ICTs are least developed countries (LDCs), small island developing states (SIDS), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and countries with economies in transition, all of which deserve special attention. Emergency telecommunications and gender issues are also priority areas in ITU-D work. Given the magnitude of the task, success will depend on working closely with ITU members and mobilizing resources through public-private partnerships.

There is a need to encourage a culture of innovation in ITU-D. Constantly examining the activities of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) under the lens of how products and services can be more innovative leads to critical consideration of its competitive position among telecommunication/ICT development agencies and provides the motivation to pursue new opportunities for improvement. The growing importance of innovation is recognized worldwide. Innovation is essential if countries and firms are to recover from the global economic downturn and thrive in today's highly competitive and connected global economy. Innovation is a powerful engine for development and for addressing social and economic challenges. Innovative broadband-fuelled services such as m-payments, m-health and m-education can be literally "life-changing" for individuals, communities and societies at large. Access to telecommunications/ICTs can empower hundreds of millions of people in developing countries to directly enhance their own social and economic well-being.

The ITU-D mission is not just about connectivity for connectivity's sake, but is more to aim at seeing innovative uses of telecommunications/ICTs that fundamentally improve people's lives for the better.

## ANNEX 2 TO RESOLUTION 71 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019****Table of contents**

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The four-year strategy guides the activities of the Union for 2016-2019 in accordance with the ITU Constitution and Convention.

The structure of the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019 follows the structure of the ITU results-based management (RBM) framework, as shown in Section 1 below. Section 2 defines the vision, mission and values, Section 3 defines the ITU strategic goals and sets the targets, and Section 4 defines the Sectoral and intersectoral objectives, the outcomes, the enablers of the strategic goals and objectives of the Union and, for purposes of linkage between the strategic and operational plans of the Union, the Sectoral and intersectoral outputs. Section 5 plots the roadmap from strategy to execution, by laying down the implementation criteria for prioritization. The activities and outputs are defined in detail in the operational planning process, thereby ensuring a strong linkage between strategic and operational planning (as described in § 5.1).

## **1 ITU results-based management framework and structure of the strategic plan**

The results-based management (RBM) framework presented below describes the relationships between the activities of ITU, the outputs they produce, and the overall objectives and strategic goals of the Union, which contribute to the organization's mission and vision.

The ITU results chain is divided into five levels: *activities, outputs, objectives and outcomes, strategic goals and targets, and vision and mission*. The ITU *values* represent overarching shared and common beliefs that drive the Union's priorities.

**Table 1 – The ITU RBM framework (as presented in the ITU strategic and operational plans)**

RBM planning ← Implementation →	<b>Vision &amp; mission</b> (Section 2)	<p><b>Vision</b> is the better world ITU wants to see.</p> <p><b>Mission</b> refers to the main overall purposes of the Union, as per the Basic Instruments of ITU.</p>	Values: ITU's shared and common beliefs that drive its priorities and guide all decision-making processes (Section 2)
	<b>Strategic goals &amp; targets</b> (Section 3)	<p><b>Strategic goals</b> refer to the Union's high-level targets to which the objectives contribute, directly or indirectly. They relate to the whole of ITU.</p> <p><b>Targets</b> are the expected results during the period of the strategic plan; they provide an indication as to whether the goal is being achieved. Targets may not always be achieved, for reasons that may be beyond the control of the Union.</p>	
	<b>Objectives &amp; outcomes</b> (Section 4)	<p><b>Objectives</b> refer to the specific aims of the Sectoral and intersectoral activities in a given period.</p> <p><b>Outcomes</b> provide an indication as to whether the objective is being achieved. Outcomes are usually partly, but not entirely, within the organization's control.</p>	
	<b>Outputs</b> (Section 4)	<p><b>Outputs</b> are the final tangible results, deliverables, products and services achieved by the Union in the implementation of the operational plans.</p>	
	<b>Activities</b>	<p><b>Activities</b> are various actions/services for transforming resources (inputs) into outputs. Activities may be grouped into processes.</p>	

Each of the levels above represents a distinct step in the causal logic of the ITU RBM framework. The bottom two levels (activities and outputs) relate to how financial contributions from the membership and other revenues of ITU are being invested in order to implement various functions, programmes and initiatives of the Union. The top three levels refer to the actual changes and impact that ITU envisages, i.e. the long-term economic, socio-cultural, institutional, environmental, technological or other effects of the Union's work.

## 2 ITU vision, mission and values

### 2.1 Vision

*"An information society, empowered by the interconnected world, where telecommunication/ information and communication technologies enable and accelerate social, economic and environmentally sustainable growth and development for everyone."*

ITU is committed to enabling a connected world. In this interconnected world, information and communication technologies (ICTs) play a key role as an ultimate enabler for social, economic and environmentally sustainable development, benefiting each and every person on the planet. ICTs are redefining how development objectives may be achieved. Delivering affordable access to telecommunication/ICT networks, services and applications for all the world's inhabitants is a vital driver of development.

### 2.2 Mission

*"To promote, facilitate and foster affordable and universal access to telecommunication/ information and communication technology networks, services and applications and their use for social, economic and environmentally sustainable growth and development."*

### 2.3 Values

The core values of ITU are the principles and common beliefs that drive the priorities of the Union and the decision-making process of the organization.

#### **People-centred, service-oriented and results-based**

Being people-centred, ITU is focused on people in order to deliver results that matter to each and every individual. Being service-oriented, ITU is committed to further delivering high-quality services and maximizing satisfaction of beneficiaries and stakeholders. Being results-based, ITU aims for tangible results and to maximize the impact of its work.

## **Inclusiveness**

Recognizing inclusiveness as a universal value, ITU is committed to ensuring that the benefits of telecommunications/ICTs reach everyone in an equitable manner, including developing countries\*, persons with specific needs and marginal and vulnerable populations, including youth, indigenous peoples, older persons, persons with disabilities, persons with diverse income levels, rural and remote populations, as well as ensuring gender equality in telecommunications/ICTs. The significance of inclusiveness is twofold: everyone benefits from the work of ITU, and everyone can contribute.

## **Universality and neutrality**

As a United Nations specialized agency, ITU reaches, covers and represents all parts of the world. Within the remit of the Basic Instruments of the Union, its operations and activities reflect the express will of its membership. ITU also recognizes the overarching pre-eminence of human rights, including the right to freedom of opinion and expression, which includes the freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers, and the right to not be subjected to arbitrary interference with privacy.

## **Synergies through collaboration**

A diverse array of organizations contribute to the development of telecommunications/ICTs. ITU, as a major player in this diverse environment, embraces collaboration as the best way to contribute to the fulfilment of its mission.

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\* These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.



## **Innovativeness**

Innovation is a key element in the transformation of the telecommunication/ICT environment. In order to be successful in what it does, ITU recognizes that it must continuously contribute to shaping and adapting quickly to this rapidly changing telecommunication/ICT environment.

## **Efficiency**

Efficiency is a concern for all stakeholders in the telecommunication/ICT environment. ITU is committed to providing increased value for money, focusing on its priorities and avoiding conflicting efforts and activities.

## **Continuous improvement**

Recognizing that in a fast-moving, rapidly-evolving environment there are no permanent solutions, ITU embraces the value of continuous improvement of its products, services and processes, by adjusting focus as required and raising performance and quality standards.

## **Transparency**

As an enabler for many of the above values, transparency allows accountability for decisions, actions and results. Embracing transparency, ITU communicates and demonstrates progress towards the achievement of its goals.

# **3 Strategic goals and targets of the Union**

## **3.1 Strategic goals**

The ITU Council, in its role in managing the Union between plenipotentiary conferences, and all three ITU Sectors will cooperate towards achievement of the ITU-wide goals: the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R), the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) and the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D). Successful coordination and collaboration among the Sectors, their three Bureaux and the General Secretariat shall underpin the Union's progress in achieving these goals.

In 2016-2019, ITU will work to achieve its mission through the following four goals:

### **3.1.1 Goal 1: Growth – Enable and foster access to and increased use of telecommunications/ICTs**

Recognizing the role of telecommunications/ICTs as a key enabler for social, economic and environmentally sustainable development, ITU will work to enable and foster access to, and increase the use of, telecommunications/ICTs. Growth in the use of telecommunications/ICTs has a positive impact on short- and long-term socio-economic development. The Union, including its members, is committed to working together and collaborating with all stakeholders in the telecommunication/ICT environment in order to achieve this goal.

### **3.1.2 Goal 2: Inclusiveness – Bridge the digital divide and provide broadband for all**

Being committed to ensuring that everyone without exception benefits from telecommunications/ICTs, ITU will work to bridge the digital divide and enable the provision of broadband for all. Bridging the digital divide focuses on global telecommunication/ICT inclusiveness, fostering telecommunication/ICT access, accessibility, affordability and use in all countries and regions and for all peoples, including marginal and vulnerable populations, such as women, children, people with different income levels, indigenous peoples, older persons and persons with disabilities. The Union will continue to work towards enabling the provision of broadband for all, so everyone can take advantage of these benefits.

### **3.1.3 Goal 3: Sustainability – Manage challenges resulting from telecommunication/ICT development**

To promote the beneficial use of telecommunications/ICTs, ITU recognizes the need to manage challenges that emerge from the rapid growth of telecommunications/ICTs. The Union focuses on enhancing the sustainable and safe use of telecommunications/ICTs, in close collaboration with all organizations and entities. Accordingly, the Union will work towards minimizing the negative impact of undesired collaterals, such as cybersecurity threats, including potential harm to the most vulnerable parts of society, in particular children, and negative effects on the environment, including e-waste.

### 3.1.4 Goal 4: Innovation and partnership – Lead, improve and adapt to the changing telecommunication/ICT environment

The fourth goal of ITU's strategy for 2016-2019 is innovation: fostering an innovative ecosystem and adapting to the changing telecommunication/ICT environment. In the rapidly evolving environment, the goal set by the Union is to contribute to the development of an environment that is sufficiently conducive to innovation, where advances in new technologies and strategic partnerships become a key driver for the post-2015 development agenda. The Union recognizes the global need to adapt systems and practices continuously, since technological innovation is transforming the telecommunication/ICT environment. The Union recognizes the need to foster engagement and cooperation with other entities and organizations in pursuing that goal.

## 3.2 Targets of the Union

Targets represent the effect and long-term impact of ITU's work and provide an indication of progress towards achievement of the strategic goals. The Union will work collaboratively with the full range of other organizations and entities around the world committed to advancing the use of telecommunications/ICTs. The purpose of such targets is to provide the direction where the Union should focus its attention and to materialize the ITU vision for an interconnected world for the four-year period of the strategic plan.

### 3.2.1 Principles for global telecommunication/ICT targets

Following best practice for setting targets, the global telecommunication/ICT targets are set in compliance with the following criteria:

- **Specific:** Targets describe the tangible impact that ITU would like to see from its efforts: the long-term economic, socio-cultural, institutional, environmental, technological or other effects sought, which may, however, be largely outside the Union's direct control.
- **Measurable:** Targets build on existing statistical indicators, leveraging ITU knowledge bases, are measurable and have an established baseline.

- **Action-oriented:** Targets guide specific efforts under the strategic and operational plans of the Union.
- **Realistic and relevant:** Targets are ambitious, but realistic, and are linked with the strategic goals of the Union.
- **Time-bound and traceable:** Targets correspond to the time-frame within the four-year period of the strategic plan of the Union, i.e. by 2020.

### 3.2.2 Global telecommunication/ICT targets

Table 2 below presents the global telecommunication/ICT targets for each of the ITU's strategic goals.

**Table 2 – Global telecommunication/ICT targets**

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**Goal 1: Growth – Enable and foster access to and increased use of telecommunications/ICTs**

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- **Target 1.1:** Worldwide, 55 per cent of households should have access to the Internet by 2020
  - **Target 1.2:** Worldwide, 60 per cent of individuals should be using the Internet by 2020
  - **Target 1.3:** Worldwide, telecommunications/ICTs should be 40 per cent more affordable by 2020 <sup>41</sup>
- 

**Goal 2: Inclusiveness – Bridge the digital divide and provide broadband for all**

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- **Target 2.1.A:** In the developing world, 50 per cent of households should have access to the Internet by 2020
  - **Target 2.1.B:** In the least developed countries (LDCs), 15 per cent of households should have access to the Internet by 2020
  - **Target 2.2.A:** In the developing world, 50 per cent of individuals should be using the Internet by 2020
  - **Target 2.2.B:** In the least developed countries (LDCs), 20 per cent of individuals should be using the Internet by 2020
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<sup>41</sup> Cost of ICT services to be 60 per cent of the 2012 value.

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## Goal 2: Inclusiveness – Bridge the digital divide and provide broadband for all

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- **Target 2.3.A:** The affordability gap between developed and developing countries should be reduced by 40 per cent by 2020 <sup>42</sup>
  - **Target 2.3.B:** Broadband services should cost no more than 5 per cent of average monthly income in developing countries by 2020
  - **Target 2.4:** Worldwide, 90 per cent of the rural population should be covered by broadband services by 2020 <sup>43</sup>
  - **Target 2.5.A:** Gender equality among Internet users should be reached by 2020
  - **Target 2.5.B:** Enabling environments ensuring accessible telecommunications/ICTs for persons with disabilities should be established in all countries by 2020
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## Goal 3: Sustainability – Manage challenges resulting from the telecommunication/ICT development

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- **Target 3.1:** Cybersecurity readiness should be improved by 40 per cent by 2020
  - **Target 3.2:** Volume of redundant e-waste to be reduced by 50 per cent by 2020 <sup>44</sup>
  - **Target 3.3:** Greenhouse gas emissions generated by the telecommunication/ICT sector to be decreased per device by 30 per cent by 2020 <sup>45</sup>
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## Goal 4: Innovation and partnership – Lead, improve and adapt to the changing telecommunication/ICT environment

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- **Target 4.1:** Telecommunication/ICT environment conducive to innovation <sup>46</sup>
  - **Target 4.2:** Effective partnerships of stakeholders in the telecommunication/ICT environment <sup>47</sup>
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<sup>42</sup> Cost of ICT services comparing to the 2012 value.

<sup>43</sup> Due to data limitations, currently mobile-broadband signal coverage is considered in determining this target.

<sup>44</sup> Exceptionally within the targets framework, this target needs to be discussed in ITU-T Study Group 5.

<sup>45</sup> Exceptionally within the targets framework, this target needs to be discussed in the relevant ITU study group.

<sup>46</sup> Target 4.1 is a qualitative target.

<sup>47</sup> Target 4.2 is a qualitative target.

### 3.3 Strategic risk management and mitigation

Bearing in mind the prevailing challenges, evolutions and transformations that have the most potential to impact on ITU activities during the period of the strategic plan, the list of top-level strategic risks presented in Table 3 has been identified, analysed and evaluated. These risks have been considered when planning the strategy for 2016-2019, and the corresponding mitigation measures have been identified as necessary. It should be emphasized that the strategic risks are not meant to represent deficiencies of ITU's operations. They represent forward-looking uncertainties that may affect efforts to fulfil the mission of the Union during the period of the strategic plan.

ITU has identified, analysed and assessed these strategic risks. Apart from the strategic planning processes, setting the overall framework on how to mitigate these risks, operational mitigation measures will be defined and implemented through the operational planning process of the Union.

**Table 3 – Strategic risks and mitigation measures**

Risk	Strategic mitigation measure	Reflected in
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Diminishing relevance and ability to demonstrate clear added value</b> Represents the risk of conflicting efforts, inconsistencies and competition with other relevant organizations and bodies, as well as the risk of misperception of ITU's mandate, mission and role</li> </ul>	<b>1) Identify and concentrate on activities with unique added value</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Vision, Mission, Strategic goals and Objectives/Outcomes, Criteria for prioritization</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Spreading too thin</b> Represents the risk of mission dilution and the risk of losing sight of the organization's core mandate</li> </ul>	<b>2) Ensure cohesiveness and strength of focus</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Criteria for prioritization</li> </ul>

Risk	Strategic mitigation measure	Reflected in
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Failure to respond quickly to emerging needs and innovate sufficiently while still providing high-quality deliverables</b> Represents the risk of unresponsiveness, leading to disengagement of membership and other stakeholders</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3) <b>Be fast moving, agile, responsive and innovative</b></li> <li>4) <b>Proactively engage stakeholders</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Goal 4 related to Innovation, ITU values</li> <li>– Vision, Mission, Values, Strategic goals and Objectives/Outcomes, Criteria for prioritization</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Inadequate adjustment of implementation strategies, tools, methodology and processes to keep up with best practices and changing needs</b> Represents the risk of the study group structure, methods and tools becoming inadequate, of the implementation tools and methods becoming unreliable and failing to ensure maximum effectiveness, and of inadequate cooperation among the Sectors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5) <b>Continuously improve strategies, tools, methodologies and processes according to best practice</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Values, Implementation criteria</li> <li>– Process of monitoring implementation of, and adjusting, the strategic plan</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Inadequacy of funding</b> Represents the risk of reduced financial contributions from membership</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6) <b>Be more efficient and prioritize</b></li> <li>7) <b>Ensure effective financial planning</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Implementation criteria</li> </ul>

## **4 Sectoral and intersectoral objectives, outcomes and outputs**

ITU will implement the strategic goals of the Union for 2016-2019 through a number of objectives to be attained in this period. Each Sector will contribute to the overarching goals of the Union in the context of its specific remit, through implementation of the Sector-specific objectives and the overarching intersectoral objectives. The Council will ensure efficient coordination and oversight of this work.

### **4.1 Sectoral and intersectoral objectives**

Sectoral and intersectoral objectives will contribute to the ITU strategic goals as presented in Table 4 below,<sup>48</sup> supported by the enablers of the goals and the objectives of the Union provided by the secretariat.

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<sup>48</sup> Boxes and ticks demonstrate primary and secondary links to goals.



Table 4 – Linkage of Sectoral and intersectoral objectives to ITU strategic goals

	Goal 1: Growth	Goal 2: Inclusive- ness	Goal 3: Sustainabi- lity	Goal 4: Innovation & partnership
<b>ITU-R objectives</b>				
R.1 Meet, in a rational, equitable, efficient, economical and timely way, the ITU membership's requirements for radio-frequency spectrum and satellite-orbit resources, while avoiding harmful interference	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
R.2 Provide for worldwide connectivity and interoperability, improved performance, quality, affordability and timeliness of service and overall system economy in radiocommunications, including through the development of international standards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
R.3 Foster the acquisition and sharing of knowledge and know-how on radiocommunications		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<b>ITU-T objectives</b>				
T.1 Develop non-discriminatory international standards (ITU-T recommendations), in a timely manner, and foster interoperability and improved performance of equipment, networks, services and applications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Objectives

	Goal 1: Growth	Goal 2: Inclusive- ness	Goal 3: Sustainabi- lity	Goal 4: Innovation & partnership
T.2 Promote the active participation of the membership, in particular developing countries, in the definition and adoption of non-discriminatory international standards (ITU-T recommendations) with a view to bridging the standardization gap		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
T.3 Ensure effective allocation and management of international telecommunication numbering, naming, addressing and identification resources in accordance with ITU-T recommendations and procedures	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
T.4 Foster the acquisition and sharing of knowledge and know-how on the standardization activities of ITU-T	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
T.5 Extend and facilitate cooperation with international, regional and national standardization bodies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>ITU-D objectives</b>				
D.1 Foster international cooperation on telecommunication/ICT development issues		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
D.2 Foster an enabling environment for ICT development and foster the development of telecommunication/ICT networks as well as relevant applications and services, including bridging the standardization gap	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
D.3 Enhance confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs, and roll-out of relevant applications and services				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Goal 1: Growth	Goal 2: Inclusive- ness	Goal 3: Sustainabi- lity	Goal 4: Innovation & partnership
D.4 Build human and institutional capacity, provide data and statistics, promote digital inclusion and provide concentrated assistance to countries in special need		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
D.5 Enhance environmental protection, climate-change adaptation and mitigation and disaster-management efforts through telecommunications/ICTs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
<b>Intersectoral objectives</b>				
I.1 Enhance international dialogue among stakeholders	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I.2 Enhance partnerships and cooperation within the telecommunication/ICT environment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I.3 Enhance identification and analysis of emerging trends in the telecommunication/ICT environment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I.4 Enhance/promote recognition of (importance of) telecommunications/ICTs as a key enabler of social, economic and environmentally sustainable development		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
I.5 Enhance access to telecommunications/ICTs for persons with disabilities and specific needs		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

	<b>Goal 1: Growth</b>	<b>Goal 2: Inclusive- ness</b>	<b>Goal 3: Sustainabi- lity</b>	<b>Goal 4: Innovation &amp; partnership</b>
<b>Enablers</b>				
-				Ensure efficient and effective use of human, financial and capital resources, as well as a work-conducive, safe and secure working environment
-				Ensure efficient and accessible conferences, meetings, documentation, publications and information infrastructures
-				Ensure efficient membership-related, protocol, communication and resource-mobilization services
-				Ensure efficient planning, coordination and execution of the strategic plan and operational plans of the Union
-				Ensure effective and efficient governance of the organization (internal and external)

## 4.2 Objectives, outcomes and outputs

The Sectoral and intersectoral objectives will be met by achieving the related outcomes, implemented by means of the outputs presented in the table below:

**Table 5 – Objectives, outcomes and outputs**

Objective	Outcomes	Outputs
<b>ITU-R objectives</b>		
<b>R.1 Meet, in a rational, equitable, efficient, economical and timely way, the ITU membership's requirements for radio-frequency spectrum and satellite-orbit resources, while avoiding harmful interference</b>	<p>R.1-1: Increased number of countries having satellite networks and earth stations recorded in the Master International Frequency Register (MIFR)</p> <p>R.1-2: Increased number of countries having terrestrial frequency assignments recorded in the MIFR</p> <p>R.1-3: Increased percentage of assignments recorded in the MIFR with a favourable finding</p> <p>R.1-4: Increased percentage of countries which have completed the transition to digital terrestrial television broadcasting</p> <p>R.1-5: Increased percentage of spectrum assigned to satellite networks which is free from harmful interference</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Final acts of world radiocommunication conferences, updated Radio Regulations</li> <li>– Final acts of regional radiocommunication conferences, regional agreements</li> <li>– Rules of Procedure adopted by the Radio Regulations Board (RRB)</li> <li>– Results of the processing of space notices and other related activities</li> </ul>

Objective	Outcomes	Outputs
	R.1-6: Increased percentage of assignments to terrestrial services recorded in the MIFR which are free from harmful interference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Results of the processing of terrestrial notices and other related activities</li> <li>- RRB decisions other than the adoption of Rules of Procedure</li> <li>- Improvement of ITU-R software</li> </ul>
<b>R.2 Provide for worldwide connectivity and interoperability, improved performance, quality, affordability and timeliness of service and overall system economy in radiocommunications, including through the development of international standards</b>	<p>R.2-1: Increased mobile-broadband access, including in frequency bands identified for international mobile telecommunications (IMT)</p> <p>R.2-2: Reduced mobile-broadband price basket<sup>49</sup>, as a percentage of gross national income (GNI) per capita</p> <p>R.2-3: Increased number of fixed links and increased amount of traffic handled by the fixed service (Tbit/s)</p> <p>R.2-4: Number of households with digital terrestrial television reception</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Decisions of the Radiocommunication Assembly, ITU-R resolutions</li> <li>- ITU-R recommendations, reports (including the CPM report) and handbooks</li> <li>- Advice from the Radiocommunication Advisory Group</li> </ul>

<sup>49</sup> Refers to the mobile-broadband sub-basket of the ITU ICT Price Basket (IPB). For more information, please refer to ITU (2013): Measuring the Information Society 2013 report, available at: [http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Documents/publications/mis2013/MIS2013\\_without\\_Annex\\_4.pdf](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Documents/publications/mis2013/MIS2013_without_Annex_4.pdf)

Objective	Outcomes	Outputs
<b>R.3 Foster the acquisition and sharing of knowledge and know-how on radiocommunications</b>	R.2-5: Number of satellite transponders (equivalent 36 MHz) in operation and corresponding capacity (Tbit/s); Number of VSAT terminals; Number of households with satellite television reception R.2-6: Increased number of devices with radionavigation-satellite reception R.2-7: Number of Earth exploration satellites in operation, corresponding quantity and resolution of transmitted images and data volume downloaded (Tbytes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– ITU-R publications</li> <li>– Assistance to members, in particular developing countries and LDCs</li> <li>– Liaison/support to development activities</li> <li>– Seminars, workshops and other events</li> </ul>
	R.3-1: Increased knowledge and know-how on the Radio Regulations, Rules of Procedure, regional agreements, recommendations and best practices on spectrum use R.3-2: Increased participation in ITU-R activities (including through remote participation), in particular by developing countries	

Objective	Outcomes	Outputs
ITU-T objectives		
<b>T.1 Develop non-discriminatory international standards (ITU-T recommendations), in a timely manner, and foster interoperability and improved performance of equipment, networks, services and applications</b>	<p>T.1-1: Increased utilization of ITU-T recommendations</p> <p>T.1-2: Improved conformance to ITU-T recommendations</p> <p>T.1-3: Enhanced standards in new technologies and services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Resolutions, recommendations and opinions of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA)</li> <li>- WTSA regional consultation sessions</li> <li>- Advice and decisions of the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG)</li> <li>- ITU-T recommendations and related results of ITU-T study groups</li> <li>- ITU-T general assistance and cooperation</li> <li>- Conformity database</li> <li>- Interoperability test centres and events</li> <li>- Development of test suites</li> </ul>



Objective	Outcomes	Outputs
<p><b>T.2 Promote the active participation of the membership, in particular developing countries, in the definition and adoption of non-discriminatory international standards (ITU-T recommendations) with a view to bridging the standardization gap</b></p>	<p>T.2-1: Increased participation in the ITU-T standardization process, including attendance of meetings, submission of contributions, taking leadership positions and hosting of meetings/workshops, especially from developing countries</p> <p>T.2-2: Increase of the ITU-T membership, including Sector Members, Associates and Academia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bridging the standardization gap (e.g. remote participation, fellowships, establishment of regional study groups)</li> <li>- Workshops and seminars, including offline and online training activities, complementing the capacity-building work on bridging the standardization gap undertaken in ITU-D</li> <li>- Outreach and promotion</li> </ul>
<p><b>T.3 Ensure effective allocation and management of international telecommunication numbering, naming, addressing and identification resources in accordance with ITU-T recommendations and procedures</b></p>	<p>T.3-1: Timely and accurate allocation of international telecommunication numbering, naming, addressing and identification resources, as specified in the relevant recommendations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Relevant TSB databases</li> <li>- Allocation and management of international telecommunication numbering, naming, addressing and identification resources in accordance with ITU-T recommendations and procedures</li> </ul>

Objective	Outcomes	Outputs
<b>T.4 Foster the acquisition and sharing of knowledge and know-how on the standardization activities of ITU-T</b>	<p>T.4-1: Increased knowledge on ITU-T standards and on best practices in their implementation of ITU-T standards</p> <p>T.4-2: Increased participation in ITU-T's standardization activities and increased awareness of the relevance of ITU-T standards</p> <p>T.4-3: Increased Sector visibility</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ITU-T publications</li> <li>- Database publications</li> <li>- Outreach and promotion</li> <li>- ITU Operational Bulletin</li> </ul>
<b>T.5 Extend and facilitate cooperation with international, regional and national standardization bodies</b>	<p>T.5-1: Increased communications with other standards organizations</p> <p>T.5-2: Decreased number of conflicting standards</p> <p>T.5-3: Increased number of memoranda of understanding/collaboration agreements with other organizations</p> <p>T.5-4: Increased number of ITU-T A.4, A.5 and A.6 qualified organizations</p> <p>T.5-5: Increased number of workshops/events organized jointly with other organizations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Memoranda of understanding (MoUs) and collaboration agreements</li> <li>- ITU-T A.4/A.5/A.6 qualifications</li> <li>- Jointly organized workshops/events</li> </ul>

Objective	Outcomes	Outputs
<b>ITU-D objectives<sup>50</sup></b>		
<b>D.1 Foster international cooperation on telecommunication/ICT development issues</b>	<p>D.1-1: Draft strategic plan for ITU-D</p> <p>D.1-2: WTDC Declaration</p> <p>D.1-3: WTDC Action Plan</p> <p>D.1-4: Resolutions and recommendations</p> <p>D.1-5: New and revised Questions for study groups</p> <p>D.1-6: Increased level of agreement on priority areas</p> <p>D.1-7: Assessment of the implementation of the Action Plan and of the WSIS Plan of Action</p> <p>D.1-8: Identification of regional initiatives</p> <p>D.1-9: Increased number of contributions and proposals for the Action Plan</p> <p>D.1-10: Enhanced review of priorities, programmes, operations, financial matters and strategies</p> <p>D.1-11: Work programme</p> <p>D.1-12: Comprehensive preparation of progress report to the Director of BDT on the implementation of the work programme</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC)</li> <li>– Regional preparatory meetings (RPMs)</li> <li>– Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG)</li> <li>– Study groups</li> </ul>

<sup>50</sup> ITU-D outputs and the implementation framework are further detailed in the Dubai Action Plan, endorsed by the World Telecommunication Development Conference (Dubai, 2014)

Objective	Outcomes	Outputs
	<p>D.1-13: Enhanced knowledge-sharing and dialogue among Member States and Sector Members (including Associates and Academia) on emerging telecommunication/ICT issues for sustainable growth</p> <p>D.1-14: Strengthened capacity of members to develop and implement ICT strategies and policies as well as to identify methods and approaches for the development and deployment of infrastructure and applications</p>	
<p><b>D.2 Foster an enabling environment for ICT development and foster the development of telecommunication/ICT networks as well as relevant applications and services, including bridging the standardization gap</b></p>	<p>D.2-1: Enhanced dialogue and cooperation among national regulators, policy-makers and other telecommunication/ICT stakeholders on topical policy, legal and regulatory issues to help countries achieve their goals of creating a more inclusive information society</p> <p>D.2-2: Improved decision-making on policy and regulatory issues and conducive policy, legal and regulatory environment for the ICT sector</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Policy and regulatory frameworks</li> <li>- Telecommunication/ICT networks, including conformance and interoperability and bridging the standardization gap</li> <li>- Innovation and partnership</li> </ul>

Objective	Outcomes	Outputs
	<p>D.2-3: Enhanced awareness and capability of countries to enable planning, deployment, operation and maintenance of sustainable, accessible and resilient ICT networks and services, including broadband infrastructure, and improved knowledge of available broadband transmission infrastructure worldwide</p> <p>D.2-4: Enhanced awareness and capability of countries to participate in and contribute to the development and deployment of ITU recommendations and put in place sustainable and appropriate conformance and interoperability programmes, on the basis of ITU recommendations, at national, regional and subregional levels by promoting the establishment of mutual recognition agreement (MRA) regimes and/or building testing labs, as appropriate</p> <p>D.2-5: Enhanced awareness and capability of countries in the fields of frequency planning and assignment, spectrum management and radio monitoring, in efficient utilization of tools for managing the spectrum and in measurement and regulation related to human exposure to electromagnetic fields (EMF)</p>	

Objective	Outcomes	Outputs
	<p>D.2-6: Enhanced awareness and capability of countries in the transition from analogue to digital broadcasting and in post-transition activities, and effectiveness of implementation of the guidelines prepared</p> <p>D.2-7: Strengthened members' capacity to integrate telecommunication/ICT innovation in national development agendas</p> <p>D.2-8: Enhanced public-private partnership to foster the development of telecommunications/ICTs</p>	
<p><b>D.3 Enhance confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs, and roll-out of relevant applications and services</b></p>	<p>D.3-1: Strengthened capacity of Member States to incorporate and implement cybersecurity policies and strategies into nationwide ICT plans, as well as appropriate legislation</p> <p>D.3-2: Enhanced ability of Member States to respond to cyberthreats in a timely manner</p> <p>D.3-3: Enhanced cooperation, information exchange and know-how transfer among Member States and with relevant players</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs</li> <li>– ICT applications and services</li> </ul>

Objective	Outcomes	Outputs
	<p>D.3-4: Improved capacity of countries for the planning of national sectoral e-strategies to foster the enabling environment for upscaling ICT applications</p> <p>D.3-5: Improved capacity of countries to leverage ICT/mobile applications to improve the delivery of value-added services in high-priority areas (e.g. health, governance, education, payments, etc.) in order to provide effective solutions for various challenges in sustainable development through public-private collaboration</p> <p>D.3-6: Enhanced innovation, knowledge and skills of national institutions to use ICT and broadband for development</p>	
<p><b>D.4 Build human and institutional capacity, provide data and statistics, promote digital inclusion and provide concentrated assistance to countries in special need</b></p>	<p>D.4-1: Enhanced capacity building of membership in international Internet governance</p> <p>D.4-2: Improved knowledge and skills of ITU membership in the use of telecommunications/ICTs</p> <p>D.4-3: Enhanced awareness of the role of human and institutional capacity building for telecommunications/ICTs and development for the ITU membership</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Capacity building</li> <li>- Telecommunication/ICT statistics</li> <li>- Digital inclusion of people with specific needs</li> <li>- Concentrated assistance to least developed countries (LDCs), small island developing states (SIDS) and landlocked developing countries (LLDCs)</li> </ul>

Objective	Outcomes	Outputs
	<p>D.4-4: Enhanced information and knowledge of policy-makers and other stakeholders on current telecommunication/ICT trends and developments, based on high-quality, internationally comparable telecommunication/ICT statistics and data analysis</p> <p>D.4-5: Enhanced dialogue between telecommunication/ICT data producers and users and increased capacity and skills of producers of telecommunication/ICT statistics to carry out data collections at the national level based on international standards and methodologies</p> <p>D.4-6: Strengthened capacity of Member States to develop and implement digital inclusion policies, strategies and guidelines to ensure telecommunication/ICT accessibility for people with specific needs<sup>51</sup> and the use of telecommunications/ICTs for the social and economic empowerment of people with specific needs</p>	

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<sup>51</sup> People with specific needs are indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, including age-related disabilities, youth, women and girls.



Objective	Outcomes	Outputs
	<p>D.4-7: Improved capacity of members to provide people with specific needs with digital literacy training and training on the use of telecommunications/ICTs for social and economic development</p> <p>D.4-8: Improved capacity of members in using telecommunications/ICTs for the social and economic development of people with specific needs, including telecommunication/ICT programmes to promote youth employment and entrepreneurship</p> <p>D.4-9: Improved access to and use of telecommunications/ICTs in LDCs, SIDS, LLDCs and countries with economies in transition</p> <p>D.4-10: Enhanced capacity of LDCs, SIDS and LLDCs on telecommunication/ICT development</p>	

Objective	Outcomes	Outputs
<p><b>D.5 Enhance environmental protection, climate-change adaptation and mitigation and disaster-management efforts through telecommunications/ICTs</b></p>	<p>D.5-1: Improved availability of information and solutions for Member States, regarding climate-change mitigation and adaptation</p> <p>D.5-2: Enhanced capacity of Member States in relation to climate-change mitigation and adaptation policy and regulatory frameworks</p> <p>D.5-3: Development of e-waste policy</p> <p>D.5-4: Developed standards-based monitoring and early-warning systems linked to national and regional networks</p> <p>D.5-5: Collaboration to facilitate emergency disaster response</p> <p>D.5-6: Established partnerships among relevant organizations dealing with the use of telecommunication/ICT systems for the purpose of disaster preparedness, prediction, detection and mitigation</p> <p>D.5-7: Increased awareness of regional and international cooperation for easy access to, and sharing of, information related to the use of telecommunications/ICTs for emergency situations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ICTs and climate-change adaptation and mitigation</li> <li>- Emergency telecommunications</li> </ul>

Objective	Outcomes	Outputs
<b>Intersectoral objectives</b>		
<b>I.1 Enhance international dialogue among stakeholders</b>	I.1-1: Increased collaboration among relevant stakeholders, aiming to improve the efficiency of the telecommunication/ICT environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Intersectoral world conferences, forums, events and platforms for high-level debate (such as World Conference on International Telecommunication (WCIT), World Telecommunication/ICT Policy Forum (WTPF), World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)<sup>52</sup>, World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD), ITU TELECOM)</li> </ul>
<b>I.2 Enhance partnerships and cooperation within the telecommunication/ICT environment</b>	I.2-1: Increased synergies from partnerships on telecommunications/ICTs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Knowledge-sharing, networking and partnerships</li> <li>- Memoranda of understanding (MoUs)</li> </ul>

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<sup>52</sup> Pending United Nations decision to continue the initiative.

Objective	Outcomes	Outputs
<b>I.3 Enhance identification and analysis of emerging trends in the telecommunication/ICT environment</b>	I.3-1: Timely identification and analysis of emerging trends in telecommunications/ICTs and establishment of new areas of activities related to them	– Intersectoral initiatives and reports on emerging telecommunication/ICT trends and other similar initiatives (including ITU News)
<b>I.4 Enhance/promote recognition of (the importance of) telecommunications/ICTs as a key enabler of social, economic and environmentally sustainable development</b>	I.4-1: Increased multilateral and intergovernmental recognition of telecommunications/ICTs as a cross-cutting enabler for all three pillars of sustainable development (economic growth, social inclusion and environmental balance), as defined in the outcome document of the United Nations Rio+20 Sustainable Development Conference, and in support of the United Nations mission of peace, security and human rights	– Reports and other inputs to UN inter-agency, multilateral and intergovernmental processes

Objective	Outcomes	Outputs
<b>I.5 Enhance access to telecommunications/ICTs for persons with disabilities and specific needs</b>	I.5-1 Increased availability and compliance of telecommunication/ICT equipment, services and applications with universal design principles I.5-2 Increased engagement of organizations of persons with disabilities and specific needs in the work of the Union I.5-3 Increased awareness, including multilateral and intergovernmental recognition, of the need to enhance access to telecommunications/ICTs for persons with disabilities and specific needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Reports, guidelines, and checklists relating to accessibility of telecommunications/ICTs</li> <li>– Mobilization of resources and technical expertise, for example, through promoting greater participation in international and regional meetings by persons with disabilities and specific needs</li> <li>– Further development and implementation of the ITU Accessibility Policy and related plans</li> <li>– Advocacy, both at UN level and at regional and national levels</li> </ul>
The following outputs of the activities of the ITU governing bodies contribute to the implementation of all the objectives of the Union:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Decisions, resolutions, recommendations and other results of the Plenipotentiary Conference</li> <li>– Decisions and resolutions of the Council, as well as results of the Council working groups</li> </ul>

### 4.3 Enablers

The aim of the enablers of the strategic goals and the objectives of the Union is to support ITU activities, towards achieving the objectives and strategic goals. The support processes contribute to the enablers of the strategic goals as presented in the table below:

**Table 6 – Support processes contribution to enablers**

Support processes	Enablers of the strategic goals	Ensure efficient and effective use of human, financial and capital resources, as well as a work-conducive, safe and secure working environment	Ensure efficient and accessible conferences, meetings, documentation, publications and information infrastructures	Ensure efficient membership-related, protocol, communication and resource-mobilization services	Ensure efficient planning, coordination and execution of the strategic plan and operational plans of the Union	Ensure effective and efficient governance of the organization (internal and external)
Management of the Union		X			X	X
Organization of conferences, assemblies, seminars and workshops (including translation and interpretation)			X			
Publication services			X			
IT services			X			

Enablers of the strategic goals	Ensure efficient and effective use of human, financial and capital resources, as well as a work-conducive, safe and secure working environment	Ensure efficient and accessible conferences, meetings, documentation, publications and information infrastructures	Ensure efficient membership-related, protocol, communication and resource-mobilization services	Ensure efficient planning, coordination and execution of the strategic plan and operational plans of the Union	Ensure effective and efficient governance of the organization (internal and external)
<b>Support processes</b>					
Human resources management	X				
Financial resources management	X				
Legal services					X
Internal audit	X				X
Engagement with the membership and external stakeholders (including UN)			X		
Communication services (audiovisual services, press release services, social media, management of the web, branding, speechwriting, ICT Discovery)			X		

Enablers of the strategic goals	Ensure efficient and effective use of human, financial and capital resources, as well as a work-conducive, safe and secure working environment	Ensure efficient and accessible conferences, meetings, documentation, publications and information infrastructures	Ensure efficient membership-related, protocol, communication and resource-mobilization services	Ensure efficient planning, coordination and execution of the strategic plan and operational plans of the Union	Ensure effective and efficient governance of the organization (internal and external)
<b>Support processes</b>					
Protocol services			X		
Facilitation of the work of governing bodies (PP, Council, Council working groups)					X
Safety and security services	X				
Badging production and distribution		X			
Resource-mobilization services			X		
Corporate strategic management and planning				X	X



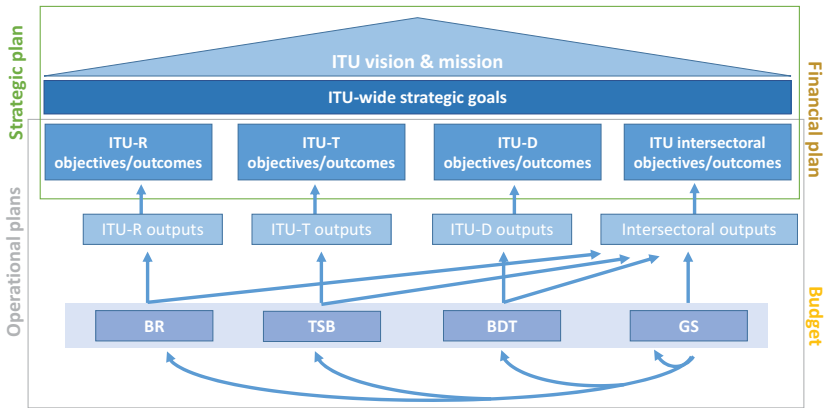
## 5 Implementation and evaluation

### 5.1 Linkage between strategic, operational and financial planning

The strong and coherent linkage between the Union's strategic, operational and financial planning is ensured by implementing the ITU results-based management (RBM) framework in accordance with Resolutions 71, 72 and 151 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, as per the following structure:

- This four-year **strategic plan** defines the strategic goals of the Union and the Sectoral and intersectoral objectives/outcomes for the four-year period. It lays down the **implementation criteria** to be taken into consideration in the operational planning and budgeting processes. The strategic plan should be implemented within the context of the financial limits established by the Plenipotentiary Conference.
- The four-year **financial plan** in Decision 5 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference forecasts revenue and expenses for the four-year period, in full consistency with the strategic plan, and defines resources available for its implementation.
- Biennial **budgets**, approved by the Council, implement the results-based budgeting (RBB) mechanism, according to the provisions of the financial plan.
- The four-year rolling **operational plans**, approved by the Council, follow the principles of the strategic plan and are set in accordance to the financial plan and the biennial budget. Operational plans define the Sectoral and intersectoral outputs produced to achieve the Union's objectives and outcomes, and describe the corresponding activities of the Bureaux and the General Secretariat. The activities of the Bureaux contribute directly to Sectoral or intersectoral outputs. The activities of the General Secretariat either contribute directly to the intersectoral outputs (via intersectoral activities) or provide support services to the Bureaux and the intersectoral activities, as depicted below:

**Figure 3 – Linkage between strategic, operational and financial planning**



## 5.2 Implementation criteria

Implementation criteria set the framework to enable proper identification of appropriate activities of the Union, so that the objectives, outcomes and strategic goals of the Union are achieved in the most effective and efficient manner. They define the criteria for establishing priorities for the resource-allocation process within the biennial budget of the Union.

The implementation criteria set for the Union's strategy for 2016-2019 are:

- **Adherence to ITU values:** The core values of ITU shall drive priorities and provide the basis for decision-making.
- **Following results-based management principles,** including:
  - **Performance monitoring and evaluation:** Performance in the achievement of the goals/objectives shall be monitored and evaluated in accordance with the operational plans, as approved by the Council, and opportunities for improvement shall be identified, in order to support the decision-making process.

- **Risk identification, assessment and treatment:** An integrated process to manage uncertain events that may impact on the achievement of objectives and goals shall be in place, to enhance informed decision-making.
  - **Results-based budgeting principles:** The budgeting process shall allocate resources on the basis of the goals and objectives to be achieved, as defined within this strategic plan.
  - **Impact-oriented reporting:** Progress towards the achievement of ITU's strategic goals shall be clearly reported, focusing on the impact of the activities of the Union.
- **Implementing efficiently:** Efficiency has become an overarching imperative for the Union. ITU shall assess whether its stakeholders obtain maximum benefit from the services ITU provides, according to the resources available (value for money).
  - **Aiming to mainstream UN recommendations and apply harmonized business practices,** since ITU is part of the UN system as a UN specialized agency.
  - **Working as One ITU:** The Sectors shall work cohesively for the implementation of the strategic plan. The secretariat shall support coordinated operational planning, avoiding redundancies and duplication and maximizing synergies across the Sectors, the Bureaux and the General Secretariat.
  - **Long-term development of the organization to sustain performance and relevance of expertise:** Aspiring to the concept of the learning organization, the organization shall continue operating in an interconnected way and to invest further in staff so as to sustainably deliver most value.
  - **Prioritization:** It is important to define specific criteria for prioritizing among different activities and initiatives that the Union is willing to undertake. The factors to be considered are the following:

- **Added value:**
  - Prioritize based on unique value contribution by ITU (outcomes that cannot be achieved otherwise)
  - Be involved where and to the extent that ITU adds significant value
  - Not prioritize activities that other stakeholders can undertake
  - Prioritize based on ITU's available expertise for implementation.
- **Impact and focus:**
  - Focus on maximum impact for the wider constituency, while considering inclusiveness
  - Undertake fewer activities with greater impact, rather than many activities with diluted impact
  - Be consistent and undertake activities that clearly contribute to the big picture as determined by the ITU strategic framework
  - Give priority to activities yielding tangible results.
- **Membership needs:**
  - Prioritize membership demands, by following a customer-oriented approach
  - Give priority to activities that Member States cannot implement without the support of the organization.

### **5.3 Monitoring, evaluation and risk management in the ITU results-based management framework**

Results will be the main focus of strategy, planning and budgeting in the ITU RBM framework. Performance monitoring and evaluation, together with risk management, will ensure that the strategic, operational and financial planning processes are based on informed decision-making and appropriate resource allocation.

The ITU performance monitoring and evaluation framework will be further developed according to the strategic framework outlined in the strategic plan for 2016-2019, to measure progress towards achievement of the ITU objectives and outcomes, strategic goals and targets set out therein, evaluating performance and detecting issues that need to be addressed.

The ITU risk-management framework will be further developed, to ensure an integrated approach to the ITU RBM framework set in the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019.

## ANNEX 3 TO RESOLUTION 71 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

## Allocation of resources to objectives and strategic goals

ITU Strategic Objectives		CHF 000	in %				CHF 000			
		Cost	Goal 1 Growth	Goal 2 Inclusiveness	Goal 3 Sustainability	Goal 4 Innovation & Partnership	Goal 1 Growth	Goal 2 Inclusiveness	Goal 3 Sustainability	Goal 4 Innovation & Partnership
R1	ITU-R Objective 1	149,257	50%	30%	10%	10%	74,629	44,777	14,926	14,926
R2	ITU-R Objective 2	41,323	50%	30%	10%	10%	20,661	12,397	4,132	4,132
R3	ITU-R Objective 3	63,554		100%			-	63,554	-	-
T1	ITU-T Objective 1	55,388	40%	30%	10%	20%	22,155	16,616	5,539	11,078
T2	ITU-T Objective 2	21,087		100%			-	21,087	-	-
T3	ITU-T Objective 3	1,570	50%	30%	10%	10%	785	471	157	157
T4	ITU-T Objective 4	27,097	30%	50%	10%	10%	8,129	13,549	2,710	2,710
T5	ITU-T Objective 5	2,078	30%	20%	10%	40%	623	416	208	831
D1	ITU-D Objective 1	47,755		100%			-	47,755	-	-
D2	ITU-D Objective 2	75,957	100%				75,957	-	-	-
D3	ITU-D Objective 3	34,587			100%		-	-	34,587	-
D4	ITU-D Objective 4	59,118					-	59,118	-	-
D5	ITU-D Objective 5	19,990	100%				19,990	-	-	-
I1	Intersectoral Objective 1	7,454	15%	15%	15%	55%	1,118	1,118	1,118	4,100
I2	Intersectoral Objective 2	7,850	15%	15%	15%	55%	1,177	1,177	1,177	4,317
I3	Intersectoral Objective 3	11,701	10%	10%	10%	70%	1,170	1,170	1,170	8,191
I4	Intersectoral Objective 4	9,202	0%	50%	50%	0%	-	4,601	4,601	-
I5	Intersectoral Objective 5	738	0%	100%	0%	0%	-	738	-	-
<b>Total Cost</b>		<b>635,704</b>					<b>226,395</b>	<b>288,543</b>	<b>70,325</b>	<b>50,441</b>
							<b>36%</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>8%</b>

Reallocation

## ANNEX 4 TO RESOLUTION 71 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Glossary of the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019**

Term	Working Version
Activities	Activities are various actions/services for transforming resources (inputs) into outputs.
Financial plan	<p>The financial plan covers a four-year period and sets up the financial basis from which biennial budgets can be elaborated.</p> <p>The financial plan is elaborated within the context of Decision 5 (Revenue and expenses for the Union) which reflects, <i>inter alia</i>, the amount of the contributory unit approved by the Plenipotentiary Conference.</p> <p>It should be aligned with the strategic plan.</p>
Inputs	Inputs are resources, such as financial, human, material and technological resources, used by activities to produce outputs.
Mission	Mission refers to the main overall purposes of the Union, as per the Basic Instruments of ITU.
Objectives	Objectives refer to the specific aims of the Sectoral and intersectoral activities in a given period.
Operational plan	The operational plan is prepared on a yearly basis by each Bureau, in consultation with the relevant advisory group, and by the General Secretariat, in accordance with the strategic and financial plans. It contains the detailed plan for the subsequent year and a forecast for the following three-year period for each Sector and the General Secretariat. The Council reviews and approves the four-year rolling operational plans.
Outcomes	Outcomes provide an indication as to whether the objective is being achieved. Outcomes are usually partly, but not entirely, within the control of the organization.
Outputs	The outputs are the final tangible results, deliverables, products and services achieved by the Union in the implementation of the operational plans. Outputs are cost objects and are represented in the applicable cost-accounting system by internal orders.

Term	Working Version
Performance indicators	Performance indicators are the criteria used to measure the achievement of outputs or outcomes. These indicators may be qualitative or quantitative.
Processes	Set of consistent activities intended to meet an intended objective/goal.
Results-based budgeting (RBB)	Results-based budgeting (RBB) is the programme budget process in which (a) the programme is formulated in order to meet a set of predefined objectives and outcomes; (b) the outcomes justify resource requirements, which are derived from and linked to outputs produced to achieve the outcomes; and (c) actual performance in achieving outcomes is measured by outcome indicators.
Results-based management (RBM)	Results-based management is a management approach that directs organizational processes, resources, products and services towards the achievement of measurable results. It provides the management frameworks and tools for strategic planning, risk management, performance monitoring and evaluation and financing activities based on targeted results.
Results framework	A results framework is the strategic management tool used to plan, monitor, evaluate and report within the RBM methodology. It provides the necessary sequence to achieve desired results (results chain) – beginning with inputs, moving through activities and outputs, to outcomes – at the level of Sectoral and intersectoral objectives, and desired impact – at the level of ITU-wide strategic goals and targets. It explains how results are to be achieved, including causal relationships and underlying assumptions and risks. The results framework reflects strategic level thinking across the entire organization.
Strategic goals	Strategic goals refer to the Union's high-level targets to which the objectives contribute, directly or indirectly. These relate to the whole of ITU.



Term	Working Version
Strategic plan	The strategic plan defines the strategy of the Union for a four-year period in order to fulfil its mission. It defines strategic goals and objectives and represents the plan of the Union within that period. It is the main instrument embodying the Union's strategic vision. The strategic plan should be implemented within the context of the financial limits established by the Plenipotentiary Conference.
Strategic risks	Strategic risks refer to the uncertainties and untapped opportunities that affect an organization's strategy and strategy execution.
Strategic risk management (SRM)	Strategic risk management is a management practice that identifies and focuses action on uncertainties and untapped opportunities that affect an organization's ability to deliver on its mission.
Strategic target	Strategic targets are the expected results during the period of the strategic plan; they provide an indication as to whether the goal is being achieved. Targets may not always be achieved for reasons that may be beyond the control of the Union.
Values	ITU's shared and common beliefs that drive its priorities and guide all decision-making processes.
Vision	The better world ITU wants to see.

## List of terms in all six official languages

Anglais	Arabe	Chinois	Français	Russe	Espagnol
Activities	الأنشطة	活动	Activités	Виды деятельности	Actividades
Financial plan	الخطة المالية	财务规划	Plan financier	Финансовый план	Plan Financiero
Inputs	المدخلات	投入，输入意见 (取决于上下文)	Contributions	Исходные ресурсы	Insumos
Mission	الرسالة	使命	Mission	Миссия	Misión
Objectives	الأهداف	部门目标	Objectifs	Задачи	Objetivos
Operational plan	الخطة التشغيلية	运作规划	Plan opérationnel	Оперативный план	Plan Operacional
Outcomes	النتائج	结果	Résultats	Конечные результаты	Resultados
Outputs	النواتج	输出成果	Produits	Намеченные результаты деятельности	Productos
Performance indicators	مؤشرات الأداء	绩效指标	Indicateurs de performance	Показатели деятельности	Indicadores de Rendimiento
Processes	العمليات	进程	Processus	Процессы	Procesos
Results-based budgeting	الميزنة على أساس النتائج	基于结果的预算制定	Budgétisation axée sur les résultats	Составление бюджета, ориентированного на результаты	Elaboración del Presupuesto basado en los resultados
Results-based management	الإدارة على أساس النتائج	基于结果的管理	Gestion axée sur les résultats	Управление, ориентированное на результаты	Gestión basada en los resultados
Results framework	إطار النتائج	结果框架	Cadre de présentation des résultats	Структура результатов	Marco de resultados
Strategic goals	الغايات الاستراتيجية	总体战略目标	Buts stratégiques	Стратегические цели	Metas estratégicas
Strategic plan	الخطة الاستراتيجية	战略规划	Plan stratégique	Стратегический план	Plan Estratégico
Strategic risks	المخاطر الاستراتيجية	战略风险	Risques stratégiques	Стратегические риски	Riesgos estratégicos
Strategic risk management	إدارة المخاطر الاستراتيجية	战略风险管理	Gestion des risques stratégiques	Управление стратегическими рисками	Gestión de riesgos estratégicos
Strategic target	المقاصد الاستراتيجية	具体战略目标	Cible stratégique	Стратегический целевой показатель	Finalidad estratégica
Values	القيم	价值/价值观	Valeurs	Ценности	Valores
Vision	الرؤية	愿景	Vision	Концепция	Visión

## RESOLUTION 72 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Linking strategic, financial and operational planning in ITU**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*considering*

that progress in achieving the goals and objectives of ITU can be measured and considerably enhanced through the process of linking strategic, financial and operational plans that set out the activities planned to be undertaken during the period of these plans,

*recognizing*

a) that operational and financial plans for ITU should set out the activities of the Union, the objectives of those activities and the associated resources, and could be effectively utilized, *inter alia*:

- to monitor progress in the implementation of the programmes of the Union;
- to enhance the capacity of the membership to evaluate, using performance indicators, progress in the achievement of programme activities;
- to improve the efficiency of these activities;
- to ensure transparency, particularly in the application of cost recovery;
- to promote complementarity between the activities of ITU and those of other relevant international and regional telecommunication organizations;

b) that the ongoing implementation of operational planning and its effective linkage to strategic and financial planning may make changes in the Financial Regulations necessary in order to elaborate the relationships between the corresponding documents and to harmonize presentation of the information they contain;

c) that effective and specific oversight mechanisms are required in order to enable the ITU Council adequately to audit progress in linking the strategic, operational and financial functions and to assess the implementation of operational plans;

d) that, in order to assist Member States in developing proposals to conferences, the secretariat should be invited to prepare guidelines for identifying the criteria to be applied in assessing the financial implications, and to distribute the guidelines in the form of circular letters by the Secretary-General or the Directors of the Bureaux;

e) that Member States, in taking into account the guidelines prepared by the secretariat, should, to the extent practicable, include relevant information in an annex to their proposals, in order to allow the Secretary-General/Directors of the Bureaux to identify the probable financial implications of such proposals,

*resolves to instruct the Secretary-General and the Directors of the three Bureaux*

1 to identify particular measures and elements, which should be considered indicative and not exclusive, to be included in the operational plans of the Sectors and the General Secretariat, to ensure coherence among the plans, that will assist the Union in implementing the strategic and financial plans and enable the Council to review their implementation;

2 to review the Financial Regulations of the Union, taking into account the views of Member States and the advice of the Sector advisory groups, and to make appropriate proposals for consideration by the Council in the light of *recognizing b) and c)* above;

3 to each prepare their coordinated and consolidated plans reflecting the linkages between strategic, financial and operational planning, for annual review by the Council;

4 to assist Member States in preparing estimates of the costs of their proposals to all conferences and assemblies of the Union, if so requested;

5 to contribute to the transparency of ITU by publishing details of all costs incurred in the use or deployment of external human resources in delivering the requirements agreed by the ITU membership;

6 to provide to conferences and assemblies the necessary information from the full range of new financial and planning mechanisms available in order to allow a reasonable estimate of the financial implications of their decisions to be made, including, to the extent practicable, cost "estimates" for any proposals to all conferences and assemblies of the Union, taking into account the provisions of Article 34 of the ITU Convention,

*instructs the Council*

1 to evaluate progress in linking the strategic, financial and operational functions and in implementing operational planning, and to take steps as appropriate to achieve the objectives of this resolution;

2 to take the necessary action to ensure that the future strategic, financial and operational plans will be prepared in line with this resolution;

3 to prepare a report, with any appropriate recommendations, for consideration by the 2018 plenipotentiary conference,

*urges Member States*

to liaise with the secretariat at an early stage in developing proposals with financial implications so that the work plan and associated resource requirements can be identified and, to the greatest extent practicable, included in such proposals.

## RESOLUTION 75 (MINNEAPOLIS, 1998)

**Publication of the ITU Constitution and Convention,  
decisions, resolutions and recommendations and the Optional  
Protocol on the Compulsory Settlement of Disputes**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Minneapolis, 1998),

*noting*

- a) that the instruments of the Union are the Constitution, the Convention and the Administrative Regulations;
- b) that this conference has adopted a new instrument containing the Rules of Procedure of conferences and other meetings of the International Telecommunication Union;
- c) that an Optional Protocol on the compulsory settlement of disputes relating to the Constitution, the Convention and the Administrative Regulations is open for ratification, acceptance, approval or accession by Member States of ITU,

*considering*

- a) that revisions of the Radio Regulations are published in a reference publication containing an updated version of the Radio Regulations and of the resolutions and recommendations adopted by world radiocommunication conferences;
- b) that, despite their permanent nature, the ITU Constitution and Convention have been amended by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Kyoto, 1994) and by this conference;
- c) that this conference has adopted Decision 3 relating to the treatment of decisions, resolutions and recommendations of plenipotentiary conferences,

*resolves to instruct the Secretary-General*

to publish a reference document containing:

- the Constitution and the Convention as amended by plenipotentiary conferences, indicating, for amended provisions, the conference having adopted those amendments;
- the full text of all decisions, resolutions and recommendations in force;
- a list of abrogated decisions, resolutions and recommendations including the year in which they were abrogated;
- the full text of the Optional Protocol on the compulsory settlement of disputes relating to the Constitution, the Convention and the Administrative Regulations.

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*(Minneapolis, 1998)*

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## RESOLUTION 77 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Scheduling and duration of conferences, forums, assemblies  
and Council sessions of the Union (2015-2019)**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

- a) No. 47 in Article 8 of the ITU Constitution, which stipulates that the Plenipotentiary Conference shall be convened every four years;
- b) Nos. 90 and 91 in Article 13 of the Constitution, which stipulate that world radiocommunication conferences (WRC) and radiocommunication assemblies (RA) shall normally be convened every three to four years, and shall be associated in place and time;
- c) No. 114 in Article 18 of the Constitution, which stipulates that world telecommunication standardization assemblies (WTSA) shall be convened every four years;
- d) No. 141 in Article 22 of the Constitution, which stipulates that, between two plenipotentiary conferences, there shall be one world telecommunication development conference (WTDC);
- e) No. 51 in Article 4 of the ITU Convention, which stipulates that the ITU Council shall hold an ordinary session annually at the seat of the Union;
- f) Resolution 111 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference,

*recognizing*

- a) Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019, and the priorities identified therein;
- b) that, in the consideration of the draft financial plan of the Union for 2016-2019, the challenge to increase revenues in order to meet increasing programme demands is substantial,



*considering*

- a) the need to take into account the financial resources of the Union when scheduling conferences, assemblies and forums, particularly the necessity of ensuring efficient Union operations within limited resources;
- b) that holding conferences, assemblies and forums in the same year as the plenipotentiary conference represents a burden for the Union's membership and staff,

*having considered*

- a) Document PP-14/56 submitted by the Secretary-General, on planned conferences and assemblies;
- b) the proposals submitted by several Member States,

*bearing in mind*

- a) the increasing demands placed on and necessary preparatory work to be carried out by Member States, Sector Members, the General Secretariat and the Sectors of the Union before each conference, assembly and forum of the Union;
- b) that scheduling the Council earlier in the calendar year improves the linkage between the strategic, financial and operational plans and the budget and other activities to be carried out by the Council,

*noting*

- a) that the dates for the next RA have been set for 26-30 October 2015, and those for the next WRC for 2-27 November 2015;
- b) that the external auditor's reports on the Union's finances should normally be available to the Council in due time prior to its sessions,

*resolves*

- 1 that ITU conferences and assemblies shall, in principle, be held in the last quarter of the year, and not in the same year<sup>1</sup>, except as provided in *recalling b)* above;
- 2 that plenipotentiary conferences shall, unless there is a pressing need otherwise, be limited to a duration of three weeks;
- 3 that ITU exhibitions, forums, high-level events and symposia of a worldwide character shall be scheduled within the allocated resources in the financial plan and biennial budget;
- 4 that the schedule of future conferences, assemblies and Council sessions for the years 2015-2019 shall be as follows:
  - 4.1 the Council shall, in principle, hold its ordinary session within or around June-July of the calendar year;
  - 4.2 WTSA shall be held in the last quarter of 2016;
  - 4.3 WTDC shall be held in November-December 2017 ;
  - 4.4 the Plenipotentiary Conference shall be held in the United Arab Emirates in the last quarter of 2018;
  - 4.5 RA and WRC shall be held in 2019;
- 5 that the agendas of world and regional conferences shall be established in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention and the agendas of assemblies shall be established, as appropriate, taking into account the resolutions and recommendations of the relevant conferences and assemblies;
- 6 that the dates and duration given in *noting* above for WRC-15, for which the agenda, which was further modified during this conference to include global flight tracking, has been established and approved, must not be modified;

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<sup>1</sup> Apart from world conferences on international telecommunications.

