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| **Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-18) Dubai, 29 October – 16 November 2018** |  |
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| PLENARY MEETING | **Addendum 1 to Document 62-E** |
|  | **3 October 2018** |
|  | **Original: Russian** |
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| ITU Member States, Members of the RCC | |
| proposals for the work of the conference | |
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| No. | List of proposals from the Members of the RCC |
| [**RCC/62A1/1**](#RCC_62A1_1) | Proposal for the revision of Resolution 21 (Rev. Busan, 2014) “Measures concerning alternative calling procedures on international telecommunication networks” |
| [**RCC/62A1/2**](#RCC_62A1_2) | Proposal for the revision of Resolution 41 (Rev. Busan, 2014) “Arrears and special arrears accounts |
| [**RCC/62A1/3**](#RCC_62A1_3) | Proposal for the revision of Resolution 48 (Rev. Busan, 2014) “Human resources management and development” |
| [**RCC/62A1/4**](#RCC_62A1_4) | Proposal for the revision of Resolution 64 (Rev. Busan, 2014) “Non-discriminatory access to modern telecommunication/ICT facilities technology facilities, services and applications, including applied researches and transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms” |
| [**RCC/62A1/5**](#RCC_62A1_5) | Proposal for the revision of 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” |
| [**RCC/62A1/6**](#RCC_62A1_6) | Proposal for the revision of Resolution 119 (Rev. Antalya 2006) “Methods to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Radio Regulations Board” |
| [**RCC/62A1/7**](#RCC_62A1_7) | Proposal for the revision of Resolution 131 (Rev. Busan, 2014) “Measuring information and communication technologies to build an integrating and inclusive information society” |
| [**RCC/62A1/8**](#RCC_62A1_8) | Proposal for the revision of Resolution 137 “Deployment of IMT-2020 networks and beyond generation networks in developing countries” |
| [**RCC/62A1/9**](#RCC_62A1_9) | Proposal for the revision of Resolution 139 (Rev. Busan, 2014) “Use of telecommunications/information and communication technologies to bridge the digital divide and build an inclusive information society” |
| [**RCC/62A1/10**](#RCC_62A1_10) | Proposal for the revision of 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 of their performance conducted by the General Assembly of the United Nations” |
| [**RCC/62A1/11**](#RCC_62A1_11) | Proposal for the revision of Resolution 146 “Periodic review and revision of the International Telecommunication Regulations” |
| [**RCC/62A1/12**](#RCC_62A1_12)  [**RCC/62A1/13**](#RCC_62A1_13) | Proposal for the revision of Resolution 151 (Rev. Busan, 2014) “Implementation of results-based management in ITU” in conjunction with Resolution 72 (Rev. Busan, 2014), “Linking strategic, financial and operational planning in ITU” |
| [**RCC/62A1/14**](#RCC_62A1_14) | Proposal for the revision of Resolution 154 (Rev. Busan, 2014) “Use of the six official languages of the Union on an equal footing” |
| [**RCC/62A1/15**](#RCC_62A1_15) | Proposal for the revision of Resolution 177(Rev. Busan, 2014) “Conformance and interoperability” |
| [**RCC/62A1/16**](#RCC_62A1_16) | Proposal for the revision of Resolution 179 (Rev. Busan, 2014) “ITU's role in child online protection” |
| [**RCC/62A1/17**](#RCC_62A1_17) | Proposal for the suppression of Resolution 185 (Busan, 2014), "Global flight tracking for civil aviation” |
| [**RCC/62A1/18**](#RCC_62A1_18) | No change to Resolution 188 (Busan, 2014) “Combating counterfeit telecommunication/information and communication technology devices” |
| [**RCC/62A1/19**](#RCC_62A1_19) | Proposal for the revision of Resolution 191 (Rev. Busan, 2014) “Strategy for the coordination of efforts among the three Sectors of the Union” |
| [**RCC/62A1/20**](#RCC_62A1_20) | Proposal for the revision of Resolution 196 “Protection of users/consumers of telecommunication/ICT services” |
| [**RCC/62A1/21**](#RCC_62A1_21) | Proposal for the revision of Resolution 197 (Rev. Busan, 2014) “Facilitating the Internet of things for training to a globally connected world” |
| [**RCC/62A1/22**](#RCC_62A1_22) | Proposal for the revision of Resolution 200 (Busan, 2014) “Agenda for global telecommunication/ information and communication technology development «will be connected by 2020” |
| [**RCC/62A1/23**](#RCC_62A1_23) | Draft New Resolution “International public policy issues related to OTT services” |
| [**RCC/62A1/24**](#RCC_62A1_24)  [**RCC/62A1/25**](#RCC_62A1_25) | Draft New Resolution “Appointment and maximum term of authority of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Advisory groups, Study groups and other groups of Sector”; and  Proposal for the suppression of Resolution 166 “Number of vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups” |
| [**RCC/62A1/26**](#RCC_62A1_26) | Draft New Resolution “Proposals for furthering Big data researches (Big data)” |
| [**RCC/62A1/27**](#RCC_62A1_27) | Proposal for the revision of Decision 5 (Rev. Busan, 2014) “Revenue and expenses of the Union for the period 2016-2019” |
| [**RCC/62A1/28**](#RCC_62A1_28) | Proposal for the revision of Decision 11 (Rev. Busan, 2014) “Creation and management of Council working groups” |
| [**RCC/62A1/29**](#RCC_62A1_29) | Final declaration of definitive choice and class of contributions |
| [**RCC/62A1/30**](#RCC_62A1_30)  [**RCC/62A1/31**](#RCC_62A1_31)  [**RCC/62A1/32**](#RCC_62A1_32) | The streamlining of Resolutions of the Plenipotentiary Conference and ITU sectors |
| [**RCC/62A1/33**](#RCC_62A1_33)  [**RCC/62A1/34**](#RCC_62A1_34)  [**RCC/62A1/35**](#RCC_62A1_35) | Comparative analysis of International Telecommunication Regulations 1988 and 2012 |

Draft revision of Resolution 21 (Rev. Busan, 2014)

Measures concerning alternative calling procedures   
on international telecommunication networks

# I Introduction

Noting 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 interests; and the fact that 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/ICT networks and services, we consider it important to pursue the work of the relevant study groups in the Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) and Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) on issues pertaining to alternative calling procedures and call origin identification.

It is proposed that Resolution 21 should be updated in the light of the most recent decisions of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly in 2016 (WTSA-16) and of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-17).

# II Proposal

2.1 To continue work to identify and describe all forms of alternative calling procedures and assess their impact on all parties, with a view to reviewing relevant ITU‑T Recommendations.

2.2 To take appropriate measures to provide an acceptable level of quality of service (QoS) and quality of experience (QoE) defined by the relevant ITU‑T Recommendations.

2.3 To develop guidelines for administrations and international telecommunication operators or 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.

2.4 To request the appropriate ITU‑T and ITU-D study groups, through contributions of Member States and Sector Members, to continue to study a number of issues related to origin identification (OI) and calling line identification (CLI), minimal QoS and QoE thresholds, and protection of the rights of consumers when using calling procedures.

2.5 To modify accordingly Resolution 21, on measures concerning alternative calling procedures   
on international telecommunication networks (see Annex).

**Annex**

MOD RCC/62A1/1

RESOLUTION 21 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)

Measures concerning alternative calling procedures on international telecommunication networks

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

recognizing

*a)* Resolution 20 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) 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. Hammamet, 2016) of WTSA, on alternative calling procedures on international telecommunication networks;

*c)* Resolution 22 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on alternative calling procedures on international telecommunication networks, identification of origin and apportionment of revenues in providing international telecommunication services;

*d)* Resolution 65 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of WTSA, on calling party number delivery, calling line identification and origin identification;

*e)* 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;

*f)* the interests of developing countries;[[1]](#footnote-1)1

*g)* the interests of consumers and users of telecommunication services;

*h)* the need of some Member States to identify the origin of calls, taking into account the relevant ITU recommendations;

*i)* 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;

*j)* the benefits of competition in delivering lower costs and choice to consumers;

*k)* that there are a myriad of different stakeholders impacted by alternative calling procedures;

*l)* 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 (ICT) 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,

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‑D study groups are cooperating on issues related to alternative calling procedures and telecommunication origin identification,

resolves

1 to continue work to identify and describe all forms of alternative calling procedures and assess their impact on all parties, in order 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 international telecommunication operators or operating agencies authorized by Member States to take the appropriate measures to provide the acceptable levels of QoS and QoE defined by the relevant ITU-T Recommendations, 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 international telecommunication operators or 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, 3 and 12, and ITU‑D Study Group 1, 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;

iii) the minimum QoS and QoE thresholds to be fulfilled during the use of alternative calling procedures;

iv) issues pertaining to the protection of consumers when using alternative calling procedures,

instructs the Directors of the Telecommunication Development Bureau and of the Telecommunication Standardization 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 international telecommunication operators or 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, certain types of alternative calling procedures have on developing countries;

2 which permit the use of alternative calling procedures in the provision of international telecommunication services in accordance with their national regulations to pay due regard to the decisions of other administrations and international telecommunication operators or operating agencies authorized by Member States whose regulations do not permit such alternative calling procedures for international telecommunication services;

3 to cooperate to resolve difficulties in order to ensure that national laws and regulations of ITU Member States are respected on the basis of the relevant ITU Recommendations;

4 to adopt national legal and regulatory frameworks requesting administrations and international telecommunication operators or operating agencies authorized by Member States to avoid using alternative calling procedures that degrade the level of QoS and QoE, to ensure the delivery of international CLI and OI information, at least to the destination operating agency, and to ensure the appropriate charging, taking into account the relevant ITU‑T Recommendations;

5 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.

DRAFT REVISION OF RESOLUTION 41 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

Arrears and special arrears accounts

Proposals

1 It is proposed to reflect in the text of Resolution 41 (Rev. Busan, 2014) the need to update measures to settle all types of arrears (existing and new) of ITU Members, consistent with the ITU Constitution and Convention, with the aim of reducing all types of arrears, which reduce the Union’s financial stability.

2 It is also proposed to include the "Guidelines for repayment schedules for the settlement of arrears and special arrears accounts", based on the revision of Document C99/27, in Resolution 41 as Annex 1.

*Reference documents used in preparing this contribution*:

the ITU Constitution (Article 28 "Finances of the Union"), the ITU Convention (Article 33 "Finances"), Resolution 41 (Rev. Busan, 2014), Resolution 152 (Rev. Busan, 2014), Decision 5 (Rev. Busan, 2014), Resolution 169 (Rev. Busan, 2014), Resolution 158 (Rev. Busan, 2014), Resolution 187 (Rev. Busan, 2014), Doc.C17/11, Doc.C99/27, Financial Regulations and Financial Rules of the ITU.

MOD RCC/62A1/2

RESOLUTION 41 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)

Arrears and special arrears accounts

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

taking into account

*a)* 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, Associates and Academia;

*b)* Resolution 152 (Rev. Busan, 2014) which recognizes the need to increase the contributions receipt and considerably reduce arrears of Sector Members and Associates, and which might provide the Secretary-General the flexibility in negotiating repayment plans with Sector Members and Associates;

*c)* Resolution 158 (Rev. Busan, 2014) which notes, *inter alia*, the need in developing additional new financial mechanisms and reporting 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;

*d)* Resolution 169 (Rev. Busan, 2014) resolving to continue to admit academia to participate in the work of the Union;

*e)* Article 24 of the ITU Financial Regulations and Financial Rules on reserve for arrears accounts, according to which Plenipotentiary Conference may delegate such power to write off debts to the Council or to the Secretary-General,

noting

*a)* that according to No. 168 of the ITU Constitution Member States and Sector Members shall pay in advance their annual contributory shares;

*b)* that the level of arrears is still high,

considering

*a)* that according to No. 160 of the ITU Constitution all ITU Members shall be free to choose their class of contribution for defraying Union expenses;

*b)* that it is in the interest of all Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia to maintain the finances of the Union on a stable and sound footing, this being the core element for achieving ITU’s strategic goals and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),

considering further

*a)* that the whole positive trend of decreasing the total accumulated debt is due to debt restructuring;

*b)* that a number of Member States and Sector Members for which special arrears accounts have been established 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;

*c)* that a negative trend of growing cancelled special arrears accounts has emerged;

*d)* that write-off of significant amounts of money continues (bad debts and debt interest), which represents, as other debts do, uncollected revenue of the Union,

urges

all Member States in arrears, especially those for which special arrears accounts have been cancelled, as well as Sector Members, Associates and Academia in arrears, to submit an arrears 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 No. 169 of the Constitution shall not be taken into account, provided that the Member States concerned have submitted their arrears 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 monitor the work of the ITU Secretary-General on implementation of this Resolution, taking into account the "Guidelines for repayment schedules for the settlement of arrears and special arrears accounts" (annex to this Resolution), and including the provisions regarding the maximum duration for the settlement of arrears;

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, if the Member State wishes to settle its debt within a shorter term than stated in § 1 above;

• the write-off of interest on overdue payments, subject to each Member State, Sector Member, Associate and Academia Member 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

• the write-off of bad debts;

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 ITU Members' 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, Associates and Academia in arrears, schedules for the repayment of their debts in accordance with the "Guidelines for repayment schedules for the settlement of arrears and special arrears accounts” in the annex, 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 with schedules for the settlement of arrears,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to inform all ITU Members in arrears or having special arrears accounts or cancelled special arrears accounts, of this resolution and the annex thereto,

2 to report to the Council on the measures being 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;

3 report to the Plenipotentiary Conference on the implementation of this Resolution,

urges Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia

to assist the Secretary-General and the Council in the application of this resolution.

annex

Guidelines for repayment schedules for the settlement of arrears and special arrears accounts

Conclusion of an agreement establishing a repayment schedule and associated conditions

1 Any repayment schedule and the associated conditions shall be laid down in a written agreement concluded between the debtor concerned and the ITU Secretary-General, in line with the guidelines set out below. This agreement must be concluded no later than one year after receipt by the Secretary-General of the written request for a special arrears account to be opened. The Secretary-General shall draw up a standard agreement establishing a schedule for the settlement of arrears and the associated conditions, and shall submit this to the Council for consideration and approval.

Modalities

2 Arrears subject to an agreement establishing a repayment schedule shall be transferred to a special arrears account bearing no interest. The amounts transferred to a special arrears account may include assessed contributions due, or interest on overdue payments, or both.

Recovery of rights

3 A Member State which concludes a written agreement with the Secretary-General setting out a specific repayment schedule for the settlement of its arrears shall recover the right to vote lost on account of its arrears as from the date of receipt by ITU of the first instalment in accordance with the terms of the written agreement, subject to the provisions of No. 210 of the Constitution.

Similarly, for a Sector Member, Associate, or Academia member which concludes such a written agreement with the Secretary-General, the suspension of its participation in the work of the Sector or Sectors concerned shall be lifted as from the date of receipt by ITU of the first instalment in accordance with the terms of the written agreement.

