

I n t e r n a t i o n a l T e l e c o m m u n i c a t i o n U n i o n

**Final Acts of the Plenipotentiary Conference
(Antalya, 2006)**

A SELECTION OF INTERNET RELATED RESOLUTIONS
NOVEMBER 2006

DECISION GT-PLN/A (Antalya, 2006)

Fourth World Telecommunication Policy Forum

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Antalya, 2006),

considering

- a) Resolution 2 (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference on the maintaining of the World Telecommunication Policy Forum (WTPF) in order to discuss and exchange views and information on telecommunication policy and regulatory matters, especially on global and cross-sectoral issues;
- b) Resolution COM5/4 (Antalya, 2006) of this conference on the review of the International Telecommunication Regulations,

noting

- a) the relevant outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society;
- b) 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 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;
- c) that ITU is uniquely positioned and has the necessary experience to provide a forum for the coordination of, exchange of information on, discussion of and harmonization of national, regional and international telecommunication strategies and policies;
- d) that WTPF has provided a venue for discussion of global and cross-sectoral issues by high-level participants, thus contributing to the advance of world telecommunications,

considering further

- a) that convergence, including Internet-related public policy matters, is one of the topics of high current interest to ITU Member States and Sector Members;
- b) that the continued development of convergence, next-generation networks, and Internet also has significant implications for several domains, particularly for capacity building, especially in developing countries;
- c) that a study of emerging telecommunications policy and regulatory issues is also amongst the topics of high current interest to ITU Member States and Sector Members;

d) that a study of new and emerging issues as referred to in Resolution COM5/4 (Antalya, 2006) is also among the topics of high current interest to ITU Member States and Sector Members,

decides

1 to convene the fourth WTPF in Geneva in the first quarter of 2009, in order to discuss and exchange views on the themes listed above, with the draft agenda shown in the Annex to this Decision;

2 that the fourth WTPF shall draw up a report and, if possible, opinions for consideration by ITU Member States and Sector Members and relevant ITU meetings;

3 that arrangements for the fourth WTPF shall be in accordance with applicable Council decisions for such fora.

ANNEX TO DECISION GT-PLN/A (Antalya, 2006)

Draft agenda

Fourth World Telecommunication Policy Forum

- 1 Inauguration of the fourth World Telecommunication Policy Forum
- 2 Election of the chairman
- 3 Opening remarks and presentations
- 4 Organization of the work of the Forum
- 5 Presentation of the Secretary-General's report
- 6 Presentation of comments by the membership on the report
- 7 Discussion
- 8 Consideration of draft opinions
- 9 Adoption of the chairman's report and opinions
- 10 Other business

RESOLUTION 101 (Rev. Antalya, 2006)

Internet Protocol-based networks

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Antalya, 2006),

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,

recalling

- a) 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;
- b) 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 at both the regional and international levels,

considering

- a) that advances in the global information infrastructure, including the development of Internet Protocol (IP)-based networks and especially the Internet, continue to be an issue of crucial importance, as an important engine for growth in the world economy in the twenty-first century;
- b) that the increased use of the Internet introduces new additional applications in telecommunication services based on its highly advanced technology: the utilization of e-mail has become commonplace, voice over Internet is being developed rapidly even though there are challenges regarding quality of service, uncertainty of origin, and the high cost of international connectivity;
- c) that current and future IP-based networks will continue to introduce dramatic changes in the way we acquire, produce, circulate and consume information;

considering further

- a) that the 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, through its 2002 Istanbul Action Plan, through human capacity building efforts such as its Internet Training Centre initiative; and the outcomes of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006), which endorsed the continuation of these studies, and called on the Sector to give assistance to developing countries, least developed countries, and small island developing states to set up high-speed backbone networks for the Internet, as well as national, subregional and regional access points for the Internet;