7 that the conferences and assemblies mentioned in *resolves* 4 should be held within the periods indicated there, that the precise dates and places will be set by the Council after consultation of the Member States, leaving sufficient time between the various conferences, and that the precise duration shall be decided by the Council after their agendas have been established,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

- 1 to take appropriate measures to facilitate the most efficient use of time and resources during such conferences;
- 2 to report to the Council on the implementation of this resolution, proposing further improvements, as appropriate,

*instructs the Council*

- 1 at each ordinary session, to schedule its next three ordinary sessions in June-July and to review the Council's schedule on a rolling basis;
- 2 to take appropriate measures to facilitate the implementation of this resolution, and report to future plenipotentiary conferences on possible improvements in the implementation of this resolution.

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*(Minneapolis, 1998) – (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002) – (Rev. Antalya, 2006) –  
(Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) – (Rev. Busan, 2014)*

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## RESOLUTION 80 (REV. MARRAKESH, 2002)

### **World radiocommunication conference process**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Marrakesh, 2002),

*considering*

- a) that the agenda for the 2003 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-03) was amended and approved by the Council at its 2001 session;
- b) that the radiocommunication sector has experienced rapid technological growth, and demand for new services is increasing rapidly in an environment that requires timely and efficient action,

*considering further*

- a) that, for the World Radiocommunication Conference (Geneva, 1997) (WRC-97) and the World Radiocommunication Conference (Istanbul, 2000) (WRC-2000), many administrations submitted common regional proposals, which greatly assisted in the efficiency of the conference proceedings;
- b) that informal groups and general liaison between regions played an important role in smoothing the work of those conferences;
- c) that, by Resolution 72 (Rev. WRC-2000), WRC-2000 encourages both formal and informal collaboration in order to resolve differences,

*noting*

- a) that this conference has adopted many of the recommendations of the Working Group on ITU Reform aimed at increasing the effectiveness of ITU in a rapidly changing environment;

b) that, in accordance with Nos. 118 and 126 of the ITU Convention, the general scope of a world radiocommunication conference (WRC) cycle is based on a period covering two conferences, whereby agenda items requiring long periods of study can be foreseen for a future conference, while those that may be studied within two to three years can be placed on the agenda for the first conference in the cycle;

c) that the strategic plan highlights a strategy aimed at more efficient world radiocommunication conferences;

d) that No. 126 of the Convention requires a WRC to estimate the financial implications of its proposed agenda,

*resolves*

1 that world radiocommunication conference preparations and administration, including budgetary appropriations, should be planned on the basis of two consecutive world radiocommunication conferences: a WRC shall propose the draft agenda of the next WRC and a provisional agenda for the second WRC;

2 to support the regional harmonization of common proposals, as stated in Resolution 72 (Rev. WRC-2000), for submission to world radiocommunication conferences;

3 to encourage both formal and informal collaboration in the interval between conferences with a view to resolving differences on items already on the agenda of a conference or new items;

4 that administrations, when proposing specific agenda items for WRC, should to the extent possible include some indication of the possible financial and resource implications (preparatory studies and decision implementation), to which effect they may request the assistance of the Radiocommunication Bureau,

*instructs the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau*

to study, with advice from the Radiocommunication Advisory Group, ways of improving the preparations for, and the structure and organization of, world radiocommunication conferences, for consideration by WRC,

*further instructs the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau*

1 to consult with Member States and regional and subregional telecommunication organizations on the means by which assistance can be provided in support of their preparations for future WRCs;

2 on the basis of such consultations and in collaboration with the Telecommunication Development Bureau, to assist Member States and regional and subregional telecommunication organizations in the organization of information sessions, and of formal and informal regional and interregional preparatory meetings in their respective regions and at conference venues;

3 to submit to the Council a report on the application of *further instructs the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau 2* above,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

to encourage the participation of all Member States and Sector Members in addressing this issue.

## RESOLUTION 86 (REV. MARRAKESH, 2002)

**Advance publication, coordination, notification and recording procedures for frequency assignments pertaining to satellite networks**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Marrakesh, 2002),

*considering*

- a)* that the Voluntary Group of Experts (VGE) created to study allocation and improved use of the radio-frequency spectrum and the simplification of the Radio Regulations proposed changes to the Radio Regulations, including the coordination and notification procedures for satellite networks, with the aim of simplifying the procedures;
- b)* that Resolution 18 (Kyoto, 1994) of the Plenipotentiary Conference instructed the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau (BR) to initiate a review of some issues concerning international satellite network coordination;
- c)* that the World Radiocommunication Conference (Geneva, 1997) adopted changes to the Radio Regulations that entered into force 1 January 1999;
- d)* that the coordination and notification procedures for satellite networks are the foundation for discharging the ITU's role and mandate in space telecommunication matters;
- e)* that the scope of application of this resolution has already been extended beyond its intended objectives;
- f)* that there are no criteria for how this resolution is to be applied in order to properly achieve the objectives set forth therein,

*considering further*

that it is important that these procedures be kept as current and simple as possible in order to reduce the cost for administrations and BR,

*noting*

a) that all matters relating to administrative due diligence are covered in Resolution 85 (Minneapolis, 1998) of the Plenipotentiary Conference and Resolution 49 (Rev. WRC-2000) of the World Radiocommunication Conference;

b) Resolution 80 (Rev. WRC-2000) of the World Radiocommunication Conference, regarding due diligence in applying the principles embodied in the ITU Constitution,

*resolves to request the 2003 and subsequent world radiocommunication conferences*

to review and update the advance publication, coordination, notification and recording procedures for frequency assignments pertaining to satellite networks, including the associated technical characteristics, and the related appendices of the Radio Regulations, so as to:

- i) facilitate, in accordance with Article 44 of the Constitution, the rational, efficient, and economical use of radio frequencies and any associated orbits, including the geostationary-satellite orbit, in conformity with the provisions of the Radio Regulations, so that countries or groups of countries may have equitable access to those orbits and frequencies, taking into account the special needs of the developing countries and the geographical situation of particular countries;
- ii) ensure that these procedures, characteristics and appendices reflect the latest technologies;
- iii) achieve simplification and cost savings for BR and administrations,

*further resolves to request the 2003 World Radiocommunication Conference*

to determine the scope and the criteria to be used for the implementation of this resolution.



## RESOLUTION 89 (MINNEAPOLIS, 1998)

**Coping with the decreased use  
of international telex service**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Minneapolis, 1998),

*considering*

a) that the number of subscribers to the international telex service is decreasing due to the introduction of more convenient means, such as Internet, facsimile and SWIFT, made possible by technological advancements;

b) that the World Telecommunication Development Report issued by ITU in 1998 shows that the number of telex subscribers worldwide has decreased by about 15% (compound annual rate) over the period 1990-1996,

*noting*

a) that measures need to be taken to cope with the decrease in the use of the international telex service, which was once the only worldwide text service available;

b) that countries may have different schedules for suspending the use of international telex services,

*resolves to instruct the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau*

1 to conduct a survey, to be updated regularly, on the decrease in the use of the international telex service and assess when it may become possible for the international telex service to be replaced by new means of telecommunication;

2 to study measures, in collaboration with the Telecommunication Development Bureau, to assist developing countries in expediting the changeover from the international telex service to more modern means of telecommunication;

3 to also study practical steps – for example work to encourage interoperability between telex networks and IP networks, which could be of particular value to those countries which have inherited extensive telex networks – and the application of other low-bandwidth data technology;

4 to submit a report to the Council for review and action.

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*(Minneapolis, 1998)*

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## RESOLUTION 91 (REV. GUADALAJARA, 2010)

**Cost recovery for some ITU products and services**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Guadalajara, 2010),

*considering*

*a)* that the examination of options for strengthening the financial base of the Union has been endorsed by previous plenipotentiary conferences, including reducing costs, more effective allocation of resources, ranking of activities according to the objectives of the strategic plan, wider participation of entities other than Member States and, where appropriate, charging fees for ITU services, particularly where these services are sought on a discretionary basis or to a greater extent than the level of facilities generally provided;

*b)* that ITU Council Resolution 1210 instructed the Secretary-General to establish a cost-accounting process that results in the cost of individual ITU projects and activities being identifiable and auditable, such a process being essential for the development of an accurate activities-based budget and for implementing cost recovery;

*c)* that solidarity among Member States and Sector Members in sharing equitably in the defrayal of financial obligations should continue to be an important principle for the financial base of the Union;

*d)* that the Union has developed a contributory system in which some Member States have voluntarily assumed a large share of financial support for the Union's core activities, from which all Member States benefit, although the importance of those activities may be weighted differently by different Member States,

*noting*

a) the results-based budgeting concept that has been developed and implemented as from the 2006-2007 budget of the Union, in line with Council Resolution 1216;

b) that the Plenipotentiary Conference (Minneapolis, 1998) decided to implement operational planning in the three Sectors and the General Secretariat, in order to link financial planning and the strategic plan, by adopting Resolution 72 (Minneapolis, 1998), which was subsequently amended by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Marrakesh, 2002), by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006) and by this conference;

c) the adoption, by Council Decision 535, of a cost-allocation methodology which provides accuracy in the cost-accounting process and in the allocation of costs to outputs, through the design and implementation of a time-tracking system, and enables the full costs of activities and outputs to be identified, including, *inter alia*, the costs of development and the costs of production, sales, marketing and distribution;

d) the role of the Council in establishing safeguards and controls on income and expenditure when adopting biennial budgets and when reviewing annual operational plans and financial operating reports,

*recognizing*

a) that the application of cost-recovery mechanisms are specific to the relevant business processes of the various products and services subject to cost recovery;

b) that the methodology applied to the implementation of cost recovery for satellite network filings is set by Council Decision 482 (modified 2008) (Document C08/103);

c) that cost-recovery charges for products and services are segregated to the specific product or service, covering direct and indirect costs of providing the product or service to which they relate, and should not be considered as generating profit from members;

d) that limits on indirect cost allocations should be applied since, despite best efforts to define a fair cost-allocation methodology as referred to in *noting c)* above, it is not possible to guarantee that such a methodology will always result in a reasonable level of allocation of indirect costs for a given product or service;

e) that cost recovery can be a means of promoting efficiency by discouraging unnecessary or wasteful use of products and services;

f) that non-payment of invoices issued for products and services subject to cost recovery has a negative impact on the financial state of the Union,

*resolves*

1 to continue to endorse the use of cost recovery on a prepaid basis, to the maximum extent possible, as a means of funding the products and services of the Union for which the cost-recovery approach is adopted;

2 that further application of cost recovery should be considered by the Council, and, if appropriate, implemented:

i) for new ITU products and services;

ii) for products and services recommended by a conference or assembly of a Sector;

iii) in such other cases as the Council will consider appropriate;

3 that, when the Council is addressing the application of cost recovery for a particular product or service, the following factors shall continue to be taken into account:

i) when a product or service is provided for the benefit of a limited number of Member States or Sector Members;

ii) when a product or service is requested to a significantly greater extent by a small number of users;

iii) when products or services are requested on a discretionary basis;

4 that cost recovery should be implemented by the Council in a way which:

- i) ensures that direct and indirect costs of providing products and services are recovered as referred to in *noting c)* above;
- ii) allows for open and transparent accounting for costs and receipts;
- iii) provides a means of adjusting the charge for the product or service based on direct and indirect costs in accordance with *noting c)* above;
- iv) provides for a methodology that lists all the specific indirect costs which can contribute to the overall cost of the product or service;
- v) provides for an upper limit on the level of indirect costs to be allocated to a product or service, in terms of a globally defined maximum percentage of the fixed costs not to be exceeded;
- vi) takes account of the special needs of developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economics in transition, to ensure that cost recovery is not an impediment to the development of telecommunication services or networks in those countries;
- vii) allows all Member States an adequate level of the product or service free of charge, where appropriate;
- viii) ensures that charges are not applied to products or services requested prior to the date of the decision by the Council or the Plenipotentiary Conference to apply cost recovery;
- ix) allows for relevant products and services to be delivered in the most efficient and cost-effective manner, taking into account best practices from other relevant international organizations where appropriate,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

in consultation with the Directors of the Bureaux, Member States and Sector Members,

- 1 to continue considering and recommending a set of criteria for the application of cost recovery, consistent with, but not limited to, *resolves* 1, 2, 3 and 4 above;
- 2 to define the products and services for cost recovery and propose additional products and services to which the cost-recovery approach may be applied;
- 3 to determine the cost structure of each product and service for cost recovery;
- 4 to establish procedures and mechanisms for implementing prepayment for products and services subject to cost recovery, including invoicing, to be considered and approved by the Council;
- 5 to prepare a report for consideration at each annual session of the Council, including further actions which may be required for the implementation of cost recovery in order to allow for an increase of revenue in line with Resolution 158 (Antalya, 2006) of the Plenipotentiary Conference,

*instructs the Council*

- 1 to continue considering the report and the proposals of the Secretary-General and adopt new criteria or modifications to the previous criteria for the application of cost recovery in a manner consistent with *resolves* 1, 2, 3 and 4 above;
- 2 to continue considering, on a case by case basis, products and services which meet the criteria referred to above, and decide which products and services should be subject to cost recovery;
- 3 to continue developing appropriate charges based on full attribution of the costs of providing the service;

- 4 to continue implementing appropriate arrangements to meet the needs of developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition;
- 5 to continue promoting efficiency in the delivery of and payment for products and services which are subject to cost-recovery charges;
- 6 to ensure that any shortfall in income is properly managed, by reviewing annually the actual performance of activities subject to cost recovery, so that timely corrective measures can be taken, as appropriate;
- 7 to improve the forecasting of cost-recovery income by using the results-based budgeting framework, time-tracking system and cost-allocation methodology;
- 8 to continue amending the Financial Regulations as required in order to enable the implementation of cost recovery and ensure accountability and accuracy;
- 9 to report to the subsequent plenipotentiary conference on action taken to implement this resolution.

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*(Minneapolis, 1998) – (Rev. Antalya, 2006) – (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010)*

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## RESOLUTION 94 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Auditing of the accounts of the Union**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*considering*

a) that the External Auditor for the years 2010 and 2011, member of the United Nations Panel of External Auditors, and appointed by the Government of the Confederation of Switzerland, audited the Union's accounts for the years 2010 and 2011 most carefully, competently and accurately;

b) that, following an open, fair and transparent selection and appointment process, the Italian Supreme Court of Audit, appointed for a term of four years by the ITU Council at its 2012 session, audited the accounts for the years 2012 and 2013 most carefully, competently and accurately,

*recognizing*

that only the Plenipotentiary Conference can make the decision regarding the appointment of the external auditor,

*resolves to express*

its warmest thanks and deepest gratitude to the Government of the Confederation of Switzerland and to the Italian Supreme Court of Audit for the auditing of the Union's accounts,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

1 to bring this resolution to the notice of the Government of the Confederation of Switzerland and of the President of the Italian Supreme Court of Audit;

2 to propose to the Council a renewal of the mandate of the Italian Supreme Court of Audit, or initiate, if considered appropriate by the Council, tendering arrangements for the selection of the external auditor, and to report back to the Council;

3 to publish on an annual basis, and after their consideration by the Council, the reports of the external auditor, on a publicly accessible page of the Union's website.

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*(Minneapolis, 1998) – (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002) – (Rev. Antalya, 2006) –  
(Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) – (Rev. Busan, 2014)*

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## RESOLUTION 96 (MINNEAPOLIS, 1998)

### **Introduction of a long-term care insurance scheme in the Union**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Minneapolis, 1998),

*recalling*

a) Article 20 of the Headquarters Agreement of 22 July 1971 between the Swiss Federal Council and the Union under which ITU has to provide its staff with a social protection coverage equivalent to the one in force in the host country;

b) that the current health provisions of the United Nations organizations do not allow for payments for long-term care;

c) its commitment to the welfare of the Union's staff;

d) the study by the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (CCAQ) – (Personnel and General Administrative Questions) and the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) on the possibility of introducing an affordable long-term care insurance in the United Nations common system,

*considering*

a) that, before and after retirement, some international civil servants may be excluded from their national social security arrangements;

b) that life expectancy is increasing rapidly and most of those surviving into old age will have some degree of handicap,

*resolves to instruct the Secretary-General*

- 1 to consult the executive heads of other United Nations common system organizations regarding their interest in the possible introduction of a long-term care insurance in their organizations, comprising a mandatory low-premium component and a voluntary component, as proposed by CCAQ and ACC;
- 2 to compile and prepare appropriate data regarding the possible introduction of a long-term care insurance, comprising a mandatory low-premium component and a voluntary component, as proposed by CCAQ and ACC, and in particular, regarding the cost of such an insurance for the Union and for the participant staff members;
- 3 to report to the next Council session on the outcome of deliberations in ACC on the above-mentioned proposal and other progress made with respect to this resolution.

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*(Minneapolis, 1998)*

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## RESOLUTION 98 (MINNEAPOLIS, 1998)

**The use of telecommunications for the safety and security of humanitarian personnel in the field**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Minneapolis, 1998),

*recognizing*

that, in fulfilling their duties, humanitarian personnel are frequently exposed to a high degree of risk,

*gravely concerned*

about the increasing number of tragic incidents of injury or loss of life involving humanitarian personnel in the field,

*noting*

a) the provisions of Nos. 9, 17 and 191 of the Constitution of the International Telecommunication Union which state, respectively, that the Union is to promote, at the international level, the adoption of a broader approach to the issues of telecommunications in the global information economy and society by cooperating with other organizations; that the Union shall in particular promote the adoption of measures for ensuring the safety of life through the cooperation of telecommunication services; and that international telecommunication services must give absolute priority to all telecommunications concerning safety of life;

b) the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations which recalls the essential role of telecommunication resources in facilitating the safety of humanitarian relief and assistance personnel;

c) the Convention on the Safety and Security of United Nations and Associated Personnel, adopted by the 49th session of the United Nations General Assembly, laying down principles and duties to ensure the safety and security of United Nations and associated personnel,

*convinced*

that the unhindered use of telecommunication equipment and services can greatly improve the safety and security of humanitarian personnel in the field,

*recalling*

a) Resolution 644 of the World Radiocommunication Conference (Geneva, 1997) which recognizes the vital role of telecommunications for the safety and security of relief workers in the field;

b) Resolution 19 of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (Valletta, 1998) which recognizes the vital role of telecommunications for the safety and security of relief workers in the field,

*desiring*

to ensure the full application of telecommunication technology and services for the safety and security of humanitarian personnel,

*resolves to instruct the Secretary-General*

to study the possibilities for increased use of telecommunications for the safety and security of humanitarian personnel in the field and to report to the Council at its 1999 session,

*instructs the Council*

to address the issue of the use of telecommunications for the safety and security of humanitarian personnel in the field and to take appropriate actions to improve that use,

*urges Member States*

to ensure that humanitarian personnel have unhindered and uninterrupted use of telecommunication resources required for their safety and security in accordance with the national rules and regulations of the States concerned.

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*(Minneapolis, 1998)*

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## RESOLUTION 99 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Status of Palestine in ITU**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

- a) the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- b) Resolution 67/19 of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), which decides to accord to Palestine non-member observer State status in the United Nations and the Palestinian request dated 12 December 2012 to use the term "State of Palestine" following adoption of that UNGA resolution;
- c) that recognition of a State is a matter of national decision;
- d) Resolutions 32 (Kyoto, 1994) and 125 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;
- e) Resolution 18 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference;
- f) that Nos 6 and 7 of Article 1 of the ITU Constitution provide "*to promote the extension of the benefits of the new telecommunication technologies to all the world's inhabitants*" and "*to promote the use of telecommunication services with the objective of facilitating peaceful relations*",

*considering*

- a) that the basic instruments of the Union have as a purpose to strengthen peace and security in the world by means of international cooperation and better understanding among peoples;
- b) that, to achieve the above purpose, ITU needs to have a universal character,



*considering further*

- a) the outcomes of both the Geneva (2003) and Tunis (2005) phases of the World Summit on the Information Society;
- b) the participation of Palestine in the Regional Radiocommunication Conference (Geneva, 2006), and the acceptance of Palestinian requirements in the digital broadcasting plan, subject to its notifying the ITU Secretary-General that it accepts the rights and commits to observe the obligations arising therefrom;
- c) successive developments and changes in the information and communication technology sector under the responsibility of the Palestinian Authority, towards restructuring and liberalization of the sector and competition;
- d) that the State of Palestine is a member of the League of Arab States, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, the Non-Aligned Movement, the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO);
- e) that many, but not all, ITU Member States recognize the State of Palestine,

*bearing in mind*

the basic principles in the Preamble to the Constitution,

*resolves*

that, pending any further change in the current status of the State of Palestine as observer in ITU, the following shall apply:

1 the provisions of the Administrative Regulations, and related resolutions and recommendations, shall be applied to the Palestinian Authority in the same manner as they are applied to administrations as defined in No.1002 of the Constitution, and the General Secretariat and the three Bureaux shall act accordingly, in particular in relation to international access code, call signs and the processing of frequency assignment notifications;

2 the delegation of the State of Palestine shall participate in all ITU conferences, assemblies and meetings, including treaty-making conferences, with the following additional rights:

- the right to raise points of order;
- the right to submit proposals, except proposals to amend the Constitution, the Convention and the General Rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union;
- the right to participate in debates;
- the right to be included on the list of speakers under any agenda item, subject to the provisions of the second indent above;
- the right of reply;
- the right to attend the heads of delegation meeting;
- the right to request the verbatim insertion of any declaration made during the course of the debates;
- the right to provide chairmen and vice-chairmen of technical meetings and groups, including study group meetings and subgroup meetings;

3 the Palestinian delegation shall be seated among the delegations of Member States in the French alphabetical order;

4 Palestinian operating agencies, scientific or industrial organizations and financial and development institutions dealing with telecommunication matters may apply directly to the Secretary-General to participate in the activities of the Union as Sector Members or Associates, and said requests will be duly acted upon,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

1 to ensure the implementation of this resolution and all other resolutions adopted by plenipotentiary conferences on Palestine, particularly decisions relating to international access code and processing of frequency assignment notifications, and to report periodically to the ITU Council on progress in these matters;

2 to coordinate activities of the three Sectors of the Union in accordance with *resolves* above in order to ensure maximum effectiveness of actions taken by the Union in favour of the State of Palestine and to report progress in these matters to the next session of the Council and the next plenipotentiary conference.

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*(Minneapolis, 1998) – (Rev. Antalya, 2006) – (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) – (Rev. Busan, 2014)*

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## RESOLUTION 100 (MINNEAPOLIS, 1998)

### **Role of the Secretary-General of ITU as depositary for memoranda of understanding**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Minneapolis, 1998),

*considering*

*a)* that one of the purposes of the Union as set out in Article 1 of the Constitution is to maintain and extend international cooperation between all its Member States for the improvement and rational use of telecommunications of all kinds;

*b)* that another purpose of the Union is to promote, at the international level, the adoption of a broader approach to the issues of telecommunications in the global information economy and society, by cooperating with other world and regional intergovernmental organizations and those non-governmental organizations concerned with telecommunications,

*noting*

that cooperative multilateral action in the field of telecommunications is increasingly being achieved through the conclusion of memoranda of understanding ("MoUs"), which are generally non-binding instruments used to reflect international consensus on a matter, and in which both Member States and Sector Members may participate,

*appreciating*

the successful implementation of the MoU on global mobile personal communications by satellite (GMPCS), which is open to Member States, Sector Members and other telecommunication entities to sign, and the role of the Secretary-General as depositary for that MoU, as approved by Council,

*observing*

that the Secretary-General has recently received a number of requests to serve as depositary for other MoUs that relate to telecommunications,

*believing*

that the Secretary-General's role as depositary for any MoU must follow established criteria and guidelines and must be in line with the general practices of the United Nations system,

*instructs the Council*

1 to formulate criteria and guidelines for the Secretary-General to respond to requests to serve as depositary for MoUs, based on the following principles:

- a) that any involvement of the Secretary-General in this capacity should contribute to and be within the purposes of the Union as set forth in Article 1 of the Constitution;
- b) that such involvement be on the basis of cost recovery;
- c) that interested Member States and Sector Members will be kept informed of the activities of the Secretary-General in serving as depositary of the MoUs and will not be restricted from joining relevant MoUs;
- d) that the sovereignty and rights of ITU Member States are fully respected and preserved;

2 to implement a mechanism to review the Secretary-General's activities in these matters;

3 to report on the application of this resolution to the next plenipotentiary conference,

*resolves*

that in keeping with the criteria and guidelines to be established by the Council, the Secretary-General may, with the approval of the Council, serve as depositary for MoUs that relate to telecommunications and that are in the overall interest of the Union.

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*(Minneapolis, 1998)*

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## RESOLUTION 101 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Internet Protocol-based networks**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

- a) Resolution 101 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;
- b) Resolutions 102, 130, 133 and 180 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference;
- c) the outcomes of the Geneva (2003) and Tunis (2005) phases of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), especially §§ 27 c) and 50 d) of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, relating to international Internet connectivity;
- d) that the WSIS+10 High-Level Event (Geneva, 2014), in its Statement on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes and the WSIS Vision Beyond 2015, determined that one of the priority areas to be addressed by the Post-2015 Development Agenda must be: "Encouraging the full deployment of IPv6 to ensure the long-term sustainability of the addressing space, including in light of future developments in the Internet of Things";
- e) No. 196 of the ITU Convention, which stipulates that telecommunication standardization study groups shall pay due attention to the study of questions and to the formulation of recommendations directly connected with the establishment, development and improvement of telecommunications in developing countries<sup>1</sup> at both the regional and international levels;

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

- f)* Resolution 23 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on Internet access and availability for developing countries and charging principles for international Internet connection;
- g)* Resolution 69 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on non-discriminatory access and use of Internet resources;
- h)* Recommendation ITU-T D.50, on general tariff principles – principles applicable to international Internet connection;
- i)* Resolution 64 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of WTSA, on IP address allocation and facilitating the transition to and deployment of IPv6;
- j)* United Nations General Assembly Resolution 68/302, on the review of WSIS;
- k)* Opinion 1 (Geneva, 2013) of the World Telecommunication/Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Policy Forum (WTPF), on promoting Internet exchange points (IXPs) as a long-term solution to advance connectivity;
- l)* Opinion 2 (Geneva, 2013) of WTPF, on fostering an enabling environment for the greater growth and development of broadband connectivity;
- m)* Opinion 3 (Geneva, 2013) of WTPF, on supporting capacity building for the deployment of IPv6;
- n)* Opinion 4 (Geneva, 2013) of WTPF, in support of IPv6 adoption and transition from IPv4;
- o)* Opinion 5 (Geneva, 2013) of WTPF, on supporting multistakeholderism in Internet governance;
- p)* Opinion 6 (Geneva, 2013) of WTPF, on supporting operationalizing the enhanced cooperation process,



*aware*

- a) that one of the purposes of the Union is to promote the extension of new telecommunication technologies to all the world's inhabitants;
- b) that, in order to fulfil its purposes, the Union should, among other things, facilitate the worldwide standardization of telecommunications, with a satisfactory quality of service,

*considering*

- a) that advances in the global information infrastructure, including the development of Internet Protocol (IP)-based networks and especially the Internet, and future IP developments, continue to be an issue of crucial importance, as an important engine for growth in the world economy and prosperity in the twenty-first century;
- b) the need for preserving and promoting multilingualism on the Internet for an integrating and inclusive information society;
- c) that the Internet permits the introduction of new additional applications in telecommunication/ICT services based on its highly advanced technology, e.g. steady progress in adopting cloud computing, and that e-mail and text messaging, voice over IP, video and real-time TV (IPTV) over the Internet continue to record high levels of use, even though there are challenges regarding quality of service, uncertainty of origin and the high cost of international connectivity;
- d) that current and future IP-based networks and future IP developments will continue to introduce dramatic changes in the way we acquire, produce, circulate and consume information;
- e) that broadband development and rising demand for Internet access being experienced particularly in developing countries lead to the need for affordable international Internet connectivity;

f) that Resolution 23 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC noted "that the composition of costs for operators, whether regional or local, is in part, significantly dependent on the type of connection (transit or peering) and the availability and cost of backhaul and long-haul infrastructure", as it relates to developing countries;

g) that Opinion 1 (Geneva, 2013) of WTPF deems that the establishment of Internet exchange points (IXPs) is a priority to tackle connectivity problems, improve service quality and increase network connectivity and resilience, fostering competition and reducing interconnection costs;

h) that results of studies on international Internet connection costs, especially for developing countries, should continue to be examined in order to improve affordable Internet connectivity;

i) Resolution 1 (Dubai, 2012) of the World Conference on International Telecommunications (WCIT), on special measures for landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and small island developing States (SIDS) for access to international optical fibre networks,

*considering further*

a) that the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) has made significant progress and carried out several studies on the promotion of infrastructure and the use of the Internet in developing countries under its 2010 Hyderabad Action Plan, through human capacity-building efforts such as its Internet training centre initiative, and through the outcomes of the WTDC-14 Dubai Action Plan, which endorsed the continuation of these studies,

b) that studies are ongoing in the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) on IP-based network issues, including service interoperability with other telecommunication networks, numbering, signalling requirements and protocol aspects, security and infrastructure component costs, issues associated with migration from existing networks to next-generation networks (NGN) and evolution to future networks, and implementation of the requirements of Recommendation ITU-T D.50;

c) that the general cooperation agreement between ITU-T and the Internet Society (ISOC)/Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), as referred to in Supplement 3 to the ITU-T Series A recommendations, continues to exist,

*recognizing*

a) that IP-based networks have evolved to a widely accessible medium used for global commerce and communication, and there is therefore a need to continue to identify the global and regional activities related to IP-based networks with respect to, for example:

- i) infrastructure, interoperability and standardization;
- ii) Internet naming and addressing;
- iii) dissemination of information about IP-based networks and the implications of their development for ITU Member States, particularly the developing countries;

b) that significant work on IP-related issues and the future Internet is being conducted within ITU and many other international bodies;

c) that the quality of service of IP-based networks should be consistent with ITU-T recommendations and other recognized international standards;

d) that it is in the public interest that IP-based networks and other telecommunication networks should be both interoperable and provide global reachability, bearing in mind *recognizing c)* above,

*requests the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector*

to continue its collaborative activities on IP-based networks with ISOC/IETF and other relevant recognized organizations, in respect of interconnectivity with existing telecommunication networks and migration to NGN and future networks,

*requests the three Sectors*

to continue to consider and update their work programmes on IP-based networks and on migration to NGN and future networks,

*resolves*

1 to explore ways and means for greater collaboration and coordination between ITU and relevant organizations<sup>2</sup> involved in the development of IP-based networks and the future Internet, through cooperation agreements, as appropriate, in order to increase the role of ITU in Internet governance so as to ensure maximum benefits to the global community;

2 that ITU shall fully embrace the opportunities for telecommunication/ICT development that arise from the growth of IP-based services, in conformity with the Union's purposes and the outcomes of the Geneva (2003) and Tunis (2005) phases of WSIS, taking into account the quality and security of services and the affordability of international connectivity for developing countries, especially for LLDCs and SIDS;

3 that ITU shall clearly identify, for its Member States and Sector Members and for the general public, the range of Internet-related issues that fall within the responsibilities incumbent on the Union under its basic texts and the activities in the WSIS outcome documents where ITU has a role;

4 that ITU shall continue to collaborate with other relevant organizations to ensure that growth in IP-based networks, along with and taking into consideration traditional networks, delivers maximum benefits to the global community, and shall continue to participate, as appropriate, in any directly related new international initiatives, such as the initiative in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on the United Nations Broadband Commission for Digital Development formed for this purpose;

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<sup>2</sup> Including, but not limited to, the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), the regional Internet registries (RIRs), the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), the Internet Society (ISOC) and the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C), on the basis of reciprocity.

5 to continue the study of international Internet connectivity as an urgent matter, as called for in § 50d) of the Tunis Agenda (2005), and to call upon ITU-T, in particular Study Group 3, which has responsibility for Recommendation ITU-T D.50 and which has compiled an initial set of guidelines in Supplement 2 to Recommendation ITU-T D.50 (05/2013), to complete as soon as possible its studies that have been ongoing since WTSA-2000;

6 to take into account the provisions of Resolution 23 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, in particular undertaking studies on the structure of international Internet connection costs for developing countries, with emphasis on the influence and effects of the connection mode (transit and peering), secure cross-border connectivity and the availability and cost of backhaul and long-haul physical infrastructure,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

1 to prepare an annual report to the ITU Council with the appropriate input from Member States, Sector Members, the three Sectors and the General Secretariat, that provides a comprehensive summary both of the activities that ITU is already undertaking in regard to IP-based networks and any changes thereto, including the development of NGNs and future networks, and of the roles and activities of other relevant international organizations, describing their involvement in IP-based network issues; the report shall indicate the degree of cooperation between ITU and these organizations, drawing the required information wherever possible from existing sources, and containing concrete proposals on improving ITU activities and such cooperation, and shall be distributed widely among the Member States and Sector Members, the advisory groups of the three Sectors and other groups involved one month before the Council session;

2 based on this report, to continue collaborative activities related to IP-based networks, especially those related to the implementation of the relevant outcomes of the two phases of WSIS (Geneva, 2003 and Tunis, 2005), and to consider the WSIS+10 Statement on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes adopted at the ITU-coordinated High-Level Event;

3 to submit a report, based on input from Member States and Sector Members, to the Council, for its consideration, on the need to convene the sixth WTPF at an appropriate time pursuant to Resolution 2 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

to provide capacity building to developing countries, including LDCs, SIDS and LLDCs, in order to connect the unconnected, including through provision of the necessary assistance by the ITU regional offices to achieve this goal,

*invites the Council*

to consider the report referred to in *instructs the Secretary-General 3*, take into account comments, if any, made by the advisory groups of the three Sectors through their respective Bureau Directors on implementation of this resolution, and take necessary action, as appropriate,

*invites Member States and Sector Members*

1 to participate in, and follow the progress of, the current work of the Sectors of the Union;

2 to increase awareness at national, regional and international level among all interested non-governmental parties and to facilitate their participation in relevant ITU activities, and in any other relevant activities emanating from the Geneva (2003) and Tunis (2005) phases of WSIS.

## RESOLUTION 102 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**ITU's role with regard to international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet and the management of Internet resources, including domain names and addresses**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

- a) relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA);
- b) the outcome documents of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event;
- c) the results of the World Telecommunication/Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Policy Forum in regard to issues related to Resolutions 101, 102 and 133 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference;
- d) Resolutions 47, 48, 49, 50, 52, 64, 69 and 75 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA),

*recognizing*

- a) all relevant resolutions of the Plenipotentiary Conference;
- b) all relevant outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS);
- c) Internet-related activities of ITU, undertaken within its mandate with respect to the implementation of this resolution and other relevant ITU resolutions,

*considering*

- a) that the purposes of the Union are, *inter alia*, to promote, at the international level, the adoption of a broad approach to the issues of telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) in the global information economy and society, to promote the extension of the benefits of new telecommunication technologies to all the world's inhabitants and to harmonize the efforts of Member States and Sector Members in the attainment of those ends;

*b)* the need for preserving and promoting multilingualism on the Internet for an integrating and inclusive information society;

*c)* that advances in the global information infrastructure, including the development of Internet Protocol (IP)-based networks and the Internet, taking into account the requirements, features and interoperability of next-generation networks (NGN) and future networks, are of crucial importance as an important engine for growth in the world economy in the twenty-first century;

*d)* that the development of the Internet is essentially market-led and driven by private and government initiatives;

*e)* that the private sector continues to play a very important role in the expansion and development of the Internet, for example through investments in infrastructures and services;

*f)* that the public sector and public-private and regional initiatives continue to play a very important role in the expansion and development of the Internet, for example through investments in infrastructures and services;

*g)* that management of the registration and allocation of Internet domain names and addresses must fully reflect the geographical nature of the Internet, taking into account an equitable balance of interests of all stakeholders;

*h)* the role played by ITU in the successful organization of the two phases of WSIS, and that the Geneva Declaration of Principles and the Geneva Plan of Action, adopted in 2003, and the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, adopted in 2005, have been endorsed by UNGA;

*i)* that the management of the Internet is a subject of valid international interest and must flow from full international and multistakeholder cooperation on the basis of the outcomes of the two phases of WSIS;



j) that, as stated in the WSIS outcomes, all governments should have an equal role and responsibility for international Internet governance and for ensuring the stability, security and continuity of the existing Internet and its future development and of the future Internet, and that the need for development of public policy by governments in consultation with all stakeholders is also recognized;

k) work being carried out by the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) relevant to this resolution,

*recognizing further*

a) that ITU is dealing with technical and policy issues related to IP-based networks, including the existing Internet and evolution to NGN as well as studies into the future Internet;

b) that ITU performs worldwide coordination of a number of radiocommunication-related and telecommunication-related resource allocation systems and acts as a forum for policy discussion in this area;

c) that significant effort has been put in by ITU on ENUM, ".int", internationalized domain name (IDN), and country code top-level domain (ccTLD) issues through workshops and standardization activities;

d) that ITU has published a comprehensive and useful Handbook on Internet Protocol (IP)-based networks and related topics and Issues;

e) §§ 71 and 78a) of the Tunis Agenda with regard to the establishment of enhanced cooperation on Internet governance and the establishment of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF), as two distinct processes;

f) the relevant WSIS outcomes in §§ 29-82 of the Tunis Agenda concerning Internet governance;

g) that ITU should be encouraged to facilitate cooperation with all stakeholders as referred to in § 35 of the Tunis Agenda;

h) that Member States represent the interests of the population of the country or territory for which a ccTLD has been delegated;

i) that countries should not be involved in decisions regarding another country's ccTLD,

*emphasizing*

a) that the management of the Internet encompasses both technical and public policy issues and should involve all stakeholders and relevant intergovernmental and international organizations in accordance with §§ 35a) – e) of the Tunis Agenda;

b) that the role of governments includes providing a clear, consistent and predictable legal framework, in order to promote a favourable environment in which global ICT networks are interoperable with Internet networks and widely accessible to all citizens without any discrimination and to ensure adequate protection of public interests in the management of Internet resources, including domain names and addresses;

c) that WSIS recognized the need for enhanced cooperation in the future, to enable governments, on an equal footing, to carry out their roles and responsibilities, in international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet, but not in the day-to-day technical and operational matters that do not impact on international public policy issues;

d) that ITU, for its part, has started the process towards enhanced cooperation as one of the relevant organizations referred to in § 71 of the Tunis Agenda, and that the Council Working Group on international Internet-related public policy issues (CWG-Internet) should continue its work on Internet-related public policy issues;

e) that ITU can play a positive role by offering all interested parties a platform for encouraging discussions and for the dissemination of information on the management of Internet domain names and addresses and other Internet resources within the mandate of ITU,

*noting*

a) that CWG-Internet has furthered the objectives of Resolution 75 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) regarding public policy issues pertaining to the Internet;

- b) Resolutions 1305, 1336 and 1344 adopted by the ITU Council;
- c) that CWG-Internet shall include in its work all relevant decisions of this conference and all other resolutions relevant to the work of the group as stated in Council Resolution 1305 and the annex thereto;
- d) the continued importance of openness and transparency in the development of international Internet public policy issues in line with § 35 of the Tunis Agenda;
- e) the need for development of international Internet public policy by governments in consultation with all stakeholders;
- f) ongoing activities in relevant ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) and ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) study groups relevant to this resolution,

*resolves*

- 1 to explore ways and means for greater collaboration and coordination between ITU and relevant organizations<sup>1</sup> involved in the development of IP-based networks and the future Internet, through cooperation agreements, as appropriate, in order to increase the role of ITU in Internet governance so as to ensure maximum benefits to the global community;
- 2 that the sovereign and legitimate interests, as expressed and defined by each country, in diverse ways, regarding decisions affecting their ccTLDs, need to be respected and ensured, upheld and addressed via flexible and improved frameworks and mechanisms;

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<sup>1</sup> Including, but not limited to, the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), the regional Internet registries (RIRs), the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), the Internet Society (ISOC) and the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C), on the basis of reciprocity.

3 to continue to undertake activities on international Internet related public policy issues within ITU's mandate, including in CWG-Internet, in collaboration and cooperation with relevant organizations and stakeholders, as appropriate, with special attention to the needs of developing countries<sup>2</sup>;

4 to continue the CWG-Internet activities as listed in the relevant Council resolutions,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

1 to continue to take a significant role in international discussions and initiatives on the management of Internet domain names and addresses and other Internet resources within the mandate of ITU, taking into account future developments of the Internet, the purposes of the Union and the interests of its membership as expressed in its instruments, resolutions and decisions;

2 to take the necessary steps for ITU to continue to play a facilitating role in the coordination of international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet, as expressed in §35d) of the Tunis Agenda, interacting as necessary with other intergovernmental organizations in these domains;

3 in line with § 78a) of the Tunis Agenda, to continue to contribute as appropriate to the work of IGF, should the mandate of the IGF be extended by UNGA;

4 to continue to take the necessary steps for ITU to play an active and constructive role in the process towards enhanced cooperation as expressed in § 71 of the Tunis Agenda;

5 to continue to take the necessary steps in ITU's own internal process towards enhanced cooperation on international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet as expressed in § 71 of the Tunis Agenda, involving all stakeholders, in their respective roles and responsibilities;

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<sup>2</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

6 to report annually to the Council on the activities undertaken on these subjects and to submit proposals as appropriate, and, after the endorsement of this report by Member States through consultation procedures in force, to submit the report to the Secretary-General of the United Nations;

7 to continue to disseminate, as appropriate, the reports of CWG-Internet to all relevant international organizations and stakeholders actively involved in such matters for their consideration in their policy-making processes,

*instructs the Directors of the Bureaux*

1 to contribute to CWG-Internet concerning the activities undertaken by their Bureaux which are relevant to the work of the group;

2 to provide assistance, within the Union's expertise, and within available resources, as appropriate, in cooperation with relevant organizations, to Member States, if so requested, in order to achieve their stated policy objectives with respect to the management of Internet domain names and addresses, other Internet resources and international Internet connectivity, within the remit of ITU, such as capacity building, availability and costs related to infrastructure, and with respect to Internet-related public policy issues, as stated in the annex to Council Resolution 1305, which identifies the role of CWG-Internet, within their mandate;

3 to liaise and to cooperate with the regional telecommunication organizations pursuant to this resolution,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau*

1 to ensure that ITU-T performs its role in technical issues, and to continue to contribute ITU-T expertise and to liaise and cooperate with appropriate entities on issues related to the management of Internet domain names and addresses and other Internet resources within the mandate of ITU, such as IP version 6 (IPv6), ENUM and IDNs, as well as any other related technological developments and issues, including facilitating appropriate studies on these issues by relevant ITU-T study groups and other groups;

2 in accordance with ITU rules and procedures, and calling upon contributions from the ITU membership, to continue to play a facilitating role in coordination and assistance in the development of public policy issues pertaining to Internet domain names and addresses and other Internet resources within the mandate of ITU and their possible evolution;

3 to work with Member States, Sector Members and relevant international organizations, as appropriate, on issues concerning Member States' ccTLDs and related experiences;

4 to report annually to the Council, and also to WTSA, on the activities undertaken and achievements on these subjects, including proposals for further consideration as appropriate,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

1 to organize international and regional forums and carry out necessary activities, in conjunction with appropriate entities, to discuss policy, operational and technical issues on the Internet in general, and on the management of Internet domain names and addresses and other Internet resources within the mandate of ITU in particular, including with regard to multilingualism, for the benefit of Member States, especially for developing countries, taking into consideration the content of the relevant resolutions of this conference, including this resolution, in addition to the content of the relevant resolutions of the world telecommunication development conference (WTDC);

2 to continue promoting, through ITU-D programmes and study groups, the exchange of information, fostering debate and the development of best practices on Internet issues, and to continue to play a key role in outreach by contributing to capacity building, providing technical assistance and encouraging the involvement of developing countries in international Internet forums and issues;

3 to continue reporting annually to the Council and the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group, and also to WTDC, on the activities undertaken and achievements on these subjects, including proposals for further consideration as appropriate;

4 to liaise with the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau and to collaborate with other relevant organizations involved in the development and deployment of IP-based networks and the growth of the Internet, aiming to make available to Member States widely accepted best practices for the design, installation and operation of Internet exchange points (IXPs),

*instructs the Council Working Group on international Internet-related public policy issues*

1 to consider and discuss the activities of the Secretary-General and Directors of the Bureaux in relation to the implementation of this resolution;

2 to prepare ITU inputs into the above-mentioned activities as appropriate;

3 to continue to identify, study and develop matters on international Internet-related public policy issues, taking into account relevant ITU resolutions,

*instructs the Council*

1 to revise its Resolution 1344 to direct the CWG-Internet, limited to Member States, with open consultation to all stakeholders, and to conduct such open consultation according to the following guidelines:

- CWG-Internet will decide on the international Internet-related public policy issues for open consultation, drawing primarily from Council Resolution 1305;
- CWG-Internet should generally hold both open online consultation and physical open consultation meetings, with remote participation, within a reasonable period, prior to each CWG-Internet meeting;
- relevant inputs received from stakeholders will be submitted to CWG-Internet for consideration of the issues chosen for its next meeting;

2 taking into account annual reports presented by the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux, to take appropriate measures in order to contribute actively to international discussions and initiatives related to issues on international management of Internet domain names and addresses and other Internet resources within the mandate of ITU;

3 to consider the reports of CWG-Internet and take actions as appropriate;

4 to report to the 2018 plenipotentiary conference on the activities undertaken and achievements on the objectives of this resolution, including proposals for further consideration as appropriate,

*invites Member States*

1 to participate in the discussions on international management of Internet resources, including domain names and addresses, and in the process towards enhanced cooperation on Internet governance and international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet, so that worldwide representation in the debates can be ensured;

2 to continue to participate actively in the discussions and development of public policy issues related to Internet resources, including international Internet connectivity, within the remit of ITU, such as capacity building, availability and costs related to infrastructure, domain names and addresses, their possible evolution and the impact of new usages and applications, cooperating with the relevant organizations, and to contribute to CWG-Internet and ITU study groups on related matters,

*invites Member States and Sector Members*

to seek the appropriate means to contribute to enhanced cooperation on international public policy issues relating to the Internet, in their respective roles and responsibilities.



## RESOLUTION 111 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Considering major religious periods in the scheduling of  
ITU conferences, assemblies and Council sessions**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*having considered*

- a) the importance of mutual respect for the religious and spiritual requirements of delegates to ITU conferences, assemblies and Council sessions;
- b) the importance of including all delegates in the crucial work of ITU conferences, assemblies and Council sessions and of not precluding such participation;
- c) the scheduling and invitation process for ITU conferences, assemblies and Council sessions as set out in the ITU Convention,

*resolves*

- 1 that the Union and its Member States should make every effort, as far as practicable, in order that the planned period of any ITU conference or assembly not be scheduled during a period which is considered a major religious period by a Member State;
- 2 that the Union and the Member States of the Council should make every effort, as far as practicable, in order that the planned period of any Council session not be scheduled during a period which is considered a major religious period by a Member State of the Council;
- 3 that the inviting government for a given ITU conference or assembly or, in the absence of an inviting government, the Secretary-General, shall be responsible for verifying with Member States that the proposed period of that conference or assembly does not coincide with a major religious period.

## RESOLUTION 114 (MARRAKESH, 2002)

**Interpretation of No. 224 of the ITU Constitution and No. 519  
of the ITU Convention with regard to deadlines  
for submitting proposals for amendments**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Marrakesh, 2002),

*considering*

No. 224 of the ITU Constitution and No. 519 of the ITU Convention, specifying the deadlines for submitting proposals by Member States with respect to amendments to the Constitution and Convention, respectively,

*noting*

a) that, given the time between two plenipotentiary conferences (four years) and the need for preparatory meetings between two conferences, it is difficult for some Member States to submit their proposals within the specified time-limit;

b) that, in order for Member States to prepare adequately for a plenipotentiary conference, proposals should be received well in advance of such conference,

*noting further*

the manner in which the Plenipotentiary Conference (Minneapolis, 1998) addressed this issue (see Document PP-98/341),

*resolves*

to endorse the view expressed by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Minneapolis, 1998) in the aforementioned document to the effect that No. 224 of the Constitution should be interpreted as "intended to encourage Member States to submit their proposals as early as possible and, preferably, eight months before the opening of the conference", and that the same applies to No. 519 of the Convention.

## RESOLUTION 118 (MARRAKESH, 2002)

### **Use of spectrum at frequencies above 3 000 GHz**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Marrakesh, 2002),

*considering*

- a) that No. 78 of the ITU Constitution and No. 1005 of the Annex to the ITU Convention allow study groups of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) to study questions and adopt recommendations dealing with frequency bands without limit in frequency;
- b) that studies are being carried out within ITU-R study groups that consider technology operating above 3 000 GHz;
- c) that the frequencies that can be regulated in the Radio Regulations are limited to those below 3 000 GHz by the definition of “radiocommunication” in No. 1005 of the Annex to the Convention;
- d) that radiocommunication technologies have demonstrated the ability to use electromagnetic waves in space without artificial guide above 3 000 GHz, and that some Member States are of the opinion that the 3 000 GHz limit should be removed in order to allow competent world radiocommunication conferences to introduce, if needed, provisions in the Radio Regulations;
- e) that frequency bands above 3 000 GHz have been used for a long time, especially in the infrared and visible bands, by systems/applications regulated by national and non-ITU provisions, and that some Member States are of the opinion that the relationship between those provisions and ITU provisions should be thoroughly considered before changing the definition contained in the Convention,

*invites the Radiocommunication Assembly*

to include, in its programme of work, studies of the possibility and relevance of including in the Radio Regulations frequency bands above 3 000 GHz,

*instructs the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau*

to report to world radiocommunication conferences on the progress of ITU-R studies concerning the use of frequencies above 3 000 GHz,

*resolves*

that world radiocommunication conferences can include in agendas for future conferences, items relevant to spectrum regulation of frequencies above 3 000 GHz and take any appropriate measures, including revision of the relevant parts of the Radio Regulations<sup>1</sup>,

*urges Member States*

to continue participating in the work taking place in ITU-R on the use of spectrum above 3 000 GHz.

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*(Marrakesh, 2002)*

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<sup>1</sup> Entry into force of such new regulations would depend on consequential changes to No. 1005 of the Annex to the Convention at the following plenipotentiary conference.

## RESOLUTION 119 (REV. ANTALYA, 2006)

**Methods to improve the efficiency and effectiveness  
of the Radio Regulations Board**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Antalya, 2006),

*recalling*

- a) Resolution 119 (Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;
- b) that the World Radiocommunication Conference (Geneva, 2003) (WRC-03) introduced important amendments to Article 13 of the Radio Regulations, including two new important additions in Nos 13.0.1 and 13.0.2, and that the same conference also introduced amendments to the working methods of the Radio Regulations Board (RRB),

*considering*

- a) that WRC-03 considered that further improvements are both possible and necessary in order to ensure a high degree of transparency in the Board's work;
- b) that WRC-03 introduced improvements to the working methods of the Board on the basis of Resolution 119 (Marrakesh, 2002), such as, *inter alia*, inclusion of the reasons for every RRB decision in the summary of decisions;
- c) the continued importance of efficient and effective RRB working methods in meeting the requirements of the Radio Regulations and in preserving the rights of Member States;
- d) the continued concerns expressed by some Member States at the Plenipotentiary Conference (Marrakesh, 2002) and at this conference in regard to transparency and efficiency of the RRB's working methods;

e) that, since RRB has an important role to consider appeals by Member States as prescribed in the Radio Regulations, appropriate facilities and resources are necessary for it to continue discharging its responsibilities expeditiously,

*recognizing*

the importance that the Union attaches to the RRB's activities,

*resolves to instruct the Radio Regulations Board*

1 to continue to review periodically its working methods and internal processes and develop appropriate changes in its methods and decision-making processes and their overall effectiveness in order to attain a higher degree of transparency, and report the results to the next WRC through the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau (BR);

2 to continue to include in the summary of its decisions (No. 13.18 of the Radio Regulations):

- the reasons for each decision taken by the Board;
- comments received from administrations on the Rules of Procedure;

this summary of decisions, including the associated reasons, shall be published by circular letter and on the RRB website;

3 to continue to give advice to WRC and regional radiocommunication conferences, at an appropriate time, on difficulties in the application of any regulatory provision in force as well as those under discussion at the conference;

4 to prepare the necessary input to the report of the Director of BR to the next WRC in accordance with Nos 13.0.1 and 13.0.2 of the Radio Regulations with respect to the implementation of the above-mentioned provisions;

5 to schedule its meetings with a view to facilitating consideration and action by administrations in accordance with No. 13.14 of the Radio Regulations,

*instructs the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau*

to continue to provide to RRB:

- detailed explanations from BR on matters to be considered at Board meetings;
- any relevant information from appropriate staff within BR,

*calls upon all Member States*

to continue to provide all necessary assistance and support to RRB members individually, and the Board as a whole, in carrying out their functions,

*invites the 2007 and subsequent world radiocommunication conferences*

to review, and to continue developing, principles, applied or to be applied by RRB in the preparation of new Rules of Procedure in accordance with Article 13 of the Radio Regulations, with particular attention to Nos 13.0.1 and 13.0.2 thereof,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

- 1 to continue to make available the necessary facilities and resources for RRB members in conducting their meetings;
- 2 to continue to facilitate the recognition of the status of RRB members pursuant to No. 142A of the ITU Convention;
- 3 to provide the necessary logistical support, such as computer hardware and software, to RRB members from developing countries, if required, in order to perform their duties as Board members,

*further instructs the Secretary-General*

to report to the 2007 session of the Council, to subsequent sessions of the Council and to the next plenipotentiary conference on actions taken pursuant to this resolution and the results thereof.

## RESOLUTION 122 (REV. GUADALAJARA, 2010)

**The evolving role of the World Telecommunication  
Standardization Assembly**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Guadalajara, 2010),

*considering*

a) Article 13 of the ITU Convention, which specifies the roles and responsibilities of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), as well as Articles 14 and 14A, concerning the telecommunication standardization study groups and Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG);

b) the decisions of previous plenipotentiary conferences concerning the functioning and management of ITU standardization activities;

c) Resolutions 1, 7, 22, 33 and 45 (Rev. Johannesburg, 2008) of WTSA, pursuant to which:

- the membership is able to revise existing questions and create new questions between WTSAs;
- the membership is continuing to collaborate with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC);
- the membership, working through TSAG, is able to restructure and establish study groups between WTSAs;
- the membership, working through TSAG, is able to identify new and converging technologies and the need to develop appropriate standards, rapidly and reliably;
- the membership, working through TSAG, is able to create, terminate or maintain other groups between WTSAs, in order to enhance and improve the effectiveness of the work of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T), for purposes including the coordination of ITU-T's work and flexible response to high-priority issues that span several study groups;



- TSAG is instructed to take an active role in ensuring coordination between study groups, as appropriate, on high-priority standardization issues that are being studied in more than one study group, and to take into account, and implement as necessary, advice given to it by other groups on effective coordination on high-priority standardization topics;

d) the work of Member States and ITU-T Sector Members in the Sector study groups and TSAG in implementing these decisions and in adopting working procedures that have improved the timeliness and efficiency of standards activities while maintaining their quality;

e) Resolution 123 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of this conference, on bridging the standardization development gap between developed and developing countries;

f) § 64 of the Geneva Declaration of Principles of the World Summit on the Information Society, which recognizes that ITU's core competences in the fields of information and communication technologies – assistance in bridging the digital divide, international and regional cooperation, radio spectrum management, standards development and the dissemination of information – are of crucial importance for building the information society,

*considering further*

the analysis of ITU's standardization activities by the Working Group on ITU Reform (WGR) and the emphasis placed by WGR on the need for continued improvement in the effectiveness of the standardization process and the need to achieve an effective partnership between Member States and Sector Members,

*recognizing*

a) the positive results of the alternative approval process in ITU-T's working methods, in particular the reduction of the time taken for the approval of relevant questions and recommendations, in accordance with the procedures adopted by the Sector;

b) the position of WTSA as a broad and inclusive forum where Member States and ITU-T Sector Members are able to discuss the future of ITU-T, review the progress of the ITU-T standardization work programme, consider the Sector's overall structure and functioning and set goals for ITU-T;

c) that WTSA serves all the Member States and ITU-T Sector Members, as a decision-making forum to resolve issues within its competence that may be brought before it;

d) that a Global Standards Symposium (GSS) was held the day before WTSA-08,

*aware*

a) of the continual challenges posed to the membership by the current financial state of the Union, of the number of ITU-T meetings and related events and of the important role of WTSA as the oversight body for ITU-T;

b) of the need for Member States and ITU-T Sector Members to work closely in ITU-T, in a proactive, cooperative and forward-looking way, taking into account their respective responsibilities and objectives, in order to promote the continued evolution of ITU-T;

c) that ITU-T aims to continue to provide a unique, worldwide venue for government and industry to work together to foster the development and use of interoperable and non-discriminatory standards based on openness, and which are both demand-driven and sensitive to the needs of users;

d) that the rapid pace of change in the telecommunication environment demands that, in order to maintain its role, ITU-T must have the flexibility to make timely decisions between WTSAs on matters such as work priorities, study group structure and meeting schedules,

*resolves*

1 to encourage WTSA to further develop its working methods and procedures for the purpose of improving the management of ITU-T's standardization activities;

2 that WTSA shall continue, in accordance with its responsibilities, and subject to available financial resources, to promote the continued evolution of the standardization sector by means such as, but not limited to, the strengthening of the role of TSAG;

3 that WTSA shall continue to adequately address strategic issues in standardization and, through the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, provide its proposals and comments to the ITU Council;

4 that WTSA, in its conclusions, should continue to take into account the Union's strategic plan and, consistent with No. 188 of the ITU Convention, take into consideration the financial status of the Sector;

5 that WTSA encourage continuing close cooperation and coordination with international, regional and national organizations that formulate standards relevant to the work of ITU-T,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau*

1 in preparing the Director's report to WTSA, to include a report on the financial status of the Sector in order to assist WTSA in its functions;

2 to continue, in consultation with relevant bodies, and the ITU membership, and in collaboration with the ITU Radiocommunication Sector and the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector, as appropriate, to organize GSS;

*invites the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly*

to continue to take into consideration the conclusions of GSS,

*encourages*

1 Member States and ITU-T Sector Members to support the evolving role of WTSA;

2 Member States, ITU-T Sector Members, and the chairmen and vice-chairmen of TSAG and the study groups to concentrate, *inter alia*, on the identification and analysis of strategic issues in standardization in their preparations for WTSA so as to facilitate the work of the assembly.