4 No. 169 of the Constitution shall not be taken into account provided that the Member States concerned have submitted their arrears 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.

The procedure for restoration of rights will similarly be implemented for a Sector Member, Associate and Academia.

Repayment period

5 The maximum repayment period for Member States and Sector Members would generally be up to five (5) years for developed countries, up to ten (10) years for developing countries, and fifteen (15) years for least developed countries. For Academia and Associates the period would be up to five (5) years.

6 In accordance with Resolution 41 (Rev. Dubai, 2018), the Council is authorized to take appropriate additional measures in exceptional circumstances related to extension of repayment schedules, write-off of bad debts and accrued interests.

Temporary reduction of class of contribution

7 A Member State wishing to settle its arrears within a [any] shorter period than that indicated in § 5 may, for this purpose, request a *temporary reduction*in its class of contribution, provided that this reduction complies with the scale of contributions set out in Article 33 of the Convention. Such a request, duly substantiated, shall be submitted to the Council for approval.

8 If, however, the Member State concerned subsequently chooses, during the repayment period, to reduce its class of contribution under the relevant provisions of Article 28 of the Constitution, the temporary reduction approved by the Council will only apply up to the date of entry into force of the new class chosen under Article 28.

Writing off of interest on overdue payments

9 Subject to prior approval of the Council, granted on a case-by-case basis, the interest on arrears accrued by a Member State or Sector Member may be partially or totally written off. This action will however only become effective once the amount owed stipulated in the repayment agreement concluded between the Member State or Sector Member concerned and the Secretary-General has been settled *in full.*

Sanctions

10 Failure to comply strictly with the agreed terms and conditions of the written agreement establishing the specific repayment schedule and with the associated conditions shall result in abolition of the special arrears account and the associated conditions with immediate effect, and restoration of the sanctions foreseen in the basic instruments of the Union or in the decisions of the Plenipotentiary Conference and the Council.

11 During the repayment period, the debtor shall continue to pay annually its assessed contribution in full. Any failure in this respect (i.e. if the debtor falls into arrears on all or part of its assessed contribution) shall result in the abolition of the special arrears account and immediate termination of the written agreement with the Secretary-General.

Effective date

12 These guidelines shall enter into force on 1 January, 2019. All agreements concluded before this date are implemented under agreements and repayment schedules concluded on the bases of guidelines entered into force on 25 June, 1999 (Doc. С99/27). However, the ITU Member has the right to restructure the repayment schedule adopted before 1 January, 2019, in accordance with this Guidelines related to repayment schedules and special arrears accounts. A debtor failing to respect such previously agreed terms shall be requested to renegotiate the terms of settlement under these guidelines.

DRAFT REVISION OF resolution 48 (Rev. Busan, 2014)

Human resources management and development

Introduction

Human resources development is one of the key factors influencing the economic and social development of society. Since an educated, skilled and adaptable work force is a foundation of progressive, inclusive and equitable economic growth and for achieving the sustainable development goals (SDGs), there is a need to develop new strategies, and constantly refine existing ones, for building capacity and developing and making effective use of human resources.

Proposals

The main proposals to modify Resolution 48 (Rev. Busan, 2014) are in response to the need to update the text of Resolution 48 and its annexes.

It is proposed to update the content and structure of Annex 1 to Resolution 48 in the light of the “Draft framework for a new HR strategic plan. Functional Structure for Delivering on Strategic Objectives” (see Document C17/53, Annex 1).

References used in preparing this contribution:

UNGA Resolution 70/1, UNGA Resolution 72/254, UNGA Resolution 72/235, UNGA Resolution 72/734, UNGA Resolution 71/243, Resolution 25 (Rev. Busan, 2014), Council Resolution 1299, Council Resolution 1106, Council Decision 517, UN system wide action plan (UN-WAP), Document С17/53, Document С18/24, Document C18/INF/5, Document C18/64 with addenda 1-5.

MOD RCC/62A1/3

RESOLUTION 48 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)

Human resources management and development

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

recognizing

*a)* Article 27 "Elected Officials and Staff of the Union" and No. 154 of the Constitution[[2]](#footnote-2), according to which ITU is required to recruit staff on the basis of the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity*;*

*b)* the strategic plan for the Union as described in Resolution 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of this conference, and the need for highly skilled and motivated staff to attain the goals contained therein;

*c)* Resolution 151 (Rev. Dubai, 2018), which instructed the Secretary-General to continue to improve methodologies associated with results-based management (RBM) and results-based budgeting (RBB), at the levels of planning and implementation;

*d)* Decision 5 (Rev. Dubai, 2018), which indicates the resource limitations for the 2020-2023 period and specifies goals and objectives on the improvement efficiency of the ITU activities,

noting

*a)* the various policies[[3]](#footnote-4)2 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)* that gender equality is not simply a basic human right but a prerequisite for achieving peace, prosperity and sustainable development (SDG Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls);

*c)* United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution 70/1, on transforming our world: The 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, which affirmed a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative set of goals and targets;

*d)* UNGA Resolution 72/235, on human resources development, which stresses among other things that technological changes and breakthroughs are expanding at a rapid pace and impacting the world of work and that, in this regard, the development of human resources needs to keep pace and be supported by proactive strategies, investments and normative frameworks to address emerging issues relating to the future of work, education and training;

*e)* UNGA Resolution 72/234, on women in development, which recalls the commitment to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls including through the Sustainable Development Goals;

*f)* Resolution 70 (Rev. XXXX, XXXX) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on mainstreaming a gender perspective in ITU and promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women through information and communication technologies;

*g)* Resolution 25 (Rev. XXXX, XXXX), 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, and that there is a need for ongoing evaluation of the staffing requirement for regional and area offices;

*h)* Council [Resolution 1299](http://www.itu.int/council/pd/council-res-dec.doc" \l "r1299) (2008) which instructed the Secretary-General to prepare, in collaboration with the ITU Staff Council, a comprehensive human resources strategic plan;

*i)* Council Resolution 1106 (1996, last modified 2001), on implementation of the recommendations of the Tripartite Consultative Group on Human Resources Management, which reflects issues relating to incentive payments and staff promotion;

*j)* Council Decision 517 (2004, last modified 2009), adopted by the ITU Council at its 2004 session, on strengthening the dialogue between the Secretary-General and the ITU Staff Council;

*k)* other ITU Council Decisions and Resolutions relating to various aspects of human resources management;

*l)* the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan on gender equality and the empowerment of women (UN-SWAP[[4]](#footnote-5)3),

considering

*a)* the high value of the human resources of ITU and of the effective management of those resources to the fulfilment of its goals;

*b)* that ITU's human resources strategies should emphasize the importance of developing and 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 through various human resources development activities, including in-service training and training activities in accordance with staffing levels;

*d)* 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;

*e)* the need to achieve equitable geographical distribution of appointed staff of the Union;

*f)* the need to facilitate the recruitment of more women with the appropriate qualifications and the necessary professional experience in the Professional and higher categories, especially at the senior levels,

considering further

*a)* the impact on the Union and its staff of the innovative development of technologies and operational methods in the field of telecommunications/information and communication technologies;

*b)* the need for the Union and its human resources to adapt to this development through staff training and development and thus also the need to hire specialists with the highest qualifications,

resolves

1 that the management and development of ITU's human resources should continue to be compatible with the mission, values, 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 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* *a)* above, 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, 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,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 with the help of the Coordination Committee and in collaboration with the regional offices, to draw up a draft human resources strategic plan (HRSP) for the period 2020-2023 in accordance with Annex 1 to this Resolution, aligned with the ITU strategic and financial plans, including benchmarks within the HRSP, to ensure that human resources management and development help ITU achieve its management goals;

2 to implement, with the assistance of the Coordination Committee, and in collaboration with the regional offices, a four-year HRSP to respond to the needs of the Union, its membership and its staff;

3 to continue to study best practices in human resources management that might be applied within the Union, and report to the Council accordingly;

4 to improve and implement 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, including issues relating to relations between management and staff, and to provide to the Council, electronically where possible, statistics related to the HRSP, and on other measures adopted in pursuance of this resolution,

instructs the Council

1 to examine and approve the four-year Human Resources Strategic Plan in accordance with *instructs the Secretary-General* 1,and consider annual reports on the implementation of the HRSP and of this Resolution and to decide on the measures needed;

2 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;

3 to allocate the appropriate resources for in-service training in accordance with an established programme, as part 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 *f)* above.

ANNEX 1 TO RESOLUTION 48 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)

Framework for an ITU human resources strategic plan (HRSP) for the   
period 2020-2023

# 1 General provisions. Description of the current situation

1.1 General characteristics of ITU human resources (HR)

1.2 Basic functions of HRMD

1.3 Aligning staff functions and posts to the priorities, goals and objectives of ITU

1.4 "SWOT" – analysis in the field of human resources management

1.5 Brief outline of human resources management policy (including staff in the regional and area offices)

# 2 Managing the workforce: Guiding principles for managing the ITU workforce

2.1 Applying best practices of the UN common system in the field of HR management, compliance with UN common system policies and reporting requirements

2.2 Staff development and career policy

2.3 Contracts policy

2.4 Flexibility of working conditions and work/life balance

2.5 Conflict management, staff relations

2.6 Change management in relation to change arising in the process of fulfilling the mission, goals and objectives of the ITU strategic plan

2.7 Staff - management relations (Staff Council, management leadership and consultative bodies)

2.8 Ethics policy

# 3 Managing recruitment

3.1 Selection processes and the openness of such processes (taking account of geographic distribution and gender balance)

3.2 Screening for competence (technology for staff selection in line with required qualifications) in the light of the Union’s requirements and culture

3.3 Balance of external and internal recruitment

3.4 Short term and non-staff contracts

3.5 Outreach, branding

3.6 Induction and mentoring

3.7 Inter-agency mobility (loans and secondments)

# 4 Managing staff and career development with a view to creating an in-house reserve in order to reduce skills gaps and for purposes of succession planning

4.1 Building staff capacity including management and leadership development

4.2 Implementing the competency framework

4.3 Adaptation and mentoring programme

4.4 Retirement and career transitioning

4.5 Degree programmes

4.6 Performance evaluations and appraisals

4.7 Rewards and Recognition

4.8 Disciplinary matters

# 5 Management of salaries, compensation and benefits by the ITU administration

5.1 Salary management

5.2 Managing remuneration of regular staff and temporary staff

5.3 Medical insurance scheme

5.4 Retirement and disability pension scheme

5.5 Entitlements

5.6 Seeking ways of reducing the burden on the budget

# 6 Managing staff well-being: Fostering a supportive work environment

6.1 Creating optimal working conditions for staff

6.2 Occupational safety and health (includes prevention and care programmes)

6.3 Creating conditions for a supportive social and psychological climate

6.4 Ensuring compliance with the ITU Code of Ethics, policy against fraud, corruption and other proscribed practices, investigation policies and guidelines, and whistleblowing arrangements.

6.5 Facilities management (including services and facilities for staff with disabilities)

# 7 Four-year rolling operational plan of HRDM activities pursuant to the HRSP (prepared annually on the basis of the HRSP and taking account of budgetary constraints (Decision 5 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)); must include agreed benchmarks for monitoring

# 8 Annexes

8.1 Basic reference documents

– ITU basic instruments

– ITU Financial Regulations and Rules

– Resolution 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)

– Resolution 48 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)

– Decision 5 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)

– ITU Council resolutions and decisions concerning HR

– Resolutions of the UN system

8.2 Documents required to clarify specific points of the HRSP

8.3 Other relevant annexes (statistical and information documents)

ANNEX 2 TO RESOLUTION 48 (Rev. dubai, 2018)

Facilitating the recruitment of women at ITU

1 Within existing budgetary constraints, ITU should advertise vacancy notices more widely 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 provided that their qualifications and professional experience match those required in ITU.

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.

6 Conditions should be created for advanced training and career development for women at work and outside work.

DRAFT REVISION OF 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

# I Introduction

ITU’s activities on issues of non-discriminatory access to new technologies and modern telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and applications including applied research and transfer of technologies, are carried on pursuant to the relevant provisions of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, Resolution 64 (Rev. Busan, 2014), and other relevant ITU Resolutions and Recommendations.

It is important to note that solving the problem of non-discriminatory access to new technologies helps to overcome the digital divide and the standardization gap between developed and developing countries.

# II Proposals

2.1 ITU should, within its terms of reference, continue its work to ensure non-discriminatory access to telecommunication/ICT technologies, facilities, services and related applications established on the basis of ITU-T and ITU-R Recommendations.

2.2 ITU should facilitate non-discriminatory access to standardized telecommunication/ICT technologies, facilities, services and applications established on the basis of ITU-T and ITU-R Recommendations.

2.3 ITU should promote and encourage to the greatest extent possible standardization in ITU-R and ITU-T of new telecommunication/ICT technologies, facilities and related applications, including the results of applied research based inter alia on requests from developing countries, in the course of work carried out in the Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D).

2.4 ITU should amend Resolution 64 (Rev. Busan, 2014), on non-discriminatory access to modern telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and applications, including applied research and transfer of technology, and e‑meetings, on mutually agreed terms, in accordance with the annex.

**Annex**

MOD RCC/62A1/4

RESOLUTION 64 (Rev. dubai, 2018)

Non-discriminatory access to new technologies, modern telecommunication/information and communication technology facilities, services and applications, including applied research and transfer of technology, on mutually agreed terms

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

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. Buenos Aires, 2017), on applied research and transfer of technology, Resolution 20 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), on non-discriminatory access to modern telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) facilities, services and related applications and Resolution 37 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), 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;

*g)* Resolution 69 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly;

*h)* Decision 12 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary 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 important 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 and the standardization gap between developed and developing countries,

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 technologies, 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,

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 new telecommunication technologies and modern telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and related applications, including applied research and transfer of technology, on mutually agreed terms, should be reaffirmed,

resolves

1 to continue, within the mandate of ITU, fulfilling the need to endeavour to ensure non-discriminatory access to telecommunication/ICT technologies, facilities, services and related applications established on the basis of ITU‑T and ITU‑R recommendations including applied research and transfer of technology, on mutually agreed terms;

2 that ITU should facilitate non-discriminatory access to standardized telecommunication/ICT 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 standardized telecommunication/ICT 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;

4 that ITU should promote and encourage to the greatest extent possible standardization in ITU-R and ITU-T of new telecommunication/ICT technologies, facilities, services and related applications, including the results of applied research based *inter alia* on requests from developing countries in the course of work carried out in the Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D), and also facilitate work on the subsequent transfer of standardized technologies on mutually agreed terms,

instructs the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with the Directors of the three Bureaux

1 to integrate and analyse the information on incidents and difficulties reported by Member States in connection with the implementation of this Resolution; and to inform the Sector Advisory Groups of the results of that analysis;

2 to assist Member States and Sector Members in meeting their needs in seeking to achieve non-discriminatory access to:

– telecommunication/ICT technologies, facilities, services and related applications established on the basis of ITU‑T and ITU‑R recommendations, including applied research and transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms;

– standardization of new telecommunication/ICT technologies, facilities, services and related applications, including applied research and transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms;

3 to assist Member States and Sector Members in meeting their requests for standardization of new telecommunication/ICT technologies, facilities, services and related applications;

4 to encourage cooperation among the members of the Union on the question of non-discriminatory access to telecommunication/ICT 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;

5 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 and progress in implementing them, 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 facilities, 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, which may help to bridge the digital divide,

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 or in regulatory terms, 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;

4 to participate in and promote work in ITU-R and ITU-T to standardize new telecommunication/ICT technologies, facilities, services and related applications on the basis inter alia of requests from developing countries in the course of work carried out by ITU-D, with a view to the harmonious development and compatibility of telecommunications worldwide;

5 to inform the Secretary-General or, as appropriate, the Directors of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, Radiocommunication Bureau, and Telecommunication Development Bureau, of any difficulties arising from the implementation of this Resolution.