- b) that studies are ongoing in the 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, and issues associated with the evolution to next-generation networks (NGN), including the migration from existing networks to NGNs;
- c) that a general cooperation agreement exists between ITU-T and the Internet Society (ISOC) and its Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF),

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 identify the global 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 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, at a minimum, the level of quality of service provided by traditional networks, consistent with ITU-T Recommendations and other recognized international standards,

urges

- a) ITU-T 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;
- b) the three Sectors to continue to consider their future work programmes on IP-based networks and on migration to NGN,

resolves

- 1 that ITU shall fully embrace the opportunities for telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) development that arise from the growth of IP-based services, in conformity with the ITU purposes and the outcomes of the Geneva (2003) and Tunis (2005) phases of WSIS, taking into account the quality and security of services;
- 2 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;

3 that ITU shall 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 participate as appropriate in any directly related international initiatives;

4 to continue the study of international Internet connectivity as an urgent matter, as called for in § 50 d) of the Tunis Agenda, and to call upon ITU-T to complete as soon as possible its studies that have been ongoing since the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Montreal, 2000),

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to prepare an annual report to the 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, including the development of NGNs, 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;

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,

invites the Council

to consider the above-mentioned report and take into account comments, if any, made by the advisory groups of the three Sectors through their respective Bureau Directors and, when appropriate, undertake further steps,

invites the 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 level among all interested non-governmental parties and to encourage 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. Antalya, 2006)

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 (Antalya, 2006),

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) 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), are of crucial importance as an important engine for growth in the world economy in the twenty-first century;
- c) that the development of the Internet is essentially market-led and driven by private and government initiatives;
- d) that the private sector is playing a very important role in the expansion and development of the Internet, for example through investments in infrastructures and services;
- e) that the 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;
- f) the role played by ITU in the successful organization of the two phases of the World Summit on the Information Society (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 the United Nations General Assembly;
- g) 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;
- h) 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 Internet, and that the need for development of public policy by governments in consultation with all stakeholders is also recognized,

recognizing

- a) that ITU is dealing with technical and policy issues related to IP-based networks including the Internet and evolution to NGN;
- b) that ITU performs worldwide coordination of a number of radiocommunications- and telecommunications-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);
- f) the relevant WSIS outcomes in §§ 29 to 82 of the Tunis Agenda concerning Internet governance;
- g) that Member States represent the interests of the population of the country or territory for which a ccTLD has been delegated;
- h) 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 §§ 35 a) to 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 and widely accessible to all citizens 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 should commence a process towards enhanced cooperation involving all stakeholders, proceeding as quickly as possible and responsive to innovation, as one of the relevant organizations referred to in § 71 of the Tunis Agenda;
- 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

the decision to convene the fourth World Telecommunication Policy Forum (Decision GT-PLN/A (Antalya, 2006) of this conference),

resolves to instruct 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 members 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 § 35 d) 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;
- 4 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 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;
- 6 as a concrete step, to organize consultations on these issues among the ITU membership and other relevant stakeholders, in order to prepare and submit proposals, based on those consultations and contributions from the ITU membership, to the 2007 session of the Council, through the Working Group on WSIS (WG-WSIS);
- 7 to report annually to the Council on the activities undertaken on these subjects and to submit proposals as appropriate,

instructs the Directors of the Bureaux

- 1 to contribute to the consultations under *resolves to instruct to the Secretary-General* 6 above;
- 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 and other Internet resources within the mandate of ITU;
- 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 the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (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 ITU members, 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 and Sector Members, recognizing the activities of other appropriate entities, on issues concerning Member States' ccTLDs and related experiences;
- 4 to facilitate the exchange of technical information in order to assist the ITU membership to participate in the consultations referenced under *resolves to instruct the Secretary-General* 6 above;
- 5 to report annually to the Council, and also to the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, 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, for the period 2006-2010, 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, least developed countries and small island developing states, and Sector Members;
- 2 to promote, through the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector 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, least developed countries and small island developing states in international Internet forums and issues;
- 3 to report annually to the Council and the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group, and also to the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on the activities undertaken and achievements on these subjects, including proposals for further consideration as appropriate,

invites the Council Working Group on WSIS

- 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,

instructs the Council

- 1 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;
- 2 to review the activities of WG-WSIS;
- 3 to report to the 2010 plenipotentiary conference on the activities undertaken and achievements on these subjects, 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 domain names and addresses, their possible evolution and the impact of new usages and applications, cooperating with the relevant organizations, and to contribute in 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 130 (Rev. Antalya, 2006)