## RESOLUTION 123 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Bridging the standardization gap between developing<sup>1</sup> and developed countries**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

Resolution 123 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference,

*noting*

a) that "the Union shall in particular facilitate the worldwide standardization of telecommunications, with a satisfactory quality of service" (No. 13 in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution);

b) that, in connection with the functions and structure of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T), in Article 17, the Constitution indicates that those functions shall be "..., bearing in mind the particular concerns of the developing countries, to fulfil the purposes of the Union...";

c) that the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019, approved by means of Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, and its annexes, includes under the objectives of ITU-T to "*promote the active participation of the membership, in particular developing countries, in the definition and adoption of non-discriminatory international standards (ITU-T recommendations) with a view to bridging the standardization gap*";

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

d) that one of the strategic goals of the Union for 2016-2019 is "Inclusiveness – Bridge the digital divide and provide broadband for all",

*noting further*

a) that the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) adopted Resolution 54 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) to assist in bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries;

b) that the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) adopted Resolution 47 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), which calls for activities to enhance knowledge and effective application of recommendations of ITU-T and of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) in developing countries, and Resolution 37 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), which recognizes the need to create digital opportunities in developing countries,

*recalling*

that the Geneva Plan of Action and Tunis Agenda for the Information Society of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) emphasize efforts to overcome the digital divide and development divides,

*considering*

the following outcome for ITU-T in the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019, adopted in Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014):

- increased participation in the ITU-T standardization process, including attendance of meetings, submission of contributions, taking leadership positions and hosting of meetings/workshops, especially from developing countries,

*considering further*

that focus on the following activities is still needed:

- to develop interoperable, non-discriminatory international standards (ITU-T recommendations);
- to assist in bridging the standardization gap between developed and developing countries;

- to extend and facilitate international cooperation among international and regional standardization bodies;
- to provide assistance to developing countries in bridging the digital divide by achieving broader telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT)-enabled socio-economic development,

*recognizing*

a) the continued shortage of skilled human resources in the standardization field in developing countries, resulting in a low level of developing-country participation in ITU-T and ITU-R meetings, in spite of the improvement observed in such participation lately, and, consequently, in the standards-making process, leading to difficulties when interpreting ITU-T and ITU-R recommendations;

b) ongoing challenges relating to capacity building, in particular for developing countries, in the light of rapid technological innovation and increased convergence of services;

c) the moderate level of participation by representatives of developing countries in ITU standardization activities, whether through lack of awareness of these activities, difficulties in accessing information, lack of training for human talent in standardization-related matters, or lack of financial resources to travel to meeting sites, which are factors with impact in terms of widening the existing knowledge gap;

d) that technological needs and realities vary from country to country and region to region, and in many cases developing countries do not have opportunities or mechanisms to make them known;

e) that, for developing countries at the initial stage of introducing and/or switching to a new technology, it is important to have guidelines for the new technology in question that can be used to develop a national standard, which would make it possible to introduce or switch to the new technology in a timely manner;

f) that, in implementation of the provisions of the Annex to Resolution 44 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) and of Resolution 54 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of WTSA, ITU actions have been carried out through ITU-T to assist in reducing the standardization gap between developing and developed countries;

g) the importance for developing countries of developing guidelines regarding the implementation of ITU recommendations pursuant to Resolution 44 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of WTSA and Resolution 47 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC;

h) the need for high-quality, demand-driven international standards, which should be developed rapidly in line with the principles of global connectivity, openness, affordability, reliability, interoperability and security;

i) the emergence of key technologies, enabling new services and applications and promoting the building of the information society, which must be taken into account in the work of ITU-T;

j) cooperation and collaboration with other standardization bodies and relevant consortia and forums are key to avoiding duplication of work and achieving efficient use of resources,

*taking into account*

a) that developing countries could benefit from improved capability in the application and development of standards;

b) that ITU-T and ITU-R activities and the telecommunication/ICT market could also benefit from better involvement of developing countries in standards-making and standards application;

c) that initiatives to assist in bridging the standardization gap are intrinsic to, and are a high priority task of, the Union;

d) that although ITU is making efforts to reduce the standardization gap, major disparities in knowledge and management of standards remain between developing and developed countries;

e) Resolution ITU-R 7 (Rev. Geneva, 2012) of the Radiocommunication Assembly (RA), on telecommunication development, including liaison and collaboration with ITU-D, which resolves that the Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG) and the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau shall continue to cooperate actively with the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) in identifying and implementing means of facilitating the participation of developing countries in study group activities;

f) that WTSA adopted Resolutions 32, 33, 44 and 54 (Rev. Dubai, 2012), all of which share the clear objective of contributing to bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries by means of:

- i) providing installations, facilities and capacities in electronic working methods (EWM) in ITU-T meetings, workshops and training courses, especially for developing countries in order to promote their participation;
- ii) intensifying the participation of the ITU regional offices in the activities of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB), in order to promote and coordinate standardization activities in their regions, to apply the relevant parts of the resolution, and to initiate campaigns aimed at encouraging the affiliation to ITU of new Sector Members, Associates and Academia from developing countries;
- iii) inviting the new regions and Member States to create regional groups within the sphere of the ITU-T study groups, and to create corresponding regional standardization bodies in order to work closely with the ITU-D study groups and TDAG;



g) Resolution 37 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on bridging the digital divide, which aims at the establishment of international methods and mechanisms that strengthen international cooperation to bridge the digital divide by means of studies, projects and joint activities with ITU-R which seek to build capacities in efficient use of the satellite orbit/spectrum resource for the provision of satellite services, with a view to achieving affordable access to satellite broadband and facilitating network connectivity between different areas, countries and regions, especially in the developing countries, in accordance with the WSIS Geneva Action Plan and Tunis Agenda;

h) Resolution 47 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on enhancement of knowledge and effective application of ITU recommendations in developing countries, including conformance and interoperability testing of systems manufactured on the basis of ITU recommendations, which invited Member States and Sector Members to continue to engage in activities to enhance the application of ITU-R and ITU-T recommendations in developing countries, and instructs the Directors of TSB and BDT, in close collaboration, to encourage the participation of developing countries in training courses, workshops and seminars by means of fellowships,

*resolves to instruct the Secretary-General and the Directors of the three Bureaux*

1 to work closely with each other on the follow-up and implementation of this resolution, as well as Resolutions 32, 33, 44 and 54 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of WTSA, Resolutions 37 and 47 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC and Resolution ITU-R 7 (Rev. Geneva, 2012) of RA, in order to step up actions intended and to reduce the standardization gap between developing and developed countries;

2 to maintain a close coordination mechanism among the three Sectors at the regional level for bridging the digital divide, through activities carried out by the ITU regional offices to that end;

- 3 to provide developing countries with assistance to enhance capacity building in the standardization field, including through collaboration with the relevant academia;
- 4 to identify ways and means to support the participation of representatives of developing countries in the meetings of the three Sectors of ITU and the dissemination of information on standardization;
- 5 to further collaborate with the relevant regional organizations and support their work in this area;
- 6 to strengthen the mechanisms for preparing and submitting reports on the implementation of the action plan associated with Resolution 44 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of WTSA, taking into account the four-year rolling operational plans of each Bureau;
- 7 to promote the timely development of guidelines for developing countries on the basis of ITU-R and ITU-T recommendations, particularly those related to priority standardization issues, including the introduction of and switchover to new technologies, as well as the preparation and application of ITU recommendations,

*invites Member States and Sector Members*

to make voluntary contributions (financial and in-kind) to the fund for bridging the standardization gap, as well as to undertake concrete actions to support ITU's actions and the initiatives of its three Sectors and its regional offices in this matter.

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*(Marrakesh, 2002) – (Rev. Antalya, 2006) – (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) – (Rev. Busan, 2014)*

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## RESOLUTION 124 (REV. ANTALYA, 2006)

**Support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development<sup>1</sup>**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Antalya, 2006),

*considering*

the provisions of the ITU Constitution, as contained in Chapter IV thereof on the Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D), particularly with regard, *inter alia*, to the functions of ITU-D for building awareness of the impact of telecommunications on national economic and social development, its catalytic role in promoting the development, expansion and operation of telecommunication services and networks, especially in developing countries, and the need to maintain and enhance cooperation with regional and other telecommunication organizations,

*considering further*

Resolution 31 (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on telecommunication infrastructure for socio-economic and cultural development, which highlights:

- telecommunications as a prerequisite for development;
- the impact of telecommunications on agriculture, health, education, transport, human settlement, etc.;
- the continuing decline in development resources available to developing countries,

*noting*

a) that, in their declarations and resolutions, world telecommunication development conferences (WTDC) have reaffirmed a commitment to enhancing expansion and development of telecommunication services in developing countries and harnessing capacity for the application of new and innovative services;

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<sup>1</sup> Subject to the financial limits set by the Plenipotentiary Conference.

b) the adoption of the Doha Action Plan, incorporating key chapters on global information infrastructure development and the special programme for least developed countries,

*aware*

that the Council, in its Resolution 1184 on WTDC (Istanbul, 2002), urged that conference to place special emphasis on the problem of “bridging the digital divide”,

*taking note of*

a) the recognition by the United Nations General Assembly in its Resolution 56/37 of the adoption by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-seventh ordinary session (Lusaka, July 2001) of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD);

b) the actions for NEPAD set out in annex hereto;

c) the declaration by the Economic and Social Council on the role of the United Nations system in supporting the efforts of African countries to achieve sustainable development,

*taking cognizance of*

a) the operative paragraphs of Resolution 56/218 of the United Nations General Assembly, on the final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa, relating to consideration of plans and modalities during 2002 for future engagement with NEPAD and calling on the United Nations system and the international community to support the New African Initiative and to ensure effective representation;

b) the outcomes of the Geneva (2003) and Tunis (2005) phases of the World Summit on the Information Society and the work under way to implement the African Regional Action Plan for the Knowledge Economy (ARAPKE);

c) the call made on 23 November 2004 by the Summit of the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Implementing Committee (HSGIC) for an effective implementation of the NEPAD information and communication technology (ICT) programme;

d) the request made in the Abuja Declaration of African ministers in charge of telecommunications and ICT concerning infrastructure development, to provide appropriate financial resources to support NEPAD ICT activities,

*recognizing*

that, in spite of the impressive growth and expansion in telecommunications/ICTs recorded in the African region since WTDC (Valletta, 1998), many areas of major concern still exist and considerable disparities persist in the region, and the digital divide continues to widen,

*recognizing further*

that ICT development and the development of telecommunication infrastructures in Africa require regional and interregional support for the programmes and initiatives,

*resolves to instruct the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

to pay particular attention to implementation of the provisions of the ITU-D Action Plan relating to support for NEPAD, earmarking resources so that this can be permanently monitored,

*requests the Secretary-General*

to mobilize and release appropriate financial resources for activities to support NEPAD, in particular from the ICT Development Fund.

## ANNEX TO RESOLUTION 124 (REV. ANTALYA, 2006)

### **Actions for NEPAD**

#### **1 Infrastructure**

- i) Preparation of master plans for ICT infrastructure development
- ii) Facilitation of the introduction of digital technologies, especially for broadcasting
- iii) Support for all projects which promote ICT development and subregional and regional integration, for example, the East African Submarine Cable project (EASSy), the NEPAD e-school initiative, RASCOM, e-Post Africa, COMTEL, SRIL, INTELCOM II, the ARAPKE projects, etc.
- iv) Establishment and interconnection of national Internet exchange points
- v) Evaluation of the impact and adoption of measures for strengthening functional capacities and the new missions of subregional maintenance centres
- vi) Encourage the establishment of technological alliances in order to promote research and development at a regional level

#### **2 Environment: development and implementation**

- i) An Africa-wide vision, strategy and action plan for ICT
- ii) A national vision and strategies for the development of ICT with maximum linkage to other national development strategies, notably the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)
- iii) Elaboration of a national policy framework and strategy for universal access
- iv) Provision of support for the harmonization of policy and regulatory frameworks at the subregional level

### **3 Capacity building, cooperation and partnerships**

- i) Support to the African Telecommunications Union by providing administrative support and assistance in technical expertise
- ii) Support for the elaboration of the planning and management of the frequency spectrum at national, subregional and regional levels
- iii) Support the strengthening of ICT training institutions and the network of centres of excellence in the region
- iv) Establishment of a cooperation mechanism amongst regional institutions that provide development assistance to African countries in the ICT sector
- v) Establishment of an ad hoc regional ICT think tank
- vi) Strengthening of subregional telecommunication regulatory associations
- vii) Strengthening of public-private partnership
- viii) Establishment of an African ICT database
- ix) Strengthening the capacities of regional economic communities (RECs) for better implementation of the ICT projects and initiatives

## RESOLUTION 125 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Assistance and support to Palestine  
for rebuilding its telecommunication networks**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

a) Resolutions 125 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010), 125 (Rev. Antalya, 2006), 125 (Marrakesh, 2002), 99 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) and 32 (Kyoto, 1994) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

b) Resolutions 18 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), 18 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010), 18 (Rev. Doha, 2006), 18 (Rev. Istanbul, 2002) and 18 (Valletta, 1998) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC);

c) the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

d) Nos 6 and 7 of the ITU Constitution indicating among the purposes of the Union "*to promote the extension of the benefits of the new telecommunication technologies to all the world's inhabitants*" and "*to promote the use of telecommunication services with the objective of facilitating peaceful relations*";

e) the terms of Resolution 67/19 of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), under which it was decided to accord to Palestine non-member observer State status in the United Nations;

f) UNGA Resolution 67/229, which recognizes the Palestinian people's right to permanent sovereignty over their natural resources, specifically land, water, energy and other natural resources, in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem;

g) Resolution 9 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, which recognizes that it is the sovereign right of every State to manage spectrum use within its territories,



*considering*

- a) that the ITU Constitution and Convention are designed to strengthen peace and security in the world for the development of international cooperation and better understanding among the peoples concerned;
- b) that ITU's policy of assistance to Palestine for the development of its telecommunication sector has been efficient but has not yet fulfilled its goals, due to the prevailing situation;
- c) that, for Palestine to take an effective part in the new information society, it has to build its information society,

*considering further*

- a) that the establishment of a reliable and modern telecommunication network is an essential part of economic and social development and is of the utmost importance to the future of the Palestinian people;
- b) that the international community has an important role in assisting Palestine to develop a modern and reliable telecommunication network;
- c) that Palestine at present does not have international telecommunication networks on account of difficulties for their establishment,

*mindful*

of the fundamental principles contained in the Preamble of the Constitution,

*noting*

the Telecommunication Development Bureau's (BDT) long-term technical assistance to Palestine for the development of its telecommunications in implementation of Resolution 32 (Kyoto, 1994) and the urgent need for assistance to be provided in the various fields of communication and information,

*noting with grave concern*

the restrictions and difficulties related to the current situation in Palestine that are preventing access to telecommunication/ICT means, services and applications and which constitute a continuing obstacle to telecommunication/ICT development in Palestine,

*resolves*

1 that the plan of action initiated after the Plenipotentiary Conference (Kyoto, 1994) within the framework of the activities of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector, with the specialized assistance of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector and the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector, shall be continued and enhanced in order to provide assistance and support to Palestine for rebuilding and developing its telecommunication infrastructure, re-establishing institutions in this sector, developing telecommunication legislation and a regulatory framework including a numbering plan, radio-frequency spectrum management, tariff and human resource development and all other forms of assistance;

2 to urgently enable through assistance Palestine to obtain and manage the required radio spectrum to operate its telecommunication networks and wireless services, in particular those related to the transition and migration to digital terrestrial television broadcasting in the frequency band 470-694 MHz, and identify mechanisms for ensuring that Palestine can exploit the 694-862 MHz frequency band resulting from the digital transition for broadband mobile service uses and applications to be used at the end of the world radiocommunication conference 2015, taking into account the Interim Agreement signed between the Parties; through full collaboration and support of the Radiocommunication Bureau (BR) and BDT;

3 to instruct the Director of BR and the Director of BDT to ensure that this resolution is implemented,

*urges Member States*

to make every effort with a view to:

- i) preserving the Palestinian telecommunication infrastructure;
- ii) facilitating the establishment of Palestine's own international gateway networks, including satellite earth stations, submarine cables, optical fibre and microwave systems;
- iii) providing all forms of assistance and support to Palestine, bilaterally or through executive measures taken by ITU, in rebuilding, restoring and developing the Palestinian telecommunication network;
- iv) assisting Palestine in recovering its entitlements accruing from incoming and outgoing international traffic;
- v) providing assistance to Palestine in support of the implementation of BDT projects, including human resources capacity building,

*invites the ITU Council*

to allocate the necessary funds within available resources for the implementation of this resolution,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

- 1 to continue and enhance the technical assistance provided to Palestine for the development of its telecommunications, taking into consideration the need to overcome the increasing and escalating difficulties encountered in the provision of this assistance during the previous cycle since 2002;
- 2 to take appropriate measures within the mandate of BDT aimed at facilitating the establishment of international access networks, including terrestrial and satellite stations, submarine cables, optical fibre and microwave systems;
- 3 to implement e-health, e-education, e-government, spectrum planning and management and human resources development projects and all other forms of assistance,

*instructs the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau*

to ensure that the ITU Radiocommunication Sector continues the collaboration with the ITU Development Sector in the implementation of this resolution,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

- 1 to ensure that this resolution and all other resolutions adopted by the Plenipotentiary Conference on Palestine, in particular in relation to the international access code and the processing of frequency assignment notifications, are implemented, and to submit periodic reports to the Council on progress on these questions;
- 2 to coordinate the activities carried out by the three ITU Sectors in accordance with *resolves* above, to ensure that the Union's action in favour of Palestine is as effective as possible, and to report on the matter to the Council and to the next plenipotentiary conference on the progress achieved on these issues;
- 3 to submit an annual report to the Council on progress made in implementing this resolution.

## RESOLUTION 126 (REV. GUADALAJARA, 2010)

**Assistance and support to the Republic of Serbia for rebuilding its destroyed public broadcasting system**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Guadalajara, 2010),

*recalling*

- a) the noble principles, purpose and objectives enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- b) the purposes of the Union as enshrined in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution,

*noting*

- a) Resolution 126 (Rev. Antalya, 2006) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;
- b) Resolution 33 (Rev. Doha, 2006) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference;
- c) that the key role played by ITU in the rebuilding of the country's telecommunication sector has been widely recognized,

*noting with appreciation*

the efforts deployed by the Secretary-General and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau towards the implementation of the above-mentioned resolutions,

*recognizing*

- a) that reliable public broadcasting and telecommunication systems are indispensable for promoting the socio-economic development of countries, in particular those having suffered from natural disasters, domestic conflicts or war;
- b) that the newly established public broadcasting facility in the Republic of Serbia, the public entity "Broadcast Multiplex and Network Operator" (ETV), formerly a part of Radio Television of Serbia, has been severely damaged;

c) that the damage to public broadcasting (ETV) in Serbia should concern the whole international community, in particular ITU;

d) that, as public broadcaster, ETV is a public entity, which should start broadcasting digital television programmes on 4 April 2012;

e) that, under the present conditions and in the foreseeable future, Serbia will not be able to bring its public broadcasting system and the digital switchover process up to an acceptable level without help from the international community, provided bilaterally or through international organizations,

*resolves*

1 to continue special action, within the framework and available budgetary resources of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector, with specialized assistance from the ITU Radiocommunication Sector and the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector;

2 to provide appropriate assistance;

3 to support Serbia in rebuilding its public broadcasting systems,

*calls upon Member States*

1 to offer all possible assistance;

2 to support the Government of Serbia, either bilaterally or through, or, in any case, in coordination with, the special action of the Union referred above,

*instructs the Council*

to allocate the necessary funds, within available resources, in order to continue this action,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

to use the necessary funds, within available resources, in order to continue appropriate action,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

- 1 to coordinate the activities carried out by the ITU Sectors in accordance with the above;
- 2 to ensure that ITU action in favour of Serbia is as effective as possible;
- 3 to report on the matter to the ITU Council.

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*(Marrakesh, 2002) – (Rev. Antalya, 2006) – (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010)*

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## RESOLUTION 127 (MARRAKESH, 2002)

**Assistance and support to the Government of Afghanistan for rebuilding its telecommunication system**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Marrakesh, 2002),

*recalling*

the noble principles and purposes of ITU and the key role the Union can play in the rebuilding of a telecommunication sector,

*recognizing*

a) that a reliable telecommunication system is a prerequisite for promoting the economic development of countries, in particular those having suffered from conflicts or war;

b) that, as the result of the past 24 years of war in Afghanistan, the telecommunication system has been destroyed and needs urgent attention for its basic reconstruction;

c) that the present state of the telecommunication system in Afghanistan, as a post-conflict country, should concern the whole international community, in particular ITU;

d) that without the assistance and comprehensive support of the international community, Afghanistan, as a war-torn country, will not be able to rebuild its basic telecommunication infrastructure, which is very necessary for the social and economic reconstruction of the country,

*resolves*

1 to initiate special action, within the framework of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector, with specialized assistance from the Telecommunication Standardization Sector;

2 to provide appropriate assistance and support to the Government of Afghanistan in rebuilding its telecommunication system,



*calls upon Member States*

to offer all possible assistance and support to the Government of Afghanistan either bilaterally or through the special action of the Union referred to above,

*instructs the Council*

to allocate the necessary funds, within available resources, in order to initiate the above-mentioned action,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

- 1 to ensure adequate resource mobilization, including within the internal budget, for the implementation of the proposed actions;
- 2 to ensure that the ITU action in favour of Afghanistan is as effective as possible;
- 3 to report on the matter to the Council.

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*(Marrakesh, 2002)*

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## RESOLUTION 128 (REV. ANTALYA, 2006)

### **Support for the Agenda for Connectivity in the Americas and Quito Action Plan**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Antalya, 2006),

*considering*

the provisions of the ITU Constitution, as contained in Chapter IV thereof on the Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D), particularly with regard, *inter alia*, to the functions of ITU-D for building awareness of the impact of telecommunications on national economic and social development, its catalytic role in promoting the development, expansion and operation of telecommunication services and networks, especially in developing countries, least developed countries and small island developing states, and the need to maintain and enhance cooperation with regional and other telecommunication organizations,

*recalling*

*a)* Resolution 21 (Rev. Doha, 2006) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on coordination and collaboration with regional organizations, which resolved that ITU-D should actively coordinate, collaborate and organize joint activities with regional and subregional organizations and training institutions and take into consideration their activities, as well as providing them with direct technical assistance;

*b)* Resolution 39 (Istanbul, 2002), adopted by WTDC-02 and confirmed by WTDC-06, on the Agenda for Connectivity in the Americas and Quito Action Plan, which resolved to include among the high priorities of ITU support for initiatives under the Agenda for Connectivity in the Americas, recommending the use of mechanisms to help to achieve the necessary results for each country and region, and to promote the exchange of information on the development of connectivity activities globally;

c) Resolution 54 (Doha, 2006) of WTDC, on information and communication technology (ICT) applications, which replaced and updated the content of:

- Resolution 41 (Istanbul, 2002) of WTDC, on e-health (including telehealth/telemedicine), which, among other actions, directed the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) to continue its efforts to raise awareness of decision-makers, health professionals, partners, beneficiaries and other key players about the benefits of telecommunications for e-health applications and to support e-health projects in collaboration with government, public, private, national and international partners;
- Resolution 42 (Istanbul, 2002) of WTDC, on implementation of tele-education programmes, which instructed the Director of BDT to conduct studies of the viability of tele-education systems, provide technical assistance and support to help implementing various tele-education systems, and identify sources of funding for necessary equipment and training for the provision of tele-education applications;

d) Resolution 50 (Doha, 2006) of WTDC, on optimal integration of ICTs, which replaced and updated the content of Recommendation 14 (Istanbul, 2002) of WTDC, on pilot integration projects for information and communication technologies, recommending that BDT adopt all necessary measures to implement regional projects derived from non-exclusive integration models designed to link all stakeholders, organizations and institutions of the various sectors in an ongoing relationship of cooperation in which information is disseminated over networks, so as to narrow the digital divide, and also that BDT play a central role in this initiative, using the funds at its disposal to attain that objective, and that the Latin American region serve as the initial testing ground for such an initiative;

e) Resolution 32 (Rev. Doha, 2006) of WTDC, on international and regional cooperation, which resolves that ITU-D should strengthen its relations with regional and subregional telecommunication organizations to stimulate new initiatives such as the Agenda for Connectivity of the Americas,

*taking into account*

the Geneva Declaration of Principles and Geneva Plan of Action adopted at the first phase of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) (Geneva, 2003) and the Tunis Commitment and Tunis Agenda for the Information Society adopted at the second phase of WSIS (Tunis, 2005),

*noting*

that the third and fourth regular meetings of the Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL) (held in Washington, DC in 2002 and in San José, Costa Rica in 2006), respectively, adopted and confirmed Resolution CITEL/RES. 33 (III-02) on the implementation of the Agenda for Connectivity in the Americas currently under way, wherein it is recognized that the above-mentioned Agenda and the Quito Action Plan, developed by CITEL, are a significant and positive contribution to efforts under way in a number of forums to bridge the digital divide,

*recognizing*

that, in spite of the impressive growth and expansion in telecommunications/ICTs recorded in the Americas region since WTDC-98, many areas of major concern still exist and considerable disparities persist in the region, and the narrowing of the digital divide continues to be a priority,

*resolves to instruct the Secretary-General*

to continue releasing appropriate financial resources under the ITU financial plan for 2008-2011 and subsequent plans to support and stimulate the implementation of projects aimed at fulfilling the objectives set in the WTDC-06 resolutions highlighted above, in particular from the ICT Development Fund,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

1 to continue paying particular attention to implementation of the provisions of the Doha Action Plan relating to the initiatives under the framework of the Agenda for Connectivity in the Americas, as directed by Resolution 39 (Istanbul, 2002), which encompasses also the projects associated with the other resolutions cited above;

2 to strengthen support to the Member States in this regard through the ITU Regional Office for the Americas, and to help identify additional financial resources to supplement those assigned by ITU for supporting the development of all related projects in the Americas region.

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*(Marrakesh, 2002) – (Rev. Antalya, 2006)*

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## RESOLUTION 130 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Strengthening the role of ITU in building confidence  
and security in the use of information and  
communication technologies**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

- a) United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution 68/198, on information and communication technologies (ICTs) for development;
- b) UNGA Resolution 68/167, on the right to privacy in the digital age;
- c) UNGA Resolution 68/243, on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security;
- d) UNGA Resolution 57/239, on the creation of a global culture of cybersecurity;
- e) the outcome documents of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event, containing the WSIS+10 Statement on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes and the WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015;
- f) Resolution 174 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference;
- g) Resolution 181 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;
- h) Resolution 45 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on mechanisms for enhancing cooperation on cybersecurity, including countering and combating spam;
- i) Resolution 140 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference;

j) Resolution 69 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on the creation of national computer incident response teams (CIRTs), particularly for developing countries<sup>1</sup>, and cooperation between them;

k) that ITU Council Resolution 1305, adopted at its 2009 session, identified the security, safety, continuity, sustainability and robustness of the Internet as public policy issues that fall within the scope of ITU,

*considering*

a) that the ITU-coordinated WSIS+10 High-Level Event reaffirmed the importance of building confidence and security in the use of ICTs, as mentioned in relevant paragraphs of the WSIS+10 outcome documents (Geneva, 2014);

b) the crucial importance of information and communication infrastructures and their applications to practically all forms of social and economic activity;

c) that, with the application and development of ICTs, new threats from various sources have emerged, that have had an impact on confidence and security in the use of ICTs by all Member States, Sector Members and other stakeholders, including all users of ICTs, and on the preservation of peace and the economic and social development of all Member States, and that threats to and vulnerabilities of networks continue to give rise to ever-growing security challenges across national borders for all countries, in particular developing countries, while noting in this context the strengthening of ITU's role in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs and the need to further enhance international cooperation and develop appropriate existing national, regional and international mechanisms (for example, agreements, best practices, memoranda of understanding, etc.);

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

*d)* that the ITU Secretary-General has been invited to support the International Multilateral Partnership Against Cyber-Threats (IMPACT), the Forum for Incident Response and Security Teams (FIRST) and other global or regional cybersecurity projects, as appropriate, and all countries, particularly developing countries, have been invited to take part in their activities;

*e)* the ITU Global Cybersecurity Agenda (GCA), which encourages international cooperation aimed at proposing strategies for solutions to enhance confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs;

*f)* that, in order to protect these infrastructures and address these challenges and threats, coordinated national, regional and international action is required for prevention, preparation, response and recovery from computer security incidents, on the part of government authorities, at the national (including the creation of national computer incident response teams (CIRTs)), and sub-national levels, the private sector and citizens and users, in addition to international and regional cooperation and coordination, and that ITU has a lead role to play within its mandate and competencies in this field;

*g)* the need for continual evolution in new technologies to support the early detection of, and coordinated and timely response to, events or incidents compromising computer security, or computer network security incidents that could compromise the availability, integrity and confidentiality of critical infrastructures in ITU Member States, and for strategies that will minimize the impact of such incidents and mitigate the growing risks and threats to which such platforms are exposed;

*h)* that the number of cyberthreats and cyberattacks is growing, as is dependence on the Internet and other networks that are essential for accessing services and information;



i) that the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) has adopted around 300 standards relating to building confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

j) the final report on Question 22-1/1 (Securing information and communication networks: Best practices for developing a culture of cybersecurity) of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D),

*recognizing*

a) that the development of ICTs has been and continues to be instrumental for the growth and development of the global economy, underpinned by security and trust;

b) that the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) affirmed the importance of building confidence and security in the use of ICTs and the great importance of multistakeholder implementation at the international level, and established Action Line C5 (Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs), with ITU identified in the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society as moderator/facilitator for the action line, and that this task has been carried out by the Union in recent years, for example under GCA;

c) that WTDC-14 has adopted the Dubai Action Plan and its Objective 3, in particular Output 3.1, on building confidence and security in the use of ICTs, which identifies cybersecurity as a priority activity of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) and defines the main areas of work to be undertaken by BDT; and has also adopted Resolution 45 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), on mechanisms for enhancing cooperation on cybersecurity, including countering and combating spam, calling on the Secretary-General to bring the resolution to the attention of the next plenipotentiary conference for consideration and required action, and to report the results of these main areas of work to the Council and to the Plenipotentiary Conference in 2018, as appropriate; and Resolution 69 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), on the creation of national CIRTs, particularly for developing countries, and cooperation among them;

d) that, to support the creation of national CIRTs in Member States where these are needed and are currently absent, the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) adopted Resolution 58 (Rev. Dubai, 2012), on encouraging the creation of national CIRTs, particularly for developing countries; and WTDC-14 adopted Resolution 69 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), on the creation of national CIRTs, including CIRTs responsible for government-to-government cooperation, particularly for developing countries, cooperation among them, and the importance of coordination among all relevant organizations;

e) § 15 of the Tunis Commitment, which states: "*Recognizing the principles of universal and non-discriminatory access to ICTs for all nations, the need to take into account the level of social and economic development of each country, and respecting the development-oriented aspects of the information society, we underscore that ICTs are effective tools to promote peace, security and stability, to enhance democracy, social cohesion, good governance and the rule of law, at national, regional and international levels. ICTs can be used to promote economic growth and enterprise development. Infrastructure development, human capacity building, information security and network security are critical to achieve these goals. We further recognize the need to effectively confront challenges and threats resulting from use of ICTs for purposes that are inconsistent with objectives of maintaining international stability and security and may adversely affect the integrity of the infrastructure within States, to the detriment of their security. It is necessary to prevent the abuse of information resources and technologies for criminal and terrorist purposes, while respecting human rights*", and that the challenges created by this misuse of ICT resources have only continued to increase since WSIS;

f) that the ITU-coordinated WSIS+10 High-Level Event identified several challenges in the implementation of the WSIS action lines that still remain and that will need to be addressed beyond 2015;

*g)* that Member States, in particular developing countries, in the elaboration of appropriate and workable legal measures relating to protection against cyberthreats at the national, regional and international levels, may require assistance from ITU in establishing technical and procedural measures, aimed at securing national ICT infrastructures, on request from these Member States, while noting that there are a number of regional and international initiatives which may support these countries in elaborating such legal measures;

*h)* Opinion 4 (Lisbon, 2009) of the World Telecommunication/ICT Policy Forum, on collaborative strategies for creating confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

*i)* the relevant outcomes of WTSA-12, notably:

i) Resolution 50 (Rev. Dubai, 2012), on cybersecurity;

ii) Resolution 52 (Rev. Dubai, 2012), on countering and combating spam,

*aware*

*a)* that ITU and other international organizations, through a variety of activities, are examining issues related to building confidence and security in the use of ICTs, including stability and measures to combat spam, malware, etc., and to protect personal data and privacy;

*b)* that ITU-T Study Group 17, ITU-D Study Groups 1 and 2 and other relevant ITU study groups continue to work on technical means for the security of information and communication networks, in accordance with Resolutions 50 and 52 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) and Resolutions 45 and 69 (Rev. Dubai, 2014);

*c)* that ITU has a fundamental role to play in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

d) that ITU-D Study Group 2 continues to carry out the studies called for in ITU-D Question 3/2 (Securing information and communications networks: Best practices for developing a culture of cybersecurity), which has been reflected in UNGA Resolution 64/211;

e) that ITU is also assisting developing countries in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs and supporting the establishment of CIRTs, including CIRTs responsible for government-to-government cooperation, and the importance of coordination among all relevant organizations;

f) that Council Resolution 1336, adopted at its 2011 session, established a working group of the Council on international Internet-related public policy issues (CWG-Internet), whose terms of reference are to identify, study and develop matters related to international Internet-related public policy issues, including those issues identified in Council Resolution 1305 (2009) such as security safety, continuity, sustainability and robustness of the Internet;

g) that WTDC-14 adopted Resolution 80 (Dubai, 2014), on establishing and promoting trusted information frameworks in developing countries to facilitate and encourage electronic information exchanges between economic partners;

h) of Article 6, on security and robustness of networks, and Article 7, on unsolicited bulk electronic communications, of the International Telecommunication Regulations adopted by the World Conference on International Telecommunications (Dubai, 2012),

*noting*

a) that, as an intergovernmental organization with private-sector participation, ITU is well-positioned to play an important role, together with other relevant international bodies and organizations, in addressing threats and vulnerabilities, which affect efforts to build confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

b) §§ 35 and 36 of the Geneva Declaration of Principles and § 39 of the Tunis Agenda, on building confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

c) that although there are no universally agreed upon definitions of spam and other terms in this sphere, spam was characterized by ITU-T Study Group 2, at its June 2006 session, as a term commonly used to describe unsolicited electronic bulk communications over e-mail or mobile messaging (SMS, MMS), usually with the objective of marketing commercial products or services;

d) the Union's initiative concerning IMPACT and FIRST,

*bearing in mind*

the work of the ITU established by Resolutions 50, 52 and 58 (Rev. Dubai, 2012); Resolutions 45 and 69 (Rev. Dubai , 2014); Objective 3 of the Dubai Action Plan; the relevant ITU-T questions on technical aspects regarding the security of information and communication networks; and ITU-D Question 3/2,

*resolves*

1 to continue to give this work high priority within ITU, in accordance with its competences and expertise, including promoting common understanding among governments and other stakeholders of building confidence and security in the use of ICTs at national, regional and international level;

2 to give high priority to the work of ITU described under *bearing in mind* above, in accordance with its competencies and areas of expertise, and to continue to work closely, as appropriate, with other relevant bodies/agencies within the United Nations and other relevant international bodies, taking into account the specific mandates and areas of expertise of the different agencies, while being mindful of the need to avoid duplicating work between organizations and among the Bureaux or the General Secretariat;

3 that ITU shall focus resources and programmes on those areas of cybersecurity within its core mandate and expertise, notably the technical and development spheres, and not including areas related to Member States' application of legal or policy principles related to national defence, national security, content and cybercrime, which are within their sovereign rights, although this does not however exclude ITU from carrying out its mandate to develop technical recommendations designed to reduce vulnerabilities in the ICT infrastructure, nor from providing all the assistance that was agreed upon at WTDC-14, including Objective 3 and in activities under Question 3/2;

4 to contribute to further strengthening the trust and security framework, consistent with ITU's role as lead facilitator of WSIS Action Line C5, taking into account Resolution 140 (Rev. Busan, 2014),

*instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux*

1 to continue to review:

- i) the work done so far in the three Sectors, under the ITU Global Cybersecurity Agenda and in other relevant organizations and initiatives to address existing and future threats in order to build confidence and security in the use of ICTs, such as the issue of countering spam, which is growing and on the rise;
- ii) the progress achieved in the implementation of this resolution, with ITU continuing to play a lead facilitating role as the moderator/facilitator for Action Line C5, with the help of the advisory groups, consistent with the ITU Constitution and the ITU Convention;

2 consistent with Resolution 45 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), to report to the Council on activities within ITU and other relevant organizations and entities to enhance cooperation and collaboration, regionally and globally, to strengthen building confidence and security in the use of ICTs of Member States, in particular developing countries, taking into account any information provided by Member States, including information on situations within their own jurisdiction that could affect this cooperation;

3 consistent with Resolution 45 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), to report on memoranda of understanding (MoU) between countries, as well as existing forms of cooperation, providing analysis of their status, scope and how these cooperative mechanisms can be applied to strengthen cybersecurity and combat cyberthreats, with a view to enabling Member States to identify whether additional memoranda or mechanisms are required;

4 to facilitate access to tools and resources, within the available budget, required for enhancing confidence and security in the use of ICTs for all Member States, consistent with WSIS provisions on universal and non-discriminatory access to ICTs for all nations;

5 to continue to maintain the cybersecurity gateway as a way to share information on national, regional and international cybersecurity-related initiatives worldwide;

6 to report annually to the Council on these activities and to make proposals as appropriate;

7 to further enhance coordination between the study groups and programmes concerned,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau*

1 to intensify work within existing ITU-T study groups in order to:

i) address existing and future threats and vulnerabilities affecting efforts to build confidence and security in the use of ICTs, by developing reports or recommendations, as appropriate, with the goal of implementing the resolutions of WTSA-12, particularly Resolutions 50, 52 and 58 (Rev. Dubai, 2012), allowing work to begin before a question is approved;

ii) seek ways to enhance the exchange of technical information in these fields, promote the adoption of protocols and standards that enhance security, and promote international cooperation among appropriate entities;

iii) facilitate projects deriving from the outcomes of WTSA-12, in particular:

- Resolution 50 (Rev. Dubai, 2012), on cybersecurity;
- Resolution 52 (Rev. Dubai, 2012), on countering and combating spam;

2 to continue collaboration with relevant organizations with a view to exchanging best practices and disseminating information through, for example, joint workshops and training sessions and joint coordination activity groups, and, by invitation, through written contributions from relevant organizations,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

1 consistent with the results of WTDC-14 and pursuant to Resolutions 45 and 69 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), Resolution 80 (Dubai, 2014) and Objective 3 of the Dubai Action Plan, to support ongoing regional and global cybersecurity projects, and to encourage all countries to take part in these activities;

2 upon request, to support ITU Member States in their efforts to build capacity, by facilitating Member States' access to resources developed by other relevant international organizations that are working on national legislation to combat cybercrime; supporting ITU Member States' national and regional efforts to build capacity to protect against cyberthreats/cybercrime, in collaboration with one another; consistent with the national legislation of Member States referred to above, assisting Member States, in particular developing countries, in the elaboration of appropriate and workable legal measures relating to protection against cyberthreats at national, regional and international levels; establishing technical and procedural measures, aimed at securing national ICT infrastructures, taking into the account the work of the relevant ITU-T study groups and, as appropriate, other relevant organizations; establishing organizational structures, such as CIRTs, to identify, manage and respond to cyberthreats, and cooperation mechanisms at the regional and international level;



3 to provide the necessary financial and administrative support for these projects within existing resources, and to seek additional resources (in cash and in kind) for the implementation of these projects through partnership agreements;

4 to ensure coordination of the work of these projects within the context of ITU's overall activities in its role as moderator/facilitator for WSIS Action Line C5, and to eliminate any duplication regarding this important subject with the General Secretariat and ITU-T;

5 to coordinate the work of these projects with that of the ITU-D study groups on this topic, and with the relevant programme activities and the General Secretariat;

6 to continue collaboration with relevant organizations with a view to exchanging best practices and disseminating information through, for example, joint workshops and training sessions;

7 to support ITU Member States in the development of their national and/or regional cybersecurity strategies toward building national capabilities for dealing with cyberthreats in accordance with the principles of international cooperation, consistent with Objective 3 of the Dubai Action Plan;

8 to report annually to the Council on these activities and make proposals as appropriate,

*further instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

each within the scope of their responsibilities:

1 to implement relevant resolutions of both WTSA-12 and WTDC-14, including the programme described in Output 3.1 of Objective 3 of the Dubai Action Plan, on providing support and assistance to developing countries in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

- 2 to identify and promote the availability of information on building confidence and security in the use of ICTs, specifically related to the ICT infrastructure, for Member States, Sector Members and relevant organizations;
- 3 without duplicating the work under ITU-D Question 3/2, to identify best practices in establishing CIRTs, to prepare a reference guide for the Member States and, where appropriate, to contribute to Question 3/2;
- 4 to cooperate with relevant organizations and other relevant international and national experts, as appropriate, in order to identify best practices in the establishment of CIRTs;
- 5 to take action with a view to new questions being examined by the study groups within the Sectors on the establishment of confidence and security in the use of ICTs;
- 6 to identify and document practical steps to strengthen security in the use of ICTs internationally, based on widely accepted practices, guidelines and recommendations that Member States can choose to apply to improve their ability to combat cyberthreats and attacks and to strengthen international cooperation in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs, taking into account the ITU Global Cybersecurity Agenda (GCA) and within the available financial resources;
- 7 to support strategy, organization, awareness-raising, cooperation, evaluation and skills development;
- 8 to provide the necessary technical and financial support, within the constraints of existing budgetary resources, in accordance with Resolution 58 (Rev. Dubai, 2012);
- 9 to mobilize appropriate extrabudgetary resources, outside the regular budget of the Union, for the implementation of this resolution, to help developing countries,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

pursuant to his initiative on this matter:

1 to report to the Council, taking into account the activities of the three Sectors, on the implementation and effectiveness of the action plan to strengthen the role of ITU in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

2 to cooperate with relevant international organizations, including through the adoption of MoUs, subject to the approval of the Council in this regard, in accordance with Resolution 100 (Minneapolis, 1998) of the Plenipotentiary Conference,

*requests the Council*

to include the report of the Secretary-General in the documents sent to Member States in accordance with No. 81 of the Convention,

*invites Member States*

1 to consider joining appropriate competent international and regional initiatives for enhancing national legislative frameworks relevant to the security of information and communication networks;

2 to closely collaborate in strengthening regional and international cooperation, taking into account Resolution 45 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), with a view to enhancing confidence and security in the use of ICTs, in order to mitigate risks and threats;

3 to support ITU initiatives on cybersecurity, including the Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI), in order to promote government strategies and the sharing of information on efforts across industries and sectors;

4 to inform the Secretary-General of relevant activities related to this resolution regarding confidence and security in the use of ICTs,

*invites Member States, Sector Members and Associates*

- 1 to contribute on this subject to the relevant ITU study groups and to any other activities for which the Union is responsible;
- 2 to contribute to building confidence and security in the use of ICTs at the national, regional and international levels, by undertaking activities as outlined in § 12 of the Geneva Plan of Action, and to contribute to the preparation of studies in these areas;
- 3 to promote the development of educational and training programmes to enhance user awareness of risks in cyberspace;
- 4 to collaborate, as appropriate, in order to address and prevent problems that undermine confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs.

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*(Marrakesh, 2002) – (Rev. Antalya, 2006) – (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) – (Rev. Busan, 2014)*

## RESOLUTION 131 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Measuring information and communication technologies to build an integrating and inclusive information society**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*aware*

*a)* that technological innovation, digitization and telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) have the potential to achieve sustainability, while contributing to enhancing socio-economic development and quality of life;

*b)* that there is still an ongoing need to call for the promotion of knowledge and the development of skills in all populations in order to achieve greater economic, social and cultural development and to raise the standard of living of the world's citizens;

*c)* that each Member State is seeking to establish its own policies and regulatory frameworks based on ICT statistical data in order to narrow as effectively as possible the digital divide between those who have access to communication and information and those who do not,

*recognizing*

*a)* that the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) represented an opportunity to identify a global strategy for narrowing the digital divide from the development standpoint;

*b)* that the outcome of the global Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development has resulted in agreement on the identification of a set of basic indicators and a methodological framework for producing internationally comparable data for the measurement of ICT for development, as called for by § 115 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society;

c) that the WSIS+10 High-Level Event, in its WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015, highlights that: *"ICTs will play a critical role in achieving the sustainable development goals. Taking into account the ongoing dialogue on the Post-2015 Development Agenda (MDG review process) and the WSIS implementation process, all stakeholders have indicated the necessity of increased interaction between both processes in order to ensure that efforts across the UN system are coherent and coordinated to achieve maximum and sustainable impact"*,

*considering*

a) that the Geneva Plan of Action adopted by WSIS provides for the following: *"In cooperation with each country concerned, develop and launch a composite ICT Development (Digital Opportunity) Index. It could be published annually, or every two years, in an ICT Development Report. The index could show the statistics while the report would present analytical work on policies and their implementation, depending on national circumstances, including gender analysis"*;

b) that key stakeholders, among which ITU (represented by the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D)), involved in the production of ICT statistics for measurement of the information society, joined forces to create a global Partnership for Measuring ICT for Development;

c) the contents of Resolution 8 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) as well as the Dubai Action Plan, on collection and dissemination of telecommunication/ICT information and statistics, with particular emphasis on consolidation of information and statistical data by the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), in order to avoid duplication in this field;

- d) that, through the Dubai Action Plan, WTDC called upon ITU-D to:
- collect, harmonize and disseminate data and official statistics in the area of telecommunications/ICTs using a variety of data sources and dissemination tools, such as the World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators (WTI) database, the ICT Eye ITU online portal, the UN Data portal and others;
  - analyse telecommunication/ICT trends and produce regional and global research reports, such as the Measuring the Information Society (MIS) report as well as statistical and analytical briefs;
  - benchmark telecommunication/ICT developments and clarify the magnitude of the digital divide (using tools such as the ICT Development Index and the ICT Price Basket) and measuring the impact of ICTs on development and the gender digital divide;
  - develop international standards, definitions and methodologies on telecommunication/ICT statistics, in close cooperation with other regional and international organizations, including the United Nations, Eurostat, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development, for consideration by the United Nations Statistical Commission;
  - provide a global forum for discussing information society measurements for ITU members and other national and international stakeholders, by organizing the World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium and its related statistical expert groups;

- encourage Members States to bring together different stakeholders in government, academia and civil society in raising national awareness about the importance of production and dissemination of high-quality data for policy purposes;
- contribute to the monitoring of internationally agreed goals and targets, including the Millenium Development Goals (MDGs) and WSIS targets as well as the targets set by the Broadband Commission for Digital Development, and developing related measurement frameworks;
- maintain a leading role in the global Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development and its relevant task groups;
- provide capacity building and technical assistance to Member States for the collection of telecommunication/ICT statistics, in particular by means of national surveys, through the delivery of training workshops and the production of methodological manuals and handbooks;

e) the WSIS outcomes in relation to ICT indicators, especially the following paragraphs in the Tunis Agenda:

- § 113, which called for formulating appropriate indicators and benchmarking, among them indicators of ICT access and use, including community connectivity indicators, to clarify the magnitude of the digital divide, in both its domestic and international dimensions, and keep it under regular assessment, and track global progress in the use of ICTs to achieve internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including the MDGs;
- § 114, which recognized the importance of the development of ICT indicators for measuring the digital divide and noted the launch of the Partnership for Measuring ICT for Development;



- § 115, which noted the launch of the ICT Opportunity Index and the Digital Opportunity Index, based on the core indicators defined by the global Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development;
- § 116, which stressed the need to take into account different levels of development and national circumstances;
- § 117, which called for further development of these indicators, in collaboration with the global partnership, in order to ensure cost-effectiveness and non-duplication in this field;
- § 118, which invited the international community to strengthen the statistical capacity of developing countries<sup>1</sup> by giving appropriate support at national and regional levels;
- § 119, in which a commitment is made to review and follow up progress in bridging the digital divide, taking into account the different levels of development among nations, so as to achieve the internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including the MDGs, assessing the effectiveness of investment and international cooperation efforts in building the information society, identifying gaps as well as deficits in investment and devising strategies to address them;
- § 120, which indicates that the sharing of information related to the implementation of WSIS outcomes is an important element of evaluation,

*highlighting*

- a) the responsibilities that ITU-D had to assume as a result of the Tunis Agenda, especially its §§ 112 to 120 thereof;

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

b) that the Dubai Declaration adopted by WTDC-14 declares that: "*the transparent and collaborative collection and dissemination of quality indicators and statistics that measure and provide comparative analysis of advancements in the use and adoption of ICTs continue to be a major factor for supporting socio-economic growth. These indicators and their analysis provide governments and stakeholders with a mechanism to better understand key drivers of telecommunication/ICT adoption and assist in ongoing national policy formulation. They also serve to monitor the digital divide as well as progress towards achievement of internationally agreed goals in the post-2015 development agenda*";

c) that the WSIS+10 High-Level Event, in its WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015, states that: "*The evolution of the information society over the past 10 years is contributing towards, inter alia, the development of knowledge societies around the world that are based on principles of freedom of expression, quality education for all, universal and non-discriminatory access to information and knowledge, and respect for cultural and linguistic diversity and cultural heritage. When mentioning the information society, we also refer to the above-mentioned evolution and to the vision of inclusive knowledge societies*",

*recognizing further*

a) that, with a view to providing their populations with faster access to telecommunication/ICT services, many countries have continued to implement public policies for digital inclusion, including community connectivity in those communities that are poorly served with telecommunication facilities;

b) that the approach of achieving universal service through community connectivity and broadband access instead of seeking in the short term to ensure that all households have a telephone line has become one of the main goals of ITU;

c) that the ICT Development Index is considered as the most important indicator of the digital divide,

*bearing in mind*

- a) that, in order to keep each country's public policy makers properly informed, ITU-D shall continue to strive to gather and periodically publish a variety of ICT statistics which provide some indication of the degree of progress in and penetration of telecommunication/ICT services in the different regions of the world;
- b) that, according to the guidelines of the Plenipotentiary Conference, it is necessary to ensure as far as possible that the policies and strategies of the Union are fully in tune with the constantly changing telecommunication environment,

*noting*

- a) that the Geneva Plan of Action adopted by WSIS identifies indicators and appropriate reference points, including indicators of ICT access and use, as elements for the follow-up and evaluation thereof;
- b) that the single ICT Development Index (IDI) was developed by ITU-D and has been published annually since 2009;
- c) that Resolution 8 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) instructs the Director of BDT, among other actions, to prepare and compile community connectivity indicators and to participate in the establishment of core indicators to measure efforts to build the information society and, by doing so, to illustrate the scale of the digital divide and efforts made by developing countries to reduce it,

*resolves*

- 1 that ITU, as a specialized agency of the United Nations, should spearhead the tasks of compiling information and statistical data on telecommunications/ICTs; data for evaluating ICT trends; and data for measuring the impact of ICTs in narrowing the digital divide, showing, to the extent possible, their impact on matters related to gender, persons with disabilities and the different social sectors, as well as social inclusion, resulting from access in the areas of education, health, and e-government, etc., including their influence on the development and quality of life of all persons, highlighting their contribution to progress and sustainable development;

2 that ITU should strengthen its coordination with other relevant international organizations involved in the collection of ICT data, and establish a standardized set of indicators through the Partnership for Measuring ICT for Development, improving the availability and quality of ICT data and indicators and fostering the development of strategies and national, regional and international public policy,

*resolves to instruct the Secretary-General and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

1 to take the measures necessary to enable ITU to carry out the tasks described in *resolves* 1 and 2 above;

2 to continue to promote the adoption of measures necessary to ensure that indicators of community connectivity and ICT access and use are taken into account in regional and world meetings convened for the purpose of evaluating and following up the Geneva Plan of Action and Tunis Agenda, also considering the WSIS+10 Statement on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes and the emergence of new challenges in achieving the development of an inclusive information society in the wider context of the Post-2015 Development Agenda;

3 to ensure that projects, while having highly different goals and scopes, take account of the data, indicators and indices for measuring ICTs for their comparative analysis and for measurement of their results, such as for example in the implementation of Resolution 17 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

1 to continue to promote the adoption of the ICT statistics developed by ITU based primarily on official data provided by Member States, and to publish them regularly;

2 to promote the activities required to define and adopt new indicators, including e-application indicators, for the purpose of measuring the real impact of ICTs on countries' development;

3 to promote efforts to disseminate the internationally agreed ICT methodologies and indicators;

4 in order to give full effect to Resolution 8 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), to maintain a group of experts on ICT indicators and statistics so that Member States develop existing indicators and systematically review their methodologies and definitions, commencing this review in accordance with Resolution 8 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), and, as appropriate, to formulate any other ICT indicators that may be required;

5 to continue to hold the World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium and expert meetings, periodically, with participation by all Member States, Sector Members, experts on ICT indicators and statistics, and others interested in measuring ICTs and the information society;

6 to give the necessary support for the implementation of Resolution 8 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), stress the importance of implementing the WSIS outcomes in relation to the indicators mentioned, and continue to avoid duplication in statistical work in this field;

7 to continue to work to promote an ICT Development Index using available internationally recognized methodologies as the means by which ITU responds to *considering a)* above;

8 to cooperate with relevant international bodies, in particular those involved in the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development, for the implementation of this resolution;

9 to work on the development of indicators of community connectivity and ICT access and use and forward the results on an annual basis;

10 to adapt the data collection and the ICT Development Index in order to reflect the changing access to and use of ICTs, and to invite Member States to participate in such processes,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

to submit a report to the next plenipotentiary conference on progress in the implementation of this resolution,

*invites Member States*

- 1 to participate in the submission to ITU-D of their national statistics on ICT access and use and community connectivity;
- 2 to participate actively in these endeavours, by providing the requested information to ITU-D so as to produce telecommunication/ICT benchmarks, in particular the ICT Development Index.

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*(Marrakesh, 2002) – (Rev. Antalya, 2006) – (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) – (Rev. Busan, 2014)*

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## RESOLUTION 133 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Role of administrations of Member States in the management of internationalized (multilingual) domain names**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*considering*

the provisions of Resolutions 101 and 102 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on ITU's role with regard to international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet and the management of Internet resources, including domain names and addresses,

*recalling*

*a)* the role of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T), as defined in resolutions adopted at the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, including, *inter alia*, Resolution 47 (Rev. Dubai, 2012), on country code top-level domain names, and Resolution 48 (Rev. Dubai, 2012), on internationalized domain names, and ongoing activities in ITU-T Study Group 16 in this regard;

*b)* the commitment of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) to advance the process for the introduction of multilingualism in a number of areas including domain names, e-mail, Internet addresses and keyword look-up;

*c)* the need to promote regional root servers and the use of internationalized domain names in order to overcome linguistic barriers to Internet access;

d) past successful standardization activities undertaken by ITU-T with regard to the adoption of recommendations pertaining to non-Latin character sets for telex (five-character code) and data transfer (seven-character code), allowing the use of non-Latin character sets for national and regional telex and for data transfer at global, regional and international level,

*aware*

a) of the continuing progress towards integration of telecommunications and the Internet;

b) that Internet users are generally more comfortable reading or browsing through texts in their own language and that, for the Internet to become more widely available to a large number of users, it is necessary to make the Internet (domain name system – DNS) available in non-Latin based scripts, taking into account the progress recently made in this regard;

c) that, recalling the results of WSIS and resolutions of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006), there should be a continuing commitment to working earnestly towards multilingualization of the Internet, as part of the multilateral, transparent and democratic process, involving governments and all other stakeholders, in their respective roles in implementation of this resolution;

d) of the progress made by all stakeholders, in particular through relevant organizations and entities, in the introduction of internationalized domain names (IDNs);

e) of the significant progress made towards the provisions of IDNs and the benefits of using non-Latin character sets available on the Internet;

f) the progress made in providing multilingualism on the Internet,

*emphasizing*

a) that the current DNS has made progress in reflecting the diverse and growing language needs of all users, while recognizing that more remains to be done;



*b)* that internationalized Internet domain names, and more generally information and communication technologies (ICTs) and the Internet, must be widely accessible to all citizens without regard to gender, race, religion, country of residence or language;

*c)* that Internet domain names should not privilege any country or region of the world to the detriment of others, and should take into account the global diversity of languages;

*d)* the role of ITU to assist its membership in promoting the use of their language scripts for domain names;

*e)* that, recalling the results of WSIS and the needs of linguistic groups, there is an urgent need to:

- advance the process for the introduction of multilingualism in a number of areas, including domain names, e-mail addresses and keyword look-up;
- implement programmes that allow for the presence of multilingual domain names and content on the Internet and the use of various software models in order to fight against the linguistic digital divide and to ensure that everyone can participate in the emerging new society;
- strengthen cooperation between relevant bodies for the further development of technical standards and to foster their global deployment,

*recognizing*

*a)* the existing role and sovereignty of ITU Member States with respect to allocation and management of their country code numbering resources as enshrined in Recommendation ITU-T E.164;

*b)* that there are a number of challenges with regard to intellectual property and the deployment of IDNs, and adequate solutions should be explored;

*c)* the role played by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) with regard to dispute resolution for domain names;

- d) the role played by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) with regard to promoting cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content;
- e) that ITU enjoys close cooperation with both WIPO and UNESCO;
- f) that it is paramount to maintain global interoperability as domain names expand to include non-Latin character sets,

*resolves*

to explore ways and means for greater collaboration and coordination between ITU and relevant organizations<sup>1</sup> involved in the development of IP-based networks and the future Internet, through cooperation agreements, as appropriate, in order to increase the role of ITU in Internet governance so as to ensure maximum benefits to the global community,

*instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux*

- 1 to take an active part in all international discussions, initiatives and activities on the deployment and management of internationalized Internet domain names, in cooperation with relevant organizations, including WIPO and UNESCO;
- 2 to take any necessary action to ensure the sovereignty of ITU Member States with regard to Recommendation ITU-T E.164 numbering plans whatever the application in which they are used;
- 3 to encourage the ITU members, as appropriate, to develop and deploy the internationalized domain names in their respective language scripts using their specific character sets;

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<sup>1</sup> Including, but not limited to, the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), the regional Internet registries (RIRs), the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), the Internet Society (ISOC) and the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C), on the basis of reciprocity.

4 to support Member States in meeting the commitments of the Geneva Plan of Action and the Tunis Agenda in respect of internationalized domain names;

5 to make proposals, where appropriate, for achieving the aims of this resolution;

6 to bring this resolution to the attention of WIPO and UNESCO, which is facilitator for the implementation of WSIS Action Line C8, stressing the concerns and requests for assistance of Member States, in particular the developing countries<sup>2</sup>, with regard to internationalized (multilingual) domain names, and their insistence on help from the Union in this field, in order to ensure Internet use and advancement across language barriers, thereby increasing the international use of the Internet;

7 to report annually to the ITU Council on the activities undertaken and achievements attained on this subject,

*instructs the Council*

to consider the activities of the Secretary-General and Directors of the Bureaux with regard to the implementation of this resolution and to take necessary actions, as appropriate,

*invites Member States and Sector Members*

1 to take an active part in all international discussions and initiatives on the further development and deployment of internationalized Internet domain names, including the initiatives of relevant language groups, and to submit written contributions to ITU-T in order to help implement this resolution;

2 to urge all relevant entities working to develop and implement internationalized domain names in order to expedite their activities in this domain.

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*(Marrakesh, 2002) – (Rev. Antalya, 2006) – (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) – (Rev. Busan, 2014)*

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<sup>2</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

## RESOLUTION 135 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**ITU's role in the development of telecommunications/information and communication technologies, in providing technical assistance and advice to developing countries<sup>1</sup> and in implementing relevant national, regional and interregional projects**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

*a)* Resolution 135 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*b)* Resolution 34 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on assistance and support to countries in special need for rebuilding their telecommunication sector;

*c)* relevant resolutions of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) – especially Resolution 17 (Rev. Dubai, 2014); the Dubai Action Plan on implementation of initiatives at the national, regional, interregional and global levels approved by the six<sup>2</sup> regions; Resolution 32 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010), on international and regional cooperation on regional initiatives; and Resolution 34 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), on the role of telecommunications/information and communication technology (ICT) in disaster preparedness, early warning, rescue, mitigation, relief and response – as well as the provisions of the outputs adopted by WTDC-14 and their linkage with those resolutions,

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

<sup>2</sup> Africa, Americas, Arab States, Asia and the Pacific, Commonwealth of Independent States, Europe.

*considering*

- a) the development goals which require that telecommunications/ICTs be accessible to humanity as a whole, especially the peoples of developing countries;
- b) the accumulated and advanced experience of ITU in implementing the above-mentioned resolutions;
- c) the tasks assigned to ITU as regards Action Lines C2, C5 and C6 in the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, and required participation by ITU in implementing other action lines that depend on the availability of telecommunications/ICTs, in agreement with the United Nations agencies that collaborate in implementing these action lines;
- d) the continued success achieved by the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector in its partnerships to implement many development actions, including developing telecommunication/ICT networks in several developing countries;
- e) the Dubai Action Plan and the necessary optimization of resources to achieve the proposed goals;
- f) the actions undertaken to implement Resolution 157 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on strengthening of the project execution function in ITU;
- g) Resolution 59 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on strengthening coordination and cooperation among the three ITU Sectors on matters of mutual interest;
- h) that technological advances in telecommunication systems are enabling sustainable and affordable access to information and knowledge through the provision of highly connected communications services (broadband) of broad coverage (regional or global scope), so that countries can be connected directly, rapidly and reliably;

i) that broadband satellite and radiocommunication services are in turn providing highly connected, rapid, reliable and cost-efficient communications solutions both in metropolitan and in rural and remote areas, efficiently complementing fibre-optic and other technologies and serving as a fundamental driver of economic and social growth of countries and regions;

j) that it is deemed relevant to deepen collaboration and interrelated work among the different ITU Sectors with a view to carrying out studies and activities, including capacity building, for the provision of better advice and technical assistance to developing countries for optimal use of resources and the execution of national, regional and interregional projects,

*resolves*

1 that ITU should:

- i) continue to coordinate efforts for the harmonization, development and enhancement of telecommunications/ICTs throughout the world towards building the information society, and to take appropriate measures to adapt itself to the trends in the telecommunication/ICT infrastructure development environment;
- ii) maintain contacts with the United Nations Educational, Social and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to revise the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC), with a view to the continued implementation of Action Line C7 in the Tunis Agenda relating to education and cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP);
- iii) contribute, in its areas of competence, to the evolution of the integrating information society, through, among other things, the creation of knowledge societies worldwide based on principles such as freedom of expression, equality and quality education for all, with the aim of ensuring equitable access to telecommunications/ICTs and to information and knowledge, and respect for linguistic and cultural diversity and cultural heritage;

- 2 that the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) shall:
- i) continue to provide highly qualified technical experts to offer advice in subjects of importance to developing countries, on an individual and collective basis, and to ensure adequate expertise through recruitment or short-term contracts, as appropriate;
  - ii) continue cooperating with financing sources, whether under the United Nations system, UNDP or other financing arrangements, and multiplying partnerships with Member States, Sector Members, financial institutions and international and regional organizations, to finance the activities related to the implementation of this resolution;
  - iii) continue its Special Voluntary Programme for Technical Cooperation, based on financial contributions, expert services or any other form of assistance, to help better meet the requests of developing countries in the telecommunication/ICT field as far as possible;
  - iv) take into account, when establishing the above-mentioned actions, previous national or regional connectivity plans, so that the actions carried out give effect to the priority aspects of these plans and the impact of the action undertaken in essential aspects serves the achievement of national, regional and ITU goals; if the administrations do not have these plans, the projects may also consider developing them;
  - v) promote and facilitate collaborative actions with the different Sectors of the Union in order to carry out studies and interrelated activities to complement the use of telecommunication technologies and systems so as to achieve optimal use of resources, including orbital resources and associated spectrum resources, and improve access to and the connectivity of telecommunication/ICT networks and systems to address the telecommunication needs of developing countries;

- vi) promote collaborative activities in coordination with the different Sectors of the Union to create and build capacities so as to provide and deepen universal access to knowledge on optimal use of telecommunication resources, including orbital resources and associated spectrum resources, and to increase access to and the connectivity of telecommunication/ICT systems and networks included in national and regional telecommunication projects and plans,

*invites regional and international financial organizations and agencies, equipment providers, operators, and all potential partners*

to consider the possibility of ensuring complete or partial financing to implement cooperation programmes for developing telecommunications/ICTs, including the regionally approved initiatives under the Dubai Action Plan and Resolution 17 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

to submit an annual detailed report to the ITU Council on the results of the implementation of this resolution, including any recommendations which the Secretary-General may deem necessary, in agreement with the Director of BDT, to enhance the impact of this resolution,

*invites the Council*

to review the results achieved and to take all necessary steps to expedite the implementation of this resolution in the best possible way.