DRAFT REVISION OF 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

# 1 Introduction

As defined in 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, the plenipotentiary Conference 2018 must consider a report on the activities undertaken and achievements on the objectives of this resolution, including proposals for further consideration as appropriate, and including a report on the achievements of CWG-Internet.

# 2 Discussion

When reviewing Resolution 102, the RCC Member States took into account the work done by CWG-Internet during the period from the last plenipotentiary conference, its working methods and new approaches to collaboration with other stakeholders through open consultations.

Noting the broad development and ubiquitous use of Internet technologies and services, the global cross-border nature of such services, and the development of new approaches and requirements regarding aspects of Internet-related public policy issues, such as infrastructure security, confidentiality, data protection, and other aspects, we consider that the work being done in ITU must continue.

The RCC countries support the continuation of work within the CWG-Internet framework, which is restricted to ITU Member States, and are in favour of CWG-Internet formulating specific proposals on Internet-related public policy issues.

Furthermore, in accordance with the guidelines for holding open consultations, CWG-Internet has developed a mechanism for holding such consultations on-line and in the form of physical meetings. However, CWG-Internet does not make sufficient use of the results of these consultations in its own immediate work. In our view, these materials should be used more constructively in the work of CWG-Internet and should be applied for drawing up proposals on Internet-related public policy issues for all current questions on which CWG-Internet is working.

# 3 Proposals

To revise 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, in the light of the proposals indicated in the text below.

MOD RCC/62A1/5

RESOLUTION 102 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)

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 (Dubai, 2018),

recalling

*a)* relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly;

*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. Dubai, 2018) of this conference;

*d)* All resolutions  of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) and World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) relevant to this resolution,

recognizing

*a)* all resolutions of the Plenipotentiary Conference relevant to this resolution;

*b)* all outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) relevant to this resolution;

*c)* Internet-related activities of ITU, undertaken within its mandate with respect to the implementation of this resolution and other ITU resolutions relevant to it,

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 the development of the world economy in the twenty-first century;

*d)* that the development of the Internet is to a significant extent 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 capital 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 the United Nations General Assembly;

*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, economic, regulatory and policy issues related to IP-based networks, including the existing Internet and evolution to NGN and to technologies, applications and services, as well as the results of 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 issues relating to ENUM, ".int", protection of intergovernmental organization names and abbreviations in any new generic top-level domains (gTLDs), internationalized domain names (IDN), and country code top-level domains (ccTLD), 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 must 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 a platform for encouraging discussions and for the dissemination to all interested parties 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. Hammamet, 2016) of WTSA and Resolution 30 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC 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 resolutions of this conference and any 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[[5]](#footnote-7)1 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 the Internet governance process 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 a flexible and improved platform and mechanisms;

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[[6]](#footnote-8)2;

4 to continue the work of CWG-Internet, which is restricted to Member States, on the types of activities listed in the relevant resolutions of the Council and plenipotentiary conference,

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 reflecting 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,, which was extended for ten years by UNGA Resolution A/RES/70/125 of 16 December 2015;

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;

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 and the Sector study groups 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, economic and regulatory 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 appropriate studies on these issues by 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, to TSAG, 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, including least developed countries (LDCs), small island developing states (SIDSs), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and countries with economies in transition, 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 introduction 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, including LDCs, SIDSs, LLDCs and countries with economies in transition, 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;

4 to continue to hold open consultations with all stakeholders, as defined in Council Resolution 1344, in accordance with the following guiding principles:

• CWG-Internet will decide on the international Internet-related public policy issues for 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 and a brief summary of the results of physical open consultation meetings will be submitted to CWG-Internet for consideration of issues chosen for its next meeting;

5 to draw up proposals and recommendations on international Internet-related public policy issues for submission to ITU Council and, where necessary, to the Plenipotentiary Conference,

instructs the Council

1 to revise its Resolutions 1305, 1336 and 1344 to direct the CWG-Internet, , to prepare ITU contributions to the above activity, in particular proposals on international Internet-related public policy issues, based on contributions from Member States, the Secretary-General and Directors of the Bureaux, and also taking account of the results of open consultations with all stakeholders:

• 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, proposals and recommendations of CWG-Internet and take actions as appropriate;

4 to report to the 2022 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 representation of all countries 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 Internet 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.

draft revision of RESOLUTION 119 (Rev. Antalya, 2006)

Methods to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Radio Regulations Board

# I Introduction

The Radio Regulations Board of the International Telecommunication Union (hereinafter “RRB”) and its thorough and irreproachable work are of great importance to all ITU Member States.

RRB operates on the basis of the ITU Constitution and Convention and Radio Regulations and in accordance with the working methods set out in Part C of its Rules of Procedure.

In the interval between world radiocommunication conferences, RRB is the main interpreter of ambiguously worded texts in articles of the Radio Regulations, and also serves as an independent arbitrator in the event of an appeal by an administration or group of administrations against a decision made by the Radiocommunication Bureau regarding frequency assignments.

RRB decisions have a direct influence on the resolution of disputes relating to interference in the border regions of numerous ITU Member States, on maintenance of the international recognition status of frequency assignments for specific satellite communication systems, on conditions for the development of new radio technologies within countries, as well as on other important issues in the area of frequency assignments.

Recognizing the importance that ITU and the Member States attach to the work of RRB, and in the interests of ensuring impartiality and transparency in the Board’s decision-making, the RCC Administrations propose the following:

1 Where findings are reviewed and in cases of appeal (CV140 (2), RR 14.5), the decision of the Board is final insofar as the Bureau and the Board are concerned. If the administration which requested the review disagrees with the Board’s decision, it may raise the matter at a world radiocommunication conference (RR 14.6). The examination of findings and cases of appeal, at the request of one or more interested administrations, against decisions made by the Radiocommunication Bureau regarding frequency assignments, must be handled by the Board in accordance with CV140, independently of the Radiocommunication Bureau.

In accordance with § 3 in Part C of its Rules of Procedure, the following information shall be supplied to the Board: *a)* brief explanation and the history of the case; *b)* all relevant documents which were received from the concerned administrations and those relevant documents which were sent by the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau to those administrations; *c)* brief statement by the Director to clarify the view of the Radiocommunication Bureau. Unfortunately, in practice, when the Board considers matters relating to a review of findings or in the event of appeals (CV140 (2), RR 14.5), the Bureau’s involvement is not confined solely to a brief statement by the Director. We therefore have a situation in which the Board takes decisions on the basis of discussions in which staff members of the Bureau have played an active part and stated their position. A number of administrations have expressed the view that when such cases (CV140 (2), RR 14.5) are under consideration, representatives of the administration(s) on whose initiative the issue is being examined must be invited. Another way in which to resolve the matter in the interests of ensuring the Board’s impartial handling of reviews of findings and cases of appeal (CV140 (2), RR 14.5) is by strict adherence to CV140 entailing consideration of such issues independently of the Radiocommunication Bureau, i.e. without any staff members of the Bureau being present. This would ensure the impartial consideration of findings and of appeals against decisions made by the Radiocommunication Bureau regarding frequency assignments.

2 In the interests of enhancing the transparency and efficiency of RRB’s work, it is proposed that a provision on the audio/video recording of the Board’s meetings be included in Resolution 119 (Rev. Antalya, 2006). This would not only make RRB’s decision-making more transparent, but also enable its members to work more efficiently. However, in order to ensure that the Board members’ deliberations and decision-making are both independent and impartial, free access to the audio/video recordings should be provided once meetings have concluded and the summary of decisions has been published.

3 In accordance with § 1.6 of Part C of the Rules of Procedure, submissions from administrations shall be received by the Executive Secretary at least three weeks before the meeting. Any submissions received from administrations following the three-week deadline will normally not be considered at the same meeting and will be placed on the agenda of the following meeting. However, if so agreed by Board members, delayed submissions relevant to items on the approved agenda could be considered for information. It is sometimes the case that documents submitted by administration A before the deadline may affect the interests of administration B, and that administration B is unable, for reasons beyond its control, to submit a document presenting its position before the three-week deadline. This results in two documents, from different administrations and pertaining to the same matter, having a different status. Therefore, in order to ensure that administrations enjoy equal rights in the consideration of matters affecting the interests of different administrations, it is proposed that the Board be given the authority, at the request of an administration, to defer, once only, the discussion and decision-making to the following meeting. Such a request by an administration, duly substantiated, must be received by the Board not later than [five] days before the start of the meeting. Adoption of this proposal will make it possible for administrations to submit additional arguments where contentious matters are at issue, particularly in the event of opposing parties submitting documents on the last day for receipt of contributions to the Board meeting.

# II Proposal

In the interests of enhancing the independence and impartiality of RRB’s decision-making, as well as the transparency and efficiency of its work, it is proposed that Resolution 119 (Rev. Antalya, 2006) be amended as follows.

MOD RCC/62A1/6

RESOLUTION 119 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)

Methods to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Radio Regulations Board

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

recalling

*a)* Resolution 119 (Marrakesh, 2002) and Resolution 119 (Rev. Antalya, 2006) 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 Antalya, 2006) 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, and the need for impartiality in the latter’s decision-making,

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;

6 independently of BR, at the request of one or more interested administrations, to review findings and consider appeals (No. 140 (2) of the Convention and No. 14.5 of the Radio Regulations) against decisions made by BR regarding frequency assignments, examining any such cases and taking decisions thereon without the participation of BR representatives,

instructs the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau

1 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;

2 to ensure the video and audio recording of Board meetings and make such recordings available on the RRB website as soon as a Board meeting has concluded and the summary of its decisions has been published,

further resolves

1 that, in order to ensure that administrations enjoy equal rights in the consideration of contentious matters, the Board may, at the request of an administration, defer consideration of a matter and decision-making thereon to its next meeting, subject to such deferral happening no more than once and to such a request by an administration, duly substantiated, being received by the Board not later than [five] days before the start of the meeting;

2 that BR shall provide the Board with relevant information as referred to in *instructs the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau* 1 above, but that BR staff members shall be excluded from participation in the discussion of matters on the agenda of the Board’s meeting,

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 2019 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, as well as for making video and audio recordings of the Board’s meetings and posting them on the RRB website;

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 2019 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.

draft revision of RESOLUTION 131 (Rev. Busan, 2014)

Measuring information and communication technologies to build an integrating and inclusive information society

Introduction

Having regard to ITU’s work on the development of an Information and Communication Technology Development Index and of a Global Cybersecurity Index, and taking into account Resolution 8 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on the collection and dissemination of information and statistics, it has become necessary for this conference to revise Resolution 131 (Rev. Busan, 2014), on measuring information and communication technologies to build an integrating and inclusive information society, to include increasing the effectiveness of studies in that regard within the framework of the Telecommunication Development Sector study groups.

Proposal

To revise Resolution 131 (Rev. Busan, 2014) as shown below.

MOD RCC/62A1/7

RESOLUTION 131 (Rev. dubai, 2018)

Measuring information and communication technologies to build an integrating and inclusive information society

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

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, and are a strategic component and essential instrument for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) established in United Nations General Assembly resolution 70/1, on transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, of 25 September 2015;

*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 telecommunication/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 in different spheres of activity and social sectors at the international and national levels (including the digital divide between regions, countries, parts of countries, and between urban and rural areas), in the interests of development;

*b)* that the work of the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development[[7]](#footnote-9)1 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 telecommunications/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, 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"*,

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 the main stakeholders, among which ITU (represented by the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D)), involved in the production of telecommunication/ICT statistics for measurement of the information society, joined forces to create a Partnership for Measuring ICT for Development;

*c)* the contents of Resolution 8 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) as well as the Buenos Aires Action Plan, on collection and dissemination of telecommunication/ICT information and statistics, where it is proposed that the work of collecting information and statistical data be mainly focused within the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), in order to avoid duplication in this field;

*d)* that, under Output 3.2 of the Buenos Aires Action Plan “Products and services on telecommunication/ICT statistics and data analysis, such as research reports, collection, harmonization and dissemination of high-quality, internationally comparable statistical data, and forums of discussion”, WTDC calls upon ITU-D to carry out active, multifaceted activities aimed at:

– collecting, harmonizing and disseminating data and official statistics on the information society, disaggregated by sex and age and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, 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;

*e)* the WSIS outcomes in relation to telecommunication/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;

– § 118, which invited the international community to strengthen the statistical capacity of developing countries[[8]](#footnote-11)2 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;

*b)* that the Buenos Aires Declaration adopted by WTDC-17 declares that: "measuring the information society and elaborating proper and comparable indicators/statistics, in sex-disaggregated form, as well as analysing ICT trends, are important for both Member States and the private sector, the former being able to identify gaps that need public policy intervention, and the latter to identify and find investment opportunities, and that particular attention should be focused on tools for monitoring the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development",

recognizing further

*a)* that the rapid development of telecommunications/ICTs is impacting the evolution of the digital divide, causing it in particular to widen between the developed and developing countries;

*b)* that bridging the digital divide is a crucial task in the context of developing the digital economy in areas related to telecommunication/ICT infrastructure;

*c)* 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;

*d)* that the development of an approach for achieving universal service through broadband access is one of the main goals of ITU;

*e)* that the ICT Development Index (IDI) is an important indicator for measuring the information society and extent of the digital divide in international comparisons;

*f)* that the Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) is an important tool for measuring national development in regard to the building of confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs,

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 telecommunication/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 this 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, and also to ensure consistency between the telecommunication/ICT development indicators contained in the IDI and GCI, the indicators on household ICT use and the performance goals set out in the ITU Strategic Plan for 2020-2023,

noting

*a)* that the Geneva Plan of Action adopted by WSIS in 2003 identified appropriate reference points for telecommunication/ICT development up to 2015, including indicators of ICT access and use, as elements for subsequent measures and for evaluation of the plan;

*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. Buenos Aires, 2017) instructs the Director of BDT, among other actions, to continue to work closely with Member States for the sharing of best practices concerning policy and national telecommunication/ICT strategies, including the development of statistics and their dissemination, and considering gender, age and any other information relevant to the development of national public policies in the field of telecommunication/ICT,

