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| PLENARY MEETING | **Addendum 7 toDocument WTDC-17/21-E** |
|  | **8 September 2017** |
|  | **Original: English** |
| Arab States |
| REVISION TO WTDC RESOLUTION 20 |
| Non‑discriminatory access and use of modern telecommunication/information and communication technologies facilities, services and related applications |
|  |
| **Priority area:** - Resolutions and recommendations |

**MOD** ARB/21A7/1

RESOLUTION 20 (REV. BUENOS, AIRES , 2017)

Non‑discriminatory access and use of modern telecommunication/information and communication technologies facilities, services and related applications

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Buenos Aires, 2017),

recalling

Resolution 20 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference,

recalling also

*a)* Resolution 64 (Rev. Antalya, 2006) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, and the importance of telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) for political, economic, social and cultural progress;

*b)* the decisions of the two phases of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) concerning non-discriminatory access, in particular §§ 15, 18 and 19 of the Tunis Commitment and §§ 90 and 107 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society;

*c)* the United Nations General Assembly resolution on "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" (A/RES/70/1);

*d)* United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution 70/125, on the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the WSIS outcomes;

*e)* the WSIS+10 High-Level Event outcomes (Geneva, 2014), which were submitted as an input into the overall review of WSIS by UNGA, especially those related to transfer of know-how and technology and to non-discriminatory access, within the framework of the required activities in this regard;

*f)* Resolution 69 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on non-discriminatory access and use of Internet resources,

taking into account

*a)* that ITU plays an important role in the promotion of global telecommunication/ICT standardization and development;

*b)* that, to this end, the Union coordinates efforts aimed at securing harmonious development of telecommunication/ICT facilities in all its Member States;

*c)* that discrimination in accessing the Internet could greatly affect the developing countries,

taking into account further

that this conference, like its predecessors, is required to formulate a viewpoint and draw up proposals on issues determining a worldwide strategy for the development of telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and applications, and facilitate mobilization of the necessary resources to that end,

noting

*a)* that modern telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and applications are established, in the main, on the basis of ITU‑R and ITU‑T Recommendations;

*b)* that 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;

*c)* that limitations on the access to telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and applications 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)* that § 48 of the WSIS Declaration of Principles recognized that: "The Internet has evolved into a global facility available to the public and its governance should constitute a core issue of the information society agenda. The international management of the Internet should be multilateral, transparent and democratic, with the full involvement of governments, the private sector, civil society and international organizations. It should ensure an equitable distribution of resources, facilitate access for all and ensure a stable and secure functioning of the Internet, taking into account multilingualism";

*e)* that the § 31 of the Outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society recognized that "In building the information society, States are strongly urged to take steps with a view to the avoidance of, and refrain from, any unilateral measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impedes the full achievement of economic and social development and hinders the well-being of the people of the affected countries.",

recognizing

*a)* that full harmonization of telecommunication/ICT networks is impossible unless all countries participating in the work of the Union without exception enjoy non-discriminatory access to new telecommunication/ICT technologies and modern telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and applications, without prejudice to national regulations and international commitments within the competence of other international organizations;

*b)* that the second phase of WSIS (Tunis, November 2005) identified ITU as the possible moderator/facilitator for the following WSIS action lines from the Plan of Action: C2 (Information and communication infrastructure) and C5 (Building confidence and security in use of ICTs);

*c)* that the Plenipotentiary Conference (Busan, 2014) entrusted the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) with a range of activities aimed at implementing the WSIS (Tunis, 2005) outcomes, a number of those activities having to do with Internet-related issues;

*d)* Resolution 102 (Rev. Busan, 2014), 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;

*e)* 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;

*f)* Resolution 64 (Rev. Busan, 2014), on non-discriminatory access to modern telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) facilities, services and applications, including applied research and transfer of technology, on mutually agreed terms;

*g)* Opinion 1 of the fourth World Telecommunication/ICT Policy Forum, on Internet-related public policy matters, and the Lisbon Consensus 2009 on the same matters,

resolves

that there should be non-discriminatory access to telecommunication/ICT, facilities, services and applications established on the basis of ITU‑R and ITU‑T Recommendations,

encourages the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to engage in partnerships or strategic cooperation with parties which respect access to telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and applications without discrimination,

requests the Secretary-General

to transmit this resolution to the forthcoming plenipotentiary conference for consideration,

 *instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

to report to the next WTDC on any discriminatory cases reported by member states,

 *invites Member states and Sector members*

1 to refrain from taking any unilateral and/or discriminatory actions that could impedes the full achievement of economic and social development and hinders thewell-being of the people of the affected countries;

2 to refrain from taking any unilateral and/or discriminatory actions that could impede another Member State from accessing public Internet sites and using any internet resources,

invites the Plenipotentiary Conference

to consider this resolution with a view to taking measures to foster global access to modern telecommunication/ICT, facilities, services and applications,

invites Member States

to help telecommunication/ICT equipment manufacturersand service providers in ensuring that telecommunication/ICT, facilities, services and applications established on the basis of ITU‑R and ITU‑T Recommendations are made available to the use of the public without any discrimination, in accordance with WSIS outcomes.

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