## RESOLUTION 136 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**The use of telecommunications/information and communication technologies for monitoring and management in emergency and disaster situations for early warning, prevention, mitigation and relief**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

- a)* Resolution 36 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on telecommunications/information and communication technology (ICT) in the service of humanitarian assistance;
- b)* Resolution 182 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on the role of telecommunications/ICTs in regard to climate change and the protection of the environment;
- c)* Resolution 34 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on the role of telecommunications/ICT in disaster preparedness, early warning, rescue, mitigation, relief and response;
- d)* Resolution 66 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on ICT and climate change;
- e)* Resolution 48 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010) of WTDC, on strengthening cooperation among telecommunication regulators;
- f)* Resolution 644 (Rev. WRC-12) of the World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC), on telecommunication resources for disaster mitigation and relief operations;
- g)* Resolution 646 (WRC-12) of WRC, on public protection and disaster relief;

- h) Resolution 673 (WRC-12) of WRC, on radiocommunication use for Earth observation applications;
- i) Article 5 of the International Telecommunication Regulations, on safety of life and priority of telecommunications;
- j) the emergency telecommunication/ICT coordination mechanisms established by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs,

*taking into account*

Resolution 60/125, on international cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in March 2006,

*noting*

- a) § 51 of the Geneva Declaration of Principles adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), on the use of ICT applications for disaster prevention;
- b) § 20(c) of the Geneva Plan of Action adopted by WSIS, on e-environment, which calls for the establishment of monitoring systems, using ICTs, to forecast and monitor the impact of natural and man-made disasters, particularly in developing countries<sup>1</sup>, least developed countries and small economies;
- c) § 30 of the Tunis Commitment adopted by WSIS, on disaster mitigation;
- d) § 91 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society adopted by WSIS, on disaster reduction;
- e) the effective coordination work of the Partnership Coordination Panel for Telecommunication for Disaster Relief and Mitigation, led by the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T);

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

f) the work of the study groups of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) and ITU-T in adopting recommendations that provide technical information on satellite and terrestrial radiocommunication systems and wired networks and their role in disaster management, including important recommendations pertaining to the use of satellite networks in times of disasters;

g) the work of the ITU-T study groups in developing and adopting recommendations for priority/preferential emergency telecommunications and emergency telecommunication services, including consideration of use of both terrestrial and wireless telecommunication systems during emergencies,

*considering*

a) the devastation suffered from disasters, including, but not limited to, tsunamis, earthquakes and storms, around the world, particularly in developing countries, which may suffer disproportionately due to a lack of infrastructure and, therefore, have the most to gain from information on the subject of disaster prevention, mitigation and relief efforts;

b) that modern telecommunications/ICTs play an important role in early warning of disasters and facilitate disaster prevention, mitigation, relief and recovery efforts;

c) the ongoing cooperation between ITU study groups and other standards development organizations dealing with emergency telecommunications, alert and warning systems;

d) Resolution 59 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on strengthening coordination and cooperation between ITU-R, ITU-T and the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) in matters of mutual interest;

e) that Article 5 of the International Telecommunication Regulations establishes that safety-of-life telecommunications, such as distress telecommunications, shall be entitled to transmission as of right and, where technically practicable, have absolute priority over all other telecommunications, in accordance with the relevant articles of the ITU Constitution and Convention and taking due account of the relevant ITU-T recommendations;

f) the need to plan for immediate availability of telecommunication services in emergency or disaster situations in affected areas or regions, through primary or back-up telecommunication systems, including those which may be movable or portable, in order to minimize impacts and facilitate relief operations;

g) that satellite services, among other radiocommunication services, may constitute a reliable platform for public safety, especially in natural disasters when existing terrestrial networks are often disrupted, and are highly useful for the coordination of humanitarian assistance by government agencies and other humanitarian entities,

*recognizing*

a) the activities being undertaken at the international and regional levels within ITU and other relevant organizations to establish internationally agreed means for the operation of systems for public protection and disaster relief on a harmonized and coordinated basis;

b) the ongoing development by ITU, in coordination with the United Nations and other United Nations specialized agencies, of guidelines for applying the international content standard for all-media public warning in all disaster and emergency situations;

c) the contribution of the private sector in the prevention, mitigation and relief of emergency and disaster situations, which is proving to be effective;

d) the need for a common understanding of the network infrastructure components required to provide rapidly installed, interoperable, interworking, robust telecommunication capabilities in humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations;

e) the importance of working towards the establishment of standards-based monitoring and worldwide early-warning systems, based on telecommunications/ICTs, that are linked to national and regional networks and that facilitate emergency disaster response all over the world, particularly in high-risk regions;

f) the importance of redundancy, infrastructure resilience and the availability of energy supply when planning for disaster situations;

g) the role that ITU-D can play, through such means as the Global Symposium for Regulators and the ITU-D study groups, in collecting and disseminating national regulatory best practices for telecommunication/ICT facilities for disaster prevention, mitigation and relief;

h) that private and public networks include various public safety and group communications features which can play a key role in emergency and disaster preparedness, prevention, mitigation and relief situations,

*convinced*

a) that an international standard for communication of alert and warning information can assist in the provision of effective and appropriate humanitarian assistance and in mitigating the consequences of disasters, in particular in developing countries;

b) that there is a need to train rescue and relief agencies, as well as the general public, in the use of modern communication technologies to strengthen both disaster preparedness and response,

*resolves to instruct the Directors of the Bureaux*

- 1 to continue their technical studies and to develop recommendations, guidelines and standards, through the relevant ITU study groups, with advice from the advisory groups, concerning technical and operational implementation, as necessary, of advanced solutions to meet the needs of public-protection and disaster-relief telecommunications/ICTs, taking into account the capabilities, evolution and any resulting transition requirements of existing systems, particularly those of many developing countries, for national and international operations;
- 2 to conduct training programmes, workshops and capacity building for trainers of relevant organizations and entities, especially in developing countries, on technical and operational aspects of networks and their use for monitoring and management in emergency and disaster situations;
- 3 to support the development of robust, comprehensive, all-hazards emergency and disaster prediction, detection, early-warning, mitigation and relief systems, at national, regional and international levels, including monitoring and management systems involving the use of telecommunications/ICTs (e.g. remote sensing), in collaboration with other international agencies, in order to support coordination at the global and regional level;
- 4 to promote implementation by appropriate alerting authorities of the international standard for all-media public warning, in concert with ITU guidelines developed through the relevant ITU study groups for application to all disaster and emergency situations;
- 5 to continue to collaborate with organizations that are working in the area of standards for emergency telecommunications/ICTs and for communication of alert and warning information, in order to study the appropriate inclusion of such standards in ITU's work and their dissemination, in particular in developing countries;

6 to analyse ongoing work in all Sectors of ITU, regional entities and other expert organizations, and promote joint activities to avoid duplication of efforts and resources in the development, use and interworking of public and private telecommunications/ICTs, including radiocommunication and satellite systems, in times of emergencies and disaster relief operations in response to natural disasters;

7 to assist Member States in enhancing and strengthening the use of all available communication systems, including satellite, amateur radio and broadcasting services, in the event of the disruption of conventional power supply or telecommunication networks,

8 to support the work of the relevant study groups in the development of reports and recommendations regarding radio-frequency spectrum requirements for disaster management,

*encourages Member States*

1 in emergency and disaster relief situations, to satisfy temporary needs for spectrum in addition to what may be normally provided for in agreements with the administrations concerned, while seeking international assistance for spectrum coordination and management, in accordance with the legal framework in force in each country;

2 to work in close collaboration with the Secretary-General, the Directors of the Bureaux and other Member States, while taking into account emergency telecommunication/ICT coordination mechanisms of the United Nations, in the development and dissemination of tools, procedures and best practices for the effective coordination and operation of telecommunications/ICTs in disaster situations;

3 to facilitate the use by emergency organizations of both existing and new technologies, systems and applications (satellite and terrestrial), to the extent practicable, in order to satisfy interoperability requirements and to further the goals of public protection and disaster relief;

- 4 to develop and support national and regional centres of excellence for research, pre-planning, equipment pre-positioning and deployment of telecommunication/ICT resources for humanitarian assistance and disaster relief coordination;
- 5 to adopt and promote policies that encourage public and private operators to invest in the development and building of telecommunications/ICTs, including radiocommunication and satellite systems, for early warning systems and the management of emergencies;
- 6 to take appropriate measures to ensure that all operators inform local and roaming users, in a timely manner and at no cost, of the numbers in use to contact emergency services;
- 7 to explore the possibility of introducing a globally harmonized emergency number to supplement existing domestic emergency numbers, taking into account the relevant ITU-T recommendations,

*invites the Secretary-General*

- 1 to inform the United Nations and, in particular the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, of this resolution;
- 2 to coordinate the activities conducted by the ITU Sectors in line with *resolves* 5, in order to ensure the most effective action possible by ITU in this matter.



## RESOLUTION 137 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Next-generation network deployment in developing countries<sup>1</sup>**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

Resolution 137 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference,

*considering*

*a)* that, as stated in § 22 of the Geneva Declaration of Principles adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), a well-developed information and communication network infrastructure and applications, adapted to regional, national and local conditions, easily accessible and affordable, and making greater use of broadband and other innovative technologies, where possible, can accelerate the social and economic progress of countries, and the well-being of all individuals, communities and peoples, and that this is covered by Action Line C2, expanded to include Action Line C6;

*b)* that the existence, at the national, regional, interregional and global levels, of coherent telecommunication networks and services for the development of national, regional and international economies is a very important element in the improvement of the social, economic and financial situation of Member States,

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

*welcoming*

Resolution 44 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), and the annexes to Resolution 17 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC),

*noting*

- a) that developing countries are still being challenged by rapid change of technologies and service convergence trends;
- b) ongoing shortages of resources, experience and capacity building within developing countries in planning, deploying and operating networks, especially next-generation networks (NGN),

*recalling*

- a) the efforts and collaboration of the three Bureaux to continue enhancing work aimed at providing information and advice on subjects of importance to developing countries for the planning, organization, development and operation of their telecommunication systems;
- b) that technical knowledge and experience of great value to the developing countries is also obtainable from the work of the ITU Radiocommunication (ITU-R), Telecommunication Standardization (ITU-T) and Telecommunication Development (ITU-D) Sectors;
- c) that, in accordance with Resolution 143 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, the provisions in all ITU documents relating to developing countries shall be extended to apply adequately to the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition,

*recognizing*

- a) that the developing countries have limited human and financial resources to cope with the ever-increasing technology gap;

b) that the existing digital divide is liable to be aggravated further with the emergence of new technologies, including post-NGNs, and if developing countries are not able to introduce NGNs fully and in a timely manner;

c) that one of the most important expected outcomes of the introduction of NGNs for developing countries is the reduction of operating costs relating to the operation and technical maintenance of network infrastructure,

*taking into account*

a) that, for countries, especially developing countries and many developed countries, that have already invested heavily in the traditional public switched telephone network, it is a pressing task for them to conduct a smooth migration from existing networks to NGNs;

b) that NGNs are potential tools to meet the new challenges facing the telecommunication industry, and NGN deployment and standards development activities are essential for developing countries, especially for their rural areas where the majority of the population live;

c) that many developing countries have invested significantly in the deployment of NGN networks to provide advanced services, but are still unable to exploit and operate them effectively;

d) that the migration of legacy networks to NGN will affect point of interconnection, quality of service and other operational aspects, which will also have an effect on costs to the end user;

e) that countries can benefit from NGNs, which can facilitate the delivery of a wide range of advanced information and communication technology (ICT)-based services and applications for building the information society, resolving difficult issues such as the development and implementation of systems for public protection and disaster relief, especially telecommunications for early warning and the dissemination of emergency information;

f) that the challenge, as perceived by WSIS, is to harness the potential of ICTs and ICT applications for promoting the development goals of the Millennium Declaration, namely the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger, achieving universal primary education, promoting gender equality and empowerment of women, reducing child mortality, improving maternal health and combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, and so forth,

*resolves to instruct the Directors of the three Bureaux*

1 to continue and consolidate their efforts on NGN and future networks<sup>2</sup> deployment studies, standards development, training activities and the sharing of best practices on business model evolution and operational aspects, especially for those networks designed for rural areas and for bridging the digital divide and the development divide;

2 to coordinate studies and programmes under ITU-T Study Group 13 on future networks and the Global Network Planning initiatives (GNPi) of ITU-D; coordinate ongoing work being carried out by study groups and the relevant programmes as defined in Dubai Action Plan of WTDC-14, in order to assist the membership in deploying NGN effectively, especially in conducting a smooth migration from existing telecommunication infrastructures to NGNs; and seek appropriate solutions to expedite affordable deployment in rural areas, taking into consideration the successes of several developing countries in migrating to and operating these networks, and benefiting from the experience of these countries,

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<sup>2</sup> See the work of the ITU-T Study Group 13 Focus Group on future networks.

*instructs the Secretary-General and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

1 to take appropriate action in order to seek support and financial provision sufficient for the implementation of this resolution, within available financial resources, including financial support through partnership agreements;

2 to highlight the importance and benefits of NGN development and deployment to other United Nations specialized agencies and financial institutions,

*instructs the ITU Council*

to consider the reports and proposals made by the Secretary-General and the three Bureaux relating to the implementation of this resolution, making the appropriate linkage with the operative paragraphs of Resolution 44 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of WTSA, and to take appropriate action so that the Union continues to pay attention to addressing the needs of developing countries,

*invites all Member States and Sector Members*

1 to undertake concrete actions, to support ITU's actions and to develop their own initiatives in order to implement this resolution;

2 to strengthen cooperation between developed and developing countries, and among developing countries themselves, in improving national, regional and international capabilities in the implementation of NGNs, especially in regard to NGN planning, deployment, operation and maintenance, and the development of NGN-based applications, especially for rural areas, taking into consideration also development in the near future, in order to handle future networks.

## RESOLUTION 138 (ANTALYA, 2006)

### **The Global Symposium for Regulators**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Antalya, 2006),

*recalling*

Resolution 48 (Doha, 2006) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on cooperation among telecommunication regulators, which resolved:

- a) that telecommunication regulators shall continue to have a specific platform for sharing and exchanging matters concerning regulatory issues (hereinafter referred to as “Global Symposium for Regulators” (GSR));
- b) that ITU, and in particular the Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D), should continue to support regulatory reform by sharing information and experience;
- c) that the Telecommunication Development Bureau should continue to coordinate and facilitate, within the resources available, joint activities relating to telecommunication policy and regulatory issues with regional and subregional organizations and institutions;
- d) that ITU-D should continue to further provide technical cooperation, regulatory exchange, capacity building and expert advice, with the support of the regional offices, to the extent possible,

*considering*

- a) the considerable success achieved by regulators through effective participation in the GSR since its inception in 2000, as well as in meetings of regional regulators, held in parallel with the GSR meeting or just before it, a success which also stresses the importance of enhancing regional cooperation among regulators from different countries and regions of the world;

b) the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, in respect of the responsibilities to be assumed by telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) sector regulators,

*noting*

the multiplicity of subjects and issues closely related to regulators and which have posed challenges to the international community, especially the developing countries, such as integration of services, interconnection, next-generation networks and universal access, in addition to current challenges such as roaming services, quality of service, universal service and protection of consumer rights,

*resolves*

that the GSR shall be established as a regular activity within the ITU-D work programme,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

- 1 to hold the GSR annually, within the financial limits set by the Plenipotentiary Conference, in order to strengthen exchanges of experience among regulators on the most important regulatory subjects and issues, including ICTs, to support newly established regulators, and to encourage the holding of meetings for regional regulators in parallel with the annual meeting;
- 2 to rotate the holding of the GSR in different regions of the world.

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*(Antalya, 2006)*

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## RESOLUTION 139 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Use of telecommunications/information and communication technologies to bridge the digital divide and build an inclusive information society**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

Resolution 139 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference,

*recognizing*

- a) that the social and economic underdevelopment of a large part of the world is one of the most serious problems affecting not only the countries concerned but also the international community as a whole;
- b) that there is a need to create opportunities for digital services in developing countries<sup>1</sup>, taking advantage of the benefits of the revolution in information and communication technologies (ICTs);
- c) that the new architecture of telecommunication networks shows potential for offering more efficient and economic telecommunication and ICT services and applications, particularly for rural and remote areas;
- d) that the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) highlighted that the ICT infrastructure is an essential foundation for an inclusive information society, and called for the commitment of all States to placing ICTs and ICT applications at the service of development;

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.



*e)* that the WSIS+10 High-Level Event, an expanded version of the WSIS Forum, held by ITU in collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), recognizes in its Statement on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes that, since the Tunis Phase was held in 2005, the uses of ICTs have increased considerably and are now part of our everyday life, accelerating social and economic growth, sustainable development, increasing transparency and accountability, where applicable, and offering new opportunities for both developed and developing countries to leverage the benefits of new technologies;

*f)* that, in turn, the WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015 reaffirms that the objective of the Summit is to bridge the digital, technology and knowledge divides and create a people-centric, inclusive, open and development-oriented information society where everyone can create, access, utilize and share information and knowledge;

*g)* that the declarations of previous world telecommunication development conferences (WTDC) (Istanbul, 2002; Doha, 2006; Hyderabad, 2010; and Dubai, 2014) have continued to affirm that ICTs and ICT applications are essential for political, economic, social and cultural development, that they play an important role in poverty alleviation, job creation, environmental protection and the prevention and mitigation of natural and other disasters (in addition to the importance of disaster prediction), and that they must be placed at the service of development in other sectors; and that, therefore, opportunities offered by new ICTs should be fully exploited in order to foster sustainable development;

*h)* that Goal 2 in Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019, continues to declare that the aim is for ITU to assist in bridging the national, regional and international digital divide in ICTs and ICT applications by facilitating interoperability, interconnection and global connectivity of telecommunication networks and services, and by playing a leading role, within its mandate, in the multistakeholder participation process for follow-up and implementation of the relevant goals and objectives of WSIS, and to focus on bridging the digital divide and providing broadband for all;

i) that, even prior to WSIS, in addition to ITU activities, various activities were being executed by many organizations and entities to bridge the digital divide;

j) that such activity by the Union has been increasing since the conclusion of WSIS and the adoption of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, particularly in relation to implementation and follow-up, in accordance with the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019 and resolutions of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006 and Guadalajara, 2010),

*recalling*

a) Resolution 24 (Kyoto, 1994) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the role of ITU in the development of world telecommunications, Resolution 31 (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on telecommunication infrastructure and ICTs for socio-economic and cultural development, and Resolution 129 (Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on bridging the digital divide;

b) that the Union's World Telecommunication Development Report has highlighted the unacceptable imbalance in the distribution of telecommunications and the imperative and urgent need to remedy that imbalance;

c) that, in this context, the first WTDC (Buenos Aires, 1994), *inter alia*, called on governments, international agencies and all other parties concerned to accord, particularly in developing countries, an appropriate higher priority to investment and other related actions for the development of telecommunications;

d) that, since that time, WTDCs have established study groups, developed work programmes and approved resolutions to promote digital opportunities, highlighting the role of ICT in a number of areas;

e) that Resolutions 30 and 143 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference highlight that what countries need, as reflected in the two resolutions, is for the digital divide to be bridged, as a fundamental goal,

*endorsing*

a) Resolution 16 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010) of WTDC, on special actions and measures for the least developed countries (LDCs), small island developing states (SIDS), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and countries with economies in transition, which calls upon other Member States and Sector Members to establish partnerships with these countries, either directly or through the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), in order to bring increased investment into the ICT sector and to stimulate the modernization and expansion of networks in these countries in a bold attempt to reduce the digital divide and to achieve the ultimate goal of universal access in line with the Geneva Plan of Action, the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda;

b) Resolution 37 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on bridging the digital divide;

c) Resolution 50 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on optimal integration of ICTs;

d) Resolution 44 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, on bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries,

*considering*

a) that, even with all the developments described above and the improvement observed in some respects, in numerous developing countries ICTs and ICT applications are still not affordable to the majority of people, particularly those living in rural or remote areas;

b) that each region, country and area must tackle its own specific issues regarding the digital divide, with emphasis on cooperation with others in order to benefit from experience gained;

c) that many countries do not have the necessary basic infrastructure, long-term plans, laws, regulations and such like in place for the development of ICT and ICT applications;

d) that LDCs, SIDS, LLDCs and countries with economies in transition still face particular problems in bridging the digital divide;

e) that it is necessary to study and analyse the social, demographic, economic and technological context of the communities in which it is intended to deploy infrastructure and implement plans for capacity building,

*considering further*

a) that telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and applications are not only the consequence of economic growth, but a prerequisite for overall development, including economic growth;

b) that telecommunications/ICTs and ICT applications are an integral part of the national, regional and international development process;

c) that a favourable environment, which includes the necessary policies, skills and technical capacities to use and develop technologies, is considered to be as important as infrastructure investments;

d) that recent progress, and particularly the convergence of telecommunication, information, broadcasting and computer technologies and services, are agents of change for the information and knowledge societies;

e) that there is a continuing need in most developing countries for investment in various development sectors, while giving priority to investment in the telecommunication/ICT sector, in view of the pressing need for telecommunications/ICTs to support growth and development in other sectors;

f) that, in this situation, national e-strategies should be linked to overall development goals and guide national decisions;

g) that it continues to be necessary to provide decision-makers with relevant and timely information on the role and general contribution of ICTs and ICT applications to overall development plans;

h) that past studies undertaken at the initiative of the Union for assessing the benefits of telecommunications/ICTs and ICT applications in the sector have had a salutary effect in other sectors and are a necessary condition for their development;

i) that the use of terrestrial and satellite systems to give access to local communities located in rural or remote areas without increasing connection costs due to distance and other geographic characteristics must be considered an extremely useful tool for bridging the digital divide;

j) that satellite broadband services make it possible to provide cost-effective communications solutions with great connectivity, speed and reliability in metropolitan, rural and even remote areas, becoming an essential engine for the economic and social development of countries and regions,

*stressing*

a) the important role played by telecommunications/ICTs and ICT applications in the development of e-government, labour, agriculture, health, education, transport, industry, human rights, environmental protection, trade and transfer of information for social welfare, and in the general economic and social progress of developing countries, especially for people living in rural or remote areas;

b) that telecommunication/ICT infrastructure and applications are central to achieving the goal of digital inclusion, enabling universal, sustainable, ubiquitous and affordable access to information,

*mindful*

a) that the Dubai Declaration stated that, with convergence, policy-makers and regulators should continue to promote widespread, affordable access to telecommunications/ICTs, including Internet access, through fair, transparent, stable, predictable and non-discriminatory enabling policy, legal and regulatory environments, including common approaches to conformance and interoperability that promote competition, increase

consumer choices, foster continued technological and service innovation and provide investment incentives at national, regional and international levels;

b) that goals in the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019 are aimed at enabling and fostering the growth and sustained development of telecommunication networks and services, at facilitating universal access so that people everywhere can participate in, and benefit from, the emerging information society, and at providing assistance to developing countries in order to bridge the digital divide by achieving broader telecommunication/ICT-enabled socio-economic development;

c) that the Geneva Declaration of Principles adopted by WSIS recognized that policies that create a favourable climate for stability, predictability and fair competition at all levels should be developed and implemented in a manner that attracts more private investment in telecommunications and in ICT infrastructure;

d) that, in many ITU Member States, independent regulatory bodies have been established to deal with regulatory issues such as interconnection, determination of tariffs, licensing and competition, designed to promote digital opportunities at the national level,

*appreciating*

the various studies that have been carried out as part of the programme of technical cooperation and assistance activities of the Union,

*resolves*

1 that implementation of Resolution 37 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) should continue;

2 that the Union should continue to organize, sponsor and conduct necessary studies in order to highlight, in a different and changing context, the contribution of ICTs and ICT applications to overall development;

3 that the Union should continue to act as a clearing-house mechanism for the exchange of information and expertise in this regard, within the implementation of the Dubai Action Plan and in partnership with other appropriate organizations, and implement initiatives, programmes and projects aimed at promoting access to telecommunications/ICTs and ICT applications;

4 that ITU, in cooperation with the relevant organizations, continue its task of preparing adequate ICT reference indicators for measuring the digital divide, collecting statistical data, measuring the impact of ICTs and facilitating a comparative analysis of digital integration, which will continue to be a fundamental need in support of economic growth,

*continues to invite*

the administrations and governments of Member States, agencies and organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, financial institutions and providers of telecommunication equipment and services and ICTs to extend their support for the satisfactory implementation of this resolution,

*continues to encourage*

all agencies responsible for development aid and assistance, including the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), UNDP and regional and national development funds, as well as donor and recipient Member States of the Union, to continue to attach importance to ICTs in the development process and to accord high priority for resource allocation to this sector,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

1 to bring this resolution to the attention of all interested parties including, in particular, UNDP, IBRD, regional funds and national development funds for cooperation in implementing this resolution;

2 to report annually to the ITU Council on the progress made in the implementation of this resolution;

3 to arrange for the wide dissemination of the findings resulting from the activities carried out in accordance with this resolution,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, in coordination with the Directors of the other Bureaux, as appropriate*

1 to continue to assist the Member States and Sector Members in developing a pro-competitive policy and regulatory framework for ICTs and ICT applications;

2 to continue to assist Member States and Sector Members with strategies that expand access to telecommunication infrastructure, particularly for rural or remote areas;

3 to evaluate models for affordable and sustainable systems for access to information in rural or remote areas, communications and ICT applications on the global network, based on studies of these models;

4 to continue to conduct, within available resources, case studies concerning telecommunications/ICTs in rural areas and, if appropriate, to deploy a pilot model using IP-based technology, or equivalent thereof in the future, to extend rural access;

5 to promote and facilitate collaborative actions between the different Sectors of the Union to carry out studies, projects and inter-related activities identified in action plans of the Sectors, aiming to complement the development of the national telecommunication networks;

6 to continue to support Member States by providing a database of experts in the required field, and to fund the necessary actions for bridging the digital divide for developing countries within the resources allocated under the financial plan;

7 to strengthen cooperation and coordination with the relevant international and regional organizations, in particular those of the developing countries, in activities related to bridging the digital divide,



*instructs the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau*

to implement actions, in coordination with the Director of BDT, in order to support studies and projects and, at the same time, promote joint activities aiming to build capacities for increasingly efficient use of the orbit/spectrum resource, with the purpose of expanding affordable access to satellite broadband and facilitating connectivity between networks, and between different zones, countries and regions, especially in developing countries,

*instructs the Council*

- 1 to allocate adequate funds, within approved budgetary resources, for the implementation of this resolution;
- 2 to review the Secretary-General's reports and take appropriate measures to ensure the implementation of this resolution;
- 3 to submit a progress report on this resolution to the next plenipotentiary conference,

*invites Member States*

- 1 to continue to undertake concerted action in order to achieve the objectives of Resolution 37 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, as was the case for Resolution 37 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010) of WTDC, by supporting this resolution as revised at this conference;
- 2 to conduct consultations with the beneficiaries of infrastructure plans, programmes and investment, considering current differences stemming from the social conditions and dynamics of the population, so as to ensure suitable appropriation of ICTs;
- 3 to promote the implementation of policies to foster public and private investments for the development and construction of radiocommunication systems, including satellite systems, in their own countries and regions, and to contemplate the inclusion of their use in the national and/or regional broadband plans as an additional tool that will help bridge the digital divide and meet telecommunication needs, especially in developing countries.

## RESOLUTION 140 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

### **ITU's role in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society and in the overall review by United Nations General Assembly of their implementation**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

- a) Resolution 73 (Minneapolis, 1998) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, which achieved its aims in regard to the holding of both phases of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS);
- b) Resolution 113 (Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on WSIS;
- c) Decision 8 (Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on ITU input to the WSIS Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action and the information document on ITU activities related to the Summit;
- d) Resolution 172 (Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on overall review of implementation of the WSIS outcomes;
- e) Resolution 200 (Busan, 2014) of this conference, on the Connect 2020 Agenda on global telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) development,

*recalling further*

- a) the Geneva Declaration of Principles and the Geneva Plan of Action, adopted in 2003, and the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, adopted in 2005, all of which were endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA);
- b) the outcomes of the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), referring to the role of ICTs for sustainable development;

- c) the Ministerial Round Table held at the WSIS Forum 2013;
- d) the WSIS+10 Statement on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes and Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015, adopted at the ITU-coordinated WSIS+10 High-Level Event (Geneva, 2014);
- e) UNGA Resolution 68/302, on modalities for the overall review by the General Assembly of the implementation of the WSIS outcomes,

*considering*

- a) that ITU plays a fundamental role in providing global perspectives on the development of the information society;
- b) the role played by ITU in the successful organization of the two phases of WSIS and its coordination of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event;
- c) that the core competences of ITU in the field of ICTs – assistance in bridging the digital divide, international and regional cooperation, radio-spectrum management, standards development and the dissemination of information – are of crucial importance for building the information society, as stated in § 64 of the Geneva Declaration of Principles;
- d) that the Tunis Agenda stated that "*each UN agency should act according to its mandate and competencies, and pursuant to decisions of their respective governing bodies, and within existing approved resources*" (§ 102b));
- e) the establishment of a United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS) by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, at the request of the Summit, with the main objective of coordinating substantive and policy issues facing the United Nations' implementation of the WSIS outcomes, and that ITU is a permanent member of UNGIS, and shares a rotating chairmanship thereof;

f) that ITU, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) are playing lead facilitation roles in the multistakeholder implementation of the Geneva Plan of Action and Tunis Agenda, as called upon by WSIS;

g) that ITU is the moderator/facilitator for Action Lines C2 (Information and communication infrastructure), C5 (Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs) and C6 (Enabling environment) of the Tunis Agenda, and a potential partner for a number of other action lines, as identified by WSIS;

h) that Resolution 200 (Busan, 2014) endorsed the Connect 2020 global telecommunication/ICT goals and targets;

i) that ITU is given specific responsibility for maintaining the WSIS stocktaking database (§ 120 of the Tunis Agenda);

j) that ITU is capable of providing expertise relevant to the Internet Governance Forum as demonstrated during the WSIS process (§ 78a) of the Tunis Agenda);

k) that ITU has, *inter alia*, specific responsibility to study and report on international Internet connectivity (§§ 27 and 50 of the Tunis Agenda);

l) that ITU has a specific responsibility to ensure rational, efficient and economic use of, and equitable access to, the radio-frequency spectrum by all countries, based on relevant international agreements (§ 96 of the Tunis Agenda);

m) that UNGA, in its Resolution 60/252, decided to conduct an overall review of the implementation of the Summit outcomes in 2015,

n) the results of the meeting of the 68th session of UNGA (2014), on overall review of the implementation of WSIS outcomes in December 2015 (UNGA Resolution 68/302);

*o) that "building an inclusive development-oriented information society will require unremitting multistakeholder effort ... Taking into account the multifaceted nature of building the Information Society, effective cooperation among governments, private sector, civil society and United Nations and other international organizations, according to their roles and responsibilities and leveraging on their expertise, is essential" (§ 83 of the Tunis Agenda),*

*considering further*

*a) that ITU and other international organizations should continue to cooperate and coordinate their activities where necessary for the global good;*

*b) the need for ITU to evolve constantly in response to changes in the telecommunication/ICT environment and, in particular, in respect of evolving technologies and new regulatory challenges;*

*c) the needs of developing countries<sup>1</sup>, including in the areas of building telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, strengthening confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs and implementation of the other WSIS goals;*

*d) the desirability of using ITU's resources and expertise in a way which takes account of the rapid changes in the telecommunication environment and of the WSIS outcomes, taking into account the outcomes of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event, which will be reviewed under the UNGA overall review to take place in December 2015;*

*e) the need to carefully deploy the Union's human and financial resources in a manner consistent with the priorities of the membership and cognizant of budgetary constraints, and the need to avoid duplication among the Bureaux and the General Secretariat;*

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

f) that the full involvement of the membership, including Sector Members, as well as other stakeholders, is critical to successful ITU implementation of relevant WSIS outcomes;

g) that the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019 set out in Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference contains a commitment to implementation of the relevant WSIS outcomes in response to the changing telecommunication/ICT environment and its effects on the Union, as well as the priority areas to be addressed in implementing the WSIS outcomes beyond 2015, subject to the outcomes of the UNGA overall review;

h) that the ITU Council Working Group on WSIS (CWG-WSIS) constitutes an effective mechanism for facilitating Member State inputs on the role of ITU in implementing WSIS outcomes, as envisaged by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006 and Guadalajara, 2010);

i) that the Council has approved roadmaps for Action Lines C2, C5 and C6, which have been updated and made available on the web, as well as WSIS-related activities, which have been included in the ITU operational plans for 2015-2018;

j) that the international community is invited to make voluntary contributions to the special trust fund set up by ITU to support activities relating to the implementation of WSIS outcomes;

k) that ITU is capable of providing expertise in the field of statistical work by developing ICT indicators, using appropriate indicators and benchmarking to track global progress, and measuring the digital divide (§§ 113-118 of the Tunis Agenda),

*noting*

a) the holding of the WSIS Forum, organized annually by ITU in collaboration with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), UNESCO and UNDP, and the holding of the 10-year WSIS review event entitled "Towards Knowledge Societies for Peace and Sustainable Development", coordinated by UNESCO in Paris in 2013;

b) the establishment of the Broadband Commission for Digital Development at the invitation of the Secretary-General of ITU and the Director-General of UNESCO, taking note of the Broadband targets for 2015, which aim to make broadband policy universal and to increase affordability and uptake in support of internationally agreed development goals, including the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs),

*taking into account*

a) that WSIS acknowledged that multistakeholder participation is essential to the successful building of a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented information society;

b) the nexus between issues of telecommunication development and those of economic, social and cultural development, as well as its impact on social and economic structures in all Member States;

c) § 98 of the Tunis Agenda, which encourages strengthened and continuing cooperation between and among stakeholders and welcomes, in that respect, the ITU-led Connect the World initiative;

d) that, in recent decades, the ICT landscape has dramatically changed progress in natural science, mathematics, engineering and technology: rapid innovation, diffusion and uptake of mobile technologies and improved access to the Internet have greatly expanded the gamut of opportunities that ICTs offer to promote inclusive development and bring the benefits of the information society to an increasing number of people around the world;

e) that UNGIS proposes that "*in collaboration with other stakeholders, the UN system should seek to take full advantage of ICTs in addressing the development challenges of the 21st century and to recognize them as cross-cutting enablers for the achievement of all three pillars of sustainable development*" and states that "*the potential of ICTs as key enablers of development, and as critical components of innovative development solutions, is fully recognized in the Post-2015 Development Agenda*";

f) the outcomes of the ITU-coordinated WSIS+10 High-Level Event, based on the Multistakeholder Preparatory Platform (MPP), together with other United Nations agencies and inclusive of all WSIS stakeholders, which was conducted as an extended version of the WSIS Forum, under the mandates of the participating agencies and on a consensus basis;

g) that the ITU Secretary-General created the ITU WSIS Task Force, chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General, in order to fulfil, among others, the instructions handed down to the Secretary-General in Resolution 140 (Antalya, 2006) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

h) the outcomes of the WSIS Forums held in 2011, 2012 and 2013, as well as the WSIS+10 High-Level Event (as an extended version of the WSIS Forum 2014) coordinated by ITU, held in Geneva in June 2014;

i) the ITU report entitled "*WSIS+10 Report: ITU's Ten Year Contribution to the WSIS implementation and follow-up (2005-2014)*", outlining WSIS-related activities of the Union,

*endorsing*

a) Resolution 30 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on the role of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) in implementing the WSIS outcomes;

b) Resolution 139 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference;

c) the relevant results of the 2011-2014 sessions of the ITU Council, including Resolution 1332 (Rev. 2011) and 1334 (Rev. 2013);

d) programmes, activities and regional activities established by WTDC-14 with the objective of bridging the digital divide;

e) the relevant work already undertaken and/or to be carried out by ITU in implementing the WSIS outcomes, under the aegis of CWG-WSIS and the WSIS Task Force;

f) Resolution 75 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on ITU-T's contribution in implementing the outcomes of WSIS,



*recognizing*

- a) the importance of ITU's role and participation in UNGIS, as a permanent member, and sharing a rotating chairmanship;
- b) ITU's commitment to the implementation of the goals and objectives of WSIS, as one of the most important goals for the Union;
- c) that UNGA, in its Resolution 68/302, on the modalities for the overall review of WSIS outcomes, decided to conduct an overall review of the implementation of the WSIS outcomes in December 2015,

*resolves*

- 1 that ITU should play a leading facilitating role in the implementation process, along with UNESCO and UNDP, as stated in § 109 of the Tunis Agenda;
- 2 that ITU should continue to coordinate WSIS Forums, World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD) and WSIS Project Prizes and maintain the WSIS Stocktaking database, subject to the outcomes of the UNGA overall review in December 2015;
- 3 that ITU should continue to play a lead facilitation role in the WSIS implementation process, as a moderator/facilitator for implementing Action Lines C2, C5 and C6;
- 4 that ITU should continue carrying out those activities that come within its mandate, and participate with other stakeholders, as appropriate, in the implementation of Action Lines C1, C3, C4, C7, C8, C9 and C11 and all other relevant action lines and other WSIS outcomes, within the financial limits set by the Plenipotentiary Conference;
- 5 that ITU should continue to adapt itself, taking into account technological developments and its potential to contribute significantly to building an inclusive information society and to the Post-2015 Development Agenda;

6 that, when continuing its WSIS-related activity, ITU should take into consideration the outcomes of the UNGA overall review of implementation of the WSIS outcomes in 2015;

7 to express its satisfaction with the successful outcomes of the Summit, in which the expertise and core competence of ITU were noted several times;

8 to express its satisfaction with the successful outcomes of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event to review implementation of WSIS outcomes, at which the importance of collaboration among United Nations agencies, governments and relevant stakeholders was noted several times;

9 to express its satisfaction and appreciation for ITU's efforts to initiate and coordinate the WSIS+10 (MPP and WSIS+10 High-Level Event in close collaboration with other relevant United Nations agencies and relevant stakeholders;

10 to express its satisfaction and appreciation for the efforts and contributions of other relevant United Nations agencies and all other stakeholders during the WSIS+10 MPP and the WSIS+10 High-Level Event;

11 to endorse the following outcome documents of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event:

- WSIS+10 Statement on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes;
- WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015;

12 to submit to the December 2015 UNGA overall review the successful outcomes of the ITU-coordinated WSIS+10 High-Level Event elaborated through its MPP;

13 to express its thanks to the staff of the Union, the host countries and CWG-WSIS for their efforts in the preparation of both phases of WSIS (Geneva, 2003 and Tunis, 2005) and the WSIS+10 High-Level Event (Geneva, 2014), as well as all members of ITU actively involved in implementing the WSIS outcomes;

14 that ITU, in coordination with UNESCO, UNCTAD and UNDP, contribute on the issue of ICT for development in the debate on the Post-2015 Development Agenda arranged by UNGA, taking into consideration the WSIS+10 High-Level Event outcome documents, with a focus on bridging the digital divide through sustainable development;

15 that there is a need to integrate the implementation of the Dubai Action Plan, and in particular Resolution 30 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), and relevant resolutions of plenipotentiary conferences, with the multistakeholder implementation of the WSIS outcomes;

16 that ITU should, within available resources, continue to maintain the current public WSIS Stocktaking database, as one of the valuable tools for assisting with the follow-up of WSIS, as instructed in § 120 of the Tunis Agenda;

17 that ITU-D shall give high priority to building information and communication infrastructure (WSIS Action Line C2), this being the physical backbone for all e-applications, having regard to the Dubai Declaration and Objective 2 of the Dubai Action Plan and calling upon the ITU-D study groups to do the same;

18 to endorse the WSIS+10 Report: *ITU's Ten Year Contribution to the WSIS Implementation and Follow-up (2005-2014)*;

19 that UNGA be encouraged to consider the WSIS+10 High-Level Event outcome documents, which were developed through the MPP, which takes stock of the progress made in the implementation of the Geneva 2003 outcomes and addresses potential ICT gaps and areas for continued focus, as well as addressing challenges, including bridging the digital divide, and harnessing ICTs for development;

20 that ITU should submit a progress report on the implementation of WSIS outcomes concerning ITU to the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in 2018,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

- 1 to present to UNGA, within the modalities established by UNGA Resolution 68/302, the WSIS+10 Report: *ITU's Ten Year Contribution to the WSIS Implementation and Follow-up (2005-2014)*, which was provided as an input to the Committee on Science and Technology Development (CSTD) review;
- 2 to support ITU's role in implementing the WSIS outcomes and the Post-2015 Development Agenda, as established by Member States;
- 3 to submit the WSIS+10 High-Level Event outcome documents as a contribution to the UNGA overall review in 2015;
- 4 to prepare a report on the UNGA overall review of WSIS at the first Council session after the latter's adoption,

*instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux*

- 1 to take all necessary measures for ITU to fulfil its role, as outlined in *resolves 1, 2, 3, and 4* above, in accordance with the appropriate roadmaps;
- 2 to continue to coordinate, with the WSIS Task Force, the activities related to WSIS implementation for implementing *resolves 1, 2, 3, and 4* above, with the aim of avoiding duplication of work among the ITU Bureaux and General Secretariat;
- 3 to continue to raise public awareness of the Union's mandate, role and activities and provide broader access to the Union's resources for the general public and other actors involved in the emerging information society;
- 4 to formulate specific tasks and deadlines for implementing the action lines referred to above, and incorporate them in the operational plans of the General Secretariat and the Sectors;
- 5 to report annually to the Council on the activities undertaken on these subjects, including their financial implications;

6 to prepare and submit a progress report on the ITU activities for WSIS implementation to the next plenipotentiary conference in 2018, taking into account the UNGA overall review in December 2015;

7 to ensure that ITU participates actively, through the provision of its expertise and competency, in the UNGA overall review, in accordance with the modalities established by UNGA Resolution 68/302,

*instructs the Directors of the Bureaux*

to ensure that concrete objectives and deadlines (using results-based management processes) are developed for WSIS activities and reflected in the operational plans of each Sector,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

to follow, as soon as possible and in accordance with Resolution 30 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), a partnership approach in ITU-D activities related to its roles in the implementation and follow-up of the WSIS outcomes, in accordance with the provisions of the ITU Constitution and ITU Convention, and to report annually, as appropriate, to the Council,

*requests the Council*

1 to oversee, consider and discuss, as appropriate, ITU's implementation of the WSIS outcomes and related ITU activities, and, within the financial limits set by the Plenipotentiary Conference, to make resources available as appropriate;

2 to oversee ITU's adaptation to the information society, in line with *resolves* 5 above;

3 to maintain CWG-WSIS, in order to facilitate membership input and guidance on the ITU implementation of relevant WSIS outcomes and to elaborate, in collaboration with other Council working groups, proposals to the Council that may be necessary for adapting ITU to its role in building the information society, with the assistance of the WSIS Task Force, these proposals possibly including amendments to the Constitution and the Convention;

4 to take into account the relevant UNGA decisions with regard to the overall review of implementation of the WSIS outcomes;

5 to include the report of the Secretary-General in the documents sent to Member States in accordance with No. 81 of the Convention;

6 to take all necessary measures, as appropriate, in follow-up to the results of the UNGA overall review of the implementation of the WSIS outcomes, within the financial limits set by the Plenipotentiary Conference;

7 to encourage the participation of the ITU membership and other relevant stakeholders in ITU's activities that support WSIS implementation, as appropriate,

*invites Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia*

1 to participate actively in implementing WSIS outcomes, contribute to the WSIS Forum and WSIS Stocktaking database maintained by ITU and the WSIS Project Prizes, and participate actively in the activities of CWG-WSIS and in ITU's further adaptation to the information society;

2 to participate actively in the preparatory process for the UNGA overall review of the WSIS outcomes, according to the rules and procedures of UNGA, and to promote ITU's activities in this regard and the outcomes of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event;

3 to support, through relevant United Nations processes, the creation of synergies and institutional linkages between WSIS and the Post-2015 Development Agenda, so as to continue strengthening the impact of ICT for sustainable development;

4 to make voluntary contributions to the special trust fund set up by ITU to support activities relating to the implementation of WSIS outcomes;

5 to continue to contribute information on their activities to the public WSIS Stocktaking database maintained by ITU;

6 to contribute to and closely collaborate with the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development as an international, multistakeholder initiative to improve the availability and quality of ICT data and indicators, particularly in developing countries,

*resolves to express*

1 its warmest thanks and deepest gratitude to the Governments of Switzerland and Tunisia for having hosted the two phases of the Summit in close collaboration with ITU, UNESCO, UNCTAD and other relevant United Nations agencies;

2 its appreciation for the WSIS+10 High-Level Event, coordinated and hosted by ITU and co-organized by ITU, UNESCO, UNCTAD and UNDP with the engagement of other United Nations agencies.

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*(Antalya, 2006) – (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) – (Rev. Busan, 2014)*

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## RESOLUTION 143 (REV. GUADALAJARA, 2010)

### **Extending the provisions in ITU documents relating to developing countries<sup>1</sup> to apply to countries with economies in transition**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Guadalajara, 2010),

*recalling*

Resolution 143 (Antalya, 2006) of the Plenipotentiary Conference,

*taking into account*

a) United Nations General Assembly Resolutions 47/187 of 22 December 1992, 48/181 of 21 December 1993, 49/106 of 19 December 1994, 51/175 of 6 December 1996, 53/179 of 15 December 1998, 55/191 of 20 December 2000, 57/247 of 20 December 2002 and 59/243 of 22 December 2004, on integration of the economies in transition into the world economy;

b) the relevant documents adopted in the two phases of the World Summit on the Information Society,

*recognizing*

that the aforementioned United Nations General Assembly resolutions:

- stress the importance of continued international assistance to countries with economies in transition to ensure that they are fully integrated into the world economy;
- continue to recognize, in particular, the need to enhance the capacity of those countries to utilize effectively the benefits of globalization, including those in the field of information and communication technologies, and to respond more adequately to its challenges;

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.



- stress the need to focus international assistance to countries with economies in transition on those facing particular difficulties in socio-economic development and meeting internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

*recalling*

that, at the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Johannesburg, 2008) and the World Telecommunication Development Conference (Hyderabad, 2010), agreement was reached to the effect that provisions of documents of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector, the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector and the ITU Radiocommunication Sector relating to developing countries would henceforth be extended to apply also to countries with economies in transition,

*resolves*

that the provisions in all ITU documents relating to developing countries shall be extended, as defined in this resolution, to apply adequately to countries with economies in transition.

## RESOLUTION 144 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Availability of model host-country agreements in advance for conferences and assemblies of the Union held away from Geneva**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

- a) the relevant provisions of the General Rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union, particularly:
- sections 1, 2 and 3 of Chapter I thereof concerning the holding of conferences and assemblies when there is an inviting government; and
  - section 12 of Chapter II thereof concerning the setting up of committees;
- b) the relevant provisions of Article 5 of the ITU Convention concerning duties and responsibilities of the General Secretariat, and particularly No. 97, which provides that the Secretary-General shall provide, where appropriate in cooperation with the inviting government, the secretariat of conferences of the Union;
- c) Resolution 5 (Kyoto, 1994) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, which considers that there are advantages in holding certain conferences and meetings in countries other than the headquarters country;
- d) that Resolution 5 (Kyoto, 1994) resolves that invitations to hold conferences and assemblies of the Union away from Geneva should not be accepted unless the host government agrees to defray the additional expenditure involved;

e) that Resolution 5 (Kyoto, 1994) resolves that invitations to hold development conferences and meetings of the study groups of the Sectors away from Geneva should not be accepted unless the host government provides at least adequate premises and the necessary furniture and equipment free of charge, except that in the case of developing countries<sup>1</sup> equipment need not necessarily be provided free of charge by the host government, if the government so requests;

f) that Resolution 175 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference resolves to take account of persons with disabilities in the work of ITU,

*considering*

a) that the conferences and assemblies of the Union have high importance due to the powers conferred on them and the effects they have;

b) that it is important to remove barriers that limit the participation of persons with disabilities;

c) that webcasting and captioning are invaluable tools, which benefit persons with disabilities and specific needs;

d) that the precise place and exact dates of conferences and assemblies must be fixed in accordance with the provisions of Articles 1 and 3 of the Convention, following consultations with the inviting government;

e) that the decision to accept an invitation to hold a conference or assembly of the Union away from Geneva is usually taken by the ITU Council;

f) that preparations for conferences and assemblies require extensive work, which includes various installations and facilities as well as the planning and organization of logistic services in a timely fashion for the smooth functioning of the conference or assembly;

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

g) that, when there is an inviting government, the General Secretariat defines the conditions and requirements of the conference or assembly in a host-country agreement and annexes thereto,

*considering, however*

a) that past and current experience demonstrates that host-country agreements show significant variations not only from one conference or assembly to another, but also for different host countries;

b) that host-country agreements and their annexes require the inviting government to deploy the necessary financial and human resources for the preparatory work;

c) that requirements for the inviting governments usually differ from the facilities provided by ITU for conferences and assemblies held and organized by ITU in Geneva, resulting in additional effort and expenditures;

d) that the conditions attached to host-country agreements and annexes thereto are of significance in the decision-making process of a government considering whether to invite and host a conference or assembly of the Union;

e) that the availability of the texts of the host-country agreement and annexes thereto well in advance of a conference or assembly will not only increase transparency but also will serve as a measure for the Union to accept the invitation and for the governments to take a decision on an invitation to hold a conference or assembly;

f) that, as things stand at present, finalization of the complete text of the host-country agreement and its annexes takes a long time, which in turn leaves the inviting government very little time to not only complete the domestic ratification procedures but also fulfil all the commitments and requirements laid down in the above-mentioned texts,

*recognizing*

national sovereignty and the different national laws of the Member States,

*resolves*

that model host-country agreements and the annexes thereto, including the requirements in terms of basic infrastructure, taking into account the needs of persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs, including accessible facilities, arrangements for webcasting facilities and captioning (including transcripts of the captioning), when convening conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union, as articulated in Chapter II, Section 12 ("Setting up of committees") of the General Rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union, considering the financial and technical limitations, shall be provided at least two years before the proposed date of any conference or assembly, in order to facilitate the work of Member States wishing to offer to host the conference or assembly under well-defined conditions,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

- 1 to prepare model host-country agreements and the annexes thereto, including the requirements in terms of basic infrastructure, for each of the conferences and assemblies of the Union, at least two years before the proposed date of the conference or assembly;
- 2 to submit the model of host-country agreements and the annexes thereto to the Council, for consideration and adoption of any measures that may be appropriate;
- 3 to provide the model host-country agreements and the annexes thereto, including the requirements in terms of basic infrastructure, to the Member States before any decision is taken concerning the selection of the host country for the conference or assembly,

*instructs the Council*

to review and adopt, at its first session after they have been made available, model host-country agreements and the annexes thereto, including the requirements in terms of basic infrastructure and arrangements for webcasting facilities and captioning (including transcripts of the captioning) for each of the conferences and assemblies of the Union, and to adopt any measures that may be appropriate.

## RESOLUTION 145 (ANTALYA, 2006)

### **Participation of observers in conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Antalya, 2006),

*considering*

- a) the long-standing practice of the Union to admit observers to its conferences, assemblies and meetings, including conferences which produce final acts, and to the Council;
- b) that the rights of participation accorded to observers under the basic texts and in practice vary depending upon the character of the organization or entity, its status within ITU, and the category of meeting<sup>1</sup>;
- c) the need expressed by Member States for enhanced transparency in the proceedings of ITU meetings and in their decision-making processes;
- d) the importance of ensuring the accountability of the Council to the Member States of the Union;
- e) the corresponding need for consistency in the application of the rules regarding the participation of observers throughout the decision-making processes at meetings of the Union,

*noting*

- a) the rights and obligations of Member States and Sector Members set out in Article 3 of the ITU Constitution and, in particular, that the right to vote in all ITU conferences, assemblies and meetings is strictly limited to Member States;

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<sup>1</sup> Conference, assembly or meeting, as appropriate.

b) the provisions of Article 33 of the ITU Convention regarding the obligation of Member States, Sector Members and other entities to share in defraying the expenses of ITU conferences, assemblies and meetings, and the associated Financial Regulations,

*taking into account*

the rights of observers specified in Resolution 6 (Kyoto, 1994) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the attendance of liberation organizations recognized by the United Nations at ITU conferences and meetings as observers, and Resolution 99 (Rev. Antalya, 2006) of this conference, on the status of Palestine in ITU, and the rights of the United Nations, as contained in the Agreement between the United Nations and ITU (Atlantic City, 1947) which is the legal basis for the relationship between the two organizations,

*recognizing*

a) that Member States may send observers to a regional radiocommunication conference (RRC) of a region other than that to which the said Member States belong in order to participate in a non-voting capacity;

b) that the provisions of the Convention identify the organizations, agencies and entities which may participate as observers in an advisory capacity in specific conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union;

c) that other organizations and entities, as specified in the Convention, may send observers to conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union;

d) that Member States which are not Member States of the Council may send observers to meetings of the Council and that, in accordance with No. 61B of the Convention, the Council adopts its own Rules of Procedure,

*recognizing further*

- a) the decision of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Marrakesh, 2002) concerning the participation of observers from the United Nations and the specialized agencies of the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency in ITU radiocommunication conferences, which recognizes the long-standing practice of the Union to allow these organizations to submit information documents and provide advice to meetings on points relevant to their mandates;
- b) that important information may be provided to ITU conferences, assemblies and meetings by observers and that the results of these meetings may impose obligations on Member States;
- c) that the General Rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union, and in particular Nos 61 and 62 thereof, task the chairmen of such conferences, assemblies and meetings with the duty to protect the rights of delegations and to ensure the smooth functioning of meetings according to the Rules of Procedure of conferences, assemblies and meetings,

*resolves*

- 1 that Member States from outside the region of an RRC participate, in accordance with the Convention, in a non-voting capacity, as observer Member States, and that their participation shall be guided by the General Rules and, in addition, by the terms of Annex 1 to this resolution;
- 2 that the participation of organizations and entities which, in accordance with the Convention, participate as observers in an advisory capacity in specific conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union shall be guided by the terms set out in Annex 2 to this resolution;
- 3 that the participation of other observers in conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union shall be guided by the terms of Annex 3 to this resolution;
- 4 that the terms of the annexes referred to in *resolves* 1 to 3 above shall be without prejudice to the terms of Resolution 6 (Kyoto, 1994) and Resolution 99 (Rev. Antalya, 2006), as well as the provisions of the Agreement between the United Nations and ITU,



*instructs the Council*

1 to ensure that its Rules of Procedure are compatible with the provisions of the basic texts of the Union and, in particular, with the terms and principles of this resolution;

2 to ensure that its Rules of Procedure are consistently applied for all meetings of the Council, including its committees and any groups that may be established, unless participation beyond that of Member States of the Council is clearly set out in a specific decision of the Council,<sup>2</sup>

*instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux*

to develop or revise, as appropriate, the necessary guidelines or administrative procedures in order to rationalize and facilitate the participation of observers on a basis consistent with the basic instruments, the General Rules and the terms of this resolution,

*further instructs the Secretary-General*

in consultation with the Directors of the Bureaux, to report to the Council on the implementation of this resolution, highlighting any difficulty that may be encountered.

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*(Antalya, 2006)*

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<sup>2</sup> The possibility for observers to attend, where appropriate, committees or groups of a Council session is provided by Council Decision 524 relating to observers from Member States and Decision 519 relating to observers from Sector Members. The Plenipotentiary Conference endorses the content of these decisions. Furthermore, past practice concerning participation in groups created by the Council beyond that of Member States of the Council has proven useful.

## ANNEX 1 TO RESOLUTION 145 (ANTALYA, 2006)

### **Observers of Member States participating in a non-voting capacity at a regional radiocommunication conference (Article 24, No. 282 of the ITU Convention)**

Such observers:

- 1) are admitted to participate in plenary meetings;
- 2) are admitted to participate in committees and their subsidiary groups, with the exception of the steering, budget control, credentials and editorial committees;
- 3) are entitled to receive all conference documentation within any restrictions established for the number of copies distributed;
- 4) may submit information documents via the Secretary-General, which shall be made available to the conference in the ITU official language(s) in which they are submitted; these documents shall be clearly referenced as information documents on the appropriate meeting agendas;
- 5) may request the floor in order to provide advice or information concerning the interests of the Member States of other regions with respect to conference agenda items; such advice shall not include or be treated as proposals;
- 6) are to be given the floor by the chairman after the last Member State of the region on the list of speakers;
- 7) may be asked by the chairman during the course of a meeting to make a statement or to provide relevant information in order to assist the proceedings;
- 8) are to be registered in such a manner as to be identifiable by conference participants as Member State observers;
- 9) are to be seated in French alphabetical order after Member States of the region.

## ANNEX 2 TO RESOLUTION 145 (ANTALYA, 2006)

### **Observers which participate in an advisory capacity**

The following rights shall be conferred on the organizations, agencies and entities which are admitted to participate as observers in an advisory capacity in conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union in accordance with relevant provisions of the ITU Convention:

#### **I Plenipotentiary conferences (Article 23, Nos 269A to 269D), radiocommunication conferences (Article 24, Nos 278 and 279) and world conferences on international telecommunications (Article 3, No. 49; Article 24, Nos 278 and 279)**

Such observers:

- 1) are admitted to participate in plenary meetings;
- 2) unless otherwise decided by the plenary meeting, may be admitted to participate in committees and their subsidiary groups, with the exception of the steering, budget control, credentials and editorial committees;
- 3) are entitled to receive all conference documentation within any restrictions established for the number of copies distributed;
- 4) may submit information documents via the Secretary-General, which shall be made available to the conference in the ITU official language(s) in which they are submitted; these documents shall be clearly referenced as information documents on the appropriate meeting agendas;
- 5) may request the floor in order to provide advice or information on points relevant to their mandates; such advice shall not include or be treated as proposals;
- 6) are to be given the floor by the chairman after the last Member State on the list of speakers;

- 7) may be asked by the chairman during the course of a meeting to make a statement or to provide relevant information in order to assist the proceedings;
- 8) are to be registered in such a manner as to be identifiable by conference participants as observers;
- 9) are to be seated in French alphabetical order after Member States and the observer pursuant to Resolution 99 (Rev. Antalya, 2006) of the Plenipotentiary Conference.

In the case of a radiocommunication conference or a world conference on international telecommunications, participants from those organizations that have both the status of Sector Member and that of observer in an advisory capacity must register and participate in a single category.

## **II Radiocommunication assemblies, world telecommunication standardization assemblies and telecommunication development conferences (Article 25, Nos 298A to 298E)<sup>3</sup>**

Such observers:

- 1) are admitted to participate in plenary meetings;
- 2) unless otherwise decided by the plenary meeting, may be admitted to participate in committees and their subsidiary groups, with the exception of the steering, budget control and editorial committees;
- 3) are entitled to receive all conference or assembly documentation within any restrictions established for the number of copies distributed;

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<sup>3</sup> Upon the entry into force of the amendments to the Convention, as adopted by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006), the reference shall read "Article 25, Nos 297*bis* and 298C".