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 telecommunication/ICT trends; and data for measuring the impact of telecommunications/ICTs in narrowing the digital divide, showing, to the extent possible, their impact in addressing gender issues, and on matters related to 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 the contribution of telecommunications/ICTs to progress and sustainable development;

2 that ITU should strengthen its coordination with other international organizations involved in the collection of telecommunication/ICT-related statistical data, and establish a standardized set of indicators through the Partnership for Measuring ICT for Development, improving the comparability and availability, and continuing to enhance the reliability, of telecommunication/ICT data and indicators and fostering the development of strategies and national, regional and international public policy in the area of telecommunications/ICTs,

resolves further

to establish a four-year period of validity for the methodologies and structures of the IDI and GCI, coinciding with the period of validity of the ITU strategic plan and in order to implement *resolves* 2 above,

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 telecommunication/ICT access, usage and skills indicators 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, as well as when implementing WSIS outcomes and addressing the emergence of new challenges in achieving the development of an inclusive information society in the wider context of the Post-2015 Development Agenda and SDGs up to 2030;

3 to ensure that projects, while having highly different goals and scopes, take account of the data, indicators and indices for measuring telecommunications/ICTs for their comparative analysis and for measurement of their results, such as for example in the implementation of Resolution 17 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC, on implementation of and cooperation on regionally approved regional initiatives at the national, regional, interregional and global levels,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to continue to promote the collection of telecommunication/ICT statistics in the form of indicators developed by ITU, primarily on the basis of official data provided by Member States through interaction with contact persons/representatives of administrations, and to publish them regularly in accordance with Resolution 154 (Rev. Busan, 2014), on use of the six official languages of the Union on an equal footing;

2 to promote the activities required to define and adopt new indicators, including e‑application and ICT skills indicators, for the purpose of measuring the real impact of telecommunications/ICTs on countries' development, having particular regard to the digital economy and countries’ specific characteristics;

3 to promote efforts to disseminate the internationally agreed methodologies and internationally comparable indicators for statistical analysis in the field of telecommunications/ICTs, having regard to national contexts;

4 to the extent possible, to ensure reliability, transparency and openness in the procedures used for processing the data supplied to ITU-D by Member States, in particular by making the current IDI and GCI calculation methodologies and their structures openly available in the statistical section of the ITU website in all six languages of the Union, including all algorithms, calculation formulae and sub-indices of the relevant index structures, as well as the source data received by ITU from Member States;

5 in order to give full effect to Resolution 8 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), to maintain expert groups on ICT indicators and statistics so that Member States can have a full say in the development of telecommunication/ICT indicators, including those in the IDI and GCI, and can systematically review and, where necessary, adapt their definitions, indicators and methodologies for the collection and processing of statistical data, carrying out any such review in accordance with Resolution 8 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) and with this resolution;

6 to continue to hold, on a regular basis, a global forum for discussing information-society measurement matters, in the form of the World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium and expert meetings, with participation by Member States, Sector Members and others interested in measuring telecommunications/ICTs and the information society;

7 to hold, on a regular basis, regional seminars and training events for developing countries in order to raise the level of knowledge and skills in the collection and processing of ICT indicators;

8 to give the necessary support for the implementation of Resolution 8 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), in view of the importance of implementing the WSIS outcomes and SDGs in relation to the indicators mentioned, and continue to avoid duplication in statistical work in this field;

9 to continue working to promote the IDI for analysis and assessment of the progress made in bridging the digital divide, and the GCI, using available internationally recognized methodologies for comparing statistical indicators as the means by which ITU responds to *considering a)* above;

10 to provide for the possibility of issuing each ITU Member State with recommendations for bridging the digital divide within the framework of the ITU Measuring the Information Society Report and ITU Report on the GCI;

11 to improve statistical data collection practices with a view to adapting the indicators recorded in the IDI so as to reflect the changing access to, use of and skills in telecommunications/ICTs, and to invite Member States to participate in such processes;

12 to cooperate with relevant international bodies, in particular those involved in the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development, for the implementation of this resolution;

13 to report annually to the Council on the implementation of this resolution, and in particular on the work of reviewing the structures and calculation methodologies of the IDI and GCI,

instructs the Secretary-General

to submit a report to the next plenipotentiary conference on progress in the implementation of this resolution,

instructs the Council

on the basis of the findings of the annual report submitted by the Director of BDT in accordance with *instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau* 13 above, to make appropriate recommendations as necessary regarding the ongoing implementation of this recommendation,

invites Member States

1 to participate in the submission to ITU-D of their national statistics in the area of telecommunications/ICTs for the calculation by ITU of existing and newly developed indicators for international comparisons and characteristics of the digital divide;

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 IDI and GCI;

3 to make use of the recommendations for bridging the digital divide provided within the framework of the ITU Measuring the Information Society Report and ITU Report on the GCI.

draft revision of RESOLUTION 137 (Rev. Busan, 2014)

Next-generation network deployment in developing countries

# I Introduction

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Hammamet, 2016) (WTSA-16) adopted two new resolutions relating to the deployment of new-generation networks – IMT-2020 and beyond, namely Resolution 92 (Hammamet, 2016), on enhancing the standardization activities in the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector related to non-radio aspects of international mobile telecommunications, and Resolution 93 (Hammamet, 2016), on interconnection of 4G, IMT-2020 networks and beyond, in the interests of studying and standardizing the technologies and scenarios involved in the interconnection of mobile and fixed communication networks in the provision of IMT-2020 and beyond telecommunication services.

For its part, the World Telecommunication Development Conference (Buenos Aires, 2017) (WTDC-17) revised Resolution 43 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), on assistance in implementing International Mobile Telecommunications and future networks, in the interests of helping developing countries in the deployment of IMT-2020 networks and beyond.

# II Proposal

It is proposed that Resolution 137 be revised to take account of ITU’s new work objectives in relation to IMT-2020 technologies and networks and beyond.

MOD RCC/62A1/8

RESOLUTION 137 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)

Deployment of IMT-2020 networks and beyond in developing countries[[9]](#footnote-12)1

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

recalling

*a)* Resolution 139 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*b)* Resolution 92 (Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA);

*c)* Resolution 93 (Hammamet, 2016) of WTSA;

*d)* Resolution 43 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of the World Telecommunication Development 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;

*c)* that many countries have begun to implement national, regional and international strategies for realizing the vision of a digital economy, for which IMT‑2020 networks and beyond should form the basis,

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 IMT-2020 networks and beyond,

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,

recognizing

*a)* that the developing countries have limited human and financial resources to cope with the ever-increasing digital divide and standardization gap;

*b)* that the existing digital divide at various levels (including the digital divide between regions, countries, parts of countries, and between urban and rural areas) is liable to be aggravated further with the emergence of new technologies if developing countries are not able to introduce them fully and in a timely manner;

*c)* that one of the most important expected outcomes of the timely introduction of subsequent-generation networks 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 their existing telecommunication networks, it is a pressing task to conduct a smooth migration from existing networks to subsequent-generation networks;

*b)* that subsequent-generation networks are potential tools to meet the new challenges facing the telecommunication industry, and that subsequent-generation network deployment and standards development activities are essential for developing countries, especially for ensuring equal access to modern telecommunication services for urban populations and populations in rural and remote areas;

*c)* that many developing countries having invested significantly in the deployment of their existing telecommunication networks to provide advanced services are still seeking to recover their investment, making it difficult for them to effect a timely migration to subsequent-generation networks;

*d)* that the migration of existing telecommunication networks to subsequent-generation networks may affect point of interconnection, quality of service and other operational aspects, which may also have an effect on costs to the end user;

*e)* that countries can benefit from subsequent-generation networks, 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 and developing the digital economy, 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;

*g)* that ITU-T Study Group 13 has established a new focus group entitled “Technologies for Network 2030” (FG NET-2030),

resolves to instruct the Directors of the three Bureaux

1 to continue and consolidate their efforts on subsequent-generation network 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 within ITU-R on IMT-2020 and beyond and ITU‑T Study Groups 11 and 13 on 2030 networks, and also within the Global Network Planning initiatives (GNPi) of ITU-D, and to coordinate ongoing work being carried out by study groups and the relevant programmes as defined in the 2017 Buenos Aires Action Plan in order to assist the membership in deploying subsequent-generation networks effectively, especially in conducting a smooth migration from existing telecommunication infrastructures to subsequent-generation networks and in seeking appropriate solutions to expedite affordable deployment in rural and remote 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,

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 and through the involvement of regional and international financial organizations and institutions, equipment suppliers, operators and all partners providing complete or partial financing for the implementation of cooperation programmes to develop telecommunications/ICTs, including the regionally approved initiatives under the Buenos Aires Action Plan and Resolution 17 (Rev. Dubai, 2018);

2 to highlight the importance and benefits of subsequent-generation network development and deployment to other United Nations specialized agencies and financial institutions,

instructs the 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 subsequent-generation networks, especially in regard to subsequent-generation network planning, deployment, operation and maintenance, and the development of subsequent-generation network based applications, especially for rural and remote areas, taking into consideration also development in the near future, in the interests of developing the digital economy,

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 next-generation networks, including the regionally approved initiatives under the Buenos Aires Action Plan and Resolution 17 (Rev. Dubai, 2018).

draft revision of RESOLUTION 139 (Rev. Busan, 2014)

Use of telecommunications/information and communication technologies to bridge the digital divide and build an inclusive information society

# 1 Introduction

In the information and communication technology industry, the sharing of network infrastructure and services is an emerging trend.

The expansion of telecommunication infrastructure sharing enables the more effective deployment of next-generation networks for bridging the digital divide.

Given that countries are faced with the challenge of establishing a policy that is conducive to the sharing of network infrastructure, it is proposed that the Telecommunication Development Bureau carry out appropriate studies to develop best practices for developing countries.

# 2 Proposal

To make appropriate changes to Resolution 139 (Rev. Busan, 2014), on the use of telecommunications/information and communication technologies to bridge the digital divide and build an inclusive information society.

MOD RCC/62A1/9

RESOLUTION 139 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)

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 (Dubai, 2018),

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[[10]](#footnote-14)1, including the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition, 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;

*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 the Plenipotentiary 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 reducing 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 the Plenipotentiary 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, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries 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. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC, on bridging the digital divide;

*c)* Resolution 50 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on optimal integration of ICTs;

*d)* Resolution 44 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) 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 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 the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries 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;

*k)* that the sharing of telecommunication infrastructure by States and by private telecommunication operators is an effective means of deploying telecommunication networks, including in rural and remote areas,

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 ensuring digital inclusion for all, 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, subregional, 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 telecommunication and 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, should 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 reducing 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 reducing the digital divide;

8 to promote the development of guiding principles that bring together best practices for the sharing of telecommunication network infrastructure by international telecommunication operators and operating agencies,

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. Buenos Aires, 2017) 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.

draft revision of 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

# I Introduction

After РР-14 there were two global events in the area covered by the Council Working Group on WSIS (CWG-WSIS) Terms of Reference:

– the UN Sustainable Development Summit, 25-27 September 2015, which adopted Resolution A/70/1 on transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; and

– the UN General Assembly high-level meeting on the overall review of the implementation of outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), 14-16 December 2015, which adopted Resolution A/70/125 on the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of WSIS outcomes.

These documents define ITU activities in the context of WSIS and the SDGs for the period up to 2030.

In 2016, pursuant to UN resolutions, the ITU Council revised Resolution 1332 (Rev. 2016), decided on the role of ITU in the implementation of WSIS outcomes and SDG achievement and accordingly amended the CWG-WSIS terms of reference.

The UN decisions and the ITU goals and objectives emanating therefrom need to be reflected in an appropriate resolution of the ITU plenipotentiary conference on WSIS and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Resolution 140).

CWG-WSIS should continue its work after PP-18 and, taking into account the broadening of its functions pursuant to Council Resolution 1332 (Rev. 2016), should be renamed Council Working Group on WSIS Implementation and SDG Achievement (CWG-WSIS&SDGs).

It is proposed that Resolution 140 be updated to reflect the latest UNGA decisions, that account be taken of the Sector objectives, and that the Sector assemblies/conferences be invited to consider maintaining the corresponding Sector resolutions.

**II Proposals**

2.1 To continue the activities of the working group and change its name to Council Working Group on WSIS Implementation and SDG Achievement (CWG-WSIS&SDGs).

2.2 To make the necessary amendments to Resolution 140, changing its title to read: "ITU's role in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development".The proposals for a draft revision of Resolution 140 are set forth below.

2.3 To invite the Sector assemblies/conferences to consider maintaining the corresponding Sector resolutions.

**Annex**

MOD RCC/62A1/10

RESOLUTION 140 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)

ITU's role in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and in the overall review by the United Nations General Assembly of their implementation

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

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)* 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;

*c)* UNGA Resolution A/70/125, containing the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the UNGA on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of WSIS;

*d)* UNGA Resolution A/70/1, on transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

*e)* 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) and endorsed by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Busan, 2014);

*f)* Resolution 140 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on ITU's role in implementing the outcomes of WSIS and in the overall review by the UNGA of their implementation,

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 information and communication technologies (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 "*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)* 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;

*b)* the needs of developing countries[[11]](#footnote-15)1, including in the areas of ICTs for development, development of the digital economy, bridging the digital divide, building telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, strengthening confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs and implementation of the other WSIS goals, as well as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);

*c)* 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;

*d)* that the full involvement of the membership, including Sector Members, Associates and Academia, as well as other stakeholders, is critical to successful ITU implementation of relevant WSIS outcomes;

*e)* that the strategic plan for the Union for 2020-2023 set out in Resolution 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of this conference contains a commitment to implementation of the relevant WSIS and SDG 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 vision beyond 2015 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

*f)* that the Council Working Group on WSIS (CWG-WSIS) constitutes an effective mechanism for facilitating Member State inputs on the role of ITU in implementing WSIS and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development outcomes;

*g)* that the ITU Secretary-General created the ITU WSIS/SDG Task Force, chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General, whose role is to formulate strategies and coordinate ITU’s policies and activities in relation to WSIS, taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

*h)* that the ITU Council resolved in 2016 to use the WSIS framework as the foundation through which ITU helps achieve the 2030 Agenda, within ITU’s mandate and within the allocated resources in the financial plan and biennial budget, noting the WSIS-SDG Matrix developed by UN agencies;

*i)* 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;

*j)* 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 outcomes of the WSIS Forum, organized annually by ITU in collaboration with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), UNESCO and UNDP;

*b)* the recognition in UNGA Resolution 70/125 that the WSIS Forum has been a platform for discussion and sharing of best practices in the implementation of the WSIS outcomes by all stakeholders, and that it should continue to be held annually;

*c)* that the Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development established at the invitation of the Secretary-General of ITU and the Director-General of UNESCO has drawn up and presented a new framework of 2025 Targets in support of the “Connecting the Other Half” initiative which aim to make broadband policy universal and to increase affordability and uptake in support of internationally agreed development goals, including the SDGs);

*d)* the annual reports by the Secretary-General on *ITU’s contribution to the implementation of the WSIS outcomes*, sent by ITU to ECOSOC through the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD), and the ITU Council’s contributions to the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, on relevant ITU activities;