**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 (Antalya, 2006),

considering

- a) the crucial importance of information and communication infrastructures and their applications to practically all forms of social and economic activity;
- b) that with the application and development of information and communication technologies (ICTs), new threats from various sources have emerged that may have an impact on confidence and security in the use of ICTs by all Member States, Sector Members and other stakeholders, including all users of ICT, 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, including least developed countries, small island developing states and countries with economies in transition, while noting in this context the need to further enhance international cooperation and develop and adapt appropriate existing national, regional and international mechanisms (for example agreements, best practices, memorandums of understanding, etc);
- c) that, in order to protect these infrastructures and address these challenges and threats, coordinated national action is required for prevention, preparation, response and recovery from an incident on the part of government authorities at the national, state/provincial and local levels; the private sector, citizens and users, in addition to international cooperation and coordination,

recognizing

- a) that the application and development of ICTs have been and continue 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) recognized the need to build confidence and security in the use of ICTs, 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 as moderator/facilitator for this WSIS Action Line;

c) that the World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006) (WTDC) has adopted the Doha Action Plan and its programme 3 on e-strategies and ICT applications that identifies cybersecurity as a priority activity of BDT and defines activities to be undertaken by BDT, and in particular the adoption of Resolution 45 (Doha, 2006) entitled “Mechanisms for enhancing cooperation on cybersecurity, including combating spam”;

d) § 15 of the Tunis Commitment which recognizes “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”,

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, transmission of unsolicited content etc., and to protect personal data and privacy;

b) that Study Group 17 of the Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) 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, 51, 52 (Florianópolis, 2004) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly;

noting

a) that, as an intergovernmental organization with private sector participation, ITU is well positioned to play an important role, together with other 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 paragraph § 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 characterised 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,

resolves

to give this work a high priority within ITU, in accordance with its competences and expertise,

instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux

1 to review:

- i) the work done so far by ITU and 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;
- ii) the progress achieved in the implementation of this resolution and in the role of ITU as moderator/facilitator for WSIS action line C5 with the help of the advisory groups, consistent with the ITU Constitution and Convention;

2 to facilitate access to tools 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;

3 to continue the Cybersecurity Gateway as a way to share information on national, regional and international cybersecurity-related initiatives worldwide;

4 to report annually to the Council on these activities and to make proposals as appropriate,

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 recommendations, as appropriate;
- ii) seek ways to enhance the exchange of technical information in these fields, promote implementation of emerging protocols and standards that further enhance security, and promote international cooperation among appropriate entities;

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;

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to develop, consistent with the results of WTDC-06 and the subsequent meeting pursuant to Resolution 45 (Doha, 2006) of that conference, the projects for enhancing cooperation on cybersecurity and combating spam responding to the needs of developing countries, in close collaboration with the relevant partners;

2 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;

- 3 to ensure coordination of these projects within the context of ITU's overall activities in its role as moderator/facilitator for WSIS action line C5;
- 4 to coordinate these projects with the activities and programmes of ITU-D study groups on this topic;
- 5 to continue collaboration with relevant organizations with a view to exchanging best practices and disseminating information through, for example, joint workshops and training sessions;
- 6 to report annually to the Council on these activities and make proposals as appropriate,

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 ITU Member States, Sector Members and Associates

- 1 to participate actively in the ongoing work of the relevant ITU study groups;
- 2 to develop, as appropriate, the necessary relevant legislation, noting in particular regional initiatives including, but not limited to, the Council of Europe's Convention on Cybercrime;
- 3 to make contributions on this subject in ITU-D Study Group 1 and participate in the ongoing activities of the BDT projects;
- 4 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.