- 4) may submit information documents via the Secretary-General which shall be made available to the conference or assembly/in the ITU official language(s) in which they are submitted; these documents shall be clearly referenced as information documents on the appropriate meeting agendas;
- 5) may request the floor in these meetings in order to provide advice or information on points relevant to their mandates; such advice shall not include or be treated as proposals;
- 6) are to be given the floor by the chairman after the last Member State or Sector Member on the list of speakers;
- 7) may be asked by the chairman during the course of a meeting to make a statement or to provide relevant information in order to assist the proceedings;
- 8) are to be registered in such a manner as to be identifiable by conference or assembly participants as observers;
- 9) are to be seated in French alphabetical order after Member States, the observer pursuant to Resolution 99 (Rev. Antalya, 2006) and Sector Members.

Participants from an organization which may participate as an observer in an advisory capacity and which also has the status of ITU Sector Member in the relevant Sector must register either as an observer or as a representative of a Sector Member.

### **III Sector-level meetings**

Based on long-standing practice, the participation in ITU Sector meetings such as study groups or their subordinate groups by those organizations which have no status in ITU other than that of observers in an advisory capacity may include the submission of contributions and oral interventions in meetings.

## ANNEX 3 TO RESOLUTION 145 (ANTALYA, 2006)

### **Observers which do not participate in an advisory capacity**

The following rights shall be conferred on the organizations and entities which are admitted to participate as observers in conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the ITU Convention:

#### **I Plenipotentiary conferences (Article 23, No. 269E)**

Such observers:

- 1) are admitted to attend plenary meetings;
- 2) unless otherwise decided by the plenary meeting, may be admitted to attend committees and their subsidiary groups, with the exception of the steering, budget control, credentials and editorial committees;
- 3) are entitled to receive all conference documentation within any restrictions established for the number of copies distributed;
- 4) may be asked by the chairman during the course of a meeting in order to provide relevant information to assist the proceedings;
- 5) are to be seated in French alphabetical order after other participants.

#### **II Radiocommunication conferences (Article 24, No. 280) and world conferences on international telecommunications (Article 3, No. 49; Article 24, No. 280; Article 33, No. 476)**

Such observers:

- 1) are admitted to attend plenary meetings;
- 2) unless otherwise decided by the plenary meeting, may be admitted to attend committees and their subsidiary groups, with the exception of the steering, budget control, credentials and editorial committees;

- 3) are entitled to receive all conference documentation within any restrictions established for the number of copies distributed;
- 4) may be asked by the chairman during the course of a meeting to provide relevant information in order to assist the proceedings or to make a statement but shall not be authorized to participate in the debates;
- 5) are to be seated in French alphabetical order after other participants.

## RESOLUTION 146 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Periodic review and revision of the International  
Telecommunication Regulations**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

a) Article 25 of the ITU Constitution, on world conferences on international telecommunications (WCIT);

b) No. 48 in Article 3 of the ITU Convention, on other conferences and assemblies;

c) that *recognizing e*) of Resolution 4 (Dubai, 2012) of WCIT, on periodic review of the International Telecommunication Regulations, 2012 states that "the International Telecommunication Regulations consist of high-level guiding principles that should not require frequent amendment, but in the fast moving sector of telecommunications/ICTs may need to be periodically reviewed",

*resolves*

1 that a periodic review of the International Telecommunication Regulations shall normally be carried out every eight years;

2 that the review process of the International Telecommunication Regulations shall commence in 2017, preferably at the beginning of the year,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

1 to convene an Expert Group on the International Telecommunication Regulations (EG-ITR), open to the ITU Member States and Sector Members, with terms of reference and working methods established by the ITU Council, to review those regulations;

2 to submit the report of EG-ITR to the 2018 session of the Council for consideration, publication and subsequent submission to the 2018 plenipotentiary conference,



*instructs the Council*

- 1 to establish terms of reference and working methods for EG-ITR;
- 2 to examine the report of EG-ITR at its 2018 session and submit it to the 2018 plenipotentiary conference with the Council's comments,

*instructs the Directors of the Bureaux*

- 1 each within their field of competence, with advice from the relevant advisory group, to contribute to the future review of the International Telecommunication Regulations, recognizing that the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector has most of the work relevant to the International Telecommunication Regulations;
- 2 to submit the results of their work to EG-ITR;
- 3 to consider providing fellowships, where resources are available, for developing and least developed countries according to the list established by the United Nations, in order to widen their participation in the expert group,

*invites Member States and Sector Members*

to participate and contribute to EG-ITR on the review of the International Telecommunication Regulations,

*invites the 2018 plenipotentiary conference*

to consider the EG-ITR report on the review of the International Telecommunication Regulations and take actions, as appropriate.

## RESOLUTION 148 (ANTALYA, 2006)

### **Tasks and functions of the Deputy Secretary-General**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Antalya, 2006),

*considering*

a) that Resolution 108 (Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference called upon the Council to establish a working group open to participation by Member States, charged with:

- i) examining the functioning of the Coordination Committee, including the tasks of the Deputy Secretary-General and the role of the other elected officials;
- ii) submitting to the Council a report containing, in particular, the draft texts that could be necessary in the event of amendment of the ITU Constitution or Convention and which could be used by Member States in preparing their proposals in that regard to the next plenipotentiary conference;

b) that the tasks and functions of the Deputy Secretary-General are not expressly enumerated in the basic instruments of the Union,

*noting*

that the Council, at its 2003 session, established a working group to consider this matter,

*further noting*

a) that the Secretary-General is responsible for the overall management of the resources of the Union;

b) that the Secretary-General should partially delegate the management functions of the Union to the Deputy Secretary-General,

*having examined*

the report of the Council Working Group on Resolution 108, which was submitted to the Council at its ordinary session in 2005,

*recognizing*

the need to make optimal use of the position of the Deputy Secretary-General in the management of the Union,

*resolves*

that, in the interests of greater transparency and efficiency in the management of the Union, the tasks of the Deputy Secretary-General, consistent with the basic instruments, should be set out in order to create clear operational and management responsibilities,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

- 1 to prepare specific directives on the tasks delegated to the Deputy Secretary-General, and submit them to the next ordinary session of the Council for its consideration, as appropriate;
- 2 to issue clear and specific directives on the tasks delegated to the Deputy Secretary-General, and make them available to the membership of the Union, as well as to the staff of ITU,

*further instructs the Secretary-General*

to communicate any changes to the directives on the tasks delegated to the Deputy Secretary-General in accordance with *instructs the Secretary-General* above.

## RESOLUTION 150 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Approval of the accounts of the Union for the years 2010-2013**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*considering*

- a) No. 53 of the ITU Constitution;
- b) the report of the Council to this conference in Document PP-14/65, relating to the financial management of the Union during the years 2010-2013, and the report of the Administration and Management Committee of this conference (Document PP-14/150),

*resolves*

to give its final approval of the accounts of the Union for the years 2010-2013.

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*(Antalya, 2006) – (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) – (Rev. Busan, 2014)*

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## RESOLUTION 151 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Implementation of results-based management in ITU**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*considering*

*a)* Resolution 72 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, which notes that progress in achieving the objectives of ITU can be measured and considerably enhanced through the process of linking strategic, financial and operational plans that set out the activities planned to be undertaken during the period of these plans;

*b)* Resolution 151 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, which further instructed the Secretary-General to continue to improve methodologies associated with the full implementation of results-based budgeting (RBB) and results-based management (RBM), including the presentation of biennial budgets,

*recognizing*

*a)* that bringing the implementation of RBB and RBM to the next level at ITU will entail challenges and steps, including the need for a significant culture change and for staff at all levels to become familiar with the concepts and terms of RBM;

*b)* that a comprehensive strategy aimed at changing the way agencies operate, with improving performance (achieving results) as the central orientation, was identified by the United Nations Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) as an essential step towards RBM in a report issued in 2004 entitled "Implementation of Results-Based Management in the United Nations Organizations";

c) that JIU identified the process of planning, programming, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation; delegation of authority and accountability; and staff performance and contract management, as the main pillars for the development of a solid RBM system,

*emphasizing*

that the purpose of RBB and RBM is to ensure that high-priority activities are adequately resourced in order to achieve planned results,

*resolves to instruct the Secretary-General and the Directors of the three Bureaux*

- 1 to continue to improve methodologies associated with the full implementation of RBB and RBM, including improvements in the presentation of the biennial budgets on an ongoing basis;
- 2 to continue to develop a comprehensive ITU results framework to support implementation of the strategic plan and linkage of the strategic, financial and operational plans;
- 3 to develop a comprehensive performance monitoring and evaluation framework to support the ITU results framework;
- 4 to further integrate the risk-management framework at the ITU level, in the context of RBM, to ensure that contributions from Member States are used to best advantage,

*instructs the ITU Council*

- 1 to continue to review the proposed measures and take appropriate action to ensure further development and appropriate implementation of RBB and RBM at ITU;
- 2 to monitor the implementation of this resolution at each subsequent session of the Council and to report to the next plenipotentiary conference.

## RESOLUTION 152 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Improvement of management and follow-up of the defrayal  
of ITU expenses by Sector Members and Associates**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*considering*

a) the report to the ITU Council by the Secretary-General in Document C11/21, noting improvements brought about by the implementation of Resolution 152 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, while also requesting flexibility when addressing the strict timelines found in *resolves* 6 resolution;

b) that Council-11, as reported in § 4.7 of Document C11/120, approved granting the Secretary-General flexibility for one year regarding the implementation of that resolution, with the Secretary-General to report to Council-12 on progress achieved, and that such flexibility was extended for an additional one year by each successive Council,

*considering further*

the reports accordingly presented by the Secretary-General to Council-12 in Document C12/10, Council-13 in Document C13/14 and Council-14 in Document C14/14,

*noting*

the provisions of Article 33 of the ITU Convention regarding the obligations of Member States, Sector Members and other entities in respect of defraying the expenses of the Union and the financial consequences of denunciation,

*noting further*

the amendments made to No. 240 of the Convention that denunciation shall take effect at the end of six months from the date when notification is received by the Secretary-General,

*recognizing*

- a) the rapid pace of the market and the financial realities faced by private-sector entities;
- b) that it is essential to retain and attract more Sector Members and Associates, having regard to their invaluable contribution to the work of the Union;
- c) that there is a need to ensure better follow-up and oversight of financial matters relating to Sector Members and Associates, on the part of both ITU and the Member States, in order to ensure increased stability in the finances of the Union;
- d) that the rules and procedures regarding the oversight of financial matters relating to Sector Members and Associates should be amended so as to be flexible and effective, and hence fully enforceable,

*recognizing further*

that a better collection rate and a significant reduction in debts of Sector Members and Associates have resulted from the flexibility granted by the Council to the Secretary-General with regard to the application of Resolution 152 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) in respect of recovery of arrears, negotiation of payment conditions, and special terms and conditions for acquisitions,

*resolves*

- 1 that simple changes of name and address of Sector Members or Associates shall be handled administratively, without charge;
- 2 that, in the case of a merger between Sector Members or Associates of the same Sector, duly notified to the Secretary-General, No. 240 of the Convention shall not apply and shall thus not have the effect of requiring the Sector Member or the Associate resulting from the merger to pay more than one contribution for its participation in the work of the Sector concerned;



3 that every new Sector Member or Associate shall, in respect of the year of its accession or admission, pay in advance a contribution calculated as from the first day of the month of accession or admission, as the case may be;

4 that annual contributions for existing Sector Members or existing Associates will be invoiced in advance and no later than 15 September each year;

5 that annual contributions for existing Sector Members or existing Associates become due for payment on 31 March each year;

6 that, in the event of late payment, suspension of participation in ITU should, in the case of a Sector Member or Associate, occur six months (180 days) after the date on which payment of the annual contribution was due, and in the absence of a negotiated and agreed repayment schedule, exclusion of a Sector Member or an Associate on grounds of non-payment should occur three months (90 days) after the date of receipt of the notification of suspension;

7 that, with a view to retaining members and recovering past debts owed, the Secretary-General may have flexibility in implementing *resolves 6* of this resolution and negotiating repayment plans with Sector Members and Associates;

8 that Sector Members and Associates can be readmitted to the Union under the usual conditions and upon payment of membership contributions;

9 that any difficulty (e.g. non-payment, mail returned due to lack of information regarding a new address) shall be immediately notified to the Member State which endorsed the Sector Member or the Associate,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

in consultation with the Directors of the Bureaux, to continue to report to the Council on the implementation of this resolution, highlighting any difficulty that may be encountered and proposing further improvements, as appropriate,

*instructs the Council*

to take appropriate measures to facilitate the implementation of this resolution,

*invites Member States*

as appropriate, to continue to participate actively in the follow-up and oversight of financial matters relating to Sector Members and Associates.

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*(Antalya, 2006) – (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) – (Rev. Busan, 2014)*

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## RESOLUTION 154 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Use of the six official languages of the Union on an equal footing**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

- a) United Nations General Assembly Resolution 67/292, on multilingualism;
- b) Resolution 154 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;
- c) Resolution 115 (Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;
- d) Resolution 104 (Minneapolis, 1998) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;
- e) Resolution 66 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;
- f) Resolution 165 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;
- g) Resolution 168 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference,

*reaffirming*

the fundamental principle of equal treatment of the six official languages, as enshrined in Resolutions 115 (Marrakesh, 2002) and 154 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010), on the use of the six languages on an equal footing,

*noting with satisfaction and appreciation*

- a) the steps taken so far to implement Resolution 115 (Marrakesh, 2002) as from 1 January 2005 and Resolution 154 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010);

b) the progress made in the successful implementation of Resolution 104 (Minneapolis, 1998) and resulting efficiencies and economies;

c) the progress made in the implementation of Resolution 154 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) in regard to alignment of working methods and optimization of staffing levels in the six languages, linguistic unification of databases for definitions and terminology and centralizing editing functions;

d) ITU participation in the International Annual Meeting on Language Arrangements, Documentation and Publications (IAMLADP),

*recognizing*

a) that translation is an essential element of the work of the Union that enables a common understanding among the entire ITU membership on the important issues under discussion;

b) the importance of maintaining and improving the multilingual content of services required by the universal character of United Nations system organizations, as called for in the United Nations Joint Inspection Unit report on *Multilingualism in the United Nations System* (Document JIU/REP/2002/11);

c) that, notwithstanding the successful implementation of Resolution 115 (Marrakesh, 2002), for various reasons the switchover to six languages cannot be achieved overnight, and a "transition period" to full implementation is inevitable;

d) the work accomplished by the ITU Council Working Group on Languages (CWG-LANG), as well as the work by the secretariat to implement the working group's recommendations as agreed by the Council at its 2009 session, in particular with regard to the unification of linguistic databases for definitions and terminology and the centralization of editing functions, the integration of the terminology database for Arabic, Chinese and Russian as well as harmonizing and unifying working procedures in the six language services,

*recognizing further*

the budget constraints facing the Union,

*resolves*

to continue to take all necessary measures to ensure use of the six official languages of the Union on an equal footing and to provide interpretation and the translation of ITU documentation, although some work in ITU (for example working parties, regional conferences) might not require the use of all six languages,

*instructs the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with the Directors of the Bureaux*

to present annually to the Council and to CWG-LANG, beginning in 2015, a report containing:

- evolution of the budget for translation of documents to the six official languages of the Union since 2010, taking into consideration variations in the volumes of translation services provided in each year;
- procedures adopted by other international organizations inside and outside the United Nations system and benchmark studies on their costs of translation;
- initiatives undertaken by the General Secretariat and the three Bureaux to increase efficiencies and cost savings in the implementation of this resolution and comparison with the evolution of the budget since 2010;
- alternative translation procedures feasible to be adopted by ITU and their advantages and disadvantages;
- progress made on the implementation of measures and principles for translation and interpretation adopted by the Council in its 2014 session,

*instructs the Council*

- 1 to analyse the adoption by ITU of alternative translation procedures, in order to reduce translation and typing expenses in the budget of the Union, while maintaining or improving the current quality of translation and the correct use of technical telecommunication terminology;
- 2 to analyse, including through the use of appropriate indicators, application of the updated measures and principles for interpretation and translation adopted by the Council at its 2014 session, taking into consideration the financial constraints, and bearing in mind the ultimate objective of full implementation of treatment of the six official languages on an equal footing;
- 3 to pursue and monitor appropriate operational measures, such as:
  - to continue review of ITU documentation and publication services with a view to eliminating any duplication and to creating synergies;
  - to facilitate the timely and simultaneous delivery of high-quality and efficient language services (interpretation, documentation, publications and public-information materials) in the six languages, in support of the Union's strategic goals;
  - to support optimum levels of staffing, including core staff, temporary assistance and outsourcing, while ensuring the required high quality of interpretation and translation;
  - to continue implementation of judicious and efficient use of information and communication technologies (ICT) in language and publications activities, taking into consideration experience gained by other international organizations and best practices;
  - to continue to explore and implement all possible measures to reduce the size and volume of documents (page-limits, executive summaries, material in annexes or hyperlinks), and achieve greener meetings, when justified, without affecting the quality and content of the documents to be translated or to be published, and bearing clearly in mind the need to comply with the United Nations system objective of multilingualism;

- as a matter of priority, to take, to the extent practicable, all necessary measures for equitable use of the six languages on the ITU website in terms of multilingual content and user-friendliness;
- 4 to monitor the work carried out by the ITU secretariat in regard to:
- completion of the Arabic language terminology projects approved by the Council, using the funds already allocated for this purpose;
  - merging all existing databases for definitions and terminology into a centralized system, with proper measures for its maintenance, expansion and updating;
  - completion and maintenance of the ITU database for telecommunication/ICT terminology and definitions, with particular emphasis on any and all language(s), in particular Arabic, for which a terminology deficit persists;
  - providing the six language service units with the necessary qualified staff and tools to meet their requirements in each language;
  - enhancing ITU's image and the effectiveness of its public-information work, making use of all six languages of the Union, in, among other things, publishing ITU News, creating ITU websites, organizing Internet broadcasting and archiving of recordings, and issuing documents of a public-information nature, including announcements of ITU TELECOM events, e-flashes and such like;
- 5 to maintain CWG-LANG, in order to monitor progress and report to the Council on the implementation of this resolution;
- 6 to review, in collaboration with the Sector advisory groups, the types of material to be included in output documents and translated;

7 to continue to consider measures to reduce, without sacrificing quality, the cost and volume of documentation as a standing item, in particular for conferences and assemblies;

8 to report to the next plenipotentiary conference on the implementation of this resolution,

*invites Member States and Sector Members*

1 to ensure that the different language versions of documents and publications are utilized, downloaded and purchased by the corresponding language communities, for the sake of maximizing their benefit and cost-effectiveness;

2 to submit their contributions and inputs sufficiently early before the beginning of conferences and assemblies and to contain their size and volume to the greatest extent possible.

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*(Antalya, 2006) – (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) – (Rev. Busan, 2014)*

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## RESOLUTION 157 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

### **Strengthening of the project execution function in ITU**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

*a)* No. 118 of the ITU Constitution outlining the Union's dual responsibility as a United Nations specialized agency and executing agency for implementing projects under the United Nations development system or other funding arrangements so as to facilitate and enhance telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) development by offering, organizing and coordinating technical cooperation and assistance activities;

*b)* Resolution 135 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on participation of the Union in the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in other programmes of the United Nations system and in other funding arrangements, which instructed the ITU Council to take all necessary measures to ensure maximum efficiency of the Union's participation in UNDP and other funding arrangements;

*c)* Resolution 52 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on strengthening the executing agency role of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D), which emphasized the importance of establishing partnerships between the public and private sectors as an efficient means of implementing sustainable ITU projects, and of utilizing locally available expertise in executing ITU projects on a regional or country-wide basis;

*d)* Resolution 17 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on implementation of initiatives at the national, regional, interregional and global levels approved by the six ITU-D regions;

e) Annex 2 to Decision 5 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on measures for reducing expenditure, which highlights the importance of coordination with regional organizations with a view to sharing the available resources and minimizing the costs of participation,

*recognizing*

a) that, in order to fulfil its role as executing agency for development projects, ITU requires the funding needed for their implementation;

b) that there continues to be a lack of funding from UNDP and other international financial institutions for project implementation;

c) that greater interaction with Member States, Sector Members, financial institutions and regional and international organizations needs to be promoted in order to find other ways to fund the implementation of these projects;

d) the importance of promoting public-private partnerships, among others, to ensure affordable, equitable and universal access to telecommunications/ICTs,

*noting*

a) that the sustainability of the role of ITU-D in the implementation of technical cooperation projects with developing countries<sup>1</sup> and the establishment of business/client relationships is dependent on the creation and maintenance of a level of expertise within the secretariat to permit the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) to manage projects effectively and in a timely and efficient manner; to this effect, the enhancement of training capabilities in the Union, as foreseen in Resolution 48 (Rev. Antalya, 2006) of this conference, should contribute toward the sustainability of the requisite expertise to enhance the project execution function;

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

b) that the strengthening of project execution and management expertise in BDT will also require the improvement of skills in the area of resource mobilization and financing;

c) the Union's implementation of results-based budgeting (RBB) and results-based management (RBM) to ensure that activities being carried out have adequate resources available to achieve planned results;

d) that the effectiveness of the ITU's project execution role would be enhanced through closer collaboration and coordination with expert organizations at the regional and international levels,

*resolves to instruct the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

1 to implement a strategy aimed at strengthening the project execution function, taking into account the experience and lessons learned by ITU-D, identifying suitable methods of implementation, possible means of funding and strategic partners for the implementation of regional initiatives;

2 to continue reviewing best practices within the United Nations system and within organizations external to the United Nations in the area of technical cooperation, with a view to promoting such practices when offering, organizing and coordinating technical cooperation and assistance activities, consistent with No. 118 of the Constitution;

3 to ensure that priorities and ways of financing are agreed, prior to the implementation and execution of initiatives, fostering a participatory and inclusive process with Member States and regional organizations;

4 to ensure that the requisite expertise in the areas of project management and execution as well as resource mobilization and financing is identified;

5 to encourage projects from all sources, taking into account achievement of the Sector objectives as adopted by Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, fostering the participation of the public, regional organizations, the private sector and academia;

6 to focus on the implementation of larger-scale projects, while carefully considering delivery of smaller-scale projects;

7 to ensure that a minimum support cost of 7 per cent, associated with the execution of projects under UNDP or other funding arrangements, is set as the target to be recovered, while allowing some degree of flexibility for negotiation during the funding discussion;

8 to continue to examine the percentage of support-cost resources in respect of such projects, with the aim of increasing them in order to exploit them to improve the implementation function;

9 to recruit qualified staff internally and/or externally, if necessary, within the financial limits set by plenipotentiary conferences, or under support-cost resources in respect of such projects, in order to strengthen, and ensure continuity as well as sustainability in, the execution of the Union's responsibility for organizing and coordinating technical cooperation and assistance activities;

10 to promote close collaboration with the Directors of the Radiocommunication and Telecommunication Standardization Bureaux for the implementation of regional initiatives;

11 to prepare reports annually to the Council on progress achieved in fulfilling the functions specified in No. 118 of the Constitution and in implementing this resolution,

*further resolves*

to strengthen the project execution function, consistent with No. 118 of the Constitution, when providing technical cooperation assistance and when executing projects by:

- i) collaborating and partnering with relevant expert organizations at the regional and international levels, particularly in those areas where ITU would benefit from specialized expertise;

- ii) utilizing local and regional experts when offering and coordinating technical cooperation and assistance activities in order to maximize resources and ensure continuity beyond the duration of the project;
- iii) making available to the ITU membership any relevant materials from a technical cooperation or assistance activity so that they may be utilized for future efforts,

*instructs the Council*

to foster a participatory and inclusive process with the Member States and regional organizations in order to ensure that priorities and possible forms of funding are agreed upon prior to implementation and execution of initiatives.

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*(Antalya, 2006) – (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) – (Rev. Busan, 2014)*

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## RESOLUTION 158 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Financial issues for consideration by the Council**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*considering*

- a) Article 28 of the ITU Constitution and Article 33 of the ITU Convention pertaining to the finances of the Union;
- b) the need to ensure that, in each biennial budget, revenue and expenses are balanced;
- c) the rules, procedures and financial arrangements for voluntary contributions and trust funds as specified in Annex 2 to the ITU Financial Regulations,

*noting*

- a) the outcomes of the ITU Council Working Group for the elaboration of the draft strategic plan and the draft financial plan for 2016-2019;
- b) the cost implications for ITU as a result of the role it has acquired in following up and implementing the relevant outcomes of both phases of the World Summit on the Information Society;
- c) that there is a need to stabilize the elements of the financial plan during plenipotentiary conferences;
- d) that the financial revenue of the Union based on contributions by Member States and Sector Members has continued to decrease;
- e) the need to increase the revenue of the Union, possibly through increasing the sources of revenue of the Union or developing additional new financial mechanisms,

*noting further*

the adoption of Resolution 151 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on results-based management,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

- 1 to study possible new measures to generate additional revenue for ITU;
- 2 to report on the outcomes of this study and recommend measures to the Council through the Council Working Group on Financial and Human Resources (CWG-FHR),

*resolves to instruct the Council*

- 1 to review the outcomes of CWG-FHR regarding possible new approaches to raising new revenues, and implement measures where appropriate, on a temporary basis, subject to review by the following plenipotentiary conference;
- 2 to study the possibility of establishing mechanisms to afford greater financial stability for the Union, and to make recommendations in that regard;
- 3 to review the current methodologies and study the development of a future vision for the participation of Sector Members, Associates and Academia in the activities of ITU, including, *inter alia*, analysis of the implications of various pricing methodologies, the current membership structure and the benefits and participation rights of Sector Members, Associates and Academia, ways of increasing participation among non-profit entities in the work of the Union, and the practice of exempting entities from membership fees;
- 4 to report to the next plenipotentiary conference with recommendations regarding actions that can be implemented on a longer-term basis, including any modifications to the relevant articles of the Constitution and Convention that may be required.

## RESOLUTION 159 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Assistance and support to Lebanon for rebuilding its telecommunication networks (fixed and mobile)**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

- a) the noble principles, purpose and objectives enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- b) the efforts of the United Nations to promote sustainable development and the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions concerning the situation;
- c) the purposes of the Union as enshrined in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution;
- d) § 16 of the Geneva Declaration of Principles adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society,

*recognizing*

- a) that a reliable telecommunication network is indispensable for promoting the socio-economic development of countries, in particular those having suffered from natural disasters, domestic conflicts or war;
- b) that Lebanon's telecommunication facilities have been severely damaged due to wars in that country;
- c) that the damage caused to Lebanon's telecommunications should be a matter of concern for the entire international community, particularly ITU, as the United Nations specialized agency for telecommunications;
- d) Resolution 159 (Antalya, 2006) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, which resolved that action should be initiated to provide for and support Lebanon in rebuilding its telecommunication network;



e) that Resolution 159 (Antalya, 2006) has not yet been translated into actions, except for the exploratory mission of the ITU expert in 2007 which ended with an assessment report evaluating damages and revenue losses at an amount of USD 547.3 million;

f) that, under the present conditions and in the foreseeable future, Lebanon will not be able to develop its telecommunication network and infrastructure to the required level of performance and resilience without help from the international community, provided bilaterally or through international organizations,

*taking into consideration*

a) that efforts will help rebuild and upgrade the telecommunication network infrastructure;

b) that efforts will also enhance the resilience of its management and security systems to meet its needs in terms of economic and telecommunication services and security,

*resolves*

1 that special and specific actions should be taken within the framework of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector's activities, with specialized assistance from the other two Sectors, in order to implement this resolution and provide appropriate assistance and support to Lebanon in rebuilding and securing its telecommunication networks (fixed and mobile);

2 that the necessary funds should be allocated within the available resources of the Union for the implementation of this resolution,

*calls upon Member States*

to ensure all possible assistance and support to the Government of Lebanon, either bilaterally or through, and, in any case, in coordination with, the special action of the Union referred to above,

*instructs the ITU Council*

to allocate the necessary funds for such actions, within available resources, and to trigger and actually take the said actions,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

to urge the activities carried out by the three ITU Sectors in accordance with *resolves* above, to ensure that the Union's action in favour of Lebanon is as effective as possible, and to report on the matter periodically to the Council.

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*(Antalya, 2006) – (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) – (Rev. Busan, 2014)*

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## RESOLUTION 160 (ANTALYA, 2006)

**Assistance to Somalia**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Antalya, 2006)

*recalling*

Resolution 34 (Rev. Minneapolis, 1998) of the Plenipotentiary Conference,

*recalling further*

- a) the purposes of the Union as enshrined in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution;
- b) Resolution 57 (Doha, 2006) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on assistance to Somalia,

*recognizing*

- a) that no budget was allocated by the Plenipotentiary Conference to accompany Resolution 34 (Rev. Minneapolis, 1998) for the benefit of countries in special need;
- b) that telecommunication infrastructure in Somalia has been completely destroyed by a decade and half of war and that the regulatory framework in the country needs to be re-established;
- c) that Somalia at present does not have a formal national telecommunication infrastructure, access to international telecommunication networks or access to the Internet;
- d) that a telecommunication system is an essential input for reconstruction, rehabilitation and relief operations in the country;
- e) that, under the present conditions and in the foreseeable future, Somalia will not be able to rebuild its telecommunication systems and re-establish a regulatory framework without help from international community, provided bilaterally or through international organizations,

*noting*

that Somalia has not benefited fully from the Union's assistance over a long period due to war in the country and lack of government,

*resolves*

that special action be initiated by the Secretary-General and Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, with specialized assistance from the ITU Radiocommunication Sector and the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector, resulting in the launch of a special initiative with allocated funds, aimed at providing assistance and support to Somalia for rebuilding and modernizing its telecommunication infrastructure, re-establishing a well-equipped ministry of telecommunications and establishing institutions, developing telecommunication/information and communication technology policy, legislation and regulation, including a numbering plan, spectrum management, tariff and human resource capacity building, and all other necessary forms of assistance,

*calls upon Member States*

to offer all possible assistance and support to the Government of Somalia, either bilaterally or through the special action of the Union referred to above,

*invites the Plenipotentiary Conference*

to allocate the necessary funds within available resources for the implementation of this resolution,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

to implement fully a programme of assistance for the least developed countries, in which reconstruction and rehabilitation of telecommunication infrastructure is an integral part of the programme, in order that Somalia can receive focused assistance in various areas determined to be of high priority by the country,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

to coordinate the activities carried out by the three ITU Sectors in accordance with *resolves* above, to ensure that the Union's action in favour of Somalia is as effective as possible, and to report annually on the matter to the Council.

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*(Antalya, 2006)*

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## RESOLUTION 161 (ANTALYA, 2006)

### **Assistance and support for the Democratic Republic of the Congo for rebuilding its telecommunication network**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Antalya, 2006),

*recalling*

- a) the noble principles, purpose and objectives enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as well as in the Declaration of Principles adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society;
- b) the efforts of the United Nations to promote sustainable development, and the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions concerning the situation;
- c) the purposes of the Union as enshrined in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution,

*recognizing*

- a) that a reliable telecommunication network is essential for promoting the social and economic development of countries, particularly those that have suffered natural disasters, domestic conflict or war;
- b) that the basic telecommunication infrastructure of the Democratic Republic of the Congo has been severely damaged by the conflicts and wars from which the country has suffered for more than a decade;
- c) that, as part of the reform of the telecommunication sector undertaken by the Democratic Republic of the Congo, involving the separation of the operating and regulatory functions, two regulatory bodies have been instituted along with a basic telecommunication network, which requires adequate financial resources in order to be built;

d) that, in the present conditions and for the foreseeable future, the Democratic Republic of the Congo will not be able to rehabilitate its basic telecommunication network to an acceptable standard without assistance from the international community, provided either bilaterally or by international organizations,

*resolves*

that special action be initiated by the Secretary-General and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, with specialized assistance from the ITU Radiocommunication Sector and the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector, with a view to providing the Democratic Republic of the Congo with appropriate assistance and support for rebuilding its basic telecommunication network,

*calls upon Member States*

to offer all possible assistance and support to the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, either bilaterally or through the special action of the Union referred to above, and, in any case, in coordination with that action,

*instructs the Council*

to allocate the necessary funds to the aforesaid action within available resources, and proceed with its implementation,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

to coordinate the activities carried out by the three Sectors of the Union in accordance with *resolves* above, to ensure that the Union's action in favour of the Democratic Republic of the Congo is as effective as possible, and to report on the matter to the Council.

## RESOLUTION 162 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Independent management advisory committee**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

a) the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled *Oversight Lacunae in the United Nations System (JIU/REP/2006/2)* and in particular recommendation 1 thereof on the establishment of an independent external oversight board;

b) ITU Council Decision 565 (C-11) appointing five independent experts as members of the Independent Management Advisory Committee (IMAC) to serve for a term of four years;

c) Council Decision 563 (modified 2014), which adds the following to the terms of reference of the Council Working Group on Financial and Human Resources (CWG-FHR): *“to undertake on an annual basis, a review of the status of the implementation of the recommendations of the Independent Management Advisory Committee as presented annually to Council, taking into account Resolution 162 (Guadalajara, 2010)”*,

*reaffirming*

its commitment to efficient, accountable and transparent management of the Union,

*recognizing*

a) that the establishment of an independent management advisory committee contributes to effective oversight and governance of an organization;

b) that an independent management advisory committee is a governance tool and does not duplicate the financial audit functions of either the internal or the external auditor;

c) that the established practice among international institutions is that an independent management advisory committee serves in an expert advisory capacity and assists the governing body and the management of the agency in fulfilling their oversight and governance responsibilities;



d) the valuable contribution of IMAC in assisting the ITU Council and the Secretary-General in fulfilling their governance responsibilities, including ensuring the effectiveness of ITU's internal control systems, risk management and governance processes,

*considering*

the recommendation of the representatives of internal audit services of the United Nations organizations and multilateral financial institutions on the establishment of effective and independent audit committees,

*noting*

IMAC's annual reports to the Council, including its recommendations,

*resolves*

to establish IMAC on an ongoing basis according to the terms of reference contained in the annex to this resolution, and review and amend, if necessary, its terms of reference,

*instructs the Council*

- 1 to consider IMAC's annual reports and its recommendations and take appropriate action;
- 2 to review the status of implementation of the IMAC recommendations;
- 3 to appoint the five independent experts as members of IMAC according to its terms of reference,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

to publish, without delay, and provide public access to, the IMAC reports as presented to the Council, on a publicly accessible website,

*invites the Council*

to report to the 2018 plenipotentiary conference on IMAC's activities and on the implementation of this resolution.

## ANNEX TO RESOLUTION 162 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

### **Terms of reference for the ITU Independent Management Advisory Committee**

#### **Purpose**

1 The Independent Management Advisory Committee (IMAC), as a subsidiary body of the ITU Council, serves in an expert advisory capacity and assists the Council and the Secretary-General in effectively fulfilling their governance responsibilities, including ensuring the functioning of ITU's internal control systems, risk management and governance processes, including human resources management. IMAC must assist in enhancing transparency, strengthening accountability and the governance functions of the Council and the Secretary-General.

2 IMAC will provide advice to the Council and ITU management, on:

- a) ways of improving the quality and the level of financial reporting, governance, risk management, including long-term liabilities, monitoring and internal controls in ITU;
- b) how to implement its recommendations;
- c) ensuring the independence, effectiveness and objectivity of the internal and external audit functions; and
- d) how to strengthen communication among all stakeholders, the external and internal auditors, the Council and ITU management.

#### **Responsibilities**

3 The responsibilities of IMAC are:

- a) Internal audit function: To advise the Council on the staffing, resources and performance of the internal audit function and the appropriateness of the independence of the internal audit function.

- b) Risk management and internal controls: To advise the Council on the effectiveness of ITU's internal control systems, including ITU's risk-management and governance practices.
- c) Financial statements: To advise the Council on issues arising from the audited financial statements of ITU, and letters to management and other reports produced by the external auditor.
- d) Accounting: To advise the Council on the appropriateness of accounting policies and disclosure practices and assess changes and risks in those policies.
- e) External audit: To advise the Council on the scope and approach of the external auditor's work. IMAC may provide advice on the appointment of the external auditor, including the costs and scope of the services to be provided.
- f) Evaluation: To review and advise the Council on the staffing, resources and performance of ITU's evaluation function.

### **Authority**

4 IMAC shall have all the necessary authority to fulfil its responsibilities, including free and unrestricted access to any information, records or staff (including the internal audit function) and the external auditor, or any business contracted by ITU.

5 The Head of the ITU internal audit function and the external auditor will have unrestricted and confidential access to IMAC, and vice versa.

6 These terms of reference (ToR) are to be reviewed periodically, as appropriate, by IMAC, and any proposed amendment submitted to the Council for approval.

7 IMAC, as an advisory body, has no management powers, executive authority or operational responsibilities.

### **Composition**

8 IMAC shall comprise five independent expert members serving in their personal capacity.

9 Professional competence and integrity shall be of paramount consideration in the selection of members.

10 No more than one member of IMAC shall be a national of the same ITU Member State.

11 To the greatest extent possible:

- a) no more than one member of IMAC shall be from the same geographical region; and
- b) membership of IMAC shall be balanced, with individuals from developed and developing countries<sup>1</sup>, in terms of public- and private-sector experience, and in terms of gender.

12 At least one member shall be selected on the basis of his/her qualifications and experience as a senior oversight professional or senior financial manager, preferably in the United Nations system or in another international organization, to the greatest extent possible.

13 To undertake their role effectively, members of IMAC should collectively possess knowledge, skills and senior-level experience in the following areas:

- a) finance and audit;
- b) organization governance and accountability structure, including risk management;
- c) law;
- d) senior-level management;
- e) the organization, structure and functioning of the United Nations and/or other intergovernmental organizations; and
- f) a general understanding of the telecommunication/ICT industry.

14 Members should ideally have or acquire rapidly a good understanding of ITU's objectives, governance structure, the relevant regulations and rules, and its organizational culture and control environment.

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

## Independence

15 Since the role of IMAC is to provide objective advice, members shall remain independent of the ITU secretariat, the Council and the Plenipotentiary Conference, and shall be free of any real or perceived conflict of interest.

16 Members of IMAC shall:

- a) not hold a position or engage in any activity that could impair their independence from ITU or from companies that maintain a business relationship with ITU;
- b) not currently be, or have been within the five years prior to appointment on IMAC, employed or engaged in any capacity by ITU, a Sector Member, an Associate or a Member State delegation, or have an immediate family member (as defined by the ITU Staff Regulations and Staff Rules) working for or having a contractual relationship with ITU, a Sector Member, an Associate or a Member State delegation;
- c) be independent of the United Nations Panel of External Auditors and the Joint Inspection Unit; and
- d) not be eligible for any employment with ITU for at least five years immediately following the last day of their tenure on IMAC.

17 IMAC members shall serve in their personal capacity and shall not seek or accept instructions in regard to their performance on IMAC from any government or other authority internal or external to ITU.

18 Members of IMAC shall sign an annual declaration and statement of private, financial and other interests (Appendix A to these ToR). The Chairman of IMAC shall provide the completed and signed declaration and statement to the Chairman of the Council promptly after a member commences his/her term on IMAC, and thereafter on an annual basis.

## **Selection, appointment and term**

19 The process for selection of members of IMAC is set out in Appendix B to these ToR. The process shall involve a selection panel comprising representatives of the Council on the basis of equitable geographical distribution.

20 The selection panel shall relay its recommendations to the Council. Members of IMAC shall be appointed by the Council.

21 Members of IMAC are appointed to serve for a term of four years, renewable for a second and final term of four years, which need not be consecutive. To ensure continuity of membership, the initial appointment of two of its five members shall be for one term of four years only, decided by the drawing of lots at IMAC's first meeting. The Chairman shall be selected by IMAC members from amongst their number and shall serve in this capacity for a term of two years.

22 A member of IMAC may resign his/her membership by notice in writing to the Chairman of the Council. A special appointment for the remainder of that member's term shall be made by the Chairman of the Council in accordance with the provisions set out in Appendix B to these ToR to cater for such a vacancy.

23 An appointment to IMAC may only be revoked by the Council, under conditions to be established by the Council.

## **Meetings**

24 IMAC shall meet at least twice in an ITU financial year. The exact number of meetings per year will depend on the agreed workload for IMAC and the most appropriate timing for consideration of specific matters.

25 Subject to these ToR, IMAC will establish its own rules of procedure to assist its members in executing their responsibilities. The IMAC rules of procedure shall be communicated to the Council for its information.

26 The quorum for the committee is three members. As members serve in a personal capacity, alternates are not allowed.

27 The Secretary-General, the External Auditor, the Chief of the Financial Resources Management Department, the Chief of Human Resources Management Department, the Head of the internal audit function and the Ethics Officer, or their representatives, shall attend meetings when invited by IMAC. Other ITU officials with functions relevant to the items on the agenda may likewise be invited.

28 If necessary, IMAC has the ability to obtain independent counsel or have recourse to other outside experts in order to advise the committee.

29 All confidential documents and information submitted to or obtained by IMAC remain confidential.

### **Reporting**

30 The Chairman of IMAC will submit its findings to the Chairman of the Council and the Secretary-General after each meeting, and will present an annual report, both in writing and in person, for consideration by the Council at its annual session.

31 The Chairman of IMAC may inform the Chairman of the Council, in between Council sessions, of a serious governance issue.

32 IMAC will conduct a self-assessment, based on best practice, and report on the results to the Council.

### **Administrative arrangements**

33 Members of IMAC will provide services pro bono. In accordance with the procedures applying to appointed staff of ITU, members of IMAC:

- a) shall receive a daily subsistence allowance; and
- b) those not resident in the Canton of Geneva or neighbouring France shall be entitled to reimbursement of travel expenses, to attend IMAC sessions.

34 The ITU secretariat will provide secretariat support to IMAC.







## Declaration & Statement of Private, Financial and Other Interests Form (Appendix A, page 3/4)

<b>5</b>	<b>Declaration</b>	
<p><b>I declare that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As a member of the Independent Management Advisory Committee (IMAC), I am aware of my responsibilities under its Terms of Reference:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– to disclose, and take reasonable steps to avoid, any conflict of interest (real or apparent) in connection with my membership of IMAC; and</li> <li>– not to make improper use of (a) inside information or (b) my duties, status, power or authority, in order to gain, or seek to gain, a benefit or advantage for myself or for any other person.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>I declare that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I have read the IMAC Terms of Reference and understood the requirement for me to disclose any private, financial or other interests that could or could be seen to influence the decisions I am taking or the advice I am giving in the course of my duties as a member of IMAC.</li> <li>• I undertake to immediately inform the Chairman of IMAC (who shall inform the Chairman of the Council) of any changes to my personal circumstances or work responsibilities that could affect the contents of this disclosure and to provide an amended disclosure/s using this pro forma.</li> <li>• I undertake to disclose any private, financial or other interests of my immediate family that I am aware of, should circumstances arise in which I consider that they could or could be seen to influence the decisions I am taking or the advice I am giving in the course of my official duties.</li> <li>• I understand that this would require the consent of the family member to the collection by ITU of personal information and a declaration that he/she is aware of the purpose for which the personal information has been collected, the legislative requirements authorizing the collection and the third parties to whom the personal information may be disclosed, and consents.</li> </ul>		
_____	_____	_____
Signature	Name	Date

## Declaration & Statement of Private, Financial and Other Interests Form (Appendix A, page 4/4)

### 6 Declaration of consent by immediate family member to disclosure of their personal, financial and other interests

If you ticked the first box at Item 3, skip this step and go to Step 7.

This declaration is to be completed by the immediate family member/s of the IMAC member where the IMAC member considers that the personal, financial and other interests of the family member/s could or could be seen to influence the decisions or actions he/she is taking or the advice he/she is giving in the course of his/her membership of IMAC.

Family member name \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to IMAC member \_\_\_\_\_

IMAC member name \_\_\_\_\_

_____	_____	_____
Signature	Name of immediate family member	Date

### 7 Submit his form

**Once completed and signed, this form should be sent to the Chairman of the ITU Council.**

## APPENDIX B

**Proposed process for selection of members of the  
Independent Management Advisory Committee**

When a vacancy on the Independent Management Advisory Committee (IMAC) occurs, it shall be filled in accordance with the process set out below:

- a) The Secretary-General:
- i) shall invite ITU Member States to nominate individuals who are deemed to possess exceptional qualifications and experience;
  - ii) may place in international, reputable magazines and/or newspapers, and on the Internet, a call for expressions of interest from suitably qualified and experienced individuals,
- to serve on IMAC.

A Member State nominating an individual under subparagraph a) i) shall provide the same information that the Secretary-General requests of applicants responding to the expression of interest under subparagraph a)ii), and within the same time-frame.

- b) A selection panel shall be formed comprising six ITU Council members representing the Americas, Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States, Africa, Asia and Australasia and the Arab States.
- c) The selection panel shall, taking into account the IMAC terms of reference (ToR) and the confidential nature of the selection process, review and consider the applications received and create a shortlist of candidates whom it may wish to interview. The selection panel will be assisted, as required, by the ITU secretariat.
- d) The selection panel shall then propose to the Council a list of the best-qualified candidates, equal to the number of vacancies on IMAC. In the event a vote is taken by the selection panel on whether (a) candidate(s) shall be included in the list of candidates to be proposed to the Council and ends in an equal number of votes, the Chairman of the Council shall have the deciding vote.

The information to be provided by the selection panel to the Council shall consist of each candidate's name, gender, nationality, qualifications and professional experience. The selection panel shall provide a report to the Council on the candidates recommended for appointment to IMAC.

- e) The Council shall consider the recommendation to appoint the individuals to IMAC.
- f) The selection panel will also create and retain a pool of suitably qualified candidates for consideration by the Council if required in order to fill a vacancy arising for any reason (e.g. resignation, incapacity) during a term of IMAC.
- g) In order to observe the principle of rotation, the positions should be re-advertised every four years, if considered appropriate by the Council, using the selection process set out in this appendix. The pool of suitably qualified candidates referred to in subparagraph f) should also be refreshed using the same selection process.

## RESOLUTION 164 (GUADALAJARA, 2010)

**Allocation of seats of Council Member States**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Guadalajara, 2010),

*recalling*

a) that the Council is composed of Member States elected by the Plenipotentiary Conference;

b) that the number of Member States of the Council shall be determined by the Plenipotentiary Conference,

*noting*

that, in accordance with No. 50A of the ITU Convention, the number of Council Member States shall not exceed 25 per cent of the total number of Member States of the Union,

*recognizing*

the need to clarify the manner in which equitable distribution of Council Member States is applied pursuant to No. 61 of the ITU Constitution,

*recognizing further*

the deliberations of the Council pursuant to Resolution 134 (Antalya, 2006) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the number of Member States of the Council,

*resolves*

1 that, for each administrative region of the Council, the percentage of 25 per cent shall be applied to the number of Member States in that region to determine the number of seats to be allocated to the region;

2 that the figure obtained after this calculation shall be rounded to the nearest integer;

3 that this rounded integer shall be the number of seats allocated to the region,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

to inform the Member States on changes in the number of Member States of the Union and their impact on the distribution of seats of Member States of the Council.

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*(Guadalajara, 2010)*

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## RESOLUTION 165 (GUADALAJARA, 2010)

**Deadlines for the submission of proposals and procedures  
for the registration of participants for conferences and  
assemblies of the Union**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Guadalajara, 2010),

*recognizing*

- a) No. 224 of the ITU Constitution, which indicates that any Member State may propose any amendment to the Constitution, provided that such a proposal reaches the Secretary-General not later than eight months prior to the opening date fixed for the plenipotentiary conference;
- b) No. 519 of the ITU Convention, which specifies the requirement for the submission of amendments to the Convention not later than eight months prior to the opening date fixed for the plenipotentiary conference;
- c) Resolution 114 (Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on interpretation of No. 224 of the Constitution and No. 519 of the Convention,

*recognizing also*

- a) Section 8 of the General Rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union, on time-limits and conditions for submission of proposals and reports to conferences;
- b) Section 17 of the General Rules, on proposals or amendments presented during the conference,

*considering*

Decision 556 adopted by the 2010 session of the ITU Council, concerning the submission of documentation to Council sessions, which indicates that all contributions should be submitted no later than 21 calendar days before the opening of a Council session in order to ensure timely translation and their thorough consideration during that Council session,



*noting*

- a) that late submissions not only overburden the ITU secretariat in processing such contributions, but also disadvantage delegations, particularly small delegations, in reading and preparing positions in a timely and useable manner;
- b) that late contributions also disrupt the efficient functioning of ITU conferences, assemblies and meetings as well as their committees and working groups;
- c) that there is a need to establish a reasonable deadline for the submission of documentation to the above-mentioned meetings of the Union in the future,

*taking into account*

a proposal submitted to the 2010 plenipotentiary conference, which requests that the Council, in consultation with the General Secretariat and the Directors of the three Bureaux, explore, together with the Sector advisory groups, the issue of the harmonization of deadlines for the submission of documents and procedures governing registration for meetings of the Union,

*resolves*

to establish a firm submission deadline for all contributions, with the exception of the deadlines outlined in *recognizing a) and b) above*, of no later than fourteen calendar days before the opening of conferences and assemblies of the Union, including plenipotentiary conferences, so as to ensure timely translation and their thorough consideration by delegations,

*instructs the Secretary-General in consultation with the Directors of the Bureaux*

- 1 to prepare a report to the Council on an ongoing basis on the above-mentioned matters, including relevant financial implications;
- 2 to explore, together with the Sector advisory groups, as appropriate, the issue of harmonizing deadlines for the submission of proposals as well as the procedures governing registration for meetings of the Union.

## RESOLUTION 166 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Number of vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups,  
study groups and other groups**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*considering*

a) that Article 20 of the ITU Convention relating to the conduct of business of study groups stipulates:

**242** 1 *The radiocommunication assembly, the world telecommunication standardization assembly and the world telecommunication development conference shall appoint the chairman and one vice-chairman or more for each study group. In appointing chairmen and vice-chairmen, particular consideration shall be given to the requirements of competence and equitable geographical distribution, and to the need to promote more efficient participation by the developing countries;*  
*PP-98*

**243** 2 *If the workload of any study group requires, the assembly or conference shall appoint such additional vice-chairmen as it deems necessary;*  
*PP-98*

b) that the Radiocommunication Assembly (RA), the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) and the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) have adopted resolutions relating to the appointment and maximum terms of office for chairmen and vice-chairmen of their respective advisory groups and study groups,

*recognizing*

- a) that currently the three ITU Sectors have established the appointment procedure, required qualifications and guidelines with respect to chairmen and vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups<sup>1</sup>;
- b) the experience of WTDC (Dubai, 2014), which appointed, by consensus, up to two vice-chairmen from each of the six regions, for an effective and efficient operation and management of each of the groups in question;
- c) the need to seek and encourage suitable representation of chairmen and vice-chairmen coming from developing countries<sup>2</sup>;
- d) the need to encourage the effective participation of all elected vice-chairmen in the work of their respective advisory groups and study groups, through the establishment of specific roles for each elected vice-chairman, so as to better distribute the management workload of the meetings of the Union,

*recognizing further*

- a) that the Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups should appoint only the number of vice-chairmen deemed necessary for the efficient and effective management and functioning of the group in question;
- b) that steps should be taken to provide some continuity between chairmen and vice-chairmen;

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<sup>1</sup> The criteria contained within this resolution do not apply to the designation of chairmen or vice-chairmen of focus groups.

<sup>2</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

c) the benefits of establishing maximum terms of office in order, on the one hand, to guarantee reasonable stability to advance the work, and, on the other, to allow for renewal with candidates having new perspectives and vision;

d) the importance of effectively mainstreaming a gender perspective in the policies of all ITU Sectors,

*taking into account*

that, currently, an individual from a single Member State can hold more than one position in a given Sector or in the three Sectors, which may be inconsistent with the principle of equitable geographical distribution, and with the need to promote more efficient participation by the developing countries,

*resolves to invite the Radiocommunication Assembly, the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly and the World Telecommunication Development Conference, in consultation with the Directors of the three Bureaux*

to review the current situation with a view to establishing the necessary criteria for appointment of the optimum numbers of vice-chairmen for Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups (including, to the extent practicable, the Conference Preparatory Meeting and the Special Committee on regulatory/procedural matters (SC-RPM) in the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R)), as the case may be, taking into account the following guidelines:

- 1) The number of vice-chairmen should be limited to the minimum necessary experienced professionals, as per the respective Sector resolutions relating to the appointment of vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups
- 2) Equitable geographical distribution among ITU regions and the need to promote more effective participation by the developing countries should be taken into account so as to ensure that every region be represented at least by one or two competent and experienced persons in the Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups

- 3) The total number of chairmen and vice-chairmen proposed by any administration should be fairly reasonable, so as to observe the principle of equitable distribution of posts among the Member States concerned
- 4) Regional representation in the advisory groups, study groups and other groups of all three Sectors should be taken into account, such that no single individual may hold more than one vice-chairmanship position in these groups in any one Sector, and only in exceptional cases hold such a position in more than one Sector<sup>3</sup>, based on the needs of each region
- 5) The appointment of candidates from countries that do not hold any position of chairmen and vice-chairmen should be encouraged
- 6) Each ITU region attending RA, WTSA and WTDC is encouraged, when assigning the positions to individual experienced professionals, to fully observe the principle of equitable geographical distribution among ITU regions, and the need to promote more efficient participation by the developing countries
- 7) The above-mentioned guidelines may, to the extent practicable, be applied to CPM and SC-RPM in ITU-R,

*instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the three Bureaux*

to make necessary arrangements for the proper implementation of this resolution,

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<sup>3</sup> The criterion mentioned in this paragraph should not prevent a vice-chairman of a given advisory group or a vice-chairman of a given study group from holding positions of chairman or vice-chairman of a given working party or as rapporteur or associate rapporteur for any group under the mandate of that Sector group.

*instructs the Directors of the three Bureaux, in consultation with the Chairmen of the Radiocommunication Advisory Group, the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group and the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group*

1 to include the subject matter in the agenda of the next meeting of their respective advisory group, with a view to duly establishing the required harmonized criteria for the selection/appointment of the above-mentioned positions;

2 to make the necessary arrangements for RA, WTSA and WTDC to establish specific roles to be performed by all elected vice-chairmen in the management of the work for each study group and advisory group, by assigning them leading positions on relevant tasks and/or working groups,

*invites Member States and Sector Members*

1 to support their candidates who have been chosen for the proposed posts and to facilitate their task during their entire term;

2 to promote the nomination of women candidates to the advisory groups, study groups and other groups of the ITU Sectors.

## RESOLUTION 167 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Strengthening and developing ITU capabilities for electronic meetings and means to advance the work of the Union**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*considering*

- a) the rapid technological change in the field of telecommunications and the associated policy, regulatory and infrastructure adaptations required at national, regional and global levels;
- b) the consequent need for the widest possible engagement of the ITU membership from around the world to address these matters in the work of the Union;
- c) that developments in technologies and facilities for the holding of electronic meetings and the further development of electronic working methods (EWM) will enable more open, rapid and easy collaboration between participants in the activities of ITU, which may be paperless;
- d) that some activities and procedures associated with certain ITU meetings still require direct face-to-face participation by the Union's membership,

*recalling*

- a) Resolution 66 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on documents and publications of the Union, regarding the electronic availability of documents;
- b) Resolution 58 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on strengthening of relations between ITU and regional telecommunication organizations and regional preparations for the Plenipotentiary Conference, which resolves that the Union, in strengthening its relations with the regional telecommunication organizations and by means of ITU regional preparations for plenipotentiary conferences, radiocommunication conferences and assemblies, world telecommunication

development conferences (WTDC) and world telecommunication standardization assemblies (WTSA) shall, with the assistance of its regional offices when necessary, cover all Member States without exception, even if they do not belong to any of the six regional telecommunication organizations;

c) Resolution 175 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) accessibility for persons with disabilities, including age-related disabilities, which resolves to take account of persons with disabilities and specific needs;

d) Resolution 32 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of WTSA, on strengthening electronic working methods in the work of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) and the implementation of EWM capabilities and associated arrangements in the work of ITU-T;

e) Resolution 73 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of WTSA, on ICTs and climate change and, in particular, *recognizing g)* thereof concerning energy-efficient working methods;

f) Resolution 5 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on enhancing participation by developing countries<sup>1</sup> in the activities of the Union, in particular, *instructs 4* thereof to continue promoting remote participation and meetings and EWM so as to encourage and facilitate participation in the work of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D);

g) Resolution 66 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on ICT and climate change, in particular the instruction to the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) to consider possible changes in working methods to meet the objectives of the EWM initiatives;

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.



*h)* Resolution 81 (Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on further development of EWM for the work of ITU-D, which identifies the role of the Telecommunication Development Bureau in providing support to EWM and the benefits to the ITU membership;

*i)* Resolution ITU-R 7-2 (Rev. Geneva, 2012) of the Radiocommunication Assembly (RA), on the development of telecommunications, including coordination and collaboration with ITU-D,

*recognizing*

*a)* that electronic participation has been producing significant benefits for the Union's membership, by reducing travel costs, and has facilitated wider participation in both the work of the Union and in meetings that require attendance;

*b)* that numerous ITU meetings are already available as audio and video webcasts and that use of videoconferencing, audio conference calls, real-time captioning and web-based collaboration tools for electronic participation in certain types of meetings have been advanced in meetings of the Sectors and the General Secretariat;

*c)* the budgetary difficulty that delegates from many countries, and in particular developing countries, have in travelling to participate in face-to-face ITU meetings;

*d)* that the current status of interactive remote participation (IRP) allows "remote intervention" rather than "remote participation", insofar as a remote participant cannot take part in decision-making;

*e)* that the regional offices are an extension of ITU as a whole and, therefore, EWM will serve to build up the effectiveness of the Union's activities, including project implementation, as set forth in Resolution 157 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference;

f) that the expected role of the regional offices is essential in order to fully comply with the basic mandates of the Union and, to this end, it is necessary that these offices be able to rely on affordable means of communication (videoconferencing), such as those that can be accessed over the web, to hold electronic meetings with the Member States, as stated in Resolution 25 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference,

*recognizing further*

a) the annual reports by the Secretary-General to the ITU Council on the implementation of this resolution;

b) the report from the 2014 session of the Council to this conference;

c) the financial, legal, procedural and technical difficulties of providing remote participation to all, particularly with respect to:

- the difference in time zones among regions and in relation to Geneva, and particularly with the Americas and Asia-Pacific regions;
- the costs of infrastructure, broadband, equipment, applications, meeting-room renovations and staff, especially in developing countries;
- the rights and legal status of remote participants and chairmen;
- the limitation in terms of formal procedures available to remote participants in comparison with physically present participants;
- the telecommunication infrastructure limitations in some countries due to unstable or inadequate connections;
- increased accessibility for people with disabilities and specific needs,

*noting*

- a) that the existence of electronic meetings, with well-documented rules and procedures, will help ITU in widening the involvement of potential stakeholders, both member and non-member experts, particularly from developing countries, who are unable to participate in face-to-face meetings;
- b) that EWM has made important contributions to the work of Sector groups, such as rapporteur groups, and of Council working groups, and that work, such as the development of texts, has been progressed in various parts of the Union through electronic communications;
- c) that different modes of participation are suitable for different types of meetings;
- d) that managing electronic meetings from the regional offices can facilitate regional coordination, in order to promote greater participation by Member States in the work of the study groups of the three Sectors;
- e) that there needs to be a coordinated and harmonized approach to the technology used,

*emphasizing*

- a) that there is a need for procedures to ensure fair and equitable participation by all;
- b) that electronic meetings can contribute to bridging the digital divide;
- c) that the implementation of electronic meetings is beneficial to ITU's role in leading the coordination on ICTs and climate change, and on accessibility,

*resolves*

- 1 that ITU should continue to develop its facilities and capabilities for remote participation by electronic means in appropriate meetings of the Union, including working groups created by the Council;

2 that ITU should continue to develop its EWM in relation to the elaboration, distribution and approval of documents and the promotion of paperless meetings;

3 that the Union continue to develop EWM, within budget availability, for the participation of persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs, which may include, *inter alia*, captioning for the hearing-impaired, audioconferencing for the visually impaired, and webconferencing for persons with restricted mobility, as well as solutions and facilities to address other similar challenges;

4 that the Union further study the impact of remote participation on existing rules of procedure;

5 that ITU should provide facilities and capabilities for EWM at ITU meetings, workshops and training courses, particularly to assist developing countries that have bandwidth limitations and other constraints;

6 to encourage e-participation of developing countries in meetings, workshops and training by providing simplified facilities and guidelines, and by waiving, within the appropriations that the Council is empowered to authorize, any expenses for those participants, other than the local call or Internet connectivity charges,

*instructs the Secretary-General, in consultation and collaboration with the Directors of the three Bureaux*

1 to implement the EWM Action Plan in Annex 1 to this resolution, addressing the legal, technical, security and financial implications of increasing the EWM capability of ITU;

2 to build upon trials for electronic meetings, in collaboration with the Directors of the Bureaux, such that their subsequent implementation is technologically neutral, to the greatest extent possible, and cost effective, in order to allow as broad participation as possible, satisfying the necessary security requirements;

- 3 to identify and review the costs and benefits of the items of the Action Plan on a regular basis;
- 4 to involve the advisory groups in the evaluation of the use of electronic meetings and to develop further procedures and rules associated with electronic meetings, including the legal aspects;
- 5 to report to the Council on an ongoing basis on the developments made with regard to electronic meetings, in order to assess progress in their use within ITU;
- 6 to report to the Council on the feasibility of extending the use of languages in electronic meetings,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

to share information about developments and progress made with regard to electronic meetings with the United Nations and other specialized agencies, for their consideration,

*instructs the Directors of the Bureaux*

to continue taking action, in consultation with the Sector advisory groups, in order to provide appropriate electronic participation or observation facilities in Sector meetings for delegates unable to attend face-to-face meetings,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

to take all necessary measures to implement, in the shortest possible time-frame and according to budgetary availability, a suitable technological platform that makes it possible for all the regional offices to host electronic meetings with their respective ITU Member States, in accordance with Resolution 25 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference,

*instructs the Council*

to consider the financial requirements to implement this resolution and allocate the necessary financial resources, within the limits of the resources available and consistent with the financial and strategic plans.