*e)* the relevant Sector resolutions on the role of the ITU Sectors in implementing the WSIS outcomes taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

*f)* the relevant results of the 2015-2018 sessions of the ITU Council, including Resolution 1332 (Rev. 2016) on ITU’s role in the implementation of the WSIS outcomes, taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Resolution 1336 (Rev. 2015) on the Council Working Group on international Internet-related Public Policy Issues (CWG-Internet);

*g)* the programmes, activities and regional activities established by WTDC‑17 with the objective of bridging the digital divide,

recognizing

*a)* that the outcome document of the high-level UNGA meeting on the overall review of the implementation of the WSIS outcomes has substantial implications for the activities of ITU and calls for close alignment between the WSIS process and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, highlighting the cross-cutting contribution of ICTs to the SDGs and poverty eradication, and noting that access to ICTs has also become a development indicator and aspiration in and of itself;

*b)* that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has substantial implications for the activities of ITU;

*c)* that the WSIS outcomes will help achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and help facilitate the development of the digital economy;

*d)* the importance of ITU's role and participation in UNGIS, as a permanent member, and sharing a rotating chairmanship,

resolves

1 that ITU should play a leading facilitating role in WSIS implementation, along with UNESCO and UNDP;

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, as well as continue to coordinate and support the activities of the Partnership for Measuring ICT for Development;

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 its work on implementation of the WSIS vision beyond 2015, carrying out those activities that come within its mandate and the financial limits set by the Plenipotentiary Conference, and together with other stakeholders, as appropriate, should use the WSIS framework as the foundation through which ITU helps achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and development of the digital economy, within ITU’s mandate and within the allocated resources in the financial plan and biennial budget, noting the WSIS-SDG Matrix developed by UN agencies, working through CWG-WSIS, including by:

a) updating its WSIS Action Line roadmaps for C2, C5, and C6 to take into account activities under way to also achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

b) providing input, as appropriate, into the roadmap/work plans of WSIS Action Lines C1, C3, C4, C7, C8, C9 and C11, also related to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

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 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

6 that there is a need to integrate the implementation of the Buenos Aires Action Plan, and in particular Resolution 30 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), and relevant resolutions of plenipotentiary conferences, with the multistakeholder implementation of the WSIS/SDG outcomes;

7 that ITU should, within available resources, continue to maintain the current public WSIS Stocktaking database and WSIS Project Prizes, as valuable tools for assisting with the follow-up of WSIS;

8 that the ITU Sectors should carry out those activities that come within their mandate and participate with other stakeholders, as appropriate, in the implementation of all relevant action lines and other WSIS outcomes and in the achievement of relevant SDGs;

9 that the relevant ITU study groups should consider in their studies the output of CWG-WSIS and CWG-Internet;

10 that the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (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 Buenos Aires Declaration and Objective 2 of the Buenos Aires Action Plan and calling upon the ITU‑D study groups to do the same;

11 that ITU should submit a progress report on the implementation of WSIS/SDG outcomes concerning ITU to the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in 2022,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to support ITU's role in implementing the WSIS and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development outcomes;

2 to ensure that ITU activities related to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development are implemented through close alignment with the WSIS process and are conducted in accordance with its mandate, within established policies and procedures, and within the allocated resources in the financial plan and biennial budget;

3 to report annually, through CSTD to ECOSOC, on progress made in the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines for which ITU is the facilitator, and to provide this report to CWG-WSIS&SDG;

4 to contribute annually on relevant ITU activities to the ECOSOC High-Level Political Forum and provide the report to the ITU Council through CWG-WSIS&SDG;

5 to provide to the ITU Council a comprehensive annual report detailing the activities, actions, and engagements that the Union, is undertaking on these subjects, for its consideration and decision;

6 to invite UNGIS to align activities on developing the information society towards a knowledge society based on results of the overall review of implementation of WSIS outcomes and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

7 to continue to coordinate the WSIS Forum as a platform for discussion and sharing of best practices in the implementation of WSIS by all stakeholders, taking into consideration the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

8 to consider how the WSIS Stocktaking database and WSIS project prize competitions may need to be updated in light of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

9 to take into consideration the outputs of CWG-WSIS&SDG in SDG&WSIS Task Force activities;

10 to maintain the special WSIS Trust Fund to support ITU activities relating to facilitate the ITU implementation of WSIS outcomes through mechanisms including the establishment of partnerships and strategic alliances, and to invite the ITU Membership to make voluntary contributions,

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, and to coordinate with the WSIS/SDG Task Force with the aim of avoiding duplication of work among the ITU Bureaux and General Secretariat;

2 to regularly update the roadmaps for ITU’s activities within its mandate of the WSIS implementation, taking into account the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, as well as, “Connect 2020”, to be presented to the Council via CWG-WSIS;

3 to strengthen, involving, among others, the ITU regional and area offices, coordination and collaboration at the regional level with the UN regional economic commissions and UN Regional Development Group, as well as all UN agencies (in particular those acting as facilitator for WSIS action lines), and other relevant regional organizations, especially in the field of telecommunication/ICT, with the aim of the following:

i) aligning WSIS and SDG processes and their implementation as requested by UNGA Resolution 70/125;

ii) implementing ICT for SDG actions through the UN's "Delivering as One" approach;

iii) incorporating ICTs in the UN development assistance frameworks;

iv) developing partnerships for implementation of inter-agency and multistakeholder projects, advancing implementation of WSIS action lines and advancing achievement of SDGs;

v) highlighting the importance of advocacy for ICTs in national sustainable development plans;

vi) strengthening regional input to the WSIS Forum, WSIS Prizes and WSIS Stocktaking;

4 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;

5 to prepare and submit a progress report on the ITU activities for WSIS/SDG implementation to the next plenipotentiary conference in 2022,

instructs the Directors of the Bureaux

1 to ensure that concrete objectives and deadlines (using results-based management processes) are developed for WSIS and SDG activities and reflected in the operational plans of each Sector;

2 to take account of the impact of ITU’s work related to digital transformation and the growth of the digital economy, in line with the WSIS process, and provide assistance to membership upon request,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to follow, as soon as possible and in accordance with Resolution 30 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), a partnership approach in ITU‑D activities related to its roles in the implementation of the WSIS outcomes and achievement of the SDGs, and in the WSIS follow-up, 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 ITU's implementation of the WSIS/SDG outcomes and related ITU activities, considering and discussing such implementation and activities as appropriate, 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* 4 above;

3 to maintain CWG-WSIS and to rename it CWG-WSIS&SDG, in order to facilitate membership input and guidance on the implementation of relevant WSIS and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development outcomes;

4 to take into account UNGA decisions relating to the WSIS/SDG processes;

5 to prepare and submit to the UNGA High-Level Political Forum 2019 the report on the ITU contribution to the SDGs in 2015-2019;

6 to report annually on relevant ITU activities to the ECOSOC High-Level Political Forum through the mechanisms established by UNGA Resolution 70/1;

7 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, Sector Members, Academia and Associates

1 to participate actively in implementing WSIS/SDG 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 in the interests of building an inclusive and connected information society and achieving the SDGs;

2 to participate actively in ITU WSIS implementation activities to support achieving goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and related to digital transformation, which fosters sustainable growth of the digital economy;

3 to support, through relevant UN processes, the synergies and institutional linkages between WSIS and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, taking into account the WSIS-SDG Matrix, 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/SDG 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.

draft revision of RESOLUTION 146 (Rev. Busan, 2014)

Periodic review and revision of the International Telecommunication Regulations

# 1 Introduction

From 1988 to 2012, a period of 24 years, the International Telecommunication Regulations (ITRs) were not reviewed. WCIT-12 was, for objective reasons, not able to discuss adequately and reach a compromise on all the proposals received from ITU Member States and Sector Members, taking into account all current trends in telecommunications/ICTs.

As a result, there is still a certain inconsistency in the implementation of the two versions of the ITRs. On the one hand, all Member States have agreed on the need to revise the 1988 ITRs, while on the other, a number of administrations at WCIT-12 stated that it would not be possible to accede to the revised ITRs in 2012 and the years following the conference.

This state of affairs, in addition to the previous problems of effective implementation of the 1988 ITRs, also gives rise to new challenges for administrations and operators.

Many international commercial agreements between telecommunication operators include references to the ITRs or to specific provisions thereof.

In order to implement Resolution 146 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the plenipotentiary conference, on the periodic review and revision of the International Telecommunication Regulations, the ITR Expert Group, pursuant to Council Resolution 1379, between February 2017 and April 2018 carried out a review of the ITRs. The Expert Group submitted its final report to the Council session in 2018, noting in particular that there are two main points of view as regards the applicability of the ITRs. That does not, however, mean that those points of view are diametrically opposed and irreconcilable. It is simply the case that the proponents of each viewpoint emphasize that some apply the ITRs as being relevant to current conditions and levels of technological development, while others do not, on the grounds that the ITRs are not relevant.

Thus if all the parties concerned agree on a single current text of the ITRs, it will as a result of such work be relevant for all Member States and telecommunication operators.

# II Proposal

In the light of the foregoing, and on the basis of the ITR Expert Group’s conclusions set out in its final report, the RCC Administrations propose to make appropriate modifications to Resolution 146 (Rev. Busan, 2014) with a view to holding a WCIT in 2020 and revising the ITRs.

The purpose of these proposals is to reconcile the two main positions among Member States and Sector Members as identified by the Expert Group and reflected in its final report, with a view to:

1) Adopting by consensus a single text of the ITRs that is relevant for all parties concerned

2) Removing barriers to the application of the ITRs for those Member States that take the view that the 1988 and 2012 ITRs are not of current relevance for them or their telecommunication operators

3) Promoting the right conditions for Member States to meet their obligations in ITU including those concerning Article 4 and Article 6 of the ITU Constitution.

MOD RCC/62A1/11

RESOLUTION 146 (Rev. DUBAI, 2018)

Periodic review and revision of the International Telecommunication Regulations

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

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)* Resolution 4 (Dubai, 2012) of the World Conference on International Telecommunications, on periodic review of the International Telecommunication Regulations;

*d)* Resolution 144 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the plenipotentiary conference, on the availability of model host-country agreements in advance for conferences and assemblies of the Union held away from Geneva,

noting

1 that the International Telecommunication Regulations (ITRs) is one of the instruments of the Union – the Administrative Regulations, which regulate the use of telecommunications and shall be binding on all Member States;

2 that the ITRs 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;

3 that ITU must play an important part in addressing new challenges and new trends in telecommunications/ICTs including as a result of rapidly changing global international telecommunications/ICTs;

4 that ITU-T is playing an important role in resolving new and emerging issues arising from the changing global international telecommunication/information communication technology environment, and ITU-T study groups do most of the work relating to the ITRs;

5 that a world conference on international telecommunications (WCIT) may partially or, in exceptional cases, completely revise the ITRs and may deal with any question of a worldwide character within its competence and related to its agenda;

6 that revision of the ITRs and preparations for holding the WCIT are generally preceded by a review of the ITRs;

7 that the ITR review process began in February 2017 and continued until April 2018;

8 that as a result of the ITR review two main viewpoints emerged regarding the applicability and revision of the ITRs,

stressing

1 the importance of having a single text of the ITRs for application by all Member States in order to create an enabling environment that fosters supportive, transparent, pro‑competitive and predictable policies and decisions, as well as a regulatory and legal framework that provides the necessary incentives for investment in the development of telecommunications/ICTs and of the information society as a whole in the interests of the end user;

2 that Member States must adopt the necessary measures to ensure compliance with the ITRs by operating agencies authorized to establish and operate telecommunication services;

3 that only a WCIT, on the basis of consensus, may reconcile the different points of view regarding the ITRs that emerge during a review involving full or partial revision of the ITRs,

resolves

1 that the International Telecommunication Regulations, in accordance with the Constitution and Convention, as one of the basic texts of the Union, must remain relevant and be applicable in the conditions of the modern telecommunication/ICT environment;

2 that a review of the International Telecommunication Regulations must be carried out on a regular basis during the period between the end of the last WCIT and the decision to hold the next WCIT;

3 to convene an ordinary WCIT in 2020 (WCIT-20), preferably immediately after the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly;

4 to set up a working group to prepare for WCIT-20 and prepare for revision of the ITRs (WG-WCIT-ITRs) with the terms of reference set out in Annex 1 to this Resolution, including for the purpose of carrying out preliminary work on reducing to a minimum any divergences in views among ITU Member States and Sector Members as regards the adoption of a single consolidated text of the ITRs at the next WCIT,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to carry out the necessary consultation with Member States and regional organizations regarding the nomination of candidates for the posts of Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of WG-WCIT-ITRs, taking into account their competence and qualifications, and also facilitating better gender balance, and to submit proposals on candidates for the post of Chairman and, if there are suitable proposals, for the posts of Vice-Chairmen of WG-WCIT-ITRs, to the extraordinary session of the Council in 2018, to be held following the end of this Plenipotentiary Conference;

2 to make available to WG-WCIT-ITRs the means necessary to implement the provisions of this Resolution, within the available financial resources of the Union;

3 to carry out the necessary preparatory measures for WCIT-20 in accordance with the applicable rules and procedures of ITU;

4 to report to the Council on implementation of this Resolution as regards preparations for WCIT-20 and the report of WG-WCIT-ITRs,

instructs the Council

1 to examine and approve at the extraordinary session of the Council in 2018, to be held immediately following the end of this Plenipotentiary Conference, the candidatures submitted by the Secretary-General for the post of Chairman and, if there are suitable proposals, the posts of Vice-Chairmen of WG-WCIT-ITRs;

2 to examine the reports of the Secretary-General and WG-WCIT-ITRs and, if necessary, submit their comments to WG-WCIT-ITRs and WCIT-20;

3 to determine the dates, structure and agenda of WCIT-20,

instructs the Directors of the Bureaux

1 each within their field of competence, with advice, where necessary, from the relevant advisory group, to contribute to the work of WG-WCIT-ITRs, recognizing that ITU-T has most of the work relevant to the International Telecommunication Regulations;

2 to submit the results of their work to WG-WCIT-ITRs in the form of contributions to meetings with, where necessary, comments of the relevant advisory groups;

3 to consider providing fellowships, where resources are available, for developing[[12]](#footnote-16)1 and least developed countries according to the list established by the United Nations, in order to widen their participation in WG-WCIT-ITRs,

instructs WG-WCIT-ITRs

1 to hold its first meeting at the beginning of 2019 and then independently determine a schedule of subsequent meetings, but at least twice a year, in accordance with the General Rules for Conferences, Assemblies and Meetings of the Union;

2 to prepare a report to the Council and WCIT-20,

invites Member States and Sector Members

to participate in and contribute to WG-WCIT-ITRs on preparations for the revision of the ITRs and for holding WCIT‑20.