RESOLUTION 133 (Rev. Antalya, 2006)

Role of administrations of Member States in the management of internationalized (multilingual) domain names

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Antalya, 2006),
bearing in mind

Resolution 102 (Rev. Antalya, 2006) 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 (WTSA) including, *inter alia*, Resolution 47 (Florianópolis, 2004) on country code top-level domain names, Resolution 48 (Florianópolis, 2004) on internationalized domain names, and ongoing activities in ITU-T study groups;
- 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 barriers to access;
- d) past successful standardization activities undertaken by ITU-T with regard to non-Latin character sets,

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 available in non-Latin based scripts;
- c) that, recalling the results of WSIS, there should be a commitment to working earnestly towards multilingualization of the Internet, as part of a multilateral, transparent and democratic process, involving governments and all stakeholders, in their respective roles,

emphasizing

- a) that the current domain name system does not fully reflect the diverse and growing language needs of all users;
- 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, as it has done in the past;
- e) that, recalling the results of WSIS, 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 ITU-T Recommendation E.164;
- b) that there are a number of challenges with regard to intellectual property and the deployment of internationalized domain names, 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 Organisation (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 instruct 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 ITU-T Recommendation E.164 numbering plans whatever the application in which they are used;
- 3 to promote effectively the role of the ITU membership in the internationalization of domain names in their respective language scripts using their specific character sets;
- 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 as quickly as possible;

6 to give priority to the studies carried out by ITU-T as regards different non-Latin scripts;

7 to bring this resolution to the attention of WIPO and UNESCO, stressing the concerns and requests for assistance of Member States, in particular the developing countries, 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;

8 to report annually to the 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,

invites Member States and Sector Members

1 to take an active part in all international discussions and initiatives on the development and deployment of internationalized Internet domain names, including those initiatives of relevant language groups, and to submit written contributions to ITU-T in order to help implement this resolution;

2 to increase awareness at national and regional levels among all interested parties and to encourage their participation in the Union's work, and that of ITU-T in particular, and to invite entities engaged in development and deployment of internationalized domain names to cooperate with the Union and ITU-T in order to help implement this resolution;

3 to urge all relevant entities working to develop and implement internationalized domain names in order to expedite their activities in this domain.

RESOLUTION GT-PLN/7 (Antalya, 2006)

**Study on the participation of all relevant stakeholders
in the activities of the Union related to the
World Summit on the Information Society**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Antalya, 2006),

recalling

- a) § 20 of the Geneva Declaration of Principles of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), which states that governments as well as the private sector, civil society and the United Nations and other international organizations have an important role and responsibility in the development of the information society and, as appropriate, in decision-making processes, and that building a people-centred information society is a joint effort which requires cooperation and partnership among all stakeholders;
- b) that stakeholders have different roles and responsibilities, as indicated in § 8 of the Tunis Commitment of WSIS;
- c) the beneficial participation of all stakeholders, including civil-society entities and organizations, in the meetings of the preparatory committee of WSIS (PrepComs) and their contributions to both phases of WSIS;
- d) several paragraphs of the WSIS outcome documents, stressing the importance of the participation of all the stakeholders, including civil-society entities and organizations, in the construction of the information society;
- e) Article 2 of the ITU Constitution, which states that ITU 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, and that it shall give due regard to the principle of universality and the desirability of universal participation in the Union;
- f) Article 3 of the ITU Constitution concerning rights and obligations of Member States and Sector Members;
- g) Article 19 of the ITU Convention concerning participation of entities and organizations other than administrations in the Union's activities,

acknowledging

the urgent need to bridge the digital divide and to assist developing countries, including those countries with special needs, as stated in the WSIS outcome documents, to benefit fully from the potential of information and communication technologies (ICTs),