## ANNEX 1 TO RESOLUTION 167 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

### **EWM action plan**

- Upgrade infrastructure at headquarters and regional offices to support the use of e-participation
- Implement technical solutions to extend ITU interpretation services to e-participants
- Implement technical solutions to implement self-service provisioning and running of e-meetings
- Establish guidelines for e-participation in ITU meetings
- Provide training, as appropriate, to ITU meeting organizers, regional office staff, chairmen, rapporteurs, editors and delegates
- Review current applicable policies and practices
- Review legal issues related to amendments that would be required to legal instruments of the Union
- Implement the collection of statistics across all Sectors so as to track trends in e-participation
- Report annually to the Council on the results of the EWM and remote participation policies, including statistical evaluation of those results, and on procedural, financial, technical and legal matters
- Discuss the improvement of ITU capabilities in terms of EWM and remote participation and propose the necessary amendments to the rules of procedure to the Council and the 2018 plenipotentiary conference.

## RESOLUTION 168 (GUADALAJARA, 2010)

### Translation of ITU recommendations

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Guadalajara, 2010),

*considering*

- a) the purposes of the Union as enshrined in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution;
- b) the need to expand national access to ITU recommendations which are offered free online to the general public;
- c) the need to ease access to ITU recommendations in other national languages than the official languages of ITU;
- d) Resolution 20 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on non-discriminatory access to modern telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) facilities and services, which notes that:
  - modern telecommunication/ICT facilities and services are established, in the main, on the basis of ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) and ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) recommendations;
  - ITU-R and ITU-T recommendations are the result of the collective efforts of all those taking part in the standardization process within ITU, and are adopted by consensus by the members of the Union;
  - that limitations on the access to telecommunication/ICT facilities and services on which national telecommunication/ICT development depends and which are established on the basis of ITU-R and ITU-T recommendations constitute an obstacle to the harmonious development and compatibility of telecommunications/ICT worldwide;

e) Resolution 47 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010) of WTDC, on enhancement of knowledge and effective application of ITU recommendations in developing countries, which resolves to invite Member States and Sector Members to engage in activities to enhance knowledge and effective application of ITU-R and ITU-T recommendations in developing countries,

*noting*

a) the provisions of No. 495 of the ITU Convention, which states that any of the documents referred to in the relevant provisions of Article 29 of the Constitution may be published in languages other than those specified therein, provided that the Member States requesting such publication undertake to defray the whole of the cost of translation and publication involved;

b) that the official language versions of documents and texts of the Union shall be prepared by ITU according to Article 29 of the Constitution,

*recognizing*

a) that there is a general trend towards free online access to ICT-related documents and publications in official languages;

b) the strategic need to increase the visibility and availability of the outputs of ITU,

*resolves*

1 that an administration may translate recommendations into languages, other than the six official languages of ITU, for the administration's official use;

2 that the text of a recommendation in any ITU official language shall prevail in the event of any discrepancy between such a translated version and the official version;

3 that any expenses for the translation and the publication of the recommendations shall not be borne by ITU;



- 4 that the ITU logo shall not appear on the translated pages;
- 5 that each publication shall contain, in an appropriate place, the statement in the annex to this resolution, the title and summary of the recommendation and a link to where the official text of the recommendation can be downloaded from the ITU website, in the national language; in addition, the publication shall include the front page of the official text of the ITU recommendation;
- 6 that ITU shall receive two copies free of charge of any such translated publication, as soon as possible after publication, for archive purposes;
- 7 that translation for the administration's official use will be free of charges from ITU;
- 8 that translation intended for sale – either based on cost recovery or for profit – shall require the prior agreement of ITU, and translated publications sold for profit shall be subject to payment of royalties to ITU;
- 9 that, in the case referred to in *resolves* 8 above, the publisher concerned shall send to ITU a statement of the number of copies sold,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

to report to the Council on the necessary steps to facilitate the implementation of this resolution,

*invites the Council*

to consider the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of this resolution.

## ANNEX

This Recommendation has been reproduced with the authorization of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). Sole responsibility for the translation of this text into {\*} lies with {\*\*}.

This Recommendation, published by ITU in its official versions (English, Arabic, Chinese, Spanish, French, Russian) can be obtained from:

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\* Indicate the national language concerned.

\*\* Indicate the name of the publisher.

## RESOLUTION 169 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Admission of academia<sup>1</sup> to participate in the work of the Union**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

*a)* Resolution 63 (Geneva, 2012) of the Radiocommunication Assembly, on admission of academia, universities and their associated research establishments to participate in the work of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R);

*b)* Resolution 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, on admission of academia to participate in the work of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T);

*c)* Resolution 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on strengthening cooperation between Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D), including the private sector,

*considering*

*a)* that the trial period for the participation of academia in the Union has proven to benefit the work of the Sectors, particularly as academia address the research, study and follow-up of developments in modern technology within ITU's field of competence, while having a perspective and future vision allowing modern technologies and applications to be addressed in a timely manner;

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<sup>1</sup> This includes colleges, institutes, universities and their associated research establishments concerned with the development of telecommunications/ICT.

b) that the intellectual and scientific contributions of these bodies far outweigh their financial contributions;

c) that these entities also contribute to disseminating information about the activities of the Union in academic fields related to telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) around the world,

*noting*

that a comprehensive analysis of the current methodologies for the participation of Sector Members, Associates and Academia has been initiated in ITU pursuant to relevant resolutions of the Plenipotentiary Conference: Resolution 158 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010), Resolution 158 (Rev. Busan, 2014) and Resolution 187 (Busan, 2014),

*resolves*

1 to continue to admit academia to participate in the work of the Union, pursuant to the provisions of this resolution, without the need for any amendment to Articles 2 and 3 of the ITU Constitution and Article 19 of the ITU Convention or any other provision of the Convention;

2 to set the level of the financial contribution for participation in the Union at one-sixteenth of the value of a contributory unit for Sector Members in the case of organizations from developed countries, and one-thirty second of the value of the contributory unit for Sector Members in the case of organizations from developing countries<sup>2</sup> for defraying Union expenses, and to apply this level of financial contribution to academia that are already participating in the Union as well as those which join in the future;

3 that payment of the level of financial contribution specified in *resolves* 2 entitles academia to participate in the work of all three Sectors;

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<sup>2</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

4 that academia also be invited to participate in other global and regional conferences, workshops and activities of the Union, with the exception of plenipotentiary conferences, world radiocommunication conferences, world conferences on international telecommunications and the ITU Council, in conformity with the rules of procedure of the respective Sectors, and taking into account the outcome of the review pursuant to Resolution 187 (Busan, 2014);

5 that academia should not have a role in decision-making, including the adoption of resolutions or recommendations regardless of the approval procedure;

6 that academia shall be allowed to participate and make their proposals and interventions remotely, as appropriate, in accordance with the provisions of Resolution 167 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on strengthening ITU capabilities for electronic meetings and means to advance the work of the Union;

7 that acceptance of applications for the participation of academia shall be conditional on the support of the Member States of the Union to which the bodies belong, on the condition that this shall not constitute an alternative for those bodies currently listed with the Union as Sector Members or Associates,

*instructs the Council*

1 to add any additional conditions, remedial measures or detailed procedures to this resolution, if it deems appropriate;

2 to further implement this resolution and set the annual fee for academia participation, as in *resolves 2* above;

3 to review the financial contributions and the conditions for admission and participation pursuant to Resolution 187 (Busan, 2014), and report to the next plenipotentiary conference,

*instructs the Radiocommunication Assembly, the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly and the World Telecommunication Development Conference*

to mandate their respective Sector advisory groups to continue to study whether there is a need for any additional measures and/or arrangements to facilitate such participation that are not covered by relevant resolutions or recommendations of the above-mentioned assemblies and conference, and adopt such modalities, if they deem it necessary or required, and report the results through the Directors of the Bureaux to the Council,

*instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the three Bureaux*

1 to take necessary and appropriate action in order to implement this resolution;

2 to continue their successful efforts to explore and recommend, taking into account the advice of the Council, various mechanisms such as the use of voluntary financial and in-kind contributions from Member States and other stakeholders to encourage increased participation of academia;

3 to encourage the participation of academia in various open events and activities organized or co-organized by ITU, such as ITU TELECOM World, ITU Kaleidoscope, World Summit on the Information Society forums and other workshops and forums,

*invites ITU Member States*

to inform their academia of this resolution, and encourage and support them to participate in the Union.

## RESOLUTION 170 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Admission of Sector Members from developing countries<sup>1, 2</sup> to participate in the work of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector and the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

Resolution 74 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly,

*considering*

a) that participation in the work of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) and the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) of Sector Members from the category of developing countries with an annual per capita income of less than USD 2 000 according to the United Nations Development Programme classification will benefit the work of both Sectors as well as the countries they represent, helping to close the standardization gap which still exists between the developed and developing countries within the two Sectors, especially in relation to this category of developing countries;

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<sup>1</sup> Such Sector Members shall not be subsidiaries of a multinational corporation whose executive headquarters is based in a developed country, and shall be limited to Sector Members which are from developing countries classified by the United Nations Development Programme as low-income countries with an annual per capita income not exceeding USD 2 000 and which have not yet joined either or both Sectors.

<sup>2</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

- b) that allowing them to participate in the work of either of the two Sectors on favourable financial terms in respect of each Sector will encourage them to join these two Sectors, according to their needs;
- c) that this participation will not require any amendment of Articles 2 and 3 of the ITU Constitution for a trial period to end 2018, when the next plenipotentiary conference will be held,

*resolves*

- 1 to continue to allow Sector Members from the category of developing countries mentioned above to participate in the work of ITU-R and ITU-T pursuant to the provisions of this resolution;
- 2 to set the level of financial contribution for such participation at one-sixteenth of the value of a contributory unit for Sector Members for defraying Union expenses;
- 3 that acceptance of applications for participation shall be conditional on the support of the Member State to which the Sector Member belongs, on fulfilment of the criterion in the footnote to this resolution by each applicant for membership, and also on the applicant not currently being listed with the Union as a Sector Member contributing the minimum one-half of the value of a contributory unit for Sector Members or as an Associate in the Sector,

*instructs the Council*

- 1 to add any additional conditions or detailed procedures that may be required;
- 2 to submit a report on this participation to the next plenipotentiary conference on the basis of an evaluation thereof by the respective Sector advisory groups, so as to enable the Plenipotentiary Conference to make a final decision on such participation in the light of the report and the proposals therein.



## RESOLUTION 173 (GUADALAJARA, 2010)

**Piracy and attacks against fixed and cellular telephone networks in Lebanon**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Guadalajara, 2010),

*recalling*

- a) the noble principles, purposes and objectives enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- b) the efforts of the United Nations to promote sustainable development and the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions;
- c) the purposes of the Union as enshrined in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution;
- d) § 16 of the Declaration of Principles adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society;
- e) previous resolutions of plenipotentiary conferences, namely:
  - Resolution 48 (Malaga-Torremolinos, 1973) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the destruction of submarine cables in the Eastern Mediterranean;
  - Resolution 74 (Nairobi, 1982) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, regarding Israel and assistance to Lebanon;
  - Resolution 64 (Nice, 1989) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the condemnation of the practices of Israel in the Arab territories occupied by it;
  - Resolution 159 (Antalya, 2006) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, relating to the support to Lebanon for rebuilding its telecommunication network, and given that Lebanon has not received, to date, any amounts of the monetary damages estimated by ITU experts at USD 547 million at that time,

*recognizing*

- a) that a reliable telecommunication network is indispensable for promoting the socio-economic development of countries, in particular those having suffered from Israel's actions;
- b) that Lebanon's telecommunication facilities have been and are still being subjected to piracy, interference and interruption, and sedition by Israel against Lebanon's fixed and cellular telephone networks;
- c) that the damage caused to Lebanon's telecommunications should be a matter of concern for the entire international community, particularly ITU, as the United Nations specialized agency for telecommunications;
- d) the full right of Lebanon to compensation for the damages caused to its telecommunication network,

*recalling further*

that every Member State of ITU should respect the fundamental principles set forth in the Preamble to the Constitution and in Nos. 5, 6 and 7 of the Constitution.

*resolves*

to condemn all attacks and violations by any ITU Member State against telecommunication networks in any other Member States, which harm the latter's national security, *inter alia*, those perpetrated by Israel toward Lebanon,

*instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux*

to monitor cease of the above-mentioned violations or harmful transmissions across the border and report to the Council in this respect.

## RESOLUTION 174 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**ITU's role with regard to international public policy issues  
relating to the risk of illicit use of information and  
communication technologies**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*aware*

- a) that technological innovation driven by information and communication technologies (ICTs) has significantly modified the ways in which people access telecommunications;
- b) that the illicit use of ICTs could have a detrimental impact on a Member State's infrastructure, national security and economic development;
- c) that the definition of "telecommunication", as stated in the ITU Constitution, reads as follows: "*Any transmission, emission or reception of signs, signals, writing, images and sounds or intelligence of any nature by wire, radio, optical or other electromagnetic systems*",

*reaffirming*

- a) Resolutions 55/63 and 56/121 of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), which established the legal framework on countering the criminal misuse of information technologies;
- b) UNGA Resolution 57/239, on the creation of a global culture of cybersecurity;
- c) UNGA Resolution 58/199, on the creation of a global culture of cybersecurity and the protection of essential information infrastructures;
- d) UNGA Resolution 41/65, on principles relating to remote sensing of the Earth from outer space;

e) UNGA Resolution 68/167, on the right to privacy in the digital age;

f) UNGA Resolution 68/243, on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security,

*considering*

a) that, in the Geneva Declaration of Principles, the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) (Geneva, 2003) supported the activities of the United Nations to prevent the potential use of ICTs for purposes that are inconsistent with the objectives of maintaining international stability and security, and may adversely affect the integrity of the infrastructure within States, to the detriment of their security, and that it is necessary to prevent the use of information resources and technologies for criminal and terrorist purposes, while respecting human rights (§ 36, Geneva Declaration of Principles);

b) that Action Line C5 (Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs) of the Geneva Plan of Action stipulates the following: "*Governments, in cooperation with the private sector, should prevent, detect and respond to cybercrime and misuse of ICTs by: developing guidelines that take into account ongoing efforts in these areas; considering legislation that allows for effective investigation and prosecution of such misuse; promoting effective mutual assistance efforts; strengthening institutional support at the international level for preventing, detecting and recovering from such incidents; and encouraging education and raising awareness*",

*considering further*

that WSIS (Tunis, 2005) identified ITU as moderator for the implementation of Action Line C5 (Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs),

*recalling*

a) Resolution 130 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on strengthening the role of ITU in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

- b) Resolution 102 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on ITU's role with regard to international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet and the management of Internet resources, including domain names and addresses;
- c) Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, in particular strategic goal 3: "*Sustainability – Manage challenges resulting from telecommunications/ICT development*", which establishes Union focus on enhancing the sustainable and safe use of telecommunications/ICTs, in close collaboration with other organizations and entities;
- d) Resolutions 1282 and 1305 of the ITU Council, the latter of which listed issues pertaining to the use and misuse of the Internet among the main tasks of the role of the Dedicated Group on identifying international Internet-related public policy issues;
- e) Resolutions 50 and 52 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, on cybersecurity and countering and combating spam;
- f) that the World Telecommunication Development Conference adopted Resolution 45 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), on mechanisms for enhancing cooperation on cybersecurity, including countering and combating spam, and ITU Telecommunication Development Sector Study Group 2 Question 3/2, on securing information and communication networks: best practices for developing a culture of cybersecurity,

*recognizing*

- a) that global cooperation and collaboration between Member States, international organizations and all other stakeholders is necessary in order to address and prevent the illicit use of ICTs;
- b) the moderating and facilitating role assigned to the Union under Action Line C5 as referred to above;

c) that sharing information at global level on relevant security measures and practices is of particular value to developing countries<sup>1</sup> in mitigating the effects of illicit use of ICTs,

*noting*

a) the importance of ICTs, including telecommunications, for the social and economic development of countries, especially developing countries, through the creation of new public services that facilitate public access to information and enhanced transparency within public administrations and can be helpful for the monitoring and observation of climate change, the management of natural resources and reduction of the risk of natural disasters;

b) the vulnerability of critical national infrastructures, their increasing dependence on ICTs and the threats resulting from the illicit use of ICTs,

*resolves to instruct the Secretary-General*

to take the necessary measures in order to:

- i) raise the awareness of Member States regarding the adverse impact that may result from the illicit use of information and communication resources;
- ii) maintain the role of ITU to cooperate within its mandate with other United Nations bodies in combating the illicit use of ICTs;
- iii) inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations about the activities undertaken by ITU in implementing this resolution and relevant ITU recommendations in this regard;
- iv) continue to raise awareness, within the mandate of ITU, of the need to mitigate the risks and related threats posed by illicit use of ICTs, and continue to promote cooperation among appropriate international and regional organizations,

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

*requests the Secretary-General*

in his capacity as facilitator for Action Line C5 on building confidence and security in the use of ICTs, to organize international and regional meetings and dialogue of Member States and relevant ICT stakeholders, including geospatial and information service providers, for discussing alternative approaches to solutions and opportunities for regional and global cooperation to address and prevent the illicit application of ICTs, while taking into consideration the overall interests of the ICT industry,

*invites the Council*

when carrying out its activities, to take into account relevant ITU activities/initiatives related to combating threats caused by the illicit use of telecommunications/ICTs, as appropriate,

*invites Member States and relevant ICT stakeholders*

to pursue their dialogue at the regional and national levels in order to find mutually acceptable solutions,

*invites the Secretary-General*

to collect and disseminate best practices in terms of actions taken by Member States to prevent the illicit use of ICTs and to provide assistance to interested Member States, as appropriate,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

to report to the Council and to the next plenipotentiary conference on the progress made in the implementation of this resolution,

*invites Member States*

to provide the necessary support for the implementation of this resolution.

## RESOLUTION 175 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

### **Telecommunication/information and communication technology accessibility for persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

a) Article 12 of the International Telecommunication Regulations (ITR), adopted by the World Conference on International Telecommunications (WCIT) (Dubai, 2012), which states that Member States should promote access for persons with disabilities to international telecommunication services, taking into account the relevant ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) recommendations;

b) the outcome document of the High-Level Meeting on Disability and Development (HLMDD) convened by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) at the level of Heads of State and Government on 23 September 2013, under the theme "The ICT Opportunity for a Disability-Inclusive Development Framework", which stresses the need for inclusive development in which persons with disabilities are both agents and beneficiaries;

c) Resolution 70 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, on telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) accessibility for persons with disabilities, the current regulatory framework and the studies, initiatives and events on this issue undertaken by ITU-T and its study groups, in particular Study Group 2 and Study Group 16, in collaboration with the Joint Coordination Activity on Accessibility and Human Factors (JCA-AHF);



d) the ITU-T Focus Group on Audiovisual Media Accessibility (FG-AVA), which is working on broadcasting and Internet television in order to include audio description for the visually impaired and captioning/subtitles for the deaf and hearing impaired, as well as accessible remote Internet participation;

e) the Phuket Declaration on Tsunami Preparedness for Persons with Disabilities (Phuket, 2007), which emphasizes the need for inclusive emergency warning and disaster management systems using telecommunication/ICT facilities based on open, non-proprietary, global standards;

f) Resolution GSC-14/27 of the 14th Global Standards Collaboration meeting (Geneva, 2009), which encourages greater collaboration among global, regional and national standardization bodies as a basis for establishing and/or strengthening activities and initiatives concerning the use of telecommunications/ICTs accessible to persons with disabilities;

g) the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) special initiative work carried out through studies conducted within the framework of Question 20/1 of ITU-D Study Group 1, commencing in September 2006 and proposing the wording of Resolution 58 (Hyderabad, 2010) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) and, likewise, the ITU-D initiative on the development of an e-accessibility toolkit for persons with disabilities, in collaboration and partnership with the Global Initiative for Inclusive ICTs (G3ict),

*recognizing*

a) the Dubai Declaration (WTDC-14), which lists a series of measures to promote equitable, affordable, inclusive and sustainable development of telecommunication/ICT networks, applications and services;

b) Resolution 58 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on accessibility to telecommunications/ICTs for persons with disabilities, including age-related disabilities;

- c) ongoing work in the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R):
- i) Recommendation ITU-R M.1076, entitled "Wireless communication systems for persons with impaired hearing";
  - ii) relevant parts of the ITU-R Handbook entitled "Digital terrestrial television broadcasting in the VHF/UHF bands", providing guidance on techniques to be used for delivering programmes for people with hearing difficulties;
  - iii) work to bridge the digital disability divide, including work in ITU-R Study Group 6 on broadcasting and the creation of the new Intersector Rapporteur Group on Audiovisual Media Accessibility (IRG-AVA) between ITU-R and ITU-T;
  - iv) work in ITU-R Study Group 4 Working Parties 4A and 4B and Study Group 5 Working Party 5A with regard to improving access to digital hearing aids on a global basis;
- d) ongoing work in ITU-T:
- i) studies under Question 4/2, on human factors related issues for improvement of the quality of life through international telecommunications, and Question 26/16, on accessibility to multimedia systems and services, including Recommendation ITU-T F.790 on telecommunication accessibility guidelines for older persons and persons with disabilities;
  - ii) publication by the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group of the guide for ITU-T study groups entitled "Considering end-user needs in developing recommendations";
  - iii) JCA-AHF for the purposes of awareness-raising, advice, assistance, collaboration, coordination and networking;

- e) ongoing work in ITU-D:
  - i) studies under Question 7/1, on access to telecommunication/ICT services by persons with disabilities and with specific needs;
  - ii) the Dubai Action Plan (WTDC-14);
- f) that the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019, as approved by this conference, includes intersectoral objective I.5: "Enhance access to telecommunications/ICTs for persons with disabilities and specific needs" and related outcomes and outputs;
- g) the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), calling for special attention to be given to persons with disabilities, including age-related disabilities;
- h) that the ITU-coordinated WSIS+10 High-Level Event on the WSIS vision beyond 2015 identified accessibility among the priority areas that must be tackled in the application of the post-2015 WSIS outcomes;
- i) § 13 of the Geneva Declaration of Principles and § 18 of the Tunis Commitment, reaffirming the commitment to providing equitable and affordable access to ICTs, especially for persons with disabilities and specific needs;
- j) various regional and national efforts to develop or revise guidelines and standards for telecommunications/ICT;
- k) ITU's accessibility policy for persons with disabilities, adopted by the ITU Council in 2013;
- l) that webcasting and captioning are invaluable tools, which benefit persons with disabilities and specific needs,

*considering*

- a) that the World Health Organization estimates that there are one billion persons with varying degrees of physical, sensory or cognitive disabilities in the world, meaning 15 per cent of the world's population, and 80 per cent of them live in developing countries<sup>1</sup>;
- b) that ICTs can provide opportunities and benefits for women and girls with disabilities to overcome exclusion on the basis of their gender and disability;
- c) that the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which entered into force on 3 May 2008, requires States Parties, under Article 9 on accessibility, to take appropriate measures including:
- i) 9 (2g) *"To promote access for persons with disabilities to new information and communications technologies and systems, including the Internet"*;
  - ii) 9 (2h) *"To promote the design, development, production and distribution of accessible information and communications technologies and systems at an early stage, so that these technologies and systems become accessible at minimum cost"*;
- d) that the United Nations Human Rights Council established the Special Rapporteurship on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to allow identification of the barriers and obstacles still faced by persons with disabilities in achieving their full, effective participation in society, whose mandate will be to work in close coordination with all mechanisms and entities of the United Nations system, regional mechanisms, civil society and organizations of and for persons with disabilities, and will incorporate the perspectives of gender, international cooperation and capacity building in all its activities, in accordance with the principles of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

e) the importance of cooperation between governments, the private sector and relevant organizations to provide possibilities for low-cost access;

f) that it is necessary for governments and multiple stakeholders to pay attention to the outcomes in the report jointly prepared by G3ict and Disabled People's International (DPI), given that the accessibility of the information infrastructure, considered an essential area of ICT accessibility that has an enormous impact on the greatest number of users, falls short of the level of progress called for by the provisions in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in terms of general compliance on the part of the countries that have ratified it,

*resolves*

1 to involve persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs in the work of ITU so that they may collaborate in the adoption of a comprehensive action plan in order to extend access to telecommunications/ICTs, in collaboration with external entities and bodies concerned with this topic;

2 to foster dialogue between those who prepare statistics on telecommunications/ICTs and users with disabilities, in order to obtain better information and knowledge about which data to collect and analyse at the national level using international standards and methods;

3 to boost a call to action promoting cooperation with regional and global organizations and institutions that deal with accessibility for persons with disabilities, including age-related disabilities, in order to include accessibility to telecommunications/ICTs in their agendas and take into account its cross-cutting nature with other topics;

4 to maximize use of webcasting facilities and captioning (including transcripts of the captioning) and, if possible, considering the financial and technical limitations of the Union, provide it in all six official languages of the Union both during and after the conclusion of any session when convening conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union as articulated in Chapter II, Section 12 "Setting up of committees" of the General rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union,

*instructs the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Directors of the Bureaux*

1 to coordinate accessibility-related activities between ITU-R, ITU-T and ITU-D, in collaboration with other relevant organizations and entities where appropriate, in order to avoid duplication and to ensure that the needs of persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs, including age-related disabilities, are taken into account;

2 to consider the financial implications for ITU of providing, within the available resources, accessible information through ICTs and access to ITU facilities, services and programmes for participants with visual, hearing or physical disabilities and persons with specific needs, including captioning at meetings, sign language interpretation, access to print information and the ITU website, access to ITU buildings and meeting facilities, and the adoption of accessible ITU recruitment practices and employment;

3 pursuant to UNGA Resolution 61/106, to consider accessibility standards and guidelines whenever undertaking renovations or changing the use of space at a facility, so that accessibility features are maintained and additional barriers are not inadvertently implemented;

4 to encourage and promote representation by persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs so as to ensure that their experiences, views and opinions are taken into account when developing and progressing ITU work;

5 to consider expanding the fellowship programme in order to enable delegates with disabilities and delegates with specific needs, within existing budgetary constraints, to participate in the work of ITU;

6 to identify, document and disseminate examples of best practices for accessibility in the field of telecommunications/ICTs among ITU Member States and Sector Members;

7 to work collaboratively on accessibility-related activities with ITU-R, ITU-T and ITU-D, in particular concerning awareness and mainstreaming of telecommunication/ICT accessibility standards and in developing programmes that enable developing countries to introduce services that allow persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs, including age-related disabilities, to utilize telecommunication/ICT services effectively;

8 to work collaboratively and cooperatively with other relevant regional and global organizations and entities, in particular in the interest of ensuring that ongoing work in the field of accessibility is taken into account;

9 to work collaboratively and cooperatively with disability organizations in all regions to ensure that the needs of persons with disabilities are taken into account;

10 to direct the regional offices, within their available resources, to organize regional competitions for the development of assistive technologies to enable persons with disabilities and specific needs, having due regard to differences in culture and languages and taking into account the presence of developers with disabilities;

11 to make use of and share information regarding the ways in which ICTs can empower persons with a wide range of disabilities and specific needs, for example guidelines, tools and information sources prepared by ITU and other relevant organizations such as G3ict which are of benefit to the work of ITU and the membership;

12 to encourage the regional offices, within their available resources, to cooperate with stakeholders concerned to promote the development of new technologies that enable persons with disabilities and specific needs;

13 to submit a report to the next plenipotentiary conference on measures taken to implement this resolution,

*invites Member States and Sector Members*

1 to consider developing, within their national legal frameworks, guidelines or other mechanisms to enhance the accessibility, compatibility and usability of telecommunication/ICT services, products and terminals, and to offer support to regional initiatives related to this issue;

2 to consider introducing appropriate telecommunication/ICT services and to encourage the development of applications for telecommunication devices and products in order to enable persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs to utilize these services on an equal basis with others, and to promote international cooperation in this regard;

3 to promote the development of learning opportunities in order to train persons with disabilities to use ICTs for their social and economic development, including through train-the-trainer courses and distance learning;

4 to participate actively in accessibility-related activities/studies in ITU-R, ITU-T and ITU-D, including participating actively in the work of the study groups concerned, and to include and promote representation by persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs so as to ensure that their experiences, views and opinions are taken into account;

5 to take into account *considering c) ii) and e) above*, and the benefits of cost affordability for equipment and services for persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs, including universal design;

6 to encourage the international community to make voluntary contributions to the special trust fund set up by ITU to support activities relating to the implementation of this resolution.



## RESOLUTION 176 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Human exposure to and measurement of electromagnetic fields**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

- a) Resolution 72 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on measurement concerns related to human exposure to electromagnetic fields (EMF);
- b) Resolution 62 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on measurement concerns related to human exposure to EMF;
- c) relevant resolutions and recommendations of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) and ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T);
- d) that there is ongoing work in the three Sectors relating to human exposure to EMF, and that liaison and collaboration between the Sectors and with other expert organizations are important, in order to avoid duplication of effort,

*considering*

- a) that the World Health Organization (WHO) has the specialized health expertise and competence to assess the impact of radio waves on the human body;
- b) that WHO recommends exposure limits from international organizations such as the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP);
- c) that ITU has expertise in a mechanism to verify compliance with levels of radio signals by calculating and measuring field strength and power density;
- d) the high cost of equipment used for measuring and assessing human exposure to EMF;

*e)* that the considerable development in radio spectrum use has resulted in multiple sources of EMF emissions within any given geographic area;

*f)* the urgent need for regulatory bodies in many developing countries<sup>1</sup> to obtain information on EMF measurement methodologies in regard to human exposure to radio-frequency energy, in order to establish national regulations to protect their citizens;

*g)* that without adequate information, public awareness and/or appropriate regulation, people, particularly in developing countries, may have concerns about the effect of EMF on their health, which may result in increasing opposition to the deployment of radio installations;

*h)* that guidelines on limits of exposure to EMF have been established by ICNIRP<sup>2</sup>, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)<sup>3</sup> and the International Organization for Standardization/International Electrotechnical Commission (ISO/IEC), and that many administrations have adopted national regulations based on these guidelines; however there is a need to harmonize EMF guidelines for regulators and policy-makers to help them formulate national standards;

*i)* that most of the developing countries do not have the necessary tools to measure and evaluate the impact of radiowaves on the human body,

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

<sup>2</sup> Guidelines for limiting exposure to time-varying electric, magnetic and electromagnetic fields (up to 300 GHz). Health Physics 74(4): 494-522; 1998.

<sup>3</sup> IEEE Std C95.1™-2005, IEEE standard for safety levels with respect to human exposure to radio frequency electromagnetic fields, 3 kHz to 300 GHz.

*resolves to instruct the Directors of the three Bureaux*

1 to collect and disseminate information concerning exposure to EMF, including on EMF measurement methodologies, in order to assist national administrations, particularly in developing countries, to develop appropriate national regulations;

2 to work closely with all organizations in the implementation of this resolution, as well as Resolution 72 (Rev. Dubai, 2012), Resolution 62 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), in order to continue and enhance the technical assistance provided to Member States,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, in collaboration with the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau and the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau*

1 to conduct regional seminars and workshops in order to identify the needs of developing countries and to build human capacity in regard to measurement of EMF related to human exposure to these fields;

2 to encourage Member States in the various regions to cooperate in sharing expertise and resources and identify a focal point or regional cooperation mechanism, including if required a regional centre, so as to assist all Member States in the region in measurement and training;

3 to encourage relevant organizations to continue undertaking necessary scientific studies to investigate possible health effects of EMF radiation on the human body;

4 to formulate necessary measures and guidelines in order to help mitigate possible health effects of EMF radiation on human body;

5 to encourage Member States to conduct periodic reviews to ensure that ITU recommendations and other relevant international standards related to the exposure to EMF are followed,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, in collaboration with the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

to participate in the Electromagnetic Field Project, conducted by WHO, as part of collaborative efforts with other international organizations to encourage the development of international standards for EMF exposure,

*instructs the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Directors of the three Bureaux*

- 1 to prepare a report on the implementation of this resolution for submission to the ITU Council at each annual session for evaluation;
- 2 to provide a report to the next plenipotentiary conference on measures taken to implement this resolution,

*invites Member States*

- 1 to take the appropriate measures to ascertain compliance with guidelines produced by ITU and other relevant international organizations with respect to exposure to EMF;
- 2 to implement subregional cooperation mechanisms for acquisition of the requisite equipment to measure EMF;
- 3 to conduct a periodic review to ascertain compliance with levels of radio signals by relevant entities, in accordance with ITU-R and ITU-T recommendations;
- 4 to raise public awareness of the health effects of human exposure to non-ionizing EMF, by conducting awareness-raising campaigns, holding workshops and publishing brochures on the subject.

## RESOLUTION 177 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Conformance and interoperability**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recognizing*

- a) Resolution 76 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly;
- b) Resolution 47 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference;
- c) Resolution 62 (Geneva, 2012) of the Radiocommunication Assembly;
- d) that, at its 2013 session, the ITU Council updated the Action Plan for the Conformance and Interoperability (C&I) Programme initially established in 2012, the pillars of which are: 1) conformity assessment, 2) interoperability events, 3) human resource capacity building, and 4) assistance in the establishment of test centres and C&I programmes in developing countries<sup>1</sup>;
- e) the progress reports made by the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB) to the Council at its 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014 sessions and to this conference,

*noting*

that several ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) study groups have already started pilot projects for conformity to ITU-T recommendations,

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

*recognizing further*

- a) that widespread conformance and interoperability of telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) equipment and systems through the implementation of relevant programmes, policies and decisions can increase market opportunities and reliability and encourage global integration and trade;
- b) that technical training and institutional capacity building for testing and conformity are one of the essential tools for countries to promote global connectivity;
- c) that ITU members may benefit from using the conformity assessment that many regional and national standards bodies already provide for conformity assessment, through mechanisms of collaboration with such organizations;
- d) that a decision concerning the implementation of an ITU Mark would be postponed until pillar 1 (conformity assessment) of the Action Plan has reached a more mature stage of development (Council-12),

*considering*

- a) that some countries, especially developing countries, have not yet acquired the capacity to test equipment and provide assurance to consumers in their countries;
- b) that increased confidence in the conformity of telecommunication/ICT equipment to rules and standards in place promotes interoperability of equipment from different manufacturers, reduces interference among communication systems, and assists developing countries in choosing high-quality products,

*resolves*

1 to endorse the objectives of Resolution 76 (Rev. Dubai, 2012), Resolution 62 (Geneva, 2012) and Resolution 47 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), and the Action Plan for the C&I Programme reviewed by the Council at its 2014 session (Document C14/24(Rev.1));

2 that this programme of work continue to be implemented, including the informative pilot conformity database and its development into a fully functioning database, in consultation with each region, taking into consideration a) the outcome and effect that the pilot conformity database may have on Member States, Sector Members and stakeholders (e.g. other standards-development organizations (SDOs)), b) the impact the database will have on bridging the standardization gap as relevant to each region, c) the potential liability issues for ITU and for Member States, Sector Members and stakeholders, and taking into account the results of regional ITU conformity and interoperability consultations;

3 to assist developing countries in establishing regional or subregional conformity and interoperability centres suitable to perform conformity and interoperability testing as appropriate and according to their needs,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau*

1 to continue consultations and assessment studies in all regions, taking into consideration the needs of each region, on implementation of the Action Plan endorsed by the Council, including, in collaboration with the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), the recommendations on human capacity building and assistance in the establishment of test facilities in developing countries;

2 to continue to carry out pilot projects for conformity to ITU-T recommendations to increase the probability of interoperability in accordance with the Action Plan;

3 to enhance and improve standards-setting processes in order to improve interoperability through conformity;

4 to continuously update the Action Plan for the long-term implementation of this resolution;

5 to provide the Council with progress reports, including the results of studies, relating to the implementation of this resolution;

6 in cooperation with the Director of BDT, and based on the consultations in *instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau 1* above, to implement the Action Plan agreed by the Council at its 2012 session and revised by the Council at its 2013 session,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, in close collaboration with the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau and the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau*

1 to advance the implementation of Resolution 47 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) and the relevant parts of the Action Plan, and to report to the Council;

2 to assist Member States in addressing their concerns with respect to non-compliant equipment;

3 to continue providing on-the-job capacity-building activities, in collaboration with recognized institutions and benefiting from the ITU Academy ecosystem, including activities related to preventing radiocommunication interference caused or received by ICT equipment,

*invites the Council*

1 to consider the reports of the Directors of the three Bureaux and to take all necessary measures so as to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of this resolution;

2 to report to the next plenipotentiary conference on the progress made with respect to this resolution;

3 to consider, after pillar 1 of the Action Plan has reached a more mature stage of development, the possible introduction of an ITU Mark, taking into account the technical, financial and legal implications,



*invites the membership*

- 1 to populate the pilot conformity database with details of products tested to applicable ITU-T recommendations in accredited test laboratories (first, second or third party), or by accredited certification bodies, or according to procedures adopted by an SDO or forum qualified in accordance with Recommendation ITU-T A.5;
- 2 to participate in ITU-facilitated interoperability events and in the work of the ITU study groups related to conformity and interoperability issues;
- 3 to take an active role in building developing countries' capacity in conformity and interoperability testing, including through on-the-job training, particularly as part of any supply contract for telecommunication equipment, services and systems to these countries;
- 4 to support the establishment of regional conformity testing facilities, particularly in developing countries;
- 5 to participate in ITU assessment studies to promote the establishment of harmonized conformity and interoperability frameworks in the regions,

*invites organizations qualified in accordance with Recommendation ITU-T A.5*

- 1 to participate in the ITU pilot conformity database activities and, sharing links on a mutual basis, to enrich its extent by referring to more recommendations and standards within a product, and to allow for more exposure of vendors' products and widen the portfolio of selection to the users;
- 2 to participate in developing countries' capacity-building programmes and activities facilitated by TSB and BDT, in particular offering opportunities for developing-country experts – particularly from operators – to gain on-the-job experience,

*invites Member States*

- 1 to contribute to the implementation of this resolution;
- 2 to encourage national and regional testing entities to assist ITU in implementing this resolution;
- 3 to adopt conformity-assessment regimes and procedures based on applicable ITU-T recommendations, leading to better quality of service/quality of experience, and to higher probability of interoperability of equipment, services and systems,

*further invites Member States*

to contribute to the next radiocommunication assembly in 2015 in order for it to consider and take appropriate actions as deemed necessary with respect to C&I.

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*(Guadalajara, 2010) – (Rev. Busan, 2014)*

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## RESOLUTION 178 (GUADALAJARA, 2010)

**ITU role in organizing the work on technical aspects of telecommunication networks to support the Internet**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Guadalajara, 2010),

*considering*

*a)* that the construction of the information society demands the decisive cooperation and involvement of the entire world, as its consolidation will certainly exert a positive impact on bridging the digital divide;

*b)* that one of the first steps to be undertaken is to establish an environment for the ITU Member States and Sector Members to explore ways to advance in the process towards enhanced cooperation within ITU and address and define new mechanisms for accomplishing its emerging role and responsibilities,

*considering further*

*a)* that a crucial part of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society lies in the "Implementation and follow-up" section, where the premises, guidelines and activities of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) are clearly expressed;

*b)* that ITU has been appointed in the "Implementation and follow-up" section of the Tunis Agenda as one of the possible moderators and facilitators for the action lines established by WSIS;

*c)* that both the World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006) and the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006) recognized the leading role that ITU shall play in regard to WSIS Action Lines C2 (Information and communication infrastructure) and C5 (Building confidence and security in the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs)),

*noting*

a) the need to strengthen the Union with structures that allow continuous improvement of its work as facilitator of WSIS directives;

b) the importance of telecommunication networks and services as a support to Internet interoperability;

c) the historical capacity of the Union for bringing together various agents of the telecommunication sector, i.e. administrations and private entities, in the development of technical recommendations for telecommunication networks;

d) the need to establish focal points within the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) for the relevant WSIS action lines (pursuant to Resolution 75 (Johannesburg, 2008) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA)), so as to enable all ITU members to work, in a coordinated and transparent manner, on the development of the technical aspects of telecommunication networks for supporting the Internet, in order to help advance network evolution, capacity, continuity, interoperability and security, through contribution-based work,

*keeping in mind*

a) Article 17 of the ITU Constitution, which outlines the functions of ITU-T: "*The functions of the Telecommunication Standardization Sector shall be, bearing in mind the particular concerns of the developing countries, to fulfil the purposes of the Union relating to telecommunication standardization, as stated in Article 1 of this Constitution, by studying technical, operating and tariff questions and adopting recommendations on them with a view to standardizing telecommunications on a worldwide basis*";

b) Article 13 of the ITU Convention, which sets out the responsibilities of WTSA, detailing that:

*"3 In accordance with No. 104 of the Constitution, the assembly shall:*

*...*

*f) decide on the need to maintain, terminate or establish other groups and appoint their chairmen and vice-chairmen;*

*g) establish the terms of reference for the groups referred to in No. 191A above; such groups shall not adopt questions or recommendations",*

*resolves*

that ITU shall continue to adapt, working in a coordinated and transparent manner on development of the technical aspects of telecommunication networks for supporting the Internet, in order to help advance network evolution, capacity, continuity, interoperability and security, through contribution-based work,

*instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux*

to continue taking all necessary measures for ITU to fulfil its role in organizing the work on aspects of telecommunication networks to support Internet,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, in consultation with the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group*

1 to convene open consultations about contributions that ITU-T could provide to the implementation of WSIS;

2 to evaluate and present a proposal on adjustments to the current structure of ITU-T, in order to fulfil the directive set forth in *resolves* above, by possibly suggesting the creation of a specific study group or other group on these matters;

3 to submit, for WTSA-12, the conclusion of the evaluation mentioned in item 2 above,

*invites Member States and Sector Members*

to participate in and provide contributions related to the evaluation mentioned in *instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, in consultation with the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group 2* above,

*invites the 2012 world telecommunication standardization assembly*

1 to analyse the report by the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau and the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group and contributions from Member States and Sector Members, and decide on the adjustments to the structure of ITU-T, in order to reach the objective of improving the technical work, within ITU-T, on the development of the technical aspects of telecommunication networks for supporting the Internet;

2 to take the necessary action, as appropriate, regarding the establishment of a study group or other appropriate group in order to achieve the objectives mentioned in *resolves* above.

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*(Guadalajara, 2010)*

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## RESOLUTION 179 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**ITU's role in child online protection**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recognizing*

*a)* Resolution 67 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on the role of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) in child online protection;

*b)* Resolution 45 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on mechanisms for enhancing cooperation on cybersecurity, including countering and combating spam,

*considering*

*a)* that the Internet plays a very important role in the provision of education for children, enriching the curriculum and helping to bridge language and other barriers between the children of all nations;

*b)* that the Internet has become a major platform for many different kinds of educational, cultural and entertainment activities for children;

*c)* that children are among the most active participants online;

*d)* that parents, guardians and educators who have responsibility for children's activities may need guidance on protecting children online;

*e)* that child online protection initiatives always consider the empowerment of the child online and have due regard to an equal balancing of children's right to be protected from harm and their civil and political rights;

f) that there is an urgent need and global demand for the protection of children from exploitation and exposure to danger and deception when using the Internet or information and communication technology (ICT);

g) the growing development, diversification and spread of access to ICTs worldwide, in particular the Internet, and the increasingly widespread use thereof by children, at times with no control or guidance;

h) that, in order to address the issue of cybersecurity for children, it is critical that proactive measures be taken in order to protect children online at national, regional or international level;

i) the requirement for international cooperation and continued application of a multistakeholder approach in order to promote social responsibility in the ICT sector so as to effectively make use of the variety of tools available to build confidence in the use of ICT networks and services, reducing the risks for children;

j) that child online protection is a subject of valid international global interest and is listed in the priorities of the world community's global agenda;

k) that child online protection involves a national, regional and international collaborative network, in conjunction with other United Nations agencies and partners, for action to promote the online protection of children by providing guidance on safe online behaviour,

*recalling*

a) the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989), the Declaration of the Rights of the Child adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 20 November 1989 and recognized in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and all relevant United Nations resolutions regarding child protection and child online protection;



b) that, within the framework of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the States Parties undertook to protect the child from all forms of exploitation and sexual abuse, and for that purpose, in particular, to take all appropriate national, bilateral and multilateral measures to prevent a) the inducement or coercion of a child to engage in any unlawful sexual activity; b) the exploitative use of children in prostitution or other unlawful sexual practices; c) the exploitative use of children in pornographic performances and materials (Article 34);

c) that, pursuant to Article 10 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (New York, 2000) on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, the States Parties shall take all necessary steps to strengthen international cooperation by multilateral, regional and bilateral arrangements for the prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution and punishment of those responsible for acts involving the sale of children, child prostitution, child pornography and child sex tourism; and shall also promote international cooperation and coordination between their authorities, national and international non-governmental organizations and international organizations;

d) United Nations Human Rights Council Resolution 20/8, adopted on 5 July 2012, which stresses that "the same rights that people have offline must also be protected online";

e) that the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), in the Tunis Commitment of 2005 (§ 24), recognized the role of ICTs in the protection of children and in enhancing the development of children, urging Member States to strengthen action to protect children from abuse and defend their rights in the context of ICTs, emphasizing that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration; accordingly, the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society (§ 90q) set forth the commitment to using ICTs as a tool to achieve the internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals, by, *inter alia*, incorporating regulatory, self-regulatory and other effective policies and frameworks to protect children and young people from abuse and exploitation through ICTs into national plans of action and e-strategies;

f) that the ITU Council Working Group on International Internet-related Public Policy Issues (CWG-Internet), whose role was established by the 2009 session of the Council, held an open consultation on protecting children and young people from abuse and exploitation in order to understand how, as one of the public policy issues, it will be discussed within the scope of CWG-Internet;

g) Resolution 1306 adopted by the 2009 session of the Council, under which a child online protection working group was set up, with the participation of Member States and Sector Members, and its mandate was defined by the ITU members in close collaboration with the secretariat of the Union;

h) that, during the 2012 WSIS Forum held in Geneva, a meeting was held with associates of the Child Online Protection (COP) initiative, at which it was agreed to work closely with the Family Online Safety Institute (FOSI) and the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) to provide necessary assistance to Member States,

*recalling further*

a) that ITU is the moderator/facilitator for Action Line C5 (Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs);

b) that the COP initiative was presented to the High-Level Segment of the Council in 2008, where it was endorsed by the Heads of State, ministers and heads of international organizations globally;

c) that ITU, in collaboration with its COP members, has created four sets of guidelines for the protection of children in cyberspace, namely: Guidelines for children, Guidelines for parents, guardians and educators, Guidelines for industry and Guidelines for policy-makers;

d) that, despite technical difficulties that have made it impossible to establish a single globally harmonized number, as provided for in Supplement 5 to Recommendation ITU-T E.164 (11/2009), the contributions that the different study groups of the Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) can make are very important in identifying practical solutions and tools to facilitate access to child online protection hotlines worldwide,

*taking into account*

- a) the discussions and observations made at the meetings of the Council Working Group on Child Online Protection (CWG-COP);
- b) the need to continue working at global, regional and national levels to find available technological, managerial and organizational solutions to protect children online, along with innovative applications to make it easier for children to communicate with child online protection helplines;
- c) the activities undertaken by ITU in the area of child online protection at the national, regional and international levels;
- d) the activities undertaken by many countries in recent years;
- e) the call of the world's youth at the BYND2015 Global Youth Summit (San José, Costa Rica, 2013) for Member States to develop policies to make online communities safe and secure,

*resolves*

- 1 that ITU should continue the COP initiative as a platform to raise awareness and share best practice on child online safety issues;
- 2 that ITU should continue providing assistance and support to Member States, especially developing countries<sup>1</sup>, in developing and implementing roadmaps for the COP initiative;
- 3 that ITU should continue to coordinate the COP initiative, in cooperation with relevant stakeholders,

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

*requests the Council*

- 1 to maintain CWG-COP, in order to facilitate the membership's input and guidance on ITU's role in child online protection;
- 2 to facilitate the contribution and participation of all relevant stakeholders in the work of CWG-COP to ensure maximum collaboration in implementing this resolution;
- 3 to encourage CWG-COP to conduct one-day online consultations for youth prior to its meetings in order to listen to their views and opinions on different matters related to child online protection;
- 4 to continue to make output documents related to child online protection issues publicly accessible without password protection,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

- 1 to continue identifying those activities that are carried out by other United Nations organizations in this domain and to coordinate with them appropriately, with the objective of establishing partnerships to maximize and synergize efforts in this important area;
- 2 to coordinate ITU efforts with other United Nations agencies and entities concerned with this issue, in order to contribute to existing global repositories with useful information, statistics and tools concerning child online protection;
- 3 to continue the coordination of ITU activities with other similar initiatives being undertaken at the national, regional and international levels, in order to eliminate possible overlaps;
- 4 to bring this resolution to the attention of other COP members and of the United Nations Secretary-General, with the aim of increasing the engagement of the United Nations system in child online protection;
- 5 to submit a progress report on the results of implementation of this resolution to the next plenipotentiary conference;

6 to continue to disseminate the documents and reports of CWG-COP to all international organizations and stakeholders involved in such matters, so that they can collaborate fully;

7 to encourage Member States and Sector Members to submit best practices on issues of child online protection,

*instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux*

1 to continue to coordinate those activities that relate to the implementation of child online protection with respect to the effective application of *resolves* 1, 2 and 3 above, in order to avoid overlapping among the activities of the ITU Bureaux and the General Secretariat;

2 to work on enhancing the COP page on the ITU website to make it more informative for all users, within the available resources,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

1 to report to the Council annually, as appropriate, on the implementation of Resolution 67 (Rev. Dubai, 2014);

2 to collaborate closely with CWG-COP and CWG-Internet in order to avoid duplication of effort and to gain the best possible outputs through the work on the relevant ITU-D study questions and the regional initiatives relevant to protecting children online;

3 to coordinate with other similar initiatives being undertaken at national, regional and international level with the objective of establishing partnerships to maximize efforts in this important area;

4 to assist developing countries in drawing the greatest possible attention to the problem of child online protection;

5 to disseminate the guidelines created by ITU, in collaboration with COP partners, through the ITU regional offices and relevant entities;

6 to consider the needs of children with disabilities in current and future awareness campaigns undertaken in coordination with the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau and in cooperation with relevant stakeholders and interested countries,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau*

1 to encourage the study groups of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T), within the framework of their specific competencies and considering new technological developments, to explore the possibility of identifying practical solutions and tools that facilitate access to child online protection hotlines worldwide and to encourage Member States, for the time being, to foster the allocation of a telephone number on a regional basis for this purpose;

2 to encourage ITU-T Study Group 2 to continue exploring the option of introducing a single global telephone number in the future, for child online protection;

3 to assist ITU-T study groups in their various activities related to child online protection, to be performed, as appropriate, in collaboration with other relevant bodies,

*invites Member States*

1 to join and continue participating actively in CWG-COP and in the related ITU activities, for the purposes of a comprehensive discussion and exchange of best-practice information on legal, technical, organizational and procedural issues, as well as capacity building and international cooperation for protecting children online;

2 to develop information, to educate and to create consumer-awareness campaigns aimed at parents, teachers, industry and the population in general, in order to make children aware of the risks that may be encountered online;

- 3 to exchange information on the current state of legislative, organizational and technical measures in the area of child online protection;
- 4 to consider establishing frameworks for national child online protection;
- 5 to foster the allocation of specific numbers to service communications dedicated to child online protection;
- 6 to support the collection and analysis of data and statistics on child online protection to help design and implement public policies and allow comparisons between countries;
- 7 to establish mechanisms for collaboration among government offices and institutions working on this issue to gather statistical information on access of students to the Internet,

*invites Sector Members*

- 1 to participate actively in CWG-COP and in other ITU activities, with the aim of informing the ITU membership about technological solutions for protecting children online;
- 2 to develop innovative solutions and applications to facilitate communication between children and child online protection hotlines;
- 3 to collaborate, within their respective areas of competence, in the dissemination of public policies and initiatives that are implemented for child online protection;
- 4 to work on developing different programmes and applications to increase parental and school awareness;
- 5 to inform Member States about modern technological solutions for child online protection, taking into account the best practices of the sector and of other relevant stakeholders,

*invites Member States and Sector Members*

to exchange information on practical methods of identifying and introducing the most effective technologies to contribute to greater child online protection.

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*(Guadalajara, 2010) – (Rev. Busan, 2014)*

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## RESOLUTION 180 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Facilitating the transition from IPv4 to IPv6**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*considering*

- a)* Resolution 64 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, on IP address allocation and facilitating the transition to and deployment of IPv6;
- b)* Opinion 3 (Geneva, 2013) of the World Telecommunication/Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Policy Forum (WTPF), on capacity building for the deployment of IPv6;
- c)* Opinion 4 (Geneva, 2013) of WTPF, in support of IPv6 adoption and transition from IPv4;
- d)* Resolution 63 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on IP address allocation and encouraging the deployment of IPv6 in the developing countries<sup>1</sup>;
- e)* Resolution 101 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on Internet Protocol-based networks;
- f)* Resolution 102 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on ITU's role with regard to international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet and the management of Internet resources, including domain names and addresses;
- g)* the results of the ITU IPv6 Group, which were endorsed by the 2012 session of the ITU Council,

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

*considering further*

- a) that the Internet has become a leading factor in social and economic development and a vital tool for communication and technological innovation, creating a major paradigm shift in the telecommunication and information technology sector;
- b) that, in view of the imminent exhaustion of IPv4 addresses and in order to ensure the stability, growth and development of the Internet, every effort should be made to encourage and facilitate the transition to IPv6;
- c) that many developing countries are experiencing some technical challenges today in the IPv4 to IPv6 transition process,

*recalling*

that the WSIS+10 High-Level Event (Geneva, 2014), in its Statement on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes and the WSIS Vision Beyond 2015, determined that one of the priority areas to be addressed by the Post-2015 Development Agenda must be: "Encouraging the full deployment of IPv6 to ensure the long-term sustainability of the addressing space, including in light of future developments in the Internet of Things",

*noting*

- a) the progress towards adoption of IPv6 that has been made over the last few years;
- b) the ongoing coordination between ITU and relevant organizations on IPv6 capacity building in order to respond to the needs of Member States and Sector Members,

*recognizing*

- a) that Internet Protocol (IP) addresses are fundamental resources needed for the development of IP-based telecommunication/ICT networks and for the world economy and prosperity;

- b) that IPv6 deployment gives an opportunity for the development of ICTs, and that its early adoption is the best way to avoid the scarcity of addresses and the consequences that exhaustion of IPv4 addresses may entail, including high costs;
- c) that governments play an important part as catalyst for the transition to IPv6;
- d) that accelerating the transition from IPv4 and deployment of IPv6 addresses is necessary in order to respond to global needs in this regard;
- e) that the involvement of all stakeholders is crucial for a successful transition from IPv4 to IPv6;
- f) that technical experts are providing expert assistance for IPv6 transition, and progress has been made;
- g) that there are countries that still need expert technical assistance in making this transition,

*resolves*

- 1 to explore ways and means for greater collaboration and coordination between ITU and relevant organizations<sup>2</sup> involved in the development of IP-based networks and the future Internet, through cooperation agreements, as appropriate, in order to increase the role of ITU in Internet governance so as to ensure maximum benefits to the global community;
- 2 to step up the exchange of experiences and information with all stakeholders regarding the adoption of IPv6, with the aim of creating opportunities for collaborative efforts, and to ensure that feedback exists to enrich efforts to support the transition to IPv6;

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<sup>2</sup> Including, but not limited to, the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), the regional Internet registries (RIRs), the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), the Internet Society (ISOC) and the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C), on the basis of reciprocity.

3 to collaborate closely with the relevant international recognized partners, including the Internet community (e.g. regional Internet registries (RIRs), the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) and others), in order to encourage the deployment of IPv6 by raising awareness and through capacity building;

4 to support those Member States which, in accordance with the existing allocation policies, require assistance in the management and allocation of IPv6 resources, pursuant to relevant resolutions;

5 to continue the studies of IP address allocation, both for IPv4 addresses and for IPv6 addresses, in cooperation with other relevant stakeholders, based on their respective roles,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, in coordination with the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau*

1 to undertake and facilitate activities under *resolves* above in order that the relevant study groups of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) and of the Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) can carry out the work;

2 while assisting those Member States that require support in the management and allocation of IPv6 resources, to monitor the current allocation mechanisms (including the equitable distribution of addresses) for ITU Member States or Sector Members, and to identify and point out any underlying flaws in the current allocation mechanisms;

3 to communicate proposals for changes to existing policies, if identified under the studies above, in accordance with the existing policy development process;

4 to develop statistics on progress made with the transition, based on information that may be compiled regionally through collaboration with regional organizations;

5 to collect and disseminate best practices on coordination efforts undertaken by governments at the national level in order to facilitate transition to IPv6,

*invites Member States*

1 to continue to promote specific initiatives at the national level, which foster interaction with governmental, private and academic entities and civil society for the purposes of the information exchange necessary for the deployment of IPv6 in their respective countries;

2 to encourage, with support from the ITU regional offices, the RIRs and other regional organizations in coordinating research, dissemination and training actions with participation by governments, industry and the academic community in order to facilitate the deployment of IPv6 within the countries and in the region, and to coordinate initiatives between regions to promote its deployment worldwide;

3 to develop national policies to promote the technological update of systems in order to ensure that the public services provided utilizing the IP protocol and the communications infrastructure and relevant applications of the Member States are compatible with IPv6;

4 to encourage manufacturers to supply to the market customer premises equipment that supports IPv6 in addition to IPv4;

5 to raise awareness among information service providers on the importance of making their services available over IPv6,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

to submit to the Council and disseminate, as appropriate, (a) progress report(s) to the ITU membership and the Internet community, on the implementation of this resolution.

## RESOLUTION 181 (GUADALAJARA, 2010)

**Definitions and terminology relating to building confidence and security in the use of information and communication technologies**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Guadalajara, 2010),

*recalling*

a) Resolution 45 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC);

b) Resolution 130 (Antalya, 2006) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, which resolves to give high priority to the role of ITU in building confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs);

c) provisions of the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society related to building confidence and security in the use of ICT;

d) the outcomes of both phases of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) regarding this issue,

e) that, in accordance with WSIS Action Line C5, Resolution 149 (Antalya, 2006) of the Plenipotentiary Conference instructed the ITU Council to establish a working group, open to all Member States and Sector Members, to study terminology related to building confidence and security in the use of ICTs, and to develop definitions and descriptions in this regard;

f) Programme 2 (Cybersecurity, ICT applications and IP-based network-related issues) of the Hyderabad Action Plan adopted by WTDC-10,

*aware*

a) that one of the purposes of the Union is to maintain and extend international cooperation among all its Member States for the improvement and rational use of telecommunications of all kinds;

b) that another of the purposes of the Union is to promote the development of technical facilities and their most efficient operation with a view to improving the efficiency of telecommunication services, increasing their usefulness,

*considering*

a) the need to build confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs by strengthening the trust framework (§ 39 of the Tunis Agenda) and the need for governments, in cooperation with other stakeholders, within their respective roles, to develop necessary legislation for the investigation and prosecution of cybercrime, at national, regional and international level;

b) that United Nations General Assembly Resolution 64/211 invites Member States to use, if and when they deem appropriate, the voluntary self-assessment tool that is annexed to that resolution for national efforts;

c) the reasons behind the adoption of Resolution 37 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010) of WTDC, on bridging the digital divide, having regard to the importance of multistakeholder implementation at the international level and to the action lines referenced in § 108 of the Tunis Agenda, including "Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs",

*noting*

a) the importance of building confidence and security in the use of ICTs as highlighted in WSIS;

b) that there is a need to maintain common terminology pertaining to building confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

c) the ongoing work carried out by organizations such as the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) in relation to building confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

d) that Resolution 50 (Rev. Johannesburg, 2008) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on cybersecurity, and Resolution 52 (Rev. Johannesburg, 2008) of WTSA, on countering and combating spam, include the study of technical aspects for reducing the impact of these phenomena,

*considering further*

a) that in the area of security, Study Group 17 of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) is responsible for developing the core recommendations on telecommunication and ICT security, such as security architecture and frameworks; the fundamentals of protection, including threats, vulnerabilities and risks; authentication and identity management, incident handling and forensics; and security aspects of communication applications;

b) that Recommendation ITU-T X.1205 (2008), on overview of cybersecurity, provides a terminology definition of cybersecurity;

c) that the Council Working Group on the study of definitions and terminology relating to building confidence and security in the use of ICTs (WG-Def), which was established by Resolution 149 (Antalya, 2006), examined several proposals and reached consensus on the definition of "cybersecurity" in Recommendation ITU-T X.1205 (2008);

d) that the above-mentioned Council group, in its final report to the 2009 session of the Council, proposed two options relating to the definition for cybersecurity, as reproduced below:

*Option 1*

*1a. introduce the word "cybersecurity", in Article 1 of the Constitution and define this item in the Annex to the Constitution, based on the agreed definition, or*



*1b. introduce the word "cybersecurity" in a relevant article in the Convention and define this item in the Annex to the Convention;*

*Option 2*

*2. adopt a resolution by the Plenipotentiary Conference regarding this definition,*

*recognizing*

*a) the ongoing work by ITU-T and by the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) on matters related to building confidence and security in the use of ICTs;*

*b) the importance of studying the issue of terminology related to building confidence and security in the use of ICTs, and of examining and developing definitions and descriptions in this regard, as appropriate;*

*c) that this base set needs to include other important issues in addition to cybersecurity,*

*recognizing further*

*a) that, due to the evolving technological environment and the potential emergence of new and unforeseeable risks and vulnerabilities in relation to confidence and security in the use of ICTs, and for other reasons, it may become necessary for ITU-T Study Group 17 to update the definition of cybersecurity that is presented in Recommendation ITU-T X.1205;*

*b) that the definition of cybersecurity may need to be modified from time to time to reflect changes in policy;*

*c) the work of ITU-T Study Group 17 (Security) on public key infrastructures, identity management, digital signatures, the security manual, the security standards roadmap and the cybersecurity information exchange framework;*

*d) that the above-mentioned work is continuing in ITU-T Study Group 17 in order to further develop the above-mentioned set of definitions taking into account the continuous development in ICT technology;*

e) that the inclusion of any definition relating to ICT, which is an evolving issue, such as the definition of cybersecurity, in the stable Constitution is not consistent with the principles based on which the stable Constitution would be established,

*resolves*

1 to take into account the definition of "cybersecurity" approved in Recommendation ITU-T X.1205<sup>1</sup> for use in activities related to building confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

2 that the above footnote is an integral part of this resolution,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

to bring this resolution to the attention of the international organizations and other relevant entities dealing with the security of telecommunications/ICTs for consideration and any required action, as appropriate,

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<sup>1</sup> Recommendation ITU-T X.1205, "Cybersecurity: Cybersecurity is the collection of tools, policies, security concepts, security safeguards, guidelines, risk management approaches, actions, training, best practices, assurance and technologies that can be used to protect the cyber environment and organization and user's assets. Organization and user's assets include connected computing devices, personnel, infrastructure, applications, services, telecommunications systems, and the totality of transmitted and/or stored information in the cyber environment. Cybersecurity strives to ensure the attainment and maintenance of the security properties of the organization and user's assets against relevant security risks in the cyber environment. The general security objectives comprise the following:

- Availability
- Integrity, which may include authenticity and non-repudiation
- Confidentiality"

*instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau and the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

to take into account the definition of "cybersecurity" that is adopted in Recommendation ITU-T X.1205 for use in ITU activities related to building confidence and security in the use of ICTs,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau*

to report to the Council on any new or revised recommendations adopted by ITU-T related to or affecting cybersecurity-related terminology and definitions or other relevant definitions concerning confidence and security in the use of ICTs,

*invites Member States and Sector Members*

to participate actively in the relevant ITU study groups dealing with issues relating to confidence and security in the use of ICTs.