Annex 1

Terms of Reference of the Working Group on Preparations for WCIT and Revision of the ITRs (WG-WCIT-ITRs)

1 WG-WCIT-ITRs shall be open to all Member States and Sector Members.

2 WG-WCIT-ITRs shall work in the six official languages of ITU, with interpretation and translation for all its meetings.

3 The Group has a Chairman and six Vice-Chairmen representing regional organizations, nominated by Council taking into account competency and qualifications.

4 The General Rules of conferences, assemblies, and meetings of the Union and the Rules of procedure of the Council shall apply to WG-WCIT-ITRs.

5 All the output documents of meetings of WG-WCIT-ITRs shall be made publicly available, and all input documents shall be made publicly available subject to the decision of the submitter.

6 WG-WCIT-ITRs shall work on the basis of contributions submitted by Member States, Sector Members, and the Directors of the Bureaux, if necessary, with comments from the relevant advisory groups, and by relevant study groups of ITU’s three Sectors, and taking account of comments received from the Council.

7 WG-WCIT-ITRs shall examine all contributions received relating to current and future application of the ITRs including but not restricted to issues pertaining to:

a) the applicability of the ITRs in a rapidly evolving international telecommunication environment, taking account of contemporary technologies, services and existing international legal obligations of Member States, as well as changes in the scope of domestic regulatory regimes;

b) the relevance of the ITRs in relation to the other basic texts of the Union (Constitution, Convention and Radio Regulations);

c) conflicts arising between the obligations of signatories to the 2012 ITRs and signatories to the 1988 ITRs with respect to implementation of the provisions of the 1988 and the 2012 ITRs;

d) obstacles that prevent certain Member States from acceding to the ITRs, and the nature of those obstacles;

e) conflicting obligations of Member States party to the ITRs and to other international legal obligations, with regard to the implementation of the ITRs;

f) conflicts between international telecommunication operators or operating agencies authorized by Member States, where those Member States are parties to differing versions of the ITRs and/or other international legal obligations.

8 WG-WCIT-ITRs shall prepare a final report to the 2020 session of the Council on its work, which shall reflect:

a) recommendations regarding the revision[[13]](#footnote-17) of the ITRs;

b) recommendations regarding a future WCIT including recommendations relating to a) above;

c) recommendations regarding the revision of Resolutions and Recommendations of WCIT-12.

9 WG-WCIT-ITRs shall take into account in its work and in preparing reports:

a) relevant work concerning the ITRs undertaken before WCIT-12;

b) discussions that took place at WCIT-12;

c) discussions that took place in EG-ITRs between 2017 and 2018;

d) comments of the ITU Council and relevant advisory groups;

e) contributions from the Directors of the three Bureaux and the relevant ITU-T, ITU-R and ITU-D study groups;

f) contributions of all Member States and Sector Members.

DRAFT REVISION OF RESOLUTION 151 (BUSAN, 2014) ON THE BASIS OF MERGING WITH RESOLUTION 72 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

Introduction

The document sets out the updated text of Resolution 151 (Rev. Busan, 2014), on implementation of results-based management in ITU, taking into account the content of Resolution 72 (Rev. Busan, 2014), on linking strategic, financial and operational planning in ITU.

It is proposed to adapt the text of Resolution 151 to the new social and economic conditions of ITU operations, avoiding duplication of the information with other resolutions and using, where appropriate, the content of Resolution 72, which highlights the necessity of linking the strategic, financial and operational planning:

− RBM is the modern management strategy aimed to modify the way for the ITU to function more efficient, focus on certain programmes and their implementation, and including processes of planning and implementing the results-based budget (RBB);

− positive experience is accumulated in the introduction and application of RBM and RBB systems;

− implementation of JIU recommendations in the document "JIU/REP/2016/1: Review of management and administration in the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)" facilitates establishment and improvement of the RBM system in the ITU;

− new complicated tasks appears in the Union management, arising from uncertainty of processes in the outer environment as well as from the need to take part in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) identified in the UNGA Resolution "The 2030 agenda for sustainable development";

− RBM principles suppose improvement of planning, including harmonization of all types of planning in the organization, coordination of ITU services in the achievement of planned objectives, increase in the personnel activity synergy and its potential;

− linking the ITU strategic, financial and operational plans including biennial budgets based on the RBB concept is the necessary condition for efficient establishment and implementation of the sustainable RBM system in the ITU.

Reference documents used in preparing this contribution:

*ITU Constitution; ITU Convention; Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014); Decision 5 (Rev. Busan, 2014); Resolution 72 (Rev. Busan, 2014); Resolution 151 (Rev. Busan, 2014); Resolution 48 (Rev. Busan, 2014); Document C17/49, Document CWG-SFP-4/8, Document CWG-SFP-3/14, Financial Regulations and Financial Rules of ITU, JIU/REP/2004/6 (Part I), JIU/REP/2004/7 (Part II), JIU/REP/2004/8 (Part III), UNGA Resolution 70/1, on transforming our world: The 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.*

Proposals

1 To consider and approve the draft revised Resolution 151 (Rev. Busan, 2014) merged with relevant provisions of Resolution 72 (Rev. Busan, 2014) as described in the annex hereto.

2 To remove Resolution 72 (Rev. Busan, 2014) from the list of plenipotentiary conference Resolutions in force.

MOD RCC/62A1/12

RESOLUTION 151 (Rev.DUBAI, 2018)

Improving results-based management in ITU

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

considering

*a)* Resolution 72 (Rev. Busan, 2014), which notes the need of linking strategic, financial and operational planning through relationships between the corresponding documents and the information they contain;

*b)* Resolution 151 (Rev. Busan, 2010), which further instructed the Secretary-General to continue to improve methodologies associated with the full implementation of results-based management (RBM), including the presentation of biennial budgets based on the concept of results-based budgeting (RBB);

*c*) Resolution 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) which sets out strategic goals and objectives of the Union and Sectors, the achievement of which shall be encouraged by RBM;

*d)* Decision 5 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) which indicates the resource limitations for the 2020-2023 period and specifies goals and objectives on the improvement efficiency of the ITU activities;

*e)* Resolution 48 (Rev. XXXX, 20XX) which resolves that the human resources management and their development in ITU should further comply with goals and activity of the Union and United Nations common system,

noting

*a)* that ITU must, using accumulated experience, identify the most efficient management methods in the new and constantly changing conditions in society;

*b)* that the RBM system is aimed to solve the ITU management tasks and to do this to develop indicators for the monitoring and assessment of the progress in achievement of expected results (outcomes and outputs) as well as to increase transparency and accountability of the Union as a whole and responsible persons, in particular,

recognizing

*a)* that the process of using and refining the mechanisms of RBM and RBB at ITU will entail further improvement in the culture and involvement of staff at all levels in these processes;

*b)* that RBM requires a comprehensive strategy aimed at changing the way UN agencies operate, with improving performance (achieving specific results) as the central orientation RBM;

*c)* that improvements in the RBM system require a constant process of planning, programming, results-based budgeting (RBB), contract management, monitoring and evaluation; delegation of authority and accountability, including staff performance;

*d)* that strategic and operational planning of the activities of the Union is an integral part of RBM system aimed at the effective implementation of all the plans and activity programmes including by the processes of linking strategic, financial and operational plans, and that effective special monitoring mechanisms are needed to ensure that the ITU Council can monitor progress in this area,

recognizing further

the need to implement the JIU recommendations contained in document JIU/REP/2016/1: Review of management and administration in the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) taking into account the value of RBM in the United Nations Organization system,

emphasizing

that the purpose of RBB and RBM is to ensure that high-priority activities are given adequate resources, efficient use of which is essential in order to achieve planned results,

resolves to instruct the Secretary-General and the Coordination Committee

1 to continue to improve processes and methodologies associated with RBM and RRB, at the levels of planning and implementation;

2 to continue to develop a comprehensive ITU results framework to support implementation of the strategic plan and linkage of the latter with the financial and operational plans and budget and increase the capability of the Union’s membership to assess the progress in achievement of ITU goals, and for this purpose to:

a) in the operational and financial plans of ITU, set out the activities of the Union, the objectives of those activities and the associated resources and results;

b) monitor implementation of the interlinked Union plans utilizing a comprehensive performance monitoring framework to enable ITU to evaluate progress;

c) to continually improve efficiency of all activities by eliminating duplication taking into account complementarity between the activities of ITU and those of other relevant international and regional telecommunication organizations in accordance with the mandate of each ITU Sector;

d) to ensure transparency of the reports by publishing detailed information, including the one of all costs incurred in the use or deployment of financial and human resources (external or internal);

e) to further develop the risk-management system at the ITU level, in the context of RBM, to ensure that contributions from ITU membership and other financial resources are used to best advantage;

3 to prepare coordinated and consolidated plans of the Sectors and General Secretariat reflecting the linkages between strategic, financial and operational planning, for annual review by the Council, while identifying particular measures and elements to be included in the operational plans of the Sectors and the General Secretariat, to ensure coherence among the plans;

4 to provide to conferences and assemblies the necessary information from the full range of new financial and planning mechanisms available in order to estimate the financial implications of their decisions made, as well as, assist Member States in preparing 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;

5 to make steady progress in increasing staff capacity, increase skill level and ITU staff participation in RBM according to Resolution 48 (Rev. XXXX, 20XX), and reflect the relevant results in the Staff report;

6 to make appropriate proposals, related to RBB and RBM, for consideration by the Council, with a view to introducing changes into the Financial Regulations and Financial Rules of the Union, taking into account the views of Member States and the recommendations of the Sector advisory groups, as well as of internal and external auditors and IMAC;

7 to monitor on a yearly basis implementation of PP Resolutions following PP-18 and to prepare an annual report to the ITU Council (in the frameworks of the annual report on the Implementation of the Strategic Plan and Activities of the Union),

instructs the Secretary-General

to report annually to the ITU Council on the implementation of this Resolution,

instructs the ITU Council

1 to continue to take appropriate action to ensure further improvements and appropriate implementation of RBB and RBM mechanisms 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,

encourages 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.

**Reasons:** It is proposed to revise Resolution 151 (Rev. Busan, 2014), using, where appropriate, provisions from Resolution 72 (Rev. Busan, 2014), as linking strategic, financial and operational planning is part of the results-based management (RBM) system and is a prerequisite for improving it.

SUP RCC/62A1/13

RESOLUTION 72 (Rev. Busan, 2014)

Linking strategic, financial and operational planning in ITU

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

**Reasons:** It is proposed that the basic provisions of Resolution 72 (Rev. Busan, 2014) be included in Resolution 151, and Resolution 72 accordingly removed from the list of plenipotentiary resolutions in force.

draft revision of RESOLUTION 154 (Rev. Busan, 2014)

Use of the six official languages of the Union on an equal footing

# I Introduction

On the basis of the examination of the Secretary-General’s report on the implementation of Resolution 154 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the plenipotentiary conference, on the use of the six official languages of the Union on an equal footing, and the report of the Chairman of the Council Working Group on Languages (CWG-LANG), and taking into account Council Resolution 1386, on the ITU Coordination Committee for Terminology (ITU CCT), the Russian Federation proposes a revised text of Resolution 154 (Rev. Busan, 2014), on the use of the six official languages of the Union on an equal footing.

# II Proposal

To introduce the following modifications to Resolution 154 (Rev. Busan, 2014).

MOD RCC/62A1/14

RESOLUTION 154 (Rev. DUBAI, 2018)

Use of the six official languages of the Union on an equal footing

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

recalling

*a)* United Nations General Assembly Resolution 67/292, on multilingualism;

*b)* Resolution 66 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*c)* Resolution 165 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*d)* Resolution 168 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference,

reaffirming

the fundamental principle of equal treatment of the six official languages, as enshrined in Resolution 154 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010), on the use of the six languages on an equal footing,

noting with satisfaction and appreciation

*a)* the progress made in the implementation of Resolution 154 (Rev. Busan, 2014) 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;

*b)* ITU’s active participation in the International Annual Meeting on Language Arrangements, Documentation and Publications (IAMLADP),

noting further

*a)* Council Resolution 1372 (2016), on the Council Working Group on Languages (CWG-LANG);

*b)* Council Resolution 1386 (2017), on the ITU Coordination Committee for Terminology (ITU CCT);

*c)* Relevant Sector resolutions on issues pertaining to the use of languages,

recognizing

*a)* that translation and interpreting 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)* the work accomplished by the ITU Council Working Group on Languages, as well as the work by the secretariat to implement the working group's recommendations as agreed by the Council, 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

1 to present annually to the Council and to the Council Working Group on Languages (CWG-LANG) a report containing:

– evolution of the budget for translation of documents to the six official languages of the Union since 2014, 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 2014;

– 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 ;

2 to continue work on the harmonization of Sectors’ sites to ensure clarity, ease of navigation and a decent image of ITU;

3 to provide timely updates of the pages of the ITU website in all six languages of the Union,

instructs the Council

1 to continue 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 continue 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 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:

– 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);

– 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 the Council Working Group on Languages (CWG-LANG), in order to monitor progress and report to the Council on the implementation of this resolution, working in close contact with ITU CCT;

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 meetings of the Union, respecting deadlines for submission of contributions that require translation, and to contain their size and volume to the greatest extent possible.

draft revision of RESOLUTION 177 (Rev. Busan, 2014)

Conformance and interoperability

# I Introduction

Resolution 177 (Busan, 2014) sets out objectives for the development of an ITU conformity and interoperability programme. It also provides for assistance to Member States in addressing their concerns with respect to counterfeit equipment.

Issues of conformity and interoperability of telecommunication equipment, networks and services, to which attention is drawn in Resolution 177 (Busan, 2014), is becoming a matter of great concern for the telecommunication/ICT market, as evidenced by the vigorous work being done by Member States and Sector Members in the Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) and Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) and in the collaboration of ITU with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC).

# II Proposal

Taking account of the foregoing, it is proposed that a number of amendments relating to this programme be made to Resolution 177 (Busan, 2014).

MOD RCC/62A1/15

RESOLUTION 177 (Rev. DUBAI, 2018)

Conformance and interoperability

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

recognizing

*a)* Resolution 197 (Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on facilitating the Internet of Things (IoT) to prepare for a globally connected world;

*b)* Resolution 123 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries;

*c)* Resolution 200 (Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the Connect 2020 Agenda for global telecommunication/ICT development;

*d)* Resolution 76 (Rev.  Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on studies related to C&I testing, assistance to developing countries, and a possible future ITU Mark programme;

*e)* Resolution 98 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, on enhancing standardization of the IoT and smart cities and communities for global development;

*f)* Resolution 47 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference;

*g)* Resolution 62 (Geneva, 2012) of the Radiocommunication Assembly;

*h)* 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; [[14]](#footnote-18)1

*i)* the progress reports made by the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB) to the Council at its sessions from 2011 to 2018 and this conference,

noting

*a)* that several ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU‑T) study groups have already started pilot projects for conformity to ITU‑T recommendations;

*b)* that CASC, in collaboration with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), is working on the establishment of a joint IEC/ITU certification scheme for assessing ICT equipment for conformity with ITU-T Recommendations;

*c)* that ITU-T has launched a Product Conformity Database and is progressively populating it with details of ICT equipment having undergone testing for conformity with ITU-T Recommendations,

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 testing for conformity with ITU-T Recommendations should help in efforts to combat counterfeit ICT products,

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;

4 that ITU, being a world standardization body, can address the impediments to harmonization and growth of worldwide telecommunications and promote the visibility of ITU standards (ensure interoperability), by means of having an ITU testing mark regime, taking into account the technical and legal implications,

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;

7 considering *resolves*4 above, to accelerate the implementation of Pillar 1, so as to ensure gradual and smooth accomplishment of the other three pillars and the possible implementation of the ITU Mark,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, in close collaboration with the Director of the Standardization Bureau and the Director of the Telecommunication Radiocommunication 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 the possible introduction of an ITU Mark, taking into account the technical, financial and legal implications,

invites the Union’s 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 a standardization development organization 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 ITU 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 to take appropriate actions as deemed necessary with respect to C&I.