considering

- a) that the Council, at its 2006 session, invited the membership to reflect upon how ITU should adapt itself to the information society and the changing telecommunication environment and what amendments may be required to the ITU Constitution and Convention, and to include corresponding proposals in their contributions to this conference;
- b) the character of ITU as the specialised agency of the United Nations on telecommunications, and the need to study the impact of the participation of all relevant stakeholders in ITU's activities related to WSIS, including its financial impact,

recognizing

the need to promote and enhance the participation of entities and organizations in the activities of the Union and to foster fruitful cooperation and partnership between them and Member States for the fulfilment of the overall objectives embodied in the purposes of the Union, in accordance with No. 3A of the Constitution and other ITU basic texts,

resolves

- 1 to conduct a study on the participation of all relevant stakeholders in the activities of the Union related to WSIS;
- 2 that all measures regarding the participation of relevant stakeholders in the activities of the Union related to WSIS shall respect the agreed strong development orientation of the United Nations system-wide follow-up of WSIS,

instructs the Council

- 1 at its extraordinary session, to establish a working group, or to task an existing working group, open to all Member States, with the terms of reference and mandate annexed to this resolution;
- 2 to review, at each annual session, the progress report of this working group and disseminate, as appropriate, the interim results of the study;
- 3 to present a final report, well in advance of the next plenipotentiary conference, for the use of Member States in preparing their proposals to that conference;
- 4 to allocate the necessary funds, within available resources, in order to implement this resolution,

instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux

to support the working group by providing resources and possible inputs,

invites Member States and Sector Members

to submit written contributions to the working group.

ANNEX TO RESOLUTION GT-PLN/7

- 1 The Working Group of the Council tasked with this study shall be open to all Member States, whose delegations may include appropriate legal, technical and regulatory experts.
- 2 The Working Group should develop and conduct open consultations, also using electronic means, on the inclusion of relevant stakeholders in the activities of ITU related to the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), including additional tasks to be performed by ITU as a result of the WSIS outputs.
- 3 The Working Group of the Council shall take into account:
 - a) the need to uphold the intergovernmental character of the Union and the purposes of the Union as set forth in Article 1 of the Constitution of ITU;
 - b) the important contribution of Sector Members and Associates in the work of ITU;
 - c) relevant existing practices, if any, within ITU or other specialized agencies of the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations;
 - d) the need to conform to the agreed strong development orientation of all WSIS follow-up activities; any criteria and modalities for the participation of relevant WSIS stakeholders shall especially take into account the needs and priorities of developing countries.
- 4 The terms of reference and mandate for this Working Group shall include, but not be limited to, the following tasks:
 - a) to establish a set of criteria for defining which stakeholders are relevant to participate in ITU activities related to WSIS, taking into consideration the added value of their participation;
 - b) to analyse the definitions of Sector Member and Associate and the related provisions of the legal instruments of ITU, and how they could be applied in order to enhance the membership of ITU, and, if required, to identify possible amendments to these provisions;
 - c) to review the existing mechanisms (e.g. partnerships, symposia, seminars, workshops, focus groups, policy forums, experts) in regards to participation by non-ITU members, and to consider how to use them more effectively, to improve them and to identify possible new ones;
 - d) to identify specific efforts that may be needed to mobilize and ensure the meaningful and effective participation of all relevant stakeholders from developing countries and stakeholders in the development field, including by providing assistance;
 - e) to draft any possible amendments to the ITU basic texts that might be needed in order to facilitate the participation of all relevant stakeholders in the activities of ITU related to WSIS;

- f) to identify and establish the spheres of competence that the Member States reserve for themselves with regard to WSIS stakeholders and the possible denunciation of their participation in ITU;
- g) to consider the financial obligations and consequences of the participation of relevant stakeholders in ITU's activities related to WSIS according to the options considered.