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*(Guadalajara, 2010)*

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## RESOLUTION 182 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

### **The role of telecommunications/information and communication technologies in regard to climate change and the protection of the environment**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recognizing*

- a) the fundamental contribution that the approval of Resolution 35 (Kyoto, 1994) of the Plenipotentiary Conference made to initiating ITU's activities in the area of telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) for environmental protection and sustainable development;
- b) Resolution 136 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on the use of telecommunications/ICTs for monitoring and management in emergency and disaster situations for early warning, prevention, mitigation and relief;
- c) Resolution 646 (Rev. WRC-12) of the World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC), on public protection and disaster relief;
- d) Resolution 644 (Rev. WRC-12) of WRC, on radiocommunication resources for early warning, disaster mitigation and relief operation;
- e) Resolution 673 (Rev. WRC-12) of WRC, on the use of radiocommunications for Earth observation applications, in collaboration with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO);
- f) Resolution 750 (Rev. WRC-12) of WRC, on compatibility between the Earth exploration-satellite service (passive) and relevant active services;

- g)* Resolution ITU-R 60 (Geneva, 2012) of the Radiocommunication Assembly (RA), on reduction of energy consumption for environmental protection and mitigating climate change by use of ICT/radiocommunication technologies and systems;
- h)* Resolution 73 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on ICTs and climate change;
- i)* Resolution 66 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on ICT and climate change;
- j)* Resolution 34 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on the role of telecommunications/ICTs in disaster preparedness, early warning, rescue, mitigation, relief and response;
- k)* Resolution 54 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on ICT applications;
- l)* Resolution 1307 adopted by the ITU Council at its 2009 session, on ICTs and climate change;
- m)* the outcomes of the Symposia on ICTs and Climate Change, especially the Cairo Roadmap adopted at the fifth ITU Symposium on ICTs and Climate Change, held in Egypt in November 2010, as well as the Roadmap adopted at the sixth ITU Symposium on ICTs and Climate Change, held in Ghana in July 2011;
- n)* the outcomes of ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) Study Group 5, on environment and climate change;
- o)* the Luxor Call to Action on Building a Water Resource Efficient Green Economy, adopted at the ITU Workshop on ICT as an Enabler for Smart Water Management held in Luxor, Egypt, in April 2013;

p) Resolution 79 (Dubai, 2012) of WTSA, on the role of telecommunications/ICTs in handling and controlling e-waste from telecommunication and information technology equipment and methods of treating it;

q) Resolution 1353 adopted by the 2012 session of the Council, which recognizes that telecommunications and ICTs are essential components for developed and developing countries<sup>1</sup> in achieving sustainable development, and instructs the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the Directors of the Bureaux, to identify new activities to be undertaken by ITU to support developing countries in achieving sustainable development through telecommunications and ICTs,

*recognizing further*

a) § 20 of Action Line C7 (E-environment) of the Geneva Plan of Action of the World Summit on the Information Society (Geneva, 2003), calling for the establishment of monitoring systems using ICTs to forecast and monitor the impact of natural and man-made disasters, particularly in developing countries;

b) Opinion 3 (Lisbon, 2009) of the World Telecommunication/ICT Policy Forum, on ICT and the environment, which recognizes that telecommunications/ICTs can make a substantial contribution to mitigating and adapting to the effects of climate change, and calls for formulating future inventions and efforts for effectively addressing climate change;

c) the outcomes of the annual United Nations Climate Change conferences;

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

d) the Nairobi Declaration on the Environmentally Sound Management of Electrical and Electronic Waste, and the adoption by the ninth Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention of the Work Plan for the Environmentally Sound Management of E-waste, focusing on the needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

e) the outcome document adopted by Rio+20, entitled "The Future We Want", reflecting the renewed commitment to advancing sustainable development and achieving environmental sustainability;

f) the outcome documents adopted under the remit of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), reflecting the need to close the pre-2020 gap by intensifying technical work,

*considering*

a) that Working Group III of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), in its fifth report in 2014, calculated that that global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions continued to rise by 2.2 per cent per year from 2000 to 2010 despite the introduction of mitigation policies;

b) that climate change is acknowledged as a potential threat to all countries, having an effect on global warming, changing weather patterns, rising sea levels, desertification and shrinking ice cover, and other long-term effects, that it needs a global response, and that telecommunications/ICTs can contribute to that response;

c) that the impact of climate-change effects will be severe for developing and least developed countries that are not prepared for climate change and its consequences, and that these countries could be exposed to incalculable dangers and considerable losses, including the consequences of rising sea levels for many of their coastal areas;

d) Objective 5 of the Dubai Action Plan, on enhancing environmental protection, climate-change adaptation and migration and disaster management efforts through telecommunications/ICTs and its related outputs,

*considering further*

a) that telecommunications/ICTs play an important and significant role in protecting the environment and in promoting innovative and sustainable development activities presenting relatively low risk to the environment, through varied activities in monitoring, observing, detecting, responding to and mitigating the various threats associated with climate change and in disaster prediction and relief;

b) the role ITU can play in assisting Member States in the use of ICTs for monitoring, observing, detecting, responding to and mitigating the various threats associated with climate change and for disaster prediction and relief, and through the consideration of telecommunication/ICT solutions for efficient water resource management, and that the strategic plan for the Union gives clear priority to combating climate change using ICTs;

c) that, since telecommunications/ICTs also contribute to climate change through GHG and other emissions, the necessary priority must be given to reducing GHG emissions and energy consumption;

d) that the use of telecommunications/ICTs provides increased opportunities to reduce GHG emissions generated by non-ICT sectors, through the utilization of telecommunications/ICTs in ways that replace services or increase efficiency in the sectors concerned;

e) that several countries have committed to a 20 per cent reduction in GHG emissions, both in the ICT sector and through the use of ICTs in other sectors by 2020, against 1990 levels;



- f) that remote-sensing applications on board satellites and other radiocommunication systems are important tools for climate monitoring, environmental observation, disaster prediction, detection of illegal deforestation, and detection and mitigation of the negative effects of climate change;
- g) the role ITU can play in promoting the use of ICTs to mitigate the causes of climate change, and that the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019 gives clear priority to combating climate change using ICTs;
- h) the role of ITU in developing suitable guidelines for efficient disposal of e-waste from telecommunications/ICTs;
- i) that one of the major challenges for sustainable development is to ensure that all people have reliable access to water supply and sanitation services;
- j) that ITU recommendations that focus on energy-saving systems and applications can play a critical role in the development of telecommunications/ICTs, by promoting the enhanced use of telecommunications/ICTs to serve as an effective cross-cutting tool to measure and reduce GHG emissions across economic and social activities,

*aware*

- a) that telecommunications/ICTs also contribute to climate change through GHG and other emissions, a contribution which, although relatively small, will grow with the increased use of telecommunications/ICTs, and that the necessary priority must be given to reducing GHG emissions and energy consumption, increasing the use of green energy resources for energy efficiency in the telecommunication sector;
- b) that developing countries face additional challenges in addressing the effects of climate change, including natural disasters related to climate change, and in establishing new telecommunication/ICT facilities in their national networks, whence the need for ITU to provide guidance and assistance, which will vary from one region to another and between countries,

*bearing in mind*

a) that 195 countries have ratified the UNFCCC Protocol and have committed to reduce their GHG emission levels to targets that are mainly set below their 1990 levels;

b) that the countries that have submitted plans in response to the Copenhagen Accord have specified which steps they are prepared to take to reduce their carbon intensity in the current decade,

*noting*

a) that the current ITU-T Study Group 5 is the lead ITU-T study group on ICTs and climate change, responsible for studies on methodologies for evaluating telecommunication/ICT effects on climate change, for publishing guidelines for using ICTs in an eco-friendly way, for studying energy efficiency of the power feeding systems, for studying ICT environmental aspects of electromagnetic phenomena, for studying, assessing and analysing safe, low-cost social recirculation of telecommunication/ICT equipment through recycling and reuse, and for tackling e-waste issues and energy efficiency of telecommunication/ICT systems;

b) Question 6/2 of Study Group 2 of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D), on ICTs and climate change, adopted by WTDC-14;

c) that there are other international bodies that are working on climate-change issues, including UNFCCC, and that ITU should collaborate, within its mandate, with those entities;

d) that the development and deployment of telecommunications/ICTs has resulted in innovative outcomes, including, but not limited to, better energy management, recognition of the contribution of the entire lifecycle of telecommunications/ICTs on climate change, and the benefits that accrue from the comprehensive deployment of telecommunications/ICTs;

e) that work on smart sustainable cities and on smart water management is being developed, along with a series of deliverables aimed at promoting development of policies and the implementation of international standards to shape smart sustainable cities worldwide and smart water management,

*resolves*

that ITU, within its mandate and in collaboration with other organizations, address the causes and effects of climate change through the following:

1 to continue and further develop ITU activities on telecommunications/ICTs and climate change, and disaster management planning, in order to contribute to the wider global efforts being made by Member States and the United Nations to contribute to further preventing and combating the effects of climate change;

2 to encourage improvement of the energy efficiency of telecommunications/ICTs in order to reduce the GHG emissions produced by the telecommunication/ICT sector;

3 to encourage the telecommunication/ICT sector to contribute, through its own improvement of energy efficiency and in the use of ICTs in other parts of the economy, to an annual reduction in GHG emissions;

4 to promote awareness of the environmental issues associated with telecommunication/ICT equipment design and encourage energy efficiency and the use of materials in the design and fabrication of telecommunication/ICT equipment that contributes to a clean and safe environment throughout its lifecycle;

5 to include, as a priority, assistance to developing countries so as to strengthen their human and institutional capacity in promoting the use of telecommunications/ICTs to tackle climate change, as well as in areas such as the need for communities to adapt to climate change, as a key element of disaster-management planning;

6 to promote the benefits that accrue to the environment and society from the use of sustainable telecommunication/ICT equipment and services in bridging the standardization gap;

7 to encourage reduction of GHG emissions through the adoption of green energy sources in the telecommunication/ICT sector;

8 to support the use of telecommunications/ICTs in implementing smart grid, which helps reduce the waste of energy in transmission and distribution and regulate peak energy demand from consumers,

*instructs the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the Directors of the three Bureaux*

1 to continue liaising with appropriate organizations in activities related to climate change, in order to avoid duplication of work and optimize the use of resources;

2 to continue taking appropriate measures within the Union in order to contribute to the reduction of the carbon footprint (e.g. paperless meetings, videoconferences, etc.);

3 to report annually to the Council and to the next plenipotentiary conference on the progress made by ITU on implementation of this resolution;

4 to submit this resolution and other appropriate outcomes of ITU activities to meetings of relevant organizations, including UNFCCC, in order to reiterate the Union's commitment to sustainable global growth; and to ensure recognition of the importance of telecommunications/ICTs in mitigation and adaptation efforts as well as the critical role of ITU in this regard;

5 to cooperate with United Nations entities and others in activities related to climate change, working towards a progressive and measurable reduction in energy consumption and GHG emissions throughout the lifecycle of telecommunication/ICT equipment;

6 to report on the degree to which the telecommunication/ICT sector has contributed to the reduction of GHG and other emissions in other sectors through a reduction of their energy consumption;

7 to encourage Member States in the various regions to cooperate in sharing expertise and resources and identify a regional cooperation mechanism<sup>2</sup>, including through support from ITU regional offices, so as to assist all Member States in the region in measurement and training;

8 to assist Member States, in particular developing countries, in infrastructure development and capacity building, as well as with assistance from the ITU regional offices – within the available budget of the Union – in energy-efficiency measurement and development of guidelines for efficient e-waste disposal;

9 to encourage the use of renewable energy technologies and systems, and to study and disseminate best practices in the field of renewable energy;

10 to support Member States, particularly developing countries, in adapting to and mitigating the impact of climate change in a number of areas, including smart water management, e-waste management and treatment methods and the use of ICTs in disaster prediction, early warning, mitigation and relief,

*instructs the Directors of the three Bureaux, within the purview of their mandates*

1 to help in the promotion of best practices and guidelines:

- to improve the energy efficiency of telecommunication/ICT equipment
- to measure the carbon footprint of the telecommunication/ICT industry

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<sup>2</sup> To be formalized by the relevant regional meetings.

- to monitor water resources through the use of telecommunications/ICTs
- to mitigate the effects of climate change through the use of telecommunications/ICTs
- to adapt to the effects of climate change through the use of telecommunications/ICTs
- to enable telecommunications/ICTs to contribute to disaster prediction, early warning, mitigation and relief;

2 to support the development of reports on ICTs, the environment and climate change, taking into consideration relevant studies, in particular the ongoing work of ITU-T Study Group 5 and ITU-D Study Groups 1 and 2 related to, *inter alia*, ICTs and climate change, and to assist affected countries with utilizing relevant applications for disaster preparedness, mitigation and response, and management of telecommunication/ICT waste;

3 to organize, in close collaboration among all three Bureaux, and within the budgetary limits of the Union, workshops and seminars to assist developing countries, by raising awareness and identifying their particular needs and challenges regarding the use of telecommunications/ICTs to address environment and climate-change issues, including e-waste collection, dismantling, refurbishment and recycling, as well as sustainable and smart management of water,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

to ensure that ITU organizes seminars and training courses in developing countries at the regional level for the purpose of raising awareness and identifying key issues in order to generate best-practice guidelines in the area of environmental protection,

*instructs the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau*

1 to ensure the widespread use of radiocommunications for mitigation of the negative effects of climate change and natural and man-made disasters by:

- i) urging the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) study groups to accelerate their work, particularly in the areas of disaster prediction, detection, mitigation and relief;
- ii) continuing the development of new technologies to support or supplement advanced public protection and disaster relief applications;

2 to highlight the importance of using effective measures to predict, alert and mitigate the effects of natural disasters through coordinated and effective use of the radio-frequency spectrum,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau*

1 to share the outputs of ITU-T Study Group 5 on ICTs and climate change and any other related study groups, in collaboration with other bodies, in the development of methodologies to assess:

- i) the level of energy efficiency in the telecommunication/ICT sector and the application of telecommunications/ICTs in non-ICT sectors;
- ii) the complete-lifecycle GHG emissions of telecommunication/ICT equipment, in collaboration with other relevant bodies, in order to establish best practice in the sector against an agreed set of methods for quantifying such emissions, to enable the benefits of reuse, refurbishment and recycling to be quantified in order to help achieve reductions in GHG emissions both in the telecommunication/ICT sector and in the use of ICTs in other sectors;

2 to cooperate with United Nations entities and others in activities related to climate change, working towards a progressive and measurable reduction in energy consumption and GHG emissions throughout the lifecycle of telecommunication/ICT equipment;

3 to continue the current Joint Coordination Activity on ICT and climate change in specialist and specific discussions with other industries, drawing upon the expertise existing in other forums, industrial sectors (and their relevant forums) and academia, in order to:

- i) demonstrate ITU leadership in GHG reductions and energy savings in the telecommunication/ICT sector;
- ii) share knowledge and best practices on the deployment of pilot projects on the use of telecommunications/ICTs for the environment;
- iii) ensure that ITU actively leads in the application of ICTs in other industries and contributes to the reduction in GHG emissions through the use of telecommunications/ICTs;

4 to conduct work on implementing the outcomes of ITU's activities on the development of energy-saving and e-waste standards;

5 to continue the work within ITU-T aimed at bridging the gap in environmental sustainability, in particular in developing countries, and gauge the needs of the developing countries in the field of telecommunications/ICT, the environment and climate change,

*invites Member States, Sector Members and Associates*

1 to continue to contribute actively to work within ITU's sphere of activities, together with other bodies, and in all international, regional and national platforms on the topic of telecommunications/ICTs and climate change, and to exchange best practices with regard to law and regulation in the area of environmental protection and management of natural resources;



- 2 to continue or initiate public and private programmes that include telecommunications/ICTs and climate change, giving due consideration to relevant ITU initiatives;
- 3 to take necessary measures to reduce the effects of climate change by developing and using more energy-efficient ICT devices, applications and networks, as well as green energy sources, and through the application of telecommunications/ICTs in other fields;
- 4 to promote recycling, reuse of telecommunication/ICT equipment and efficient disposal of e-waste from telecommunications/ICTs;
- 5 to continue to support the work of ITU-R in remote sensing (active and passive) for environmental observation and other radiocommunication systems that can be used to support climate and water resource monitoring, disaster prediction, alerting and response, in accordance with relevant WRC and RA resolutions;
- 6 to integrate the use of telecommunications/ICTs as an enabling tool in combating the effects of climate change into national adaptation and mitigation plans;
- 7 to incorporate the environmental indicators, conditions and standards into their national telecommunications/ICT plans;
- 8 to conduct work in their countries on improving access to, and expanding the use of, alternative energy sources in the telecommunication/ICT sector;
- 9 to promote the introduction of ecological innovations in the telecommunication/ICT sector;
- 10 to adopt and implement ITU recommendations to tackle environmental challenges such as climate-change adaptation and mitigation, as well as e-waste, and to promote smart sustainable cities.

## RESOLUTION 183 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Telecommunication/Information and Communication Technology applications for e-health**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*considering*

*a) the definition of e-health made by Resolution 58/28 of the World Health Assembly, Geneva 2005 as "... the cost-effective and secure use of information and communications technologies in support of health and health-related fields, including health-care services, health surveillance, health literature, and health education, knowledge and research";*

*b) that the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) (Doha, 2006) recommended that ITU continue to study the potential of using telecommunications for e-health in order to meet the needs of developing countries<sup>1</sup>;*

*c) Resolution 54 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on information and communication technology (ICT) applications, which merged Resolution 54 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010), Resolution 65 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010) and Resolution 74 (Hyderabad, 2010) of WTDC;*

*d) Resolution 78 (Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, on ICT applications and standards for improved access to e-health services,*

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

*considering further*

- a) that the World Health Organization (WHO) and ITU have a key role to promote stronger coordination among the key players in all technical areas of e-health standardization;
- b) the need to provide effective, efficient and patient-safe clinical care using e-health ICTs;
- c) that e-health applications and telecommunication/ICT applications supporting them are already extensive, but far from fully optimized and integrated;
- d) the importance of maintaining momentum so that the potential advantages of telecommunication/ICT technologies in the healthcare sector are supported by appropriate regulatory, legal and policy frameworks in both the telecommunication and the health sectors,

*recognizing*

- a) the ongoing work of Study Group 2 of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) through Question 2/2, on information and telecommunications for e-health;
- b) that there are European regional initiatives to share best practices in the implementation of e-applications, including e-health;
- c) that healthcare ICT standards was considered a high-interest subject by the Global Standards Collaboration (GSC-13);
- d) that healthcare ICT standards need to be adapted, as necessary, to fit the context of each Member State, and that this requires a strengthening of capacity building and support;
- e) the ongoing work in ITU-D to bridge the digital e-health divide;
- f) the publication under ITU-D Study Group 2 Question 14-2/2 entitled "Mobile e-health solutions for developing countries";

g) the ongoing work in Study Group 16 of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) through Question 28/16, on multimedia framework for e-health applications, including interoperability on e-health devices, services and technology platforms;

h) the work of the ITU-T Focus Group on machine-to-machine (M2M) communications, which is considered to be a key enabler of applications and services across a broad range of vertical markets such as healthcare,

*resolves to instruct the Secretary-General*

1 to give priority consideration to the expansion of telecommunication/ICT initiatives for e-health in the work of ITU, and to coordinate e-health-related activities between the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R), ITU-T, ITU-D and other relevant organizations;

2 to continue and further develop ITU activities on telecommunication/ICT applications for e-health in order to contribute to the wider global efforts concerning e-health,

*instructs the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Directors of the Bureaux*

1 to identify and document examples of best practice for e-health in the field of telecommunications/ICT, for dissemination among ITU Member States and Sector Members;

2 to report information and developments to Member States through an appropriate mechanism;

3 to coordinate on e-health-related activities with ITU-R, ITU-T and ITU-D, and in particular to promote awareness, mainstreaming and capacity building in the creation of telecommunication/ICT e-health standards, reporting findings to the ITU Council as appropriate;

4 to work collaboratively on e-health-related activities with WHO and other organizations external to ITU that have a mandate to address health issues, as well as ITU-R, ITU-T and ITU-D and, in particular, develop programmes that enable developing countries to introduce e-health services safely and effectively,

*invites Member States*

to consider developing appropriate legislation, regulations, standards, codes of practice and guidelines to enhance the development and application of e-health telecommunication/ICT services, products and terminals,

*encourages Member States and Sector Members*

to participate actively in e-health-related studies in ITU-R, ITU-T and ITU-D through contributions and by other appropriate means.

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*(Guadalajara, 2010) – (Rev. Busan, 2014)*

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## RESOLUTION 184 (GUADALAJARA, 2010)

**Facilitating digital inclusion initiatives for indigenous peoples**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Guadalajara, 2010),

*considering*

a) that Resolution 46 (Doha, 2006) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) recognizes the importance of issues of concern to indigenous peoples worldwide in the determination of priority activities for the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D), and requests the Secretary-General to bring the assistance provided by the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) to indigenous peoples through its activities to the attention of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006), with a view to providing appropriate financial and human resources for the relevant actions and projects to be implemented in the framework of the telecommunication sector;

b) that Resolution 68 (Hyderabad, 2010) of WTDC resolves to support digital inclusion of indigenous peoples in general, and in particular their participation in workshops, seminars, forums and training on information and communication technology (ICT) for social and economic development, and instructs the Director of BDT to carry out the necessary actions to reinforce the implementation of the special initiative for indigenous peoples, establishing collaboration mechanisms with the Member States, other relevant regional and international organizations and cooperation agencies;

c) that the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society establishes, as a priority, the achievement of its goals with respect to indigenous peoples and communities;

d) that Article 16 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples provides the following: "*Indigenous peoples have the right to establish their own media in their own languages and to have access to all forms of non-indigenous media without discrimination*";

e) that the first Report of the State of the World's Indigenous Peoples (2010) contains alarming statistical data on the state of these peoples in the areas of health, human rights, education and employment, among other aspects, placing them in a situation similar to that of least developed countries (LDCs), despite the fact that some of these peoples are found in areas within the territory of developed countries;

f) the ITU rules for awarding fellowships,

*recalling*

a) that Article 41 of the above-mentioned declaration provides that "*The organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations shall contribute to the full realization of the provisions of this Declaration through the mobilization, inter alia, of financial cooperation and technical assistance*";

b) the commitment by ITU and its Member States to achieving the Millennium Development Goals,

*observing*

that, in the implementation of projects for indigenous peoples, difficulties have been encountered in allocating fellowships to these peoples,

*resolves*

1 to adapt the rules governing the ITU fellowships to the existing ITU-D initiatives for digital inclusion, and extend the provision of ITU fellowships to indigenous peoples, considering that their special situation is equivalent to that of LDCs, so they can attend workshops, seminars, events or other types of capacity-building events organized by ITU for these specific groups towards facilitating their digital inclusion;

2 to establish collaboration and validation mechanisms with the administrations and any other relevant organization within the United Nations system, as well as with any regional and national organizations dealing with indigenous peoples, in order to facilitate the implementation of Resolutions 46 (Doha, 2006) and 68 (Hyderabad, 2010) and better identify indigenous participants in ITU events as potential beneficiaries of the said fellowships,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

to inform the Council on the implementation of this resolution,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

to take the necessary measures to fully implement Resolutions 46 (Doha, 2006) and 68 (Hyderabad, 2010), regarding the participation of indigenous peoples in workshops, seminars, forums and training on ICT,

*invites Member States*

to promote and enable the participation of indigenous peoples in ITU workshops, seminars and events, and thus facilitate their digital inclusion.

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*(Guadalajara, 2010)*

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## RESOLUTION 185 (BUSAN, 2014)

**Global flight tracking for civil aviation**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

the relevant provisions of Article 1 of the ITU Constitution, in particular No. 17, which stipulates that the Union is to promote the adoption of measures for ensuring the safety of life through the cooperation of telecommunication services,

*considering*

*a)* that the loss of Flight MH370 spurred worldwide discussions on global flight tracking and the need for coordinated action by ITU and other relevant organizations, within the scope of their respective mandates;

*b)* that determination of the position of aircraft and reporting this information to air traffic control centres represents an important element of aviation safety and security;

*c)* that the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) has developed Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) for systems enabling position determination and tracking of aircraft for air traffic control;

*d)* that the current agenda of the 2015 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-15), as contained in ITU Council Resolution 1343 (Council-12), does not directly address the issue of global flight tracking;

*e)* that flight tracking for civil aviation is currently available across the globe, apart from some parts of the polar regions;

f) that ICAO, in its special meeting on global flight tracking, Montreal, 12-13 May 2014, encouraged ITU to take action, at the earliest opportunity, to provide the necessary spectrum allocations for satellite when emerging aviation needs are identified,

*considering further*

a) that studies relating to global flight tracking are ongoing in the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R);

b) that ITU and ICAO signed a memorandum of understanding in 2012 to establish a framework for enhanced cooperation between the two parties,

*noting*

that identifying and tracking of civil aircraft flights contributes indirectly to aviation safety,

*resolves*

to instruct WRC-15, pursuant to No. 119 of the ITU Convention, to include in its agenda, as a matter of urgency, the consideration of global flight tracking, including, if appropriate, and consistent with ITU practices, various aspects of the matter, taking into account ITU-R studies,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

to bring this resolution to the attention of WRC-15 and ICAO,

*instructs the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau*

to prepare a specific report on the matter as referred to in *resolves* above for consideration by WRC-15.

## RESOLUTION 186 (BUSAN, 2014)

**Strengthening the role of ITU with regard to transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

Resolution 68/50, on transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 5 December 2013, together with the associated Report A/68/189,

*noting*

Resolution 37 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on bridging the digital divide,

*considering*

a) that ITU Member States rely, *inter alia*, on reliable space radiocommunication services, such as the Earth exploration-satellite service, radiocommunication satellite services, the radionavigation-satellite service and the space research service;

b) that one of the strategic goals of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector is "to ensure interference-free operations of radiocommunication systems by implementing the Radio Regulations and regional agreements, as well as updating these instruments in an efficient and timely manner through the processes of world and regional radiocommunication conferences",

*taking into account*

Articles 15 and 16 of the Radio Regulations,

*resolves*

to encourage the dissemination of information, capacity building and the sharing of best practices in the use and development of radiocommunication satellite networks/systems, with the objectives of, *inter alia*, bridging the digital divide and enhancing the reliability and availability of the above-mentioned satellite networks/systems,

*invites the ITU Council*

to consider and review any proposed cooperation agreements on the use of satellite monitoring facilities consistent with the objectives of this resolution, in light of their strategic and financial implications, within the budgetary limitations of the Union,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

to encourage all Member States to consider these matters in the context of Resolution 37 (Rev. Dubai, 2014),

*instructs the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau*

- 1 to promote access to information, upon request by administrations concerned, related to satellite-monitoring facilities, in order to address cases of harmful interference in accordance with Article 15 of the Radio Regulations, through cooperation agreements referred to under *invites the ITU Council* above, within the budgetary limitations of the Union, in order to implement the objectives of this resolution;
- 2 to continue taking action to maintain a database on cases of harmful interference reported in accordance with relevant provisions of the Radio Regulations, in consultation with Member States concerned;
- 3 to coordinate activities, if necessary, with the Directors of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau and the Telecommunication Development Bureau;
- 4 to report on the implementation of this resolution as appropriate,

*invites Member States and Sector Members*

to participate in the activities related to the implementation of this resolution.

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*(Busan, 2014)*

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## RESOLUTION 187 (BUSAN, 2014)

### **Review of the current methodologies and development of a future vision for the participation of Sector Members, Associates and Academia in the activities of ITU**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recognizing*

a) Resolution 152 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on improvement of management and follow-up of the defrayal of ITU expenses by Sector Members and Associates, which revised procedures related to the payment of fees;

b) Resolution 158 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on financial issues for consideration by the ITU Council, which instructed the Council to review the present approach to Sector membership, including the possibility of changes in areas such as the fee structure and membership categories, including the feasibility of combining Sector participation (i.e. a single ITU membership across all three Sectors), and asked the Council to review progress of implementation and recommend modifications where required;

c) Resolution 169 (Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on admission of academia, universities and their associated research establishments to participate in the work of the three Sectors of the Union, which established this new category of participation on a trial basis, and instructed the Council to add any additional conditions or procedures if deemed appropriate, and to submit a report to the next plenipotentiary conference for a final decision on such participation;

d) Resolution 170 (Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on admission of Sector Members from developing countries<sup>1</sup> to participate in the work of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector and the Telecommunication Standardization Sector, which established a reduced fee structure to promote participation in the activities of the two Sectors,

*recalling*

Resolution 1360, on study of the current methodologies for the participation of Sector Members, Associates and Academia, adopted by the 2013 session of the Council,

*considering*

that the 2011 session of the Council referred follow-up to Resolution 158 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) on these matters to the Council Working Group on Financial and Human Resources (CWG-FHR) to prepare recommendations, which in turn deliberated on this subject during its 2012-2014 meetings, including by means of a special open consultation with Sector Members, Associates and Academia,

*noting*

that the Council, based on input from CWG-FHR, recommended that the Union implement changes to simplify, improve the fairness of and modernize the Sector membership system, while maintaining the existing three-Sector structure for Sector membership, including for Associates and Academia,

*resolves to instruct the Council*

1 to analyse the implications of various pricing methodologies for Sector Members and Associates, in terms of advantages and disadvantages, and consider additional benefits, including special status for Sector Members of all three Sectors;

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

2 to study the current structure of membership and the benefits and participation rights of Sector Members, Associates and Academia, with a view to ensuring consistency and fairness between categories of membership;

3 to review the practical application of the rights and obligations of Sector Members, as provided in the ITU Constitution and Convention and Resolution 14 (Rev. Antalya, 2006) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, as well as the arrangements for the participation of Associates and Academia, to ensure that they are properly recognized during ITU conferences, assemblies, study groups, working parties, advisory groups and other activities;

4 to develop guidelines and training for chairmen/vice-chairmen, study group counsellors and others on such arrangements pertaining to various categories of membership and participation, following the review outlined in *resolves to instruct the Council 3* above;

5 to conduct studies on ways of increasing participation in the work of the Union among non-profit entities, specifically non-governmental organizations, dealing with telecommunication/ICT matters, including the feasibility of establishing a new category of participation with corresponding rights and obligations;

6 to review the practice and criteria for exempting entities from membership fees and, if necessary, make changes to tighten the eligibility criteria in order to help bring greater clarity, consistency and fairness between paying and non-paying members and to reduce the total number of exempted entities;

7 to develop a comprehensive consultation strategy with Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia and others as appropriate, so as to ensure that all points of view are thoroughly considered;



8 to review, on an ongoing basis, through CWG-FHR, progress achieved on these studies, reviews and consultations with a view to implementing interim measures on a trial basis for final approval at the next plenipotentiary conference,

*instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the three Bureaux*

to provide the necessary support to the Council to ensure that all members and participants have an opportunity to provide feedback to this initiative,

*invites Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia*

to participate in consultations on the subject, and provide comments on an ongoing basis.

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*(Busan, 2014)*

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## RESOLUTION 188 (BUSAN, 2014)

**Combating counterfeit telecommunication/information  
and communication technology devices**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

a) Resolution 177 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on conformity and interoperability;

b) Resolution 47 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on enhancement of knowledge and effective application of ITU recommendations in developing countries<sup>1</sup>, including conformance and interoperability testing of systems manufactured on the basis of ITU recommendations;

c) Resolution 79 (Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on the role of telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) in combating and dealing with counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices,

*recognizing*

a) the growing problem related to the sale and circulation of counterfeit devices in the market, as well as the adverse consequences thereof for users, governments and the private sector;

b) that counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices may negatively impact on security and quality of service for users;

c) that counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices often contain illegal and unacceptable levels of hazardous substances, threatening consumers and the environment;

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

d) that some countries have adopted measures to raise awareness of this issue and deployed successful solutions to deter the spread of counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices, and that developing countries may benefit from learning from those experiences;

e) that Recommendation ITU-T X.1255, which is based on the digital object architecture, provides a framework for discovery of identity management information;

f) that some of the measures adopted by the countries rely on unique telecommunication/ICT device identifiers, such as the International Mobile Equipment Identity, to limit and deter counterfeit ICT devices;

g) that industry initiatives have been created to coordinate activity between operators, manufacturers and consumers;

h) that Member States face significant challenges in finding effective solutions to combat counterfeit devices, given the innovative and creative ways used by persons engaged in this illicit activity to evade enforcement/legal measures;

i) that the ITU's Conformity and Interoperability and Bridging Standardization Gap programmes are intended to help by bringing clarity to standardization processes and product conformity with international standards;

j) that providing interoperability, safety and reliability should be a key objective of ITU recommendations,

*considering*

a) that, in general, telecommunication/ICT devices that do not comply with a country's applicable national conformity processes and regulatory requirements or other applicable legal requirements should be considered unauthorized for sale and/or activation on telecommunication networks of that country;

b) that ITU and other relevant stakeholders have key roles to play in fostering coordination between the parties concerned in order to study the impact of counterfeit devices and the mechanism for limiting their use and to identify ways of dealing with them internationally and regionally;

c) the importance of maintaining user connectivity,

*aware*

a) that governments play an important role in combating the manufacture and international trade of counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices by formulating appropriate strategies, policies and legislation;

b) of the current work and studies of ITU study groups, in particular Study Group 11 of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T), which is engaged in a study of methodologies and use cases for combating counterfeit and substandard ICT products, and of relevant activities in other relevant forums;

c) that tampering with unique device identifiers diminishes the effectiveness of solutions adopted by countries;

d) that there is ongoing cooperation with the World Trade Organization and World Intellectual Property Organization on matters related to counterfeit products,

*resolves to instruct the Directors of the three Bureaux*

1 to assist Member States in addressing their concerns with respect to counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices, through information sharing at regional or global level, including conformity assessment systems;

2 to assist all the membership, considering relevant ITU-T recommendations, in taking the necessary actions to prevent or detect the tampering with and/or duplication of unique device identifiers, interacting with other telecommunication standards-development organizations related to these matters,

*invites Member States*

- 1 to take all necessary measures to combat counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices;
- 2 to cooperate and exchange expertise among themselves in this area;
- 3 to encourage participation in industry programmes combating counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices,

*invites all the membership*

- 1 to participate actively in ITU studies relating to combating counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices by submitting contributions;
- 2 to take the necessary actions to prevent or detect tampering with unique telecommunication/ICT devices identifiers,

*further invites Member States and Sector Members*

to bear in mind the legal and regulatory frameworks of other countries concerning equipment that negatively affects the quality of their telecommunication infrastructure and services, in particular recognizing the concerns of developing countries with respect to counterfeit equipment.

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*(Busan, 2014)*

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## RESOLUTION 189 (BUSAN, 2014)

### **Assisting Member States to combat and deter mobile device theft**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*considering*

- a) that the positive impact of mobile telecommunications, technological progress and the great coverage and development generated by all related services have made the increasing penetration of mobile devices, including smartphones, possible because of the multiple benefits provided;
- b) that the widespread use of mobile telecommunications in the world has also been accompanied by a rise in the problem of mobile device theft;
- c) that the act of mobile device theft can sometimes have a negative impact on the health and safety of citizens and on their sense of security;
- d) that problems that occur around the crimes related to mobile device theft have become a worldwide issue, since these stolen devices are often very easily resold on the international markets;
- e) that the illicit trading of stolen mobile devices constitutes a risk to consumers and causes loss of revenue for the industry;
- f) that some governments as well as industry have implemented regulations, law-enforcement actions, policies and technological mechanisms to prevent and combat mobile device theft;
- g) that ITU can assist all members in the use of relevant ITU recommendations and play a positive role by offering all interested parties a platform for encouraging discussions, the exchange of best practices, industry cooperation to define technical guidelines and the dissemination of information on combating mobile device theft;

h) that some manufacturers of mobile devices, as well as operators, offer solutions for consumers, such as free anti-theft applications, with the aim of reducing the rate of mobile device theft,

*concerned*

that the rate of mobile device theft in various regions of the world remains high, despite efforts made in recent years,

*aware*

that manufacturers, operators and industry associations have been developing different technological solutions and governments have been developing policies to address this global problem,

*resolves*

to explore all ways and means to combat and deter mobile device theft,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, in coordination with the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau and the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau*

1 to compile information on best practices developed by industry or governments in combating mobile device theft;

2 to consult with the relevant ITU Radiocommunication Sector and ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector study groups, manufacturers of mobile devices, manufacturers of telecommunication network components, operators and other telecommunication standards-development organizations related to these matters, such as GSMA and 3GPP, in order to identify existing and future technological measures, both software and hardware, to mitigate the use of stolen mobile devices;

3 to provide assistance, within the Union's expertise and within available resources, as appropriate, in cooperation with relevant organizations, to Member States, if so requested, in order to reduce mobile device theft and the use of stolen mobile devices in their countries,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

to report annually to the ITU Council on progress of the work,

*invites Member States and Sector Members*

to contribute to the studies in this area.

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*(Busan, 2014)*

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## RESOLUTION 190 (BUSAN, 2014)

**Countering misappropriation and misuse of international telecommunication numbering resources**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recognizing*

- a)* Resolution 61 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on countering and combating misappropriation and misuse of international telecommunication numbering resources;
- b)* Resolution 20 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of WTSA, on procedures for allocation and management of international telecommunication numbering, naming, addressing and identification (NNAI) resources;
- c)* Resolution 78 (Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on capacity building for countering misappropriation of Recommendation ITU-T E.164 telephone numbers,

*considering*

- a)* that one of the purposes of the Union is to foster collaboration among the membership for the harmonious development of telecommunications;
- b)* that misuse of an E.164 international numbering resource occurs where the use of that numbering resource does not conform to the relevant ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) recommendation(s) assignment criteria for which it was assigned, or when an unassigned numbering resource is used in the provision of a telecommunication service;
- c)* that E.164 numbering misuse can take several forms;
- d)* that misappropriation and misuse of national telephone numbers and country codes are harmful and have an impact on revenue, quality of service and customer confidence;

e) that relevant ITU-T recommendations specifically address procedures for reporting international numbering misappropriation and misuse,

*aware*

that relevant ITU-T and ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) study groups are cooperating and collaborating on issues related to number misappropriation and misuse,

*resolves*

to continue to study ways and means to improve the understanding, identification and resolution of misappropriation and misuse of ITU-T E.164 telephone numbers through activities of ITU-T and ITU-D study groups,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

- 1 to collaborate in the effective implementation of this resolution;
- 2 to collaborate so as to avoid overlap and duplication of effort in studying issues related to number misappropriation and misuse;
- 3 to continue to work with regions, subregions and countries, in particular developing countries<sup>1</sup>, to develop national legal and regulatory frameworks that are sufficient to ensure best practices in ITU-T E.164 telephone numbering management in order to counter telephone number misappropriation and misuse,

*invites Member States and Sector Members*

to contribute to the implementation of this resolution.

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*(Busan, 2014)*

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

## RESOLUTION 191 (BUSAN, 2014)

**Strategy for the coordination of efforts among  
the three Sectors of the Union**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*noting*

*a)* Resolution ITU-R 6-1 (Rev. Geneva, 2007), on liaison and collaboration with the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T), and Resolution ITU-R 7-2 (Rev. Geneva, 2012), on telecommunication development including liaison and collaboration with the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D), of the Radiocommunication Assembly (RA);

*b)* Resolutions 44 and 45 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on mutual cooperation and integration of the activities of ITU-T and ITU-D;

*c)* Resolution 57 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of WTSA, on strengthening coordination and cooperation among the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R), ITU-T and ITU-D on matters of mutual interest;

*d)* Resolution 5 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on enhanced participation by developing countries<sup>1</sup> in the activities of the Union;

*e)* Resolution 59 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on strengthening coordination and cooperation among ITU-R, ITU-T and ITU-D on matters of mutual interest;

*f)* the recent establishment of the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group subgroup on intra-ITU collaboration and coordination, and the inter-Sector coordination group on issues of mutual interest,

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

*considering*

- a) the objectives of the Union listed in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution;
- b) the role assigned to each of the three Sectors to contribute to fulfilment of the said objectives;
- c) that the basic principle of cooperation and collaboration among ITU-R, ITU-T and ITU-D is to avoid duplication of the Sectors' activities and ensure that work is carried out efficiently, effectively and in coordination;
- d) that RA, WTSA and WTDC have also identified common areas where work is to be done and that require the internal coordination within ITU,

*recognizing*

- a) the need for developing countries to acquire tools to strengthen their telecommunication sector;
- b) that despite efforts made, levels of participation by developing countries in the activities of ITU-R and ITU-T remain low, so that it is increasingly necessary to carry out joint activities with ITU-D;
- c) the catalysing role of ITU-D, which seeks optimal resource use so that capacities can be built in developing countries;
- d) the need to achieve better representation of the vision and needs of developing countries in the activities and work carried out in ITU-R and ITU-T;
- e) that in common areas such as international mobile telecommunications (IMT), emergency communications, conformity testing, deployment of information and communications technologies and better use of scarce resources, among others, an integrative approach from the Union is increasingly required;
- f) that coordinated and complementary efforts make it possible to reach more Member States, with greater impact, so as to bridge the digital divide and the standardization gap, as well as contribute to better spectrum management,

*bearing in mind*

- a) that the existence of inter-Sector teams facilitates collaboration and coordination of activities within the Union;
- b) that consultations are under way among the three Sector advisory groups themselves regarding the mechanisms and means needed for better cooperation among them;
- c) that these actions should be systematized in a comprehensive strategy whose results are measured and monitored;
- d) that this would provide the Union with a tool for correcting deficiencies and building on success;
- e) that inter-Sector collaboration and coordination should be headed by the General Secretariat, in close collaboration with the Directors of the three Bureaux,

*resolves to instruct the Secretary-General*

- 1 to ensure the design of a coordination and cooperation strategy for effective and efficient efforts in areas of mutual interest to the three ITU Sectors, in order to avoid duplication of effort and optimize the use of resources;
- 2 to ensure the preparation of an updated list containing the areas of mutual interest to the three Sectors pursuant to the mandates of each ITU assembly and conference;
- 3 to ensure reporting of the coordination activities carried out among the different Sectors in each such area, as well as the results obtained;
- 4 to present a report to the next plenipotentiary conference on the implementation of this resolution,

*instructs the ITU Council*

to include the coordination of the work of the three ITU Sectors on the agenda of its meetings so as to follow its evolution and take decisions to ensure its implementation,

*instructs the Directors of the three Bureaux*

- 1 to ensure reporting to the Council of the coordination activities carried out among the different Sectors in each area identified as being of mutual interest, as well as the results obtained;
- 2 to ensure that the agendas of the respective advisory groups include coordination with the other Sectors, so that strategies and actions are suggested for optimal development of the areas of common interest;
- 3 to provide support to the Sector advisory groups in the inter-Sector coordination activity in areas of mutual interest.

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*(Busan, 2014)*

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## RESOLUTION 192 (BUSAN, 2014)

**ITU participation in memoranda of understanding  
with financial and/or strategic implications**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*considering*

a) that one of the purposes of the Union as set out in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution is to maintain and extend international cooperation between all its Member States for the improvement and rational use of international telecommunications;

b) that another purpose of the Union is to promote, at the international level, the adoption of a broader approach to the issues of telecommunications in the global information economy and society, by cooperating with other world and regional intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned with telecommunications,

*noting*

a) that memoranda of understanding (MoU) as well as memoranda of cooperation and agreement<sup>1</sup> or other instruments, in which ITU, Member States and Sector Members may participate, are often used to facilitate cooperative action;

b) that Resolution 52 (Rev.Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on strengthening the executing agency role of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector, emphasizes the importance of establishing partnerships between the public and private sectors as an efficient means of implementing sustainable ITU projects,

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<sup>1</sup> Wherever the term "MoU" is used in this resolution, it includes memoranda of cooperation and memoranda of agreement.

c) that Resolution 130 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference instructs the Secretary-General, in the context of building confidence and security in the use of information and communication technologies, "to cooperate with relevant international organizations, including through the adoption of MoUs, subject to the approval of the Council in this regard, in accordance with Resolution 100 (Minneapolis, 1998) of the Plenipotentiary Conference";

d) that Resolution 100 (Minneapolis, 1998) instructs the ITU Council, in the context of the ITU Secretary-General serving as depository for MoUs, "to formulate criteria and guidelines for the Secretary-General to respond to requests to serve as depository for MoUs" and resolves that, using those criteria and guidelines, "the Secretary-General may, with the approval of the Council, serve as depository for MoUs";

e) that Council-13 amended Decision 563, on the Council Working Group on Financial and Human Resources, adding to its terms of reference "to consider criteria to determine the financial and strategic implications of the establishment of memoranda of understanding (as well as memoranda of cooperation and agreement) to which ITU is or will be a party",

*observing*

that the Union has entered into MoUs in which ITU is a participant that have financial and/or strategic implications, and these were discussed during Council-14 as described in the Report by the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Administration and Management,

*believing*

that MoUs in which ITU is a participant that have financial and/or strategic implications should only be entered into pursuant to criteria adopted by the Council and subject to Council approval,



*resolves to instruct the Secretary-General*

- 1 to follow the criteria and guidelines to be established by the Council when entering into MoUs in which ITU will be a participant that have financial and/or strategic implications;
- 2 to submit a report to the annual session of the Council on the implementation of this resolution, detailing the relevant MoUs and ITU activities,

*instructs the Council*

- 1 to formulate criteria and guidelines for ITU participation in MoUs that have financial and/or strategic implications, based on the following principles:
  - i) that any involvement of the Secretary-General in this capacity should contribute to and be within the purposes of the Union as set forth in Article 1 of the Constitution, and within the strategic and financial plans of the Union;
  - ii) that interested Member States and Sector Members will be kept informed of the activities of ITU when it participates in MoUs that have financial and/or strategic implications;
  - iii) that the sovereignty and rights of ITU Member States are fully respected and preserved;
- 2 to implement a mechanism to review ITU participation in MoUs that have financial and/or strategic implications, and to provide guidance to the Secretary-General;
- 3 to report on the application of this resolution to the next plenipotentiary conference.

## RESOLUTION 193 (BUSAN, 2014)

**Support and assistance for Iraq to rebuild  
its telecommunication sector**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

- a) the noble principles, purpose and objectives enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- b) the efforts of the United Nations to promote sustainable development and the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions concerning the situation;
- c) the purposes of the Union as enshrined in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution;
- d) § 16 of the Geneva Declaration of Principles adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS);
- e) § 15 of the Tunis Commitment adopted by WSIS,

*recognizing*

- a) that a reliable telecommunication network infrastructure and related services used appropriately are indispensable to support the social and economic development of nations, particularly those that have suffered natural disasters or wars;
- b) that telecommunication facilities in Iraq have suffered and are still suffering enormous damage as a result of many wars;
- c) that the damage caused to Iraq's telecommunication infrastructure and the illicit use of information and communication technology (ICT) services in the prevailing war situation is a matter of concern for the international community and relevant bodies/agencies;

d) that Resolution 34 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference provides for continuing support for Iraq to rebuild and overhaul its telecommunication infrastructure, establish institutions, develop human resources and set tariffs;

e) that Resolution 34 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference has not yet been translated into deeds or put into action: Iraq has not received the necessary support from ITU to rebuild and overhaul its telecommunication infrastructure, establish institutions, develop human resources and set tariffs;

f) that Iraq will be unable to bring its infrastructure up to an acceptable international level without help from the international community, provided bilaterally or through international organizations,

*considering*

a) that such efforts will help rebuild and modernize the telecommunication infrastructure;

b) that such efforts will also strengthen the capacity of Iraq's administrative and security systems to meet the country's economic, service and security needs in the telecommunication field,

*resolves*

1 that it is necessary to undertake special, clearly-defined actions within the framework of ITU on the basis of a clearly-defined timetable and action plan agreed between the Union and the Iraqi Administration, in order to implement this resolution to provide appropriate support for Iraq for rebuilding and overhauling its telecommunication infrastructure and technical skills, establishing the appropriate ICT institutions and developing human resources, and assistance in the assignment of appropriate tariffs;

2 to allocate, within the available resources, the necessary technical expertise within or external to the Union for the implementation of this resolution;

3 to build and develop human resources and capacity by instituting training programmes inside and outside Iraqi territory as necessary, for experts to address the shortfall in expertise in key areas, meeting requests from the Iraqi Administration for the required technical specialists and providing other forms of assistance,

*invites Member States*

to ensure all possible technical assistance and support to the Administration of Iraq, in:

- 1 rehabilitating its telecommunication sector;
- 2 ensuring the lawful use of ICT in the prevailing situation;
- 3 achieving the most effective use of ICT for economic and social benefits,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

- 1 to provide the necessary technical resources for such actions, on the basis of an action plan and timetable agreed with the Administration of Iraq;
- 2 to report on the matter periodically to the ITU Council.

## RESOLUTION 194 (BUSAN, 2014)

**Options for the Union's headquarters premises over the long term**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*considering*

a) the report of the Secretary-General to this conference on options for the Union's headquarters (HQ) in the long term (Document PP-14/57(Rev.1));

b) ITU Council Resolution 1142, which instructs the Secretary-General to ensure that the safety, health and environmental standards in force in the host country of the Union are applied at ITU;

c) that there is an urgent need to take action on future planning for the Union's HQ in the light of building and construction standards for new buildings and the low level of compliance of the existing HQ buildings with these standards, in particular the Varembe building and, to some extent, the Tower building;

d) that adequate and fully accessible premises are required at the Union's HQ to accommodate the participants attending ITU meetings as well as the staff, facilities and equipment necessary for the smooth operation of all services,

*recognizing*

the need to involve ITU Member States in decisions regarding future planning for the Union's HQ, in particular given the significant and long-term financial implications for the Union,

*resolves*

1 that a Council working group be established, open to all Member States of the Union, on options for the Union's HQ premises over the long term;

2 that annual reports of the above-mentioned Council working group should be submitted to ordinary sessions of the Council, starting from 2015,

*instructs the extraordinary session of the Council in 2014*

- 1 to establish the Council Working Group on options for the Union's HQ premises over the long term (CWG-HQP), open to all Member States of the Union, as referred to in *resolves 1* above, with the terms of reference contained in the annex to this resolution;
- 2 to designate the chairman and vice-chairmen of CWG-HQP,

*instructs the Council*

- 1 to allocate necessary funds within the available resources in order to implement this resolution;
- 2 to examine, make any comments it considers appropriate and take appropriate action on the annual reports of CWG-HQP submitted to sessions of the Council, as mentioned in *resolves 2* above;
- 3 to ensure that all Member States are regularly and comprehensively informed by means of the annual reports and the Council's comments, so that Member States can submit their comments and/or contributions, as appropriate, pursuant to § 2 of the annex to this resolution;
- 4 to progress this issue before the next plenipotentiary conference,

*authorizes the Council*

as soon as it considers that it has all appropriate and necessary information, to decide on the best course of action to meet the requirements for the HQ premises, including the administrative and financial arrangements needed to implement its decision, and report to the next plenipotentiary conference accordingly,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

- 1 to support the activities of CWG-HQP, including preparation of the annual reports, by providing all necessary resources and assistance required for the successful completion of its tasks;

- 2 to dispatch by electronic means the invitation to the group's meetings, including the agenda, at least one month in advance so as to allow Member States to prepare their contributions;
- 3 to submit the annual reports of CWG-HQP to the sessions of the Council;
- 4 to disseminate the annual reports of CWG-HQP and reports on the Council's comments and actions to all Member States, as mentioned in *instructs the Council 3* above;
- 5 to ensure that all expenses are financed from the regular budget of the Union, under the supervision of the Council;
- 6 notwithstanding the work of CWG-HQP, to ensure the continued integrity of the current premises with prudent use of resources until a final decision is taken;
- 7 to progress this issue before the next plenipotentiary conference,

*invites Member States*

to nominate representative(s) having broad knowledge and experience on the subject to participate in the activities and attend the physical and virtual meetings of CWG-HQP.

## ANNEX TO RESOLUTION 194 (BUSAN, 2014)

### **Terms of reference of the Council Working Group on options for the Union's headquarters over the long term**

The terms of reference of the ITU Council Working Group on options for the Union's HQ premises over the long term (CWG-HQP), as referred to in *resolves* 1 of this resolution, are:

- 1 To examine the status of HQ premises of the Union, taking into account the report of the Secretary-General on this issue submitted to the Plenipotentiary Conference (Busan, 2014), and to continue to analyse the options so far submitted and any others proposed by Member States, with the support of the secretariat, for prudent treatment of the premises into the long-term future, in order to prepare a recommendation for the Council. Options are to be assessed in terms of present and future needs, cost effectiveness, including means of deriving possible future revenue, and other issues raised in Document PP-14/57(Rev.1), as well as quality of life.
- 2 To seek contributions and comments from Member States, and at its discretion to invite experts to attend, as appropriate, CWG-HQP's meetings to provide relevant information in order to assist CWG-HQP in its work.
- 3 To prepare, pursuant to *resolves* 2 of this resolution, annual reports for submission to the sessions of the Council, starting from 2015.
- 4 To work electronically, where this saves resources and increases efficiency.
- 5 To work in the English language, and, at the request of Member States concerned, for each physical meeting, with translation and interpretation in the requested official language(s) of the Union.
- 6 To hold at least one physical meeting per year, each for a maximum period of two days, unless otherwise instructed by the Council. Physical meetings should take place preferably collocated with other major relevant ITU events/meetings.



## RESOLUTION 195 (BUSAN, 2014)

**Implementation of the Smart Africa Manifesto**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*considering*

a) that, at its 22nd Ordinary Session, the African Union General Assembly decided that it: *"ENDORSES the key outcomes of the Transform Africa Summit hosted by H.E. Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda in October 2013 which adopted the SMART Africa Manifesto highlighting the need to place ICT at the centre of national socio-economic development agenda and SMART Africa Alliance as implementation framework"*;

b) Resolution 30 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on special measures for the least developed countries (LDCs), small island developing states (SIDS), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and countries with economies in transition;

c) the Millennium Declaration and the 2005 World Summit Outcome;

d) the outcome of the Geneva (2003) and Tunis (2005) phases of the World Summit on the Information Society,

*recalling*

a) the Connect Africa Summit goals adopted by African Heads of State present on 29-30 October 2007, which reflect the challenges and opportunities in the Africa region;

b) the creation of the multistakeholder SMART Africa Alliance and a Governance Board, consisting of the Presidents of Rwanda (Chair), Senegal, Uganda, Burkina Faso, Kenya, Gabon, South Sudan and Mali, the African Union and ITU, to oversee the implementation of the manifesto;

c) the implementation of such quick wins as the SMART Africa Scholarship fund to address the gap in ICT expertise through African centres of excellence,

*resolves to instruct the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, in coordination with the Directors of the other Bureaux*

to provide technical expertise to carry out feasibility studies, project management and support for the implementation of the Smart Africa Manifesto,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

1 to engage the different United Nations agencies to support various components of the Smart Africa programmes, in areas within their scope and mandate;

2 to implement measures aimed at mobilizing financial and in-kind support from governments, the private sector and other partners,

*invites Member States*

to cooperate with African countries in promoting regional, subregional, multilateral and bilateral projects and programmes for the implementation of the Smart Africa Manifesto.

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*(Busan, 2014)*

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## RESOLUTION 196 (BUSAN, 2014)

**Protecting telecommunication service users/consumers**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

- a) Resolution 64 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on protecting and supporting users/consumers of telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) services;
- b) Article 4 of the International Telecommunication Regulations,

*recognizing*

- a) the United Nations Guidelines for Consumer Protection;
- b) § 13e) of the Geneva Plan of Action of the World Summit on the Information Society, which states that governments should continue to update their domestic consumer-protection laws to respond to the new requirements of the information society,

*considering*

- a) that consumer-related laws, policies and practices limit fraudulent, deceitful and unfair business conducts, and such protections are indispensable for building consumer trust and establishing a more equitable relationship between telecommunication/ICT entrepreneurs and consumers;
- b) that telecommunications/ICTs can offer new and substantial benefits to consumers, including convenience and access to a broad range of goods and/or services, and the ability to collect and compare information about these goods and/or services;

- c) that consumer trust in telecommunications/ICTs is bolstered by the continuous development of transparent, effective consumer-protection mechanisms that limit the presence of fraudulent, deceitful or unfair business conducts;
- d) that education and dissemination of information on the suitable consumption and use of telecommunication/ICT products and services must be encouraged, mainly regarding the inputs of the digital economy, since consumers expect to have access to both the legal content and applications of these services;
- e) that access to telecommunications/ICTs must be open and affordable;
- f) that work is currently under way in Study Group 1 of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector on setting guidelines and best practices on consumer protection,

*resolves to instruct the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

- 1 to bring to the attention of decision-makers and national regulatory authorities the importance of keeping users and consumers informed about the basic characteristics, quality, security and rates of the different services offered by operators, and of other protection mechanisms promoting consumer and user rights;
- 2 to closely collaborate with the Member States in order to identify critical areas for the establishment of policies and regulatory frameworks for the protection of consumers and users;
- 3 to strengthen relations with other international organizations and bodies that participate in the protection of consumers and users;
- 4 to support the organization of international and regional forums for the dissemination of telecommunication user rights and for sharing experiences on best practices among member countries,

*invites the Member States*

- 1 to encourage the creation and promotion of policies that ensure the timely delivery of free, transparent, up-to-date and accurate information to end users about telecommunication services, including international roaming rates and relevant applicable conditions;
- 2 to provide inputs that allow the dissemination of best practices and policies that have been implemented in order to increase the ability to develop public policies related to legal, regulatory and technical measures to address the protection of consumers and users, including data protection;
- 3 to promote policies that foster the provision of telecommunication services in a manner that delivers suitable quality to the users;
- 4 to promote competition in the provision of telecommunication services, encouraging them to formulate policies that drive competitive prices,

*invites Member States, Sector Members and Associates*

to make contributions that allow the dissemination of best practices and policies related to user/consumer protection, service quality and service rates.