DRAFT REVISION OF RESOLUTION 179 (Rev. Busan, 2014)

ITU's role in child online protection

# Proposal

To revise Resolution 179 (Rev. Busan, 2014), on ITU’s role in child online protection, with a view to updating the text in the light of the results of ITU activities, as set out in the annex hereto.

MOD RCC/62A1/16

RESOLUTION 179 (Rev. DUBAI, 2018)

ITU's role in child online protection

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

recognizing

*a)* Resolution 67 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) 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;

*c)* the Sustainable Development Goals adopted in United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution 70/1, on transforming our world: The 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, which concern various aspects of child online protection, in particular Goals 1, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10 and 16,

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 and the appropriate practical tools,

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)* ITU Council Resolution 1306 (Modified 2015), which defines the terms of reference of the Council Working Group on Child Online Protection (CWG-COP), with the participation of Member States and Sector Members;

*g)* ITU Council Resolution 1305 (2009), which has identified the topic of protecting children and young people from abuse and exploitation as one of the international Internet-related public policy matters;

*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 WSIS Action Line C5 (Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs);

*b)* that the child online protection (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 Recommendation ITU-T E.1100, on specification of an international numbering resource for use in the provisioning of international help lines, provides an additional numbering resource for overcoming the technical difficulties that have made it impossible to establish a single globally harmonized national number, as provided for in Supplement 5 to Recommendation ITU‑T E.164 (11/2009), and that 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 online consultations conducted by the Council Working Group on Child Online Protection (CWG-COP);

*b)* the experience acquired at global, regional and national levels of developing technological, managerial and organizational resources in order to protect children online, along with innovative applications to make it easier for children to communicate with child online protection helplines, and the need to continue this work aiming at finding available solutions and disseminating them among governments and other stakeholders, in accordance with applicable national laws on the protection of personal data;;

*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;

*f)* the activities of governments, national, regional and international intergovernmental and industry organizations which promote the exchange of best child online protection practices,

resolves

1 to continue the COP initiative as a platform to raise awareness and share best practice on child online safety issues;

2 to continue providing assistance and support to Member States, especially developing countries[[15]](#footnote-19)1, in developing and implementing roadmaps for the COP initiative;

3 to continue to coordinate the COP initiative, in cooperation with relevant stakeholders,

requests the Council

1 to continue the work of 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 collaborate with CWG-Internet in order to contribute in a mutually beneficial manner to the fulfilment of work under the mandates of these Council working groups on relevant issues;

4 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;

5 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 report on the 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. Buenos Aires, 2017);

2 to collaborate closely with CWG‑COP and CWG‑Internet in order to gain the best possible outputs through the work on the relevant ITU‑D study questions and 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 issues of child online protection;

5 to update, as necessary, the guidelines created by ITU, in collaboration with COP partners, and disseminate them 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 TSB 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 continue to explore practicable solutions and tools that facilitate access to child online protection hotlines worldwide, in accordance with applicable national legislation on the protection of personal data;

2 to continue to work with Member States, when requested, on the allocation of a telephone number on a regional basis 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 children and young people, parents, teachers, industry and the population in general, in order to raise awareness of the risks that may be encountered by children online and of measures for protection from such risks;

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 and foster the allocation of resources to enable the operation of child online protection hotlines;

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 and tools 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

1 to exchange information on practical methods of identifying and introducing the most effective technologies to contribute to more effective child online protection;

2 to apply Recommendation ITU-T E.1100, on specification of an international numbering resource for use in the provisioning of international help lines;

3 to promote and participate in consultations on child online protection with all relevant stakeholders.

suppression of RESOLUTION 185 (Busan, 2014)

Global flight tracking for civil aviation

The Plenipotentiary Conference 2014 (PP-14), in Resolution 185 (Busan, 2014), on global flight tracking for civil aviation, instructed 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.

In the light of studies carried out in ITU-R, the World Radiocommunication Conference 2015 considered this question, allocated the frequency band required in Article 5 of the Radio Regulations, and adopted Resolution 425 (WRC-15), on the use of the frequency band 1087.7‑1092.3 MHz by the aeronautical mobile-satellite (R) service (Earth-to-space) to facilitate global flight tracking for civil aviation.

Taking into account the fact that WRC-15 implemented the instructions of PP-14, Resolution 185 (Busan, 2014) can be suppressed.

SUP RCC/62A1/17

RESOLUTION 185 (Busan, 2014)

Global flight tracking for civil aviation

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

RESOLUTION 188 (Busan, 2014)

Combating counterfeit telecommunication/information and communication technology devices

# 1 Introduction

Considering that it was only at the end of 2014 that the last Plenipotentiary Conference (Busan, 2014) adopted a new Resolution 188 (Busan, 2014), on combating counterfeit telecommunication/information and communication technology devices, setting out the main areas of activity of ITU on this topic, while the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly 2016 (WTSA-16) and World Telecommunication Development Conference 2017 (WTDC‑17), in developing the decisions and instructions of PP-14, only formulated specific tasks and areas of study, and identified the lead ITU-T and ITU-D study groups for this question, the ITU Member States, Members of the RCC consider that it would be premature at the moment to examine any proposals to modify Resolution 188 of PP-14 as this could create complications in the work of ITU-T and ITU-D recently organized in accordance with the decisions of WTSA-16 and WTDC-17.

At present it is also the case that there are no specific proposals on new areas of study that might be started in ITU on combating the spread of counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices.

# 2 Proposal

In the light of the foregoing, and also given the lack of any proposals on new areas of study under Resolution 188 (Busan, 2014), the ITU Member States, Members of RCC propose to continue the work organized in ITU in connection with the Union’s activities to combat counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices under the terms of the relevant decisions of WTSA-16 (Hammamet, Tunisia) and WTDC-17 (Buenos Aires, Argentina) and to leave unchanged Resolution 188 (Busan, 2014), on combating counterfeit telecommunication/information and communication technology devices.

NOC RCC/62A1/18

RESOLUTION 188 (Busan, 2014)

Combating counterfeit telecommunication/information and communication technology devices

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

DRAFT REVISION OF RESOLUTION 191 (Busan, 2014)

Strategy for the coordination of efforts among the three Sectors of the Union

Introduction

The Regional Commonwealth in the Field of Communications (RCC) ascribes great importance to efforts to improve the strategy and mechanisms for coordinating efforts in areas of mutual interest for the three Sectors of ITU. In recent decades, those areas and the types of activity have expanded considerably.

The Plenipotentiary Conference 2014 approved Resolution 191 (Busan, 2014), on the strategy for the coordination of efforts among the three Sectors of the Union. In the subsequent period the Radiocommunication Assembly 2015 (RA-15), World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly 2016 (WTSA-16), and World Telecommunication Development Conference 2017 (WTDC‑17) approved a number of resolutions (Resolutions ITU-R 6-2, ITU-R 7-3 of AP-15, Resolution 18 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of WTSA-16 and Resolution 59 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC-17) aimed at improving the effectiveness of coordination and eliminating duplication of effort in the work of the Sectors, which is becoming increasingly important in the conditions of limited resources of the Union.

The proposed revision of Resolution 191 is based on the experience acquired by the Sectors and by ITU as a whole over the period following the Plenipotentiary Conference 2014, as well as the views voiced in the Working Group for Strategic and Financial plans for 2020-2023, the 2018 session of the Council, and the proposals made by regional telecommunication organizations, and a number of modifications and adjustments have been made.

MOD RCC/62A1/19

RESOLUTION 191 (REV. DUBAI, 2018)

Strategy for the coordination of efforts among the three Sectors of the Union

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

noting

*a)* Resolution ITU-R 6-2, adopted by the Radiocommunication Assembly 2015, on liaison and collaboration with the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T), and Resolution ITU‑R 7-3, on telecommunication development including liaison and collaboration with the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU‑D), revised by the Radiocommunication Assembly (RA) of 2015;

*b)*  Resolution 45 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on effective coordination of standardization work across study groups in the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector, and the role of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group;;

*c)* Resolution 18 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on principles and procedures for the allocation of work and coordination among the ITU Radiocommunication (ITU-R), ITU Telecommunication Standardization (ITU-T) and ITU Telecommunication Development (ITU-D) Sectors,;

*d)* Resolution 59 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on strengthening coordination and cooperation among the three ITU Sectors on matters of mutual interest;

*e)* Resolution 5 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC, on enhanced participation by developing countries[[16]](#footnote-20)1 in the activities of the Union;

*f)* the establishment of the inter-Sector coordination group (ISCG) on issues of mutual interest, set up under decisions of the Sector advisory groups, and of the Inter-Sectoral Coordination Task Force (ISC-TF), headed by the Deputy Secretary-General, in order to eliminate duplication of effort and optimize the use of resources,

considering

*a)* the purposes of the Union listed in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution;

*b)* the role assigned to each of the three Sectors and to the General Secretariat to contribute to fulfilling the purposes and achieving the objectives of the Union;

*c)* that, according to No. 119 of the Constitution, the activities of ITU-R, ITU-T and ITU-D shall be the subject of close cooperation with regard to matters relating to development, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Constitution;

*d)* that, according to No. 215 of the Convention, ITU-R, ITU-T and ITU-D 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, and the Sectors shall adopt procedures to conduct such reviews and reach such agreement in a timely and effective manner; ;

*e)* 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 expanding sphere of joint studies between the three Sectors and the need for coordination and cooperation among them in this regard, ensuring an integrated approach in the context of “One ITU”*;*

*b)* the need for developing countries to acquire tools to strengthen telecommunications/ICTs;

*c)* that despite efforts made, levels of participation by developing countries in the activities of ITU-R and ITU-T are inadequate, so that there is a need for enhanced collaboration and joint activity of ITU-R and ITU-T with ITU‑D;

*d)* the catalysing role of ITU-D, which seeks optimal resource use so that capacities can be built in developing countries;

*e)* 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;

*f)* that the growing number of issues of mutual interest and concern to the three Sectors, such as deployment of telecommunication/ICT systems, international mobile telecommunications (IMT), emergency telecommunications, telecommunications/ICT and climate change, cybersecurity, access to telecommunications/ICTs for persons with disabilities and special needs, conformance and interoperability testing of telecommunication/ICT equipment and systems, , and better use of scarce resources, among others, increasingly require an integrative approach from the Union;

*g)* 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;

*h)* inter-sectoral objective I.6 “Reduce the areas of overlap and duplication and foster closer and more transparent coordination among General Secretariat and ITU Sectors, taking into account the Union’s budgetary provisions and the expertise and mandate of each Sector”,

bearing in mind

*a)* that the activity 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 continue to 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 the ISCG and ISC-TF are effective tools for developing an integrated strategy;

*f)* that inter-Sector collaboration and coordination should continue to be headed by the General Secretariat, in close collaboration with the Directors of the three Bureaux,

resolves

that the Sector advisory groups (RAG, TSAG and TDAG), including through the ISCG, should continue to review new and existing work and its distribution among the three Sectors for approval by the Member States in accordance with the procedures established for the approval of new and/or revised Questions,

invites

1 RAG, TSAG and TDAG to continue to assist ISCG in the identification of subjects common to the three Sectors and mechanisms to enhance cooperation and collaboration in all Sectors on matters of mutual interest;

2 the Directors of the Radiocommunication, Telecommunication Standardization and Telecommunication Development Bureaux, and of ISC-TF, to report to the ISCG and the respective Sector advisory groups on options for improving cooperation at the secretariat level to ensure that close coordination is maximized,

resolves to instruct the Secretary-General

1 to continue to improve the coordination and cooperation strategy for effective and efficient efforts in areas of mutual interest to the three ITU Sectors and the General Secretariat, in order to avoid duplication of effort and optimize the use of the Union’s resources;

2 to identify overlapping functions and types of activity between the ITU Sectors and the General Secretariat and propose solutions for eliminating them;

3 to update the list containing the areas of mutual interest to the three Sectors and the General Secretariat pursuant to the mandates of each ITU assembly and conference;

4 to report to the Council and Plenipotentiary Conference on the coordination activities carried out among the different Sectors and the General Secretariat in each such area, as well as the results obtained;

5 to continue to ensure close cooperation and regular exchanges of information between the ISC-TF and ISCG;

6 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 and the General Secretariat on the agenda of its meetings so as to follow its evolution and take decisions to ensure its implementation,

instructs the Secretary-General 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 inform the relevant advisory groups, study groups and other groups, of cases of duplication of functions and activities between the ITU Sectors and of decisions proposed to eliminate such cases;

3 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;

4 to provide support to the ISCG and Sector advisory groups in the inter-Sector coordination activity in areas of mutual interest,

invites the Member States and Sector Members

1 in preparing proposals to conferences and assemblies of the ITU Sectors, as well as plenipotentiary conferences, to take into account the specific nature of the activities of the different bodies of the Union and the need to eliminate duplication of effort in their activities;

2 in adopting decisions of conferences and assemblies of the Union, to adhere to the provisions of Nos. 92, 115, 142 and 147 of the ITU Constitution, according to which assemblies and conferences should avoid adopting resolutions and decisions which might give rise to expenditure in excess of the financial limits laid down by the Plenipotentiary Conference;

3 to support the efforts to improve inter-sectoral coordination by, *inter alia*, actively participating in the groups created by the Sector Advisory Groups to ensure coordination between them.

DRAFT REVISION OF RESOLUTION 196 (Busan, 2014)

Protecting telecommunication service users/consumers

# 1 Introduction

Considering that existing laws 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, it is important to continue the work in ITU to develop appropriate Recommendations in ITU-T and ITU‑D, as well as technical reports and other ITU texts, with the aim of protecting users/consumers of telecommunication/ICT services.

# 2 Proposal

With a view to further work in the Union’s working bodies, we propose the following revised text of Resolution 196 for consideration and approval.