## RESOLUTION 197 (BUSAN, 2014)

### **Facilitating the Internet of Things to prepare for a globally connected world**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*considering*

- a) that a globally connected "Internet of Things" (IoT) world will be built on the connectivity and functionality made possible by telecommunication networks;
- b) that the global connected world also requires considerable enhancement of transmission speed, device connectivity and energy efficiency to accommodate the significant amounts of data among a plethora of devices;
- c) that the rapid development of related technology could cause the globally connected world to be realized faster than expected;
- d) that IoT has been expected to play a fundamental role in the fields of energy, transportation, health, agriculture, disaster management, public safety and home networks, and could benefit developing countries<sup>1</sup> as well as developed countries;
- e) that the impact of IoT will be more pervasive and far-reaching thanks to the wide range of applications in information and communication technology (ICT) sectors and non-ICT sectors;
- f) that, considering the limited financial and human resources in developing countries, special attention should be given to developing countries,

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

*recognizing*

- a) that studies on IoT are being carried out in the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) to develop recommendations, such as in the Joint Coordination Activity on IoT, the Global Standards Initiative on IoT, the Focus Group on machine-to-machine (M2M) service layer and the ITU-T study groups, in accordance with their respective scope and mandates;
- b) that just as radio-frequency identification (RFID) and ubiquitous sensor network (USN) facilitated the advent of IoT, IoT will in turn play an important part as a catalyst for other related technologies currently studied by the Union;
- c) that the implementation of Internet Protocol version six (IPv6) may contribute to the future development of IoT;
- d) that cooperation between all relevant organizations and communities to raise greater awareness and to promote the adoption of IPv6 within Member States and through capacity building within the mandate of the Union is desired,

*bearing in mind*

- a) that interoperability is required in order to develop services enabled by IoT (hereinafter "IoT services") at the global level, to the extent practicable with mutual collaboration among relevant organizations and entities, including other standards-development organizations (SDOs) involved in developing and using open standards to the extent practicable;
- b) that industry forums are developing technical specifications for IoT;
- c) that the application of IoT is expected to encompass all sectors, including but not limited to energy, transportation, health, agriculture, etc.;
- d) that IoT-related activities will encourage the participation of all relevant organizations or entities around the world to promote the early establishment and expansion of IoT;

e) that the globally connected world through IoT could also contribute to achieving the goals of the Post-2015 Development Agenda;

f) that IoT could redefine the relationship between people and devices,

*resolves*

to promote investment in and development of IoT in order to achieve the objectives mentioned in *considering d)* and *e)* above,

*instructs the Secretary-General, in consultation and collaboration with the Directors of the three Bureaux*

1 to coordinate the activities of the Union to implement the resolution;

2 to facilitate the exchange of experiences and information with all relevant organizations and entities involved in IoT and IoT services, with the aim of creating opportunities for cooperative efforts to support the deployment of IoT;

3 to submit an annual report on the results of implementation of this resolution to the ITU Council sessions in 2015-2018;

4 to submit a report to the next plenipotentiary conference in 2018,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau*

1 to continue the work of relevant ITU-T study groups on enabling IoT as a basic enabler capable of facilitating the emergence of diverse services in the globally connected world, in collaboration with relevant sectors;

2 to continue cooperation with relevant organizations, including SDOs, for exchanging best practices and disseminating information to increase interoperability of IoT services, through joint workshops, training sessions, joint coordination activity groups and any other appropriate means,



*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

to encourage and assist those countries which need support in adopting IoT and IoT services, by providing relevant information, capacity building and best practices to enable the adoption of IoT, through seminars, workshops, etc.,

*instructs the Council*

1 to consider the reports of the Secretary-General referred to in *instructs the Secretary-General* 3 above and take necessary measures so as to contribute to achieving the objectives of this resolution;

2 to report to the next plenipotentiary conference on the progress made with respect to this resolution based on the report of the Secretary-General,

*invites Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia*

1 to consider developing best practices to enhance the development of IoT;

2 to participate actively in IoT-related studies in the Union through contributions and by other appropriate means.

## RESOLUTION 198 (BUSAN, 2014)

### **Empowerment of youth through telecommunication/information and communication technology**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*considering*

- a) that youth under the age of 25 account for 42.5 per cent of the world's population as of 2014, and constitute the most active population in terms of use of the Internet;
- b) that youth, in many developed and developing countries<sup>1</sup>, face disproportionate exposure to poverty and unemployment;
- c) that youth have the right to achieve full economic, social and digital inclusion;
- d) that information and communication technology (ICT) is a tool through which youth can substantively contribute to, participate in and leverage their social and economic development;
- e) that youth are digital natives and the best promoters of ICT;
- f) that ICT tools and applications can facilitate career opportunities for youth,

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

*recalling*

a) that ICT is one of the fifteen priority areas identified under the World Programme of Action for Youth adopted by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) through Resolution 62/126;

b) Resolution 169 (Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the admission of academia, universities and their associated research establishments to participate in the work of the three Sectors of the Union;

c) Resolution 76 (Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on promoting ICTs among young women and men for social and economic empowerment;

d) the Tunis Commitment of the 2005 phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, reaffirming Member States' commitment to empowering young people as key contributors to building an inclusive information society in order to actively engage youth in innovative ICT-based development programmes and widen opportunities for youth to be involved in e-strategy processes;

e) the San José Declaration of the BYND 2015 Global Youth Summit, which highlights employment and entrepreneurship, education, political inclusion, cybersecurity, health and environmental sustainability as the areas young people feel are most impacted through increased access to ICT, and which was formally recognized by the 68<sup>th</sup> session of UNGA,

*recognizing*

a) that in summer 2014 , ITU launched the #PP14Youth initiative, aiming to build on the successful experiences of the BYND 2015 Summit, held in San José, Costa Rica in September 2013;

- b) the annual "Kaleidoscope" academic essay competition organized by the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T), targeting young ICT scientists, researchers and engineers;
- c) the ITU TELECOM World "Young Innovators" competition, hosted annually since 2011;
- d) ITU's coordination of the annual "Girls in ICT Day", which encourages young women to seek careers in ICT;
- e) the progress made by ITU, and in particular the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), in the development and implementation of actions and projects that use ICT for the economic and social empowerment of youth;
- f) the substantive work of BDT on digital inclusion related to youth, including research and analysis, especially BDT's statistical monitoring and reporting on disaggregated ICT data by age;
- g) ITU's support to the United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth, its active involvement in the United Nations Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development and its contribution to the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Youth;
- h) the Young ICT Policy Leaders initiative launched at this conference, which gives young professionals the opportunity to participate, through national delegations, in ITU events and conferences,

*resolves*

- 1 that ITU continue to engage with youth in outreach, through communications, capacity building and research, from the perspectives of digital inclusion;
- 2 that ITU promote innovation, entrepreneurship and skills development, in order to provide tools for self-empowerment of youth and their satisfactory participation in the digital economy and all aspects of society;

- 3 that ITU should promote partnerships with academia for the purpose of youth development;
- 4 to accord high priority to the incorporation of young professionals in the human resources and operations of ITU;
- 5 to continue the work being done at ITU, and particularly in BDT, to help empower youth through ICTs by promoting policies that improve socio-economic conditions for youth, particularly in developing countries;
- 6 to maintain a youth perspective in the implementation of the ITU strategic plan and financial plan for 2016-2019 as well as in the operational plans of the Sectors and the General Secretariat;
- 7 that there is a need for ITU to investigate, analyse and further understand the impact of telecommunication/ICT technologies on youth;
- 8 to maintain the ITU TELECOM World Young Innovators Competition on a yearly basis;
- 9 that all activities foreseen in this resolution should fall within the existing financial resources of the Union;
- 10 to note that age groups of youth shall be defined on a case-by-case basis depending on the nature of ITU activities,

*instructs the ITU Council*

- 1 to build on the initiatives carried out over the past four years and to accelerate youth empowerment in ITU as a whole, within existing budgetary resources, so as to ensure capacity building and promotion of youth;
- 2 to consider involving youth in the celebrations of ITU's 150th anniversary and in World Telecommunication and Information Society Day in accordance with Resolution 68 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, and launching a special recognition award for young people who make outstanding contributions in the field of ICT,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

- 1 to continue to ensure that the youth perspective is incorporated in the work programmes, management approaches and human resources development activities of ITU, and to submit an annual written report to the Council on progress made;
- 2 to report to the next plenipotentiary conference on the results and progress made on the inclusion of a youth perspective in the work of ITU, and on the implementation of this resolution;
- 3 to bring this resolution to the attention of the United Nations Secretary-General in an effort to promote increased coordination and cooperation for development policies, programmes and projects that link ICT to the promotion and empowerment of youth;
- 4 to ensure coordination of ITU activities so as to avoid duplication and overlap between three ITU Sectors where possible;
- 5 to strengthen the role of Academia within the structures of the Union, and to increase the value of engaging with ITU for Academia and youth,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

- 1 to continue the work of BDT in promoting the use of ICT for the economic and social empowerment of youth;
- 2 to maintain regular monitoring, reporting and research on the uptake and use of ICT by youth, including the provision of disaggregated data by gender and information on behavioural aspects that may be harmful and dangerous,

*instructs the Directors of the three Bureaux*

to continue to explore ways and means of involving young professionals in the work of the Bureaux,

*invites Member States and Sector Members*

- 1 to actively support and participate in the work of ITU in promoting the use of ICTs for the economic and social empowerment of youth;
- 2 to promote up-to-date training for youth on ICT use;
- 3 to foster collaboration with civil society and the private sector in order to promote specialized training for young innovators;
- 4 to further develop tools and programming guidelines in the area of promotion of youth and their social and economic empowerment;
- 5 to cooperate with relevant international organizations that have experience in youth economic empowerment through projects and programmes,

*encourages Member States and Sector Members*

- 1 to review and revise, as appropriate, their respective policies and practices in order to ensure the recruitment, employment, training and advancement of youth through telecommunications/ICT;
- 2 to promote career opportunities in the telecommunication/ICT field, including in telecommunication/ICT administrations, government and regulatory bodies and intergovernmental organizations as well as in the private sector;
- 3 to attract more youth to study science, technology, engineering and mathematics;
- 4 to encourage youth to take advantage of ICT opportunities to advance their development and promote innovation and economic development at national and international level,

*invites Member States*

- 1 to share best practices on national approaches targeting the use of ICT for the social and economic development of youth;

- 2 to develop strategies for using ICT as a tool for the educational, social and economic development of youth;
- 3 to promote ICT for youth empowerment and involvement in the decision-making processes of the ICT sector;
- 4 to support ITU activities in field of ICT for the social and economic development of youth;
- 5 to consider adopting a youth delegate programme for the inclusion of young delegates, taking into account gender balance, in a country's official delegation to the major conferences of ITU, for raising awareness and knowledge and promoting interest in ICT among youth,

*invites Academia*

- 1 to continue providing the necessary structures for effective engagement with youth, through access to information, fellowships and recognition for participation in ITU activities;
- 2 to support youth networks so that they may act as community-based hubs and innovation centres for providing input to ITU's intellectual processes;
- 3 to involve young lecturers and researchers as well as students in relevant ITU activities and empower their effective participation therein, including through capacity building.



## RESOLUTION 199 (BUSAN, 2014)

**Promoting efforts for capacity building on software-defined networking in developing countries<sup>1</sup>**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*bearing in mind*

- a) Resolution 77 (Dubai, 2012) of World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on standardization work in the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) for software-defined networking (SDN);
- b) Resolution 123 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries;
- c) Resolution 135 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on ITU's role in the development of telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs), in providing technical assistance and advice to developing countries, and in implementing relevant national, regional and interregional projects;
- d) Resolution 137 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on next-generation network deployment in developing countries;
- e) Resolution 139 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on telecommunications/ICTs to bridge the digital divide and build an inclusive information society,

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

*recalling*

- a) Resolution 44 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of WTSA, on bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries;
- b) Resolution 59 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of WTSA, on enhancing participation of telecommunication operators from developing countries;
- c) Resolution 73 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of WTSA, on ICTs, environment and climate change;
- d) the Joint Coordination Activity on SDN under the ITU-T Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (JCA-SDN) established in June 2013 to coordinate the work carried out by ITU-T Study Groups 11 and 13 and other expert groups involved,

*considering*

- a) that SDN technology may provide operators with several advantages, including increased flexibility and agility along with simplified operations;
- b) that SDN may allow optimization, customization and improvement of resource utilization, and may thereby reduce operational and capital costs,

*considering further*

- a) that SDN may usher in new services at reduced operational and capital expenditure;
- b) that developing countries may require migration plans from existing networks to SDN-based networks, so as to reap the benefits of SDN without much delay in relation to deployments in developed countries;
- c) that capacity building for SDN in developing countries will also need to be planned from the outset in order to create awareness of the benefits of SDN;
- d) that the involvement and participation of developing countries in formulating the standardization of SDN will help bridge the standardization gap,

*resolves to instruct the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

- 1 to conduct workshops, with other relevant organizations, for capacity building on SDN, so that the gap in technology adoption in developing countries may be bridged at the early stages of implementation of SDN-based networks;
- 2 to collect and disseminate best practices for integrating SDN-based networks and migrating from legacy networks to SDN-based networks in developing countries;
- 3 to coordinate with the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau in regard to the actions referred to in *resolves to instruct* 1 and 2.

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*(Busan, 2014)*

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## RESOLUTION 200 (BUSAN, 2014)

### **Connect 2020 Agenda for global telecommunication/information and communication technology development**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

- a) the purposes of the Union as enshrined in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution;
- b) the commitment by ITU and its Member States to achieving the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);
- c) the targets set by the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), which served as global references for improving access to and use of telecommunications/information and communication technology (ICT) in promoting the objectives of the Geneva Plan of Action, to be achieved by 2015;
- d) § 98 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, which encourages strengthened and continuing cooperation between and among stakeholders and welcomes, in that respect, the ITU-led Connect the World initiative,

*considering*

- a) the Union's dual responsibility as the United Nations specialized agency for telecommunications/ICTs and executing agency for implementing related projects under the United Nations development system;
- b) the United Nations system-wide preparations for the Post-2015 Development Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and efforts towards achieving the MDGs,

*noting*

that the Busan Declaration on the future role of telecommunications/ICT in achieving sustainable development, adopted by the ministerial meeting held in Busan, Republic of Korea (2014), endorsed a shared global vision for the development of the telecommunication/ICT sector, under the agenda "Connect 2020",

*recognizing*

- a) the principles of the UN Millennium Declaration adopted by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in Resolution 55/2, acknowledging the benefits of new technologies, especially ICTs;
- b) the WSIS outcome documents – the Geneva Plan of Action (2003) and the Tunis Agenda (2005);
- c) the WSIS+10 Review Process, in particular the outcome documents of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event – the WSIS+10 Statement on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes and the WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015;
- d) the outcomes of the Connect series summits (Connect Africa, Connect CIS, Connect Americas, Connect Arab States and Connect Asia-Pacific) under the Connect the World global multistakeholder initiative set up within the context of WSIS;
- e) the Dubai Declaration adopted by the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-14) and the Dubai Action Plan and relevant WTDC-14 resolutions, including Resolutions 30, 37, and 50 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), as well as Resolutions 135, 139, and 140 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference;
- f) Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, which adopted the strategic framework for the Union for 2016-2019 and set the strategic goals, related targets and objectives,

*recognizing further*

- a) that telecommunications/ICT is a key enabler to accelerate social, economic and environmentally sustainable growth and development;
- b) the need to sustain current achievements and intensify efforts in promoting and financing ICTs for development;
- c) the global challenges of the rapidly evolving telecommunication/ICT environment, as identified in Annex 1 to Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014),

*resolves*

1 to endorse a shared global vision for the development of the telecommunication/ICT sector, under the agenda "Connect 2020", envisaging "*an information society, empowered by the interconnected world, where telecommunications/ICTs enable and accelerate social, economic and environmentally sustainable growth and development for everyone*";

2 to endorse the four high-level strategic goals detailed below and the respective targets detailed in annex to this resolution, inspiring and inviting all stakeholders and entities to work together to implement the Connect 2020 Agenda:

- Goal 1: Growth – Enable and foster access to and increased use of telecommunications/ICTs
- Goal 2: Inclusiveness – Bridge the digital divide and provide broadband for all
- Goal 3: Sustainability – Manage challenges resulting from telecommunication/ICT development
- Goal 4: Innovation and partnership – Lead, improve and adapt to the changing telecommunication/ICT environment;

3 to call upon Member States to continue active engagement in ongoing discussions on the Post-2015 Development Agenda, working with the United Nations Secretary-General, to ensure the important role of telecommunications/ICT as a key enabler for achieving the MDGs, the Post-2015 Development Agenda and the SDGs, and to help ensure the importance of telecommunications/ICT for the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda that integrates in a balanced manner the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

- 1 to monitor the progress towards achievement of the Connect 2020 Agenda, leveraging data, among others, from the ITU World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators database and the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development;
- 2 to disseminate information and share knowledge and best practices on national, regional and international initiatives contributing to the Connect 2020 Agenda;
- 3 to further facilitate implementation of the WSIS Action Lines assigned to the responsibility of ITU, in accordance with the Connect 2020 Agenda;
- 4 to present annual consolidated progress reports to the ITU Council;
- 5 to bring this resolution to the attention of all interested parties, including, in particular, UNGA, the United Nations Development Programme and the Economic and Social Council, for cooperation in its implementation;
- 6 to continue to support Member States in their active engagement with regard to *resolves* 3 of this resolution,

*instructs the Directors of the Bureaux*

to report on the progress towards achievement of the objectives and outcomes of the work of each Sector, as elaborated within the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019 in Annex 2 to Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014), that contributes to the Connect 2020 agenda,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

to coordinate the collection, provision and dissemination of indicators and statistics that measure and provide comparative analysis for the progress towards achievement of the Global Telecommunication/ICT Targets, and report on the progress as part of the annual Measuring the Information Society report,

*instructs the Council*

- 1 to review the annual progress achieved towards the accomplishment of the Connect 2020 Agenda;
- 2 to present an assessment of the progress towards achieving the Connect 2020 Agenda to the next plenipotentiary conference,

*invites the Member States*

- 1 to participate actively in the implementation of the Connect 2020 Agenda, and contribute with national, regional and international initiatives;
- 2 to invite all other stakeholders to contribute and work together towards the Connect 2020 Agenda;
- 3 to provide data and statistics, as appropriate, to monitor progress towards the achievement of the Connect 2020 Agenda;
- 4 to report national progress towards the achievement of the Connect 2020 Agenda, and contribute to the database that will collect and disseminate information on national and regional initiatives contributing to the Connect 2020 Agenda;
- 5 to engage actively in discussions on the Post-2015 Development Agenda, in accordance with the process established by UNGA;
- 6 to ensure that ICTs are central to the Post-2015 Development Agenda, by being acknowledged as an important tool to achieve its overall SDGs;
- 7 to contribute to the work of ITU, as elaborated in the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019 in Annex 2 to Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014), that contributes to the Connect 2020 Agenda,

*invites Sector Members, Associates and Academia*

to take an active role towards implementing the Connect 2020 Agenda,



*invites all stakeholders*

to contribute with their initiatives and their experience, qualifications and expertise to the successful implementation of the Connect 2020 Agenda for Global Telecommunication/ICT Development.

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*(Busan, 2014)*

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## ANNEX TO RESOLUTION 200 (BUSAN, 2014)

### **Connect 2020: Global telecommunication/information and communication technology goals and targets**

#### **Goal 1: Growth – Enable and foster access to and increased use of telecommunications/ICTs**

- **Target 1.1:** Worldwide, 55 per cent of households should have access to the Internet by 2020
- **Target 1.2:** Worldwide, 60 per cent of individuals should be using the Internet by 2020
- **Target 1.3:** Worldwide, telecommunications/ICTs should be 40 per cent more affordable by 2020

#### **Goal 2: Inclusiveness – Bridge the digital divide and provide broadband for all**

- **Target 2.1.A:** In the developing world, 50 per cent of households should have access to the Internet by 2020
- **Target 2.1.B:** In the least developed countries (LDCs), 15 per cent of households should have access to the Internet by 2020
- **Target 2.2.A:** In the developing world, 50 per cent of individuals should be using the Internet by 2020
- **Target 2.2.B:** In the least developed countries (LDCs), 20 per cent of individuals should be using the Internet by 2020
- **Target 2.3.A:** The affordability gap between developed and developing countries<sup>1</sup> should be reduced by 40 per cent by 2020
- **Target 2.3.B:** Broadband services should cost no more than 5 per cent of average monthly income in developing countries by 2020

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

- **Target 2.4:** Worldwide, 90 per cent of the rural population should be covered by broadband services by 2020
- **Target 2.5.A:** Gender equality among Internet users should be reached by 2020
- **Target 2.5.B:** Enabling environments ensuring accessible telecommunications/ICTs for persons with disabilities should be established in all countries by 2020

**Goal 3: Sustainability – Manage challenges resulting from telecommunication/ICT development**

- **Target 3.1:** Cybersecurity readiness should be improved by 40 per cent by 2020
- **Target 3.2:** Volume of redundant e-waste to be reduced by 50 per cent by 2020
- **Target 3.3:** Greenhouse gas emissions generated by the telecommunication/ICT sector to be decreased per device by 30 per cent by 2020

**Goal 4: Innovation and partnership – Lead, improve and adapt to the changing telecommunication/ICT environment**

- **Target 4.1:** Telecommunication/ICT environment conducive to innovation
- **Target 4.2:** Effective partnerships of stakeholders in the telecommunication/ICT environment

## RESOLUTION 201 (BUSAN, 2014)

### **Creating an enabling environment for the deployment and use of information and communication technology applications**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

*a)* Resolution 54 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on information and communication technology (ICT) applications;

*b)* Resolution 137 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on next-generation network deployment in developing countries<sup>1</sup>;

*c)* Resolution 139 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on telecommunications/ICTs to bridge the digital divide and build an inclusive information society;

*d)* Resolution 140 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on ITU's role in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS);

*e)* WSIS Action Line C7, on ICT applications (hereafter referred to as "e-applications"), which are specified as:

- e-government
- e-business
- e-learning
- e-health
- e-employment
- e-environment

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

- e-agriculture
- e-science;

f) § 14 of the WSIS Geneva Plan of Action, which notes that ICT applications can support sustainable development, in the fields of public administration, business, education and training, health, employment, environment, agriculture and science within the framework of national e-strategies,

*recalling further*

- a) Resolution 136 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on the use of telecommunications/ICTs for monitoring and management in emergency and disaster situations for early warning, prevention, mitigation and relief;
- b) Resolution 182 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on the role of telecommunications/ICTs in regard to climate change and protection of the environment;
- c) Resolution 183 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on telecommunication/ICT applications for e-health,

*noting*

- a) that Objective D.2 of the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019 aims to foster an enabling environment for ICT development and foster the development of telecommunication/ICT networks as well as relevant applications and services;
- b) that ITU, along with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), established the Broadband Commission for Digital Development in 2010 in its efforts to strengthen the activities aimed at the expansion of broadband and to give more weight to the utilization of ICT applications;
- c) that ITU has played a key role in the implementation of the WSIS outcomes for both networks and e-applications, in the role of mediator/facilitator for information and communication infrastructure (Action Line C2) and the role of co-facilitator in the more active implementation of ICT applications (Action Line C7),

*recognizing*

- a) that the use of telecommunications/ICT can improve competitiveness and productivity, as well as increasing efficiencies and bringing benefits in all aspects of our daily life;
- b) that the benefits of deploying telecommunication networks will be fully realized through the introduction and active utilization of various ICT applications and services;
- c) that, in order to facilitate the deployment of telecommunication networks and the expansion of ICT applications, cooperation among various respective players is necessary at various levels;
- d) that, in order to enable people to access and use ICT applications, it is important to develop an approach adapted to local needs,

*resolves to instruct the ITU Council*

- 1 to consider the Secretary-General's report referred to in *instructs the Secretary-General* 5 below;
- 2 to consider ways and means to further explore this topic, as appropriate,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

- 1 to continue monitoring the progress and achievements of goals set by the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), WSIS and the Broadband Commission;
- 2 to actively participate in discussions relating to the Post-2015 Development Agenda in order for the Union to play a pivotal role in enabling greater use of e-applications;
- 3 to continue consultations with all relevant organizations and institutions in ICT sectors as well as non-ICT sectors in order to explore ways to cooperate in promoting the expansion and active utilization of e-applications in various areas;
- 4 to progress all activities related to this resolution within the ITU's mandate;

5 to report to the Council on the progress of activities related to this resolution,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

1 to further elaborate the ICT Development Index (IDI) to reflect the availability and utilization of ICT applications and their social and economic impact;

2 to enhance awareness of the role and benefits of e-applications regarding socio-economic development;

3 to work with the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau and the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, as appropriate, in order to encourage cooperation with other relevant organizations in the development of best practices relating to the network infrastructure that enables the use of a wide range of e-applications,

*invites Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia*

1 to promote the introduction of e-applications to support sustainable development, in the fields of public administration, business, education and training, health, employment, environment, agriculture, manufacturing industry and science, among others, within the framework of national e-strategies;

2 to consider how institutional frameworks can support the utilization of e-applications;

3 to promote policy measures that will encourage the adoption of e-applications within their countries;

4 to explore measures for greater cooperation and coordination with other Member States, Sector Members and various entities, such as international organizations, development institutes, industries and other relevant organizations, in order to strengthen their roles and activities in relation to ICT applications.

## RESOLUTION 202 (BUSAN, 2014)

### **Using information and communication technologies to break the chain of health-related emergencies such as Ebola virus transmission**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*recalling*

a) Article 5 of the International Telecommunication Regulations, on safety of life and priority of telecommunications;

b) § 91 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society adopted by the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS);

c) Resolution 34 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on the role of telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) in disaster preparedness, early warning, rescue, mitigation, relief and response;

d) Resolution 36 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on telecommunications/ ICTs in the service of humanitarian assistance;

e) Resolution 136 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on the use of telecommunications/ICTs for monitoring and management in emergency and disaster situations, and for early warning, prevention, mitigation and relief;



f) § 20 of Action Line C7 (E-environment) of the Geneva Plan of Action adopted by the first phase of WSIS, calling for the establishment of monitoring systems using ICTs to forecast and monitor the impact of natural and man-made disasters, particularly in developing countries<sup>1</sup>,

*recognizing*

a) the seriousness and magnitude of potential disasters, including outbreaks of diseases such as Ebola, that may cause dramatic human suffering;

b) the recent tragic events in the world that clearly demonstrate the need for high-quality communications infrastructure and for the availability and dissemination of information to assist public safety, health and disaster-relief agencies;

c) the need to minimize risk to human life and to cover the necessary general public information and communication needs in such situations, and the conviction that the unhindered use of telecommunication/ICT equipment and services is indispensable for the provision of effective and appropriate humanitarian assistance,

*recognizing further*

a) that there will be a continuing need to assist developing countries in the use of ICTs to preserve life by ensuring a timely flow of information to government agencies, consumers, humanitarian-oriented organizations and industry involved in rescue and recovery operations and in the provision of medical assistance to those affected by health-related emergencies such as Ebola virus transmission;

b) that information needs to be accessible and available in local languages so as to ensure maximum impact;

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

c) that policy-makers need to create an enabling environment to leverage the use of ICTs to address infrastructure and information needs in emergency situations and to break the chain of health-related emergencies such as Ebola virus transmission;

d) that the contribution of the private sector is necessary in the prevention, mitigation and relief of health-related emergencies such as Ebola virus transmission;

e) that a common understanding of the network infrastructure components is required in order to provide rapidly-installed, interoperable, robust telecommunication capabilities in humanitarian-assistance and disaster-relief operations for health-related emergencies such as Ebola virus transmission,

*considering*

a) that ICTs are critical for addressing all phases of health-related emergencies such as Ebola virus transmission;

b) that aspects of emergency communications associated with health-related emergencies such as Ebola virus transmission include, *inter alia*, disaster prediction, detection, alerting and enabling the flow of information to keep individuals informed as to actions they can take to preserve life;

c) that the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) m-powering initiative is designed to focus on the use of ICTs to empower communities and people,

*noting*

§ 51 of the WSIS Geneva Declaration of Principles, on the use of ICT applications for disaster prevention,

*resolves*

1 to instruct the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, in coordination with the other Directors:

1.1 to develop guidelines and best practices on how ICTs can be used to identify the communications infrastructure needed to support the exchange of timely information on health-related emergencies such as Ebola virus transmission;

1.2 to develop feasibility studies, project management tools and support to respond to and address health-related emergencies such as Ebola virus transmission,

2 to instruct the Secretary-General:

2.1 to collaborate with all relevant parties, including United Nations agencies and in particular the World Health Organization, in order to define and engage in programmes to respond to and address health-related emergencies such as Ebola virus transmission in areas within the scope and mandate of ITU;

2.2 to implement measures aimed at mobilizing support from governments, industry and other partners to break the chain of health-related emergencies such as Ebola virus transmission,

*invites Member States and Sector Members*

1 to cooperate and offer all possible assistance and support to consumers, humanitarian-oriented organizations and industry involved in ICTS, including for disease tracking and natural and man-made disaster and emergency response, rescue and recovery operations;

2 to promote regional, subregional, multilateral and bilateral projects and programmes to address the need to use ICTs as a tool to support responses to different types of disasters such as Ebola, so that life-saving infrastructure and information can be provided to local communities, especially in local languages.

## RESOLUTION 203 (BUSAN, 2014)

**Connectivity to broadband networks**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*considering*

a) the results of the extensive work of the United Nations Broadband Commission for Digital Development, the reports of which recognize, *inter alia*, that affordable and accessible broadband infrastructure, with appropriate policy and strategy, is a fundamental enabling platform that fosters innovation and drives the development of national and global economies and the information society;

b) Opinion 2 (Geneva, 2013) of the fifth World Telecommunication/Information and Communication Technology Forum, on fostering an enabling environment for the greater growth and development of broadband connectivity;

c) the overall theme of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (Dubai, 2014) (WTDC-14), namely "Broadband for Sustainable Development";

d) the adoption, by WTDC-14, of new Resolution 77 (Dubai, 2014), on broadband technology and applications for greater growth and development of telecommunications/information and communication services and broadband connectivity, as well as revised Question 2/1, on broadband access technologies, including International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT), for developing countries, and new Question 1/2, on creating the smart society: social and economic development through ICT applications;

e) Resolution 9 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on participation of countries, particularly developing countries, in spectrum management, Resolution 10 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010) of WTDC, on financial support for national spectrum-management programmes and Resolution 43 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on assistance for implementing IMT,

*noting*

- a) that broadband connectivity empowers families, people, societies and businesses;
- b) that broadband connectivity has the potential to bridge the digital divide;
- c) that broadband connectivity can play a major role in providing vital information during emergency events and disaster relief efforts;
- d) that many administrations have developed national broadband plans to enable broadband connectivity,

*recognizing*

- a) that connectivity to broadband networks is directly and indirectly enabled and supported by many diverse technologies, including fixed and mobile terrestrial technologies and fixed and mobile satellite technologies;
- b) that spectrum is essential both for the direct provision of wireless broadband connectivity to users by satellite or terrestrial means and for the underlying enabling technologies;
- c) that broadband plays a vital role in transforming economies and societies, as stated in the open letter from the Broadband Commission to the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference (Busan, 2014),

*resolves to instruct the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

to continue to work closely with the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau and the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau on capacity-building activities related to the development of national strategies to facilitate the deployment of broadband networks, including wireless broadband networks, taking into account existing budgetary constraints of the Union,

*instructs the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau and the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau*

to work in cooperation with Sector Members involved in the provision of services and applications to people, families, businesses and societal functions in order to address the need for further improved broadband networks, including wireless broadband networks, and to share relevant information, experience and expertise with the Telecommunication Development Bureau,

*invites Member States*

- 1 to further reinforce and recognize the overall socio-economic benefits of connectivity to broadband networks and services;
- 2 to support the development and cost-effective deployment of wireless broadband networks as part of their national broadband strategies and policies;
- 3 to facilitate connectivity to wireless broadband networks as one important component of enabling access to broadband services and applications.

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*(Busan, 2014)*

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## RECOMMENDATION 1 (KYOTO, 1994)

### **Deposit of instruments relating to the Constitution and Convention of the International Telecommunication Union (Geneva, 1992)**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Kyoto, 1994),

*taking into account*

Recommendation 1 of the Additional Plenipotentiary Conference (Geneva, 1992) on the deposit of instruments and the entry into force of the Constitution and Convention of the International Telecommunication Union,

*considering*

that, pursuant to No. 238 of Article 58 of the Constitution, the instruments of the Union referred to above entered into force on 1 July 1994 between Members having deposited their instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession before that date,

*considering further*

that it is in the interest of the Union that all Members become parties to the said Constitution and the Convention as soon as possible,

*invites*

all the Members of the Union which have not already done so to expedite their respective national procedures for ratification, acceptance or approval of (see Article 52 of the Constitution), or accession to (see Article 53 of the Constitution) the Constitution and Convention of the International Telecommunication Union (Geneva, 1992) and to deposit their respective "single instrument" with the Secretary-General as soon as possible,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

to bring this Recommendation to the attention of all the Members of the Union and to recall its contents periodically, as he sees fit, to those Members of the Union which have not yet deposited their respective instrument.

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*(Kyoto, 1994)*

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## RECOMMENDATION 2 (KYOTO, 1994)

### **Unrestricted transmission of news and the right to communicate**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Kyoto, 1994),

*in view of*

a) the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 10 December 1948;

b) the Preamble and Articles 1, 33, 34 and 35 of the Constitution of the International Telecommunication Union (Geneva, 1992);

c) the provision of the Constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) concerning the free flow of ideas by words and images and the declaration on the basic principles, adopted by the XXth session of the UNESCO General Conference, concerning the contribution of the mass media to strengthening peace and international understanding, to the promotion of human rights and to countering racialism, apartheid and incitement to war and the relevant resolutions of the XXIst session of the UNESCO General Conference;

d) the recommendations of the World Conference on Human Rights adopted in Vienna in 1993, to the effect that the promotion and protection of human rights is a matter of priority for the international community,

*conscious of*

the noble principles that news should be freely transmitted and that the right to communicate is a basic human right,

*conscious also of*

the importance of the fact that these noble principles will promote the dissemination of news, thus strengthening peace, cooperation, mutual understanding between peoples and the spiritual enrichment of the human personality, as well as dissemination of culture and education among all people irrespective of their race, sex, language or religion,

*recommends*

that Members of the Union facilitate the unrestricted transmission of news by telecommunication services.

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*(Kyoto, 1994)*

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## RECOMMENDATION 3 (KYOTO, 1994)

### **Favourable treatment for developing countries**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Kyoto, 1994),

*in view of*

- a) the purpose of the Union, which is to maintain and extend international cooperation for the improvement and rational use of telecommunications of all kinds;
- b) the ever-widening gap between the economic growth and technological progress of the developed and the developing countries;
- c) the fact that the economic power of developed countries is founded on, or linked with, the high level of their technology, which is reflected in extensive and growing international markets, whereas the economies of developing countries are relatively weak and often in deficit because they are in the process of assimilating or acquiring technology,

*recommends*

- 1 that developed countries take into account requests for favourable treatment made by developing countries in service, commercial or other relations in telecommunications, thus helping to achieve the desired economic equilibrium conducive to a relaxation of present world tensions;
- 2 that the classification of countries in one or the other of these economic categories can be based on the criteria of per capita income, gross national income, national telephone development or any other mutually agreed parameters selected from those internationally recognized by the specialized information sources of the United Nations,

*recommends further*

that Members of the Union make available to the General Secretariat any relevant information on the implementation of this Recommendation,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

to monitor on the basis of information received from Members the extent to which any favourable treatment has been extended to developing countries by the developed countries,

*instructs the Council*

to review the results achieved and take any steps necessary to promote the objectives of this Recommendation.

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*(Kyoto, 1994)*

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## RECOMMENDATION 4 (MARRAKESH, 2002)

### **General policy statements to plenipotentiary conferences**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Marrakesh, 2002),

*considering*

Recommendation R22 of the Working Group on ITU Reform, which advocates that the length of general policy statements should be limited so as to minimize the amount of time used for this purpose at the Plenipotentiary Conference and make the conference more efficient,

*seeking*

to standardize the duration of general policy statements in order, *inter alia*, to economize on the Union's financial resources,

*aware*

that plenipotentiary conferences are likely to face increasingly heavy workloads,

*taking into account*

that general policy statements should be made only during the first week of the conference,

*recommends*

that Member States limit their general policy statements to a maximum of five minutes,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

to publish on the conference website the full text of all general policy statements including those which have not been made during the first week of the conference.

## RECOMMENDATION 5 (MARRAKESH, 2002)

### **Submission of the first report of the Credentials Committee to the Plenipotentiary Conference**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Marrakesh, 2002),

*considering*

Article 31 of the ITU Convention, concerning credentials for conferences of the Union,

*considering further*

No. 176 of the General Rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union, which stipulate that elections shall begin on the ninth calendar day of a plenipotentiary conference,

*recognizing*

*a)* that it is the responsibility of the Credentials Committee referred to in No. 68 of the General Rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union to verify the credentials of delegations and report its conclusions to the plenary meeting within the time-frame specified by the latter;

*b)* that it is desirable that the plenary meeting take a decision on the first report of the Credentials Committee as rapidly as possible, and in any event before the ninth calendar day of a plenipotentiary conference,

*recommends*

that future plenipotentiary conferences set the date for submission of the first report of the Credentials Committee at a date earlier than the ninth calendar day of the conference,

*further recommends*

that Member States send the originals of their credentials to the secretariat as early as possible, signed by one of the authorities referred to in No. 325 of the Convention, accompanied, as necessary, by a certified translation in one of the official languages of the Union, and pay the greatest heed to the provisions of Nos. 329, 330 and 331 of the Convention,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

to make appropriate administrative arrangements to keep Member States informed of the procedures to be followed.

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*(Marrakesh, 2002)*

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## RECOMMENDATION 6 (MARRAKESH, 2002)

**Rotation of Council Member States**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Marrakesh, 2002),

*considering*

- a) that the Council is composed of Member States elected by the Plenipotentiary Conference;
- b) that each Member State has the potential to contribute to the purposes of the Union through participation in the Council;
- c) the decision to admit Member States as observers at Council sessions as well as the improvement in their status as observers adopted by this conference,

*noting*

- a) that the number of Member States of the Council shall not exceed 25 per cent of the total number of Member States of the Union;
- b) that examples of regional coordination in this regard on a voluntary basis already exist, with positive results,

*recalling*

that any such regional or subregional coordination in this regard would considerably facilitate the elections at plenipotentiary conferences,

*recognizing*

that, without some element of rotation of Council membership, the principle mentioned in *considering b)* above cannot be fully implemented,

*recommends*

that Member States concerned should engage in bilateral and multilateral coordination through appropriate ways and means, such as regional or subregional meetings, in order to facilitate such rotation on a voluntary basis.



**LIST OF DECISIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND  
RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED, REVISED  
OR ABROGATED BY THE PLENIPOTENTIARY  
CONFERENCE (KYOTO, 1994),  
(MINNEAPOLIS, 1998), (MARRAKESH, 2002),  
(ANTALYA, 2006), (GUADALAJARA, 2010)  
AND (BUSAN, 2014)**



**List of decisions, resolutions and recommendations adopted,  
revised or abrogated by the Plenipotentiary Conference  
(Kyoto, 1994), (Minneapolis, 1998),  
(Marrakesh, 2002), (Antalya, 2006),  
(Guadalajara, 2010) and (Busan, 2014)**

Notes:

1. The decisions, resolutions and recommendations are presented in ascending numerical order, as numbered by the successive plenipotentiary conferences in accordance with the system established by Decision 3 (Minneapolis, 1998) of the Plenipotentiary Conference.
2. The title shown for each of the decisions, resolutions and recommendations listed in the table below is the one used in the version adopted or revised by the most recent plenipotentiary conference.
3. The plenipotentiary conferences in question are:
 

– Plenipotentiary Conference (Kyoto, 1994)	PP-94
– Plenipotentiary Conference (Minneapolis, 1998)	PP-98
– Plenipotentiary Conference (Marrakesh, 2002)	PP-02
– Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006)	PP-06
– Plenipotentiary Conference (Guadalajara, 2010)	PP-10
– Plenipotentiary Conference (Busan, 2014)	PP-14
4. Columns 3 to 5 indicate the nature of the action taken by the Plenipotentiary Conference with regard to the decision, resolution or recommendation in question, namely "Adopted", "Revised" or "Abrogated".

<b>DECISIONS</b>				
		<b>Adopted</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Abrogated</b>
1	Expenditure of the Union for the Period 1995 to 1999	PP-94		PP-98
2	Procedure Concerning Choice of Contributory Class	PP-94		PP-98
3	Treatment of decisions, resolutions and recommendations of plenipotentiary conferences	PP-98		
4	Procedure concerning choice of contributory class	PP-98		PP-06
5	Revenue and expenses for the Union for the period 2016-2019	PP-98	PP-02 PP-06 PP-10 PP-14	
6	Financial Plan of the Union for the period 2004 to 2007	PP-02		PP-10
7	Review of the management of the Union	PP-02		PP-10
8	ITU input to the declaration of principles and plan of action of the World Summit on the Information Society and the information document on ITU activities related to the Summit	PP-02		PP-06
9	Fourth World Telecommunication Policy Forum	PP-06		PP-10
10	Implementation of additional corrective measures relating to cost recovery for satellite network filings	PP-06		PP-10
11	Creation and management of Council working groups	PP-10	PP-14	
12	Free online access to ITU publications	PP-10	PP-14	

<b>DECISIONS</b>				
		<b>Adopted</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Abrogated</b>
13	Monitoring mechanism on ITU programmes and projects	PP-14		
14	Use of hyperlinks in ITU documents	PP-14		

<b>RESOLUTIONS</b>				
		<b>Adopted</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Abrogated</b>
1	Strategic Plan for the Union, 1995-1999	PP-94		PP-98
2	World telecommunication/information and communication technology policy forum	PP-94	PP-98 PP-02 PP-10 PP-14	
3	Future Conferences of the Union	PP-94		PP-98
4	Duration of plenipotentiary conferences of the Union	PP-94	PP-10	PP-14
5	Invitations to hold conferences or meetings away from Geneva	PP-94		
6	Attendance of liberation organizations recognized by the United Nations at conferences and meetings of the International Telecommunication Union as observers	PP-94		
7	Procedure for defining a region for the purpose of convening a regional radiocommunication conference	PP-94		
8	Instructions for the Continuation of Work on the Rules of Procedure of Conferences and Meetings of the International Telecommunication Union	PP-94		PP-98

<b>RESOLUTIONS</b>				
		<b>Adopted</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Abrogated</b>
9	Inaugural Meeting of the New Council and 1995 Session of the Council	PP-94		PP-98
10	Observer Status at Council Meetings for Members of the Union Which Are Not Members of the Council	PP-94		PP-98
11	ITU TELECOM events	PP-94	PP-98 PP-02 PP-06 PP-10 PP-14	
12	Resumption of Full Participation of the Government of South Africa in the Plenipotentiary Conference and All Other Conferences, Meetings and Activities of the Union	PP-94		PP-98
13	Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding Between the Representative of the Government of Japan and the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union Relating to the Plenipotentiary Conference (Kyoto, 1994)	PP-94		PP-98
14	Recognition of the rights and obligations of all Sector Members of the Union	PP-94	PP-06	
15	Review of the Rights and Obligations of all Members of the Sectors of the Union	PP-94		PP-98
16	Refinement of the Radiocommunication Sector and Telecommunication Standardization Sector	PP-94	PP-98	
17	Advisory Groups for the Radiocommunication and Telecommunication Standardization Sectors	PP-94		PP-98
18	Review of the ITU's Frequency Coordination and Planning Framework for Satellite Networks	PP-94		PP-98

<b>RESOLUTIONS</b>				
		<b>Adopted</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Abrogated</b>
19	Improved Use of the Technical and Data Storage/Dissemination Facilities of the Radiocommunication Bureau	PP-94		PP-98
20	Use by the Broadcasting Service of the Bands Additionally Allocated to this Service	PP-94		PP-98
21	Measures concerning alternative calling procedures on international telecommunication networks	PP-94	PP-98 PP-02 PP-06 PP-14	
22	Apportionment of revenues in providing international telecommunication services	PP-94	PP-98 PP-06	
23	Implementation of the Buenos Aires Action Plan	PP-94		PP-98
24	Role of the International Telecommunication Union in the development of world telecommunications	PP-94		PP-06
25	Strengthening the regional presence	PP-94	PP-98 PP-02 PP-06 PP-10 PP-14	
26	Improvement of the Union's capabilities for providing technical assistance and advice to developing countries	PP-94		PP-06
27	Participation of the Union in the United Nations Development Programme, in other programmes of the United Nations system and in other funding arrangements	PP-94		PP-06
28	Special Voluntary Programme for Technical Cooperation	PP-94		PP-06

<b>RESOLUTIONS</b>				
		<b>Adopted</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Abrogated</b>
29	International Programme for the Development of Communication	PP-94		PP-06
30	Special measures for the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition	PP-94	PP-06 PP-10 PP-14	
31	Telecommunication infrastructure and information and communication technologies for socio-economic and cultural development	PP-94	PP-02	PP-06
32	Technical assistance to the Palestinian Authority for the development of telecommunications	PP-94		
33	Assistance and support to Bosnia and Herzegovina for rebuilding its telecommunication network	PP-94	PP-98 PP-02	
34	Assistance and support to countries in special need for rebuilding their telecommunication sector	PP-94	PP-98 PP-06 PP-10 PP-14	
35	Telecommunication support for the protection of the environment	PP-94		PP-14
36	Telecommunications/information and communication technology in the service of humanitarian assistance	PP-94	PP-98 PP-02 PP-06 PP-10	
37	Training of refugees	PP-94		
38	Contributory shares in Union expenditure	PP-94		
39	Strengthening the Financial Base of the International Telecommunication Union	PP-94		PP-98



<b>RESOLUTIONS</b>				
		<b>Adopted</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Abrogated</b>
40	Funding Arrangements for Telecommunications Programmes	PP-94		PP-98
41	Arrears and special arrears accounts	PP-94	PP-98 PP-02 PP-06 PP-10 PP-14	
42	Special Arrears and Interest Accounts	PP-94		PP-98
43	Approval of the Accounts of the Union for the Years 1989 to 1993	PP-94		PP-98
44	Auditing of the Accounts of the Union	PP-94		PP-98
45	Assistance given by the Government of the Swiss Confederation in connection with the finances of the Union	PP-94	PP-98	
46	Remuneration and representation allowances of elected officials	PP-94		
47	Compensation matters	PP-94	PP-98	PP-10
48	Human resources management and development	PP-94	PP-98 PP-02 PP-06 PP-10 PP-14	
49	Organizational structure and grading in the ITU	PP-94		PP-10
50	Recruitment of ITU Staff and Experts for Technical Assistance Missions	PP-94		PP-98
51	ITU staff participation in conferences of the Union	PP-94	PP-98	
52	Rehabilitation of the Provident Fund of the ITU Staff Superannuation and Benevolent funds	PP-94	PP-98	PP-10

RESOLUTIONS				
		Adopted	Revised	Abrogated
53	Measures to enable the United Nations to carry out fully any mandate under Article 75 of the Charter of the United Nations	PP-94		
54	Support to Members Hosting United Nations Peacekeeping Forces	PP-94		PP-98
55	Use of the United Nations telecommunication network for the telecommunication traffic of the specialized agencies	PP-94		
56	Possible revision of Article IV, Section 11, of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies	PP-94		
57	Joint Inspection Unit	PP-94		
58	Strengthening of relations between ITU and regional telecommunication organizations and regional preparations for the Plenipotentiary Conference	PP-94	PP-10 PP-14	
59	Request to the International Court of Justice for advisory opinions	PP-94		
60	Juridical status	PP-94		
61	Premises at the Seat of the Union: Construction of the "Montbrillant Building"	PP-94		PP-98
62	Interim limitations in the use of official and working languages of the Union	PP-94		PP-02 <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Abrogated with effect from 1 January 2005, pursuant to Resolution 115 (Marrakesh, 2002).

<b>RESOLUTIONS</b>				
		<b>Adopted</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Abrogated</b>
63	Study of the Languages in the Union	PP-94		PP-98
64	Non-discriminatory access to modern telecommunication/information and communication technology facilities, services and applications, including applied research and transfer of technology, and e-meetings, on mutually agreed terms	PP-94	PP-06 PP-10 PP-14	
65	Remote access to ITU information services	PP-94		PP-06
66	Documents and publications of the Union	PP-94	PP-98 PP-10	
67	Updating of definitions	PP-94		PP-10
68	World Telecommunication and Information Society Day	PP-94	PP-98 PP-06 PP-10	
69	Provisional application of the Constitution and Convention of the International Telecommunication Union (Geneva, 1992) by Members of the Union which have not yet become States Parties to those instruments	PP-94		
70	Mainstreaming a gender perspective in ITU and promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women through information and communication technologies	PP-98	PP-02 PP-06 PP-10 PP-14	
71	Strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019	PP-98	PP-02 PP-06 PP-10 PP-14	
72	Linking strategic, financial and operational planning in ITU	PP-98	PP-02 PP-06 PP-10 PP-14	

<b>RESOLUTIONS</b>				
		<b>Adopted</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Abrogated</b>
73	World summit on the information society	PP-98		PP-06
74	Review and improvement of the management, functioning and structure of the International Telecommunication Union	PP-98		PP-02
75	Publication of the ITU Constitution and Convention, decisions, resolutions and recommendations and the Optional Protocol on the Compulsory Settlement of Disputes	PP-98		
76	General provisions regarding conferences and assemblies of the International Telecommunication Union	PP-98		PP-02
77	Scheduling and duration of conferences, forums, assemblies and Council sessions of the Union (2015-2019)	PP-98	PP-02 PP-06 PP-10 PP-14	
78	Stable procedures for the election of Member States to the Council, elected officials, and members of the Radio Regulations Board	PP-98		PP-02
79	International Telecommunication Regulations	PP-98		PP-06
80	World radiocommunication conference process	PP-98	PP-02	
81	Approval of the Arrangements between the Government of the United States of America and the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union relating to the Plenipotentiary Conference (Minneapolis, 1998)	PP-98		PP-02
82	Approval of questions and recommendations	PP-98		PP-06

<b>RESOLUTIONS</b>				
		<b>Adopted</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Abrogated</b>
83	Provisional application of the changes to the composition of the Radio Regulations Board	PP-98		PP-02
84	Working methods of the Radio Regulations Board	PP-98		PP-02
85	Evaluation of the administrative due diligence procedure for satellite networks adopted by the World Radiocommunication Conference (Geneva, 1997)	PP-98		PP-06
86	Advance publication, coordination, notification and recording procedures for frequency assignments pertaining to satellite networks	PP-98	PP-02	
87	Role of the notifying administration in the case of an administration notifying on behalf of a named group of administrations	PP-98		PP-06
88	Processing charges for satellite network filings and administrative procedures	PP-98	PP-02	PP-10
89	Coping with the decreased use of international telex service	PP-98		
90	Review of the contribution of Sector Members towards defraying the expenses of the International Telecommunication Union	PP-98		PP-06
91	Cost recovery for some ITU products and services	PP-98	PP-06 PP-10	
92	Internal invoicing of the costs of activities undertaken by the Telecommunication Development Bureau at the request of the General Secretariat or an ITU Sector	PP-98		PP-06
93	Special arrears accounts	PP-98		PP-14

RESOLUTIONS				
		Adopted	Revised	Abrogated
94	Auditing of the accounts of the Union	PP-98	PP-02 PP-06 PP-10 PP-14	
95	Approval of the accounts of the Union for the years 1994 to 1997	PP-98		PP-06
96	Introduction of a long-term care insurance scheme in the Union	PP-98		
97	Occupational illness	PP-98		PP-06
98	The use of telecommunications for the safety and security of humanitarian personnel in the field	PP-98		
99	Status of Palestine in ITU	PP-98	PP-06 PP-10 PP-14	
100	Role of the Secretary-General of ITU as depositary for memoranda of understanding	PP-98		
101	Internet Protocol-based networks	PP-98	PP-06 PP-10 PP-14	
102	ITU's role with regard to international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet and the management of Internet resources, including domain names and addresses	PP-98	PP-02 PP-06 PP-10 PP-14	
103	Gradual lifting of interim limitations on the use of official and working languages of the Union	PP-98		PP-02 <sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Abrogated with effect from 1 January 2005, pursuant to Resolution 115 (Marrakesh, 2002).

<b>RESOLUTIONS</b>				
		<b>Adopted</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Abrogated</b>
104	Reduction of the volume and cost of documentation for ITU conferences	PP-98		PP-06
105	Urgent need for prompt action to address the year 2000 problem	PP-98		PP-06
106	Review of the ITU structure	PP-02		PP-06
107	Improvements to the management and functioning of ITU	PP-02		PP-10
108	Improvement of the functioning of the Coordination Committee, including the tasks of the Deputy Secretary-General and the role of the other elected officials	PP-02		PP-10
109	Review and consolidation of provisions regarding observers	PP-02		PP-06
110	Review of the contribution of Sector Members towards defraying the expenses of the International Telecommunication Union	PP-02		PP-10
111	Considering major religious periods in the scheduling of ITU conferences, assemblies and Council sessions	PP-02	PP-06 PP-14	
112	Regional preparations for plenipotentiary conferences	PP-02		PP-10
113	World Summit on the Information Society	PP-02		PP-06
114	Interpretation of No. 224 of the ITU Constitution and No. 519 of the ITU Convention with regard to deadlines for submitting proposals for amendments	PP-02		
115	Use of the six official and working languages of the Union on an equal footing	PP-02		PP-06
116	Approval of the accounts of the Union for the years 1998 to 2001	PP-02		PP-06

<b>RESOLUTIONS</b>				
		<b>Adopted</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Abrogated</b>
117	Determination of the planning area for terrestrial television and sound broadcasting in the VHF and UHF bands at the regional radiocommunication conference	PP-02		PP-06
118	Use of spectrum at frequencies above 3 000 GHz	PP-02		
119	Methods to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Radio Regulations Board	PP-02	PP-06	
120	Radiocommunication Assembly (RA-03) and World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-03)	PP-02		PP-06
121	Review of the International Telecommunication Regulations	PP-02		PP-06
122	The evolving role of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly	PP-02	PP-06 PP-10	
123	Bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries	PP-02	PP-06 PP-10 PP-14	
124	Support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development	PP-02	PP-06	
125	Assistance and support to Palestine for rebuilding its telecommunication networks	PP-02	PP-10 PP-14	
126	Assistance and support to the Republic of Serbia for rebuilding its destroyed public broadcasting system	PP-02	PP-06 PP-10	
127	Assistance and support to the Government of Afghanistan for rebuilding its telecommunication system	PP-02		
128	Support for the Agenda for Connectivity in the Americas and Quito Action Plan	PP-02	PP-06	



<b>RESOLUTIONS</b>				
		<b>Adopted</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Abrogated</b>
129	Bridging the digital divide	PP-02		PP-06
130	Strengthening the role of ITU in building confidence and security in the use of information and communication technologies	PP-02	PP-06 PP-10 PP-14	
131	Measuring information and communication technologies to build an integrating and inclusive information society	PP-02	PP-06 PP-10 PP-14	
132	Continued ITU support for the sustainability of the Geneva Diplomatic Community network	PP-02		PP-06
133	Role of administrations of Member States in the management of internationalized (multilingual) domain names	PP-02	PP-06 PP-10 PP-14	
134	Number of Member States of the Council	PP-06		PP-10
135	ITU's role in the development of telecommunications/information and communication technologies, in providing technical assistance and advice to developing countries and in implementing relevant national, regional and interregional projects	PP-06	PP-10 PP-14	
136	The use of telecommunications/information and communication technologies for monitoring and management in emergency and disaster situations for early warning, prevention, mitigation and relief	PP-06	PP-10 PP-14	
137	Next-generation network deployment in developing countries	PP-06	PP-10 PP-14	
138	The Global Symposium for Regulators	PP-06		

<b>RESOLUTIONS</b>				
		<b>Adopted</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Abrogated</b>
139	Use of telecommunications/information and communication technologies to bridge the digital divide and build an inclusive information society	PP-06	PP-10 PP-14	
140	ITU's role in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society and in the overall review by United Nations General Assembly of their implementation	PP-06	PP-10 PP-14	
141	Study on the participation of all relevant stakeholders in the activities of the Union related to the World Summit on the Information Society	PP-06		PP-10
142	Review of terminology used in the ITU Constitution and Convention	PP-06		PP-10
143	Extending the provisions in ITU documents relating to developing countries to apply to countries with economies in transition	PP-06	PP-10	
144	Availability of model host-country agreements in advance for conferences and assemblies of the Union held away from Geneva	PP-06	PP-14	
145	Participation of observers in conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union	PP-06		
146	Periodic review and revision of the International Telecommunication Regulations	PP-06	PP-14	
147	Study on the management and functioning of the Union	PP-06		PP-10

<b>RESOLUTIONS</b>				
		<b>Adopted</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Abrogated</b>
148	Tasks and functions of the Deputy Secretary-General	PP-06		
149	Study of definitions and terminology relating to building confidence and security in the use of information and communication technologies	PP-06		PP-10
150	Approval of the accounts of the Union for the years 2010-2013	PP-06	PP-10 PP-14	
151	Implementation of results-based management in ITU	PP-06	PP-10 PP-14	
152	Improvement of management and follow-up of the defrayal of ITU expenses by Sector Members and Associates	PP-06	PP-10 PP-14	
153	Scheduling of Council sessions and plenipotentiary conferences	PP-06	PP-10	PP-14
154	Use of the six official languages of the Union on an equal footing	PP-06	PP-10 PP-14	
155	Establishment of a management and budget group of the Council	PP-06		PP-10
156	Scheduling of conferences	PP-06		PP-10
157	Strengthening of the project execution function in ITU	PP-06	PP-10 PP-14	
158	Financial issues for consideration by the Council	PP-06	PP-10 PP-14	
159	Assistance and support to Lebanon for rebuilding its telecommunication networks (fixed and mobile)	PP-06	PP-10 PP-14	
160	Assistance to Somalia	PP-06		
161	Assistance and support for the Democratic Republic of the Congo for rebuilding its telecommunication network	PP-06		

<b>RESOLUTIONS</b>				
		<b>Adopted</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Abrogated</b>
162	Independent management advisory committee	PP-10	PP-14	
163	Establishment of a Council working group on a stable ITU Constitution	PP-10		PP-14
164	Allocation of seats of Council Member States	PP-10		
165	Deadlines for the submission of proposals and procedures for the registration of participants for conferences and assemblies of the Union	PP-10		
166	Number of vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups	PP-10	PP-14	
167	Strengthening and developing ITU capabilities for electronic meetings and means to advance the work of the Union	PP-10	PP-14	
168	Translation of ITU recommendations	PP-10		
169	Admission of academia to participate in the work of the Union	PP-10	PP-14	
170	Admission of Sector Members from developing countries to participate in the work of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector and the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector	PP-10	PP-14	
171	Preparations for the 2012 world conference on international telecommunications	PP-10		PP-14
172	Overall review of implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society	PP-10		PP-14

<b>RESOLUTIONS</b>				
		<b>Adopted</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Abrogated</b>
173	Piracy and attacks against fixed and cellular telephone networks in Lebanon	PP-10		
174	ITU's role with regard to international public policy issues relating to the risk of illicit use of information and communication technologies	PP-10	PP-14	
175	Telecommunication/information and communication technology accessibility for persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs	PP-10	PP-14	
176	Human exposure to and measurement of electromagnetic fields	PP-10	PP-14	
177	Conformance and interoperability	PP-10	PP-14	
178	ITU role in organizing the work on technical aspects of telecommunication networks to support the Internet	PP-10		
179	ITU's role in child online protection	PP-10	PP-14	
180	Facilitating the transition from IPv4 to IPv6	PP-10	PP-14	
181	Definitions and terminology relating to building confidence and security in the use of information and communication technologies	PP-10		
182	The role of telecommunications/ information and communication technologies in regard to climate change and the protection of the environment	PP-10	PP-14	
183	Telecommunication/Information and Communication Technology applications for e-health	PP-10	PP-14	

<b>RESOLUTIONS</b>				
		<b>Adopted</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Abrogated</b>
184	Facilitating digital inclusion initiatives for indigenous peoples	PP-10		
185	Global flight tracking for civil aviation	PP-14		
186	Strengthening the role of ITU with regard to transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities	PP-14		
187	Review of the current methodologies and development of a future vision for the participation of Sector Members, Associates and Academia in the activities of ITU	PP-14		
188	Combating counterfeit telecommunication/information and communication technology devices	PP-14		
189	Assisting Member States to combat and deter mobile device theft	PP-14		
190	Countering misappropriation and misuse of international telecommunication numbering resources	PP-14		
191	Strategy for the coordination of efforts among the three Sectors of the Union	PP-14		
192	ITU participation in memoranda of understanding with financial and/or strategic implications	PP-14		
193	Support and assistance for Iraq to rebuild its telecommunication sector	PP-14		
194	Options for the Union's headquarters premises over the long term	PP-14		
195	Implementation of the Smart Africa Manifesto	PP-14		

<b>RESOLUTIONS</b>				
		<b>Adopted</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Abrogated</b>
196	Protecting telecommunication service users/consumers	PP-14		
197	Facilitating the Internet of Things to prepare for a globally connected world	PP-14		
198	Empowerment of youth through telecommunication/information and communication technology	PP-14		
199	Promoting efforts for capacity building on software-defined networking in developing countries	PP-14		
200	Connect 2020 Agenda for global telecommunication/information and communication technology development	PP-14		
201	Creating an enabling environment for the deployment and use of information and communication technology applications	PP-14		
202	Using information and communication technologies to break the chain of health-related emergencies such as Ebola virus transmission	PP-14		
203	Connectivity to broadband networks	PP-14		

<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>				
		<b>Adopted</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Abrogated</b>
1	Deposit of instruments relating to the Constitution and Convention of the International Telecommunication Union (Geneva, 1992)	PP-94		
2	Unrestricted transmission of news and the right to communicate	PP-94		
3	Favourable treatment for developing countries	PP-94		
4	General policy statements to plenipotentiary conferences	PP-02		
5	Submission of the first report of the Credentials Committee to the Plenipotentiary Conference	PP-02		
6	Rotation of Council Member States	PP-02		





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