MOD RCC/62A1/20

RESOLUTION 196 (REV. DUBAI, 2018)

Protecting telecommunication service users/consumers

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

recalling

*a)* Resolution 64 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) 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;

*c)* Resolution 84 (Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, on studies concerning the protection of users of telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) services;

*d)* Resolution 188 (Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on combating counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices;

*e)* Resolution 189 (Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on assisting Member States to combat and deter mobile device theft,

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 legal access to the 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 ITU-D on setting guidelines and best practices on consumer protection,

resolves

that work will be continued to develop relevant ITU Recommendations and other texts aimed at protecting users/consumers of telecommunications/ICTs, and to assist Member States in developing policies and/or regulations for the protection of users/consumers of telecommunications/ICTs,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau in close collaboration with the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization 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 the rights of consumers and users of telecommunication/ICT services, including on the basis of ITU-T Recommendations;

2 to closely collaborate with the Member States in order to identify critical areas for the establishment of recommendations, guidelines, policies and/or regulatory frameworks for the protection of consumers and users of telecommunications/ICTs;

3 to strengthen relations with other international organizations including SDOs, and bodies that participate in the protection of consumers and users of telecommunication/ICT services;

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, and the implementation of technical decisions based on ITU-T Recommendations,

invites the Member States

1 to encourage the creation and promotion of policies and/or regulations that ensure the timely delivery of free, transparent, up-to-date and accurate information to end users of telecommunication/ICT services about telecommunication/ICT services, including international roaming rates and relevant applicable conditions, including on the basis of ITU-T Recommendations and other ITU texts;

2 to provide inputs to ITU-T study groups on issues pertaining to the protection of users of international telecommunication/ICT services, and to ITU-D study groups, 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 of telecommunication/ICT services, including data protection;

3 to promote policies that foster the provision of telecommunication/ICT services in a manner that delivers suitable quality to the users of telecommunication/ICT services, based *inter alia* on ITU-T Recommendations;

4 to promote competition in the provision of telecommunication/ICT services, encouraging them to formulate policies, strategies or regulations that drive competitive prices,

invites Member States, Sector Members and Associates

to contribute to the implementation of this Resolution.

DRAFT REVISION OF RESOLUTION 197 (Busan, 2014)

Facilitating the Internet of Things to prepare for a globally connected world

# 1 Introduction

The digital economy in many countries is in a stage of very rapid development. Development of the Internet of Things (IoT) is one of the pillars of that digital economy.

The effects of introducing IoT are felt at the interface of many economic sectors and technologies with current models of management and operation.

Introducing IoT entails resolving technological, social and policy issues among a wide range of stakeholders.

Taking into account the various risks for sectors of the economy, including big business and investors, with regard to issues of security, confidentiality, and interoperability of IoT standards, it is proposed that measures be adopted to facilitate the general dissemination of IoT.

# 2 Proposals

To examine the proposed revisions to Resolution 197 (Rev. Busan, 2014), on facilitating the Internet of Things to prepare for a globally connected world, as set out in the annex hereto, and to amend the Resolution accordingly.

MOD RCC/62A1/21

RESOLUTION 197 (REV. DUBAI, 2018)

Facilitating the Internet of Things to prepare for a globally connected world

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

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 the establishment of home networks, and could benefit developing countries[[17]](#footnote-21)1 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,

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 in order to develop services enabled by IoT (hereinafter "IoT services") interoperability is required at the global level, to the greatest 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 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda set out in United Nations General Assembly Resolution 70/1;

*f)* that IoT could redefine the relationship between people and devices;

*g)* that development of IoT is one of the pillars of the digital economy,

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 2019-2022;

4 to submit a report to the next plenipotentiary conference in 2022,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau and the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau

1 to continue the work of relevant ITU-T and ITU-R study groups enabling IoT to become 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;

3 to facilitate the spread of IoT devices in all economic sectors by adopting appropriate measures to ensure security, confidentiality and technical interoperability,

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.

DRAFT REVISION OF RESOLUTION 200 (Busan, 2014)

Connect 2020 Agenda for global telecommunication/information and communication technology development

# I Background

At the 2014 Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-14), ITU Member States adopted Resolution 200 (Busan, 2014), on the Connect 2020 Agenda for global telecommunication/ICT development, establishing a set of global goals to be achieved by the Union as a whole by 2020 in the areas of *growth*, *inclusiveness*, *sustainability*, and *innovation and partnerships* in the telecommunication/ICT sector. These goals and the associated targets corresponded to the strategic plan of the Union for 2015-2019 as approved under Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2015).

The importance of the Connect 2020 Agenda has been noted in a number of UN document including UNGA Resolution A/RES/70/125, 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, the results of which are scheduled to be reviewed in 2025.

The 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda adopted under UNGA Resolution A/70/1 acknowledges that “[t]he spread of information and communications technology and global interconnectedness has great potential to accelerate human progress, to bridge the digital divide and to develop knowledge societies, as does scientific and technological innovation across areas as diverse as medicine and energy.”

The Broadband Commissionfor Sustainable Development at the beginning of 2018 established seven ambitious but achievable targets for the period to 2025 in support of the “Connecting the Other Half” initiative (<http://www.broadbandcommission.org/Documents/publications/wef2018.pdf>). The aim of this initiative is to develop broadband infrastructure and Internet access in pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals and thereby promote the well-being of people and economic growth.

The Union’s strategic objectives, which will be included in the revised Resolution 71, will continue to support ITU’s role in promoting progress with the implementation of the WSIS action lines and the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, achieving progress with broadband access as a pillar of digital transformation and development of the digital economy.

Resolution 200 (Busan, 2014) should be revised with a new title "**Connect with Broadband 2030 Agenda for global telecommunication/ICT development for sustainable development**", to reflect the overall vision objectives, and targets for the period to 2030, and reflecting the targets set by the Broadband Commission.

Specific targets will be defined by the Plenipotentiary Conferences in 2018, 2022 and 2026.

# II Proposal

To revise Resolution 200 (Rev. Busan, 2014) as indicated in the annex.

MOD RCC/62A1/22

RESOLUTION 200 (REV. DUBAI, 2018)

Connect with Broadband 2030 Agenda for global telecommunication/information and communication technology development for sustainable development

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

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 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);

*c)* the call for close alignment of the processes of implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted in UNGA Resolution 70/125;

*d)* 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 WSIS Plan of Action, and the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda;

*e)* § 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;

*f)* the Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development 2025 targets in support of the “Connecting the Other Half” 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 implementation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),

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 outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda: Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in Resolution 70/1;

*b)* the WSIS outcome documents – the Geneva Plan of Action (2003) and the Tunis Agenda (2005);

*c)* the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the WSIS outcomes, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in Resolution 70/125;

*d)* 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, approved by the Plenipotentiary Conference in Busan, 2014;

*e)* 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;

*f)* the Buenos Aires Declaration adopted by the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC‑14) and the Buenos Aires Action Plan and relevant WTDC‑17 resolutions, including Resolutions 30 and 37, (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), as well as Resolutions [135, 139, and 140] (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of this conference;

*g)* Resolution 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of this conference, which adopted the strategic framework for the Union for 2020-2023 and set the strategic goals, related targets and objectives;

*h)* Resolution 200 (Busan, 2014), on the Connect 2020 Agenda for global telecommunication/information and communication technology development,

recognizing further

*a)* that telecommunications/ICT is a key enabler to accelerate social, economic and environmentally sustainable growth and development, while the spread of information and communications technology and global interconnectedness has great potential to accelerate human progress, to bridge the digital divide, and to develop knowledge societies;

*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. Dubai, 2018),

resolves

1 to reaffirm a shared global vision for the development of the telecommunication/ICT sector, under the Connect with Broadband 2030 Agenda 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 high-level strategic goals detailed in the Union’s strategic plans and the respective targets, inspiring and inviting all stakeholders and entities to work together to implement the Connect with Broadband 2030 Agenda, contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda;

3 to call upon Member States to continue active engagement in implementation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, working with the United Nations Secretary-General, to ensure the important role of telecommunications/ICT as a key enabler for achieving the SDGs, and to help ensure the importance of telecommunications/ICT for the 2030 Sustainable 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 with Broadband 2030 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 with Broadband 2030 Agenda;

3 to further facilitate implementation of the WSIS Action Lines and SDGs assigned to the responsibility of ITU, in accordance with the Connect with Broadband 2030 Agenda;

4 to present annual consolidated progress reports to the ITU Council and quadrennial consolidated progress reports to the Plenipotentiary Conference;

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 particular developing countries[[18]](#footnote-22)1, 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 2020-2023 in Annex 1 to Resolution 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2018), that contributes to the Connect with Broadband 2030 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 with Broadband 2030 Agenda;

2 to present an assessment of the progress towards achieving the Connect with Broadband 2030 Agenda to the next plenipotentiary conference,

invites the Member States

1 to participate actively in the implementation of the Connect with Broadband 2030 Agenda, and contribute with national, regional and international initiatives;

2 to invite all other stakeholders to contribute and work together towards the Connect with Broadband 2030 Agenda;

3 to provide data and statistics, as appropriate, to monitor progress towards the achievement of the Connect with Broadband 2030 Agenda;

4 to report national progress towards the achievement of the Connect with Broadband 2030 Agenda, and contribute to the database that will collect and disseminate information on national and regional initiatives contributing to the Connect with Broadband 2030 Agenda;

5 to ensure that ICTs are central to the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, by being acknowledged as an important tool to achieve its overall SDGs;

6 to contribute to the work of ITU, as elaborated in the strategic plan for the Union for 2020‑2023 in Annex 2 to Resolution 71 (Rev.  Dubai, 2018), that contributes to the Connect with Broadband 2030 Agenda,

invites Sector Members, Associates and Academia

to take an active role towards implementing the Connect with Broadband 2030 Agenda,

invites all stakeholders

to contribute with their initiatives and their experience, qualifications and expertise to the successful implementation of the Connect with Broadband 2030 Agenda for Global Telecommunication/ICT Development.

Draft New Resolution – "Proposals for ongoing work on international public policy issues relating to OTT services"

# 1 Introduction

The rapid development of information and communication technologies (ICTs) has resulted in the proliferation of services provided over the Internet, also known as OTT services.

Such services have a significant impact on domestic and international telecommunications and now play an essential part in the global digital economy. This being the case, international public policy considerations in regard to OTT must be viewed from all angles, including those of security, privacy, personal data protection and measures to prevent misuse. The evolution of OTT services presents new challenges for telecommunication regulation, which must also serve to foster investment and innovation.

A key factor to be taken into account when looking at how to regulate OTT services is their cross-border nature, which calls for international cooperation and coordination between ITU Member States and all stakeholders.

# 2 Discussion

Issues relating to OTT services are comprehensively addressed by ITU.

In line with its terms of reference, as set out in Resolution 1336 (Mod. 2015), the Council Working Group on international Internet-related Public Policy Issues (CWG-Internet) is responsible for identifying, studying and developing matters related to international Internet-related public policy issues.

CWG-Internet made the proposal, endorsed by Council 2017, that it should hold open consultations on the topic “Public policy considerations for OTTs”. Within the framework of those consultations, ITU Member States and other stakeholders presented their views on, among other things, the technical aspects of OTT use, domestic and international OTT-related policy and regulatory issues, opportunities and implications associated with OTT services, the OTT service provider’s contribution to ensuring user security and protection and consumer privacy, conditions for the development and well-being of all stakeholders, local and international collaboration and so on. The open consultations attracted a very large number of stakeholder contributions.

Through its Study Groups 2, 3 and 17, the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) has been carrying out studies on numerous aspects of OTT. These studies focus on technical and operational issues, consumer security and protection, and economic aspects of OTT service development and implementation. The study groups have prepared a number of reports and recommendations. Work is currently under way on the preparation of a technical report and of new ITU-T Recommendations on issues relating to the economic impact of OTT, customer redress mechanisms and consumer protection in OTT services and implications of OTT service use for telecommunication operators, and studies are being conducted on the economic impact of technology and service convergence and the role of the regulator.

Within the framework of its mission of organizing and coordinating technical cooperation and assistance, ITU’s Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) has carried out studies under Question 1/1, as reflected in the Final Report on Question 1/1, entitled “Policy, regulatory and technical aspects of the migration from existing networks to broadband networks in developing countries, including next-generation networks, m-services, OTT services and the implementation of IPv6”.

The ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) is examining the technical aspects of OTT service implementation and use by the systems of different radiocommunication services. ITU-R Study Groups 5 and 6 are conducting studies and developing ITU-R Recommendations and Reports on the use of OTT in mobile (especially IMT-2020) devices and broadcasting services.

# 3 Proposal

Having regard to the foregoing, the ITU Member States, members of the Regional Commonwealth in the field of Communications consider it important that ITU’s work on OTT should continue, and propose a draft new resolution on the subject for consideration and adoption by PP-18.

ADD RCC/62A1/23

Draft New Resolution [RCC-1]

International public policy issues relating to OTT services

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

recalling

*a)* all outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and the outcome documents of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event;

*b)* the Internet-related activities of ITU;

*c)* Articles 4, 6, 7 and 8 of the International Telecommunication Regulations (ITRs), adopted by the World Conference on International Telecommunications (Dubai, 2012) (WCIT);

*d)* Resolution 5 (Dubai, 2012) of WCIT, on international telecommunication service traffic termination and exchange;

*e)* Resolution 139 (Rev. Dubai, 2018), on use of telecommunications/information and communication technologies to bridge the digital divide and build an inclusive information society;

*f)* Resolution 130 (Rev. Dubai, 2018), on strengthening the role of ITU in building confidence and security in the use of information and communication technologies;

*g)* Resolution 102 (Rev. Dubai, 2018), 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;

*h)* Resolution 180 (Rev. Dubai, 2018), on facilitating the transition from IPv4 to IPv6,

recognizing

*a)* that the ITU Constitution and ITRs fully recognize the sovereign right of each State to regulate its telecommunication;

*b)* that Member States have the right to provide any domestic or international telecommunication services to their citizens;

*c)* the importance of telecommunications/ICTs for the social and economic development of all countries;

*d)* that OTT services have a significant impact on domestic and international telecommunications, and that international public policy considerations for OTTs should be considered as a matter of priority, including such issues as security, privacy and measures to prevent misuse;

*e)* that the development of OTT services creates new challenges for telecommunication industry regulation, which must be geared towards fostering investment and innovation;

*f)* that the regulation of OTT services, which are cross-border in nature, calls for international cooperation and coordination among Member States and all stakeholders;

*g)* the need to address the policy and regulatory aspects of OTT services, as well as the economic implications of their use and considerations relating to quality of service,

considering

*a)* the studies carried out by:

– ITU-T Study Groups 2, 3 and 17;

– ITU-D Study Group 1;

– ITU-R Study Groups 5 and 6;

*b)* the inputs received from multiple stakeholders in the course of open consultations held by the Council Working Group on international Internet-related Public Policy Issues (CWG-Internet);

*c)* the deliberations of the Expert Group on Telecommunication/ICT Indicators,

noting

that numerous stakeholders are advocating the continuation of studies on key aspects of OTT service regulation, including quality, accessibility, consumer protection, licence conditions, infrastructure development, security, identification and numbering,

resolves

to continue the study of international public policy issues relating to OTT services, including key aspects of OTT service regulation and technical and economic considerations,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

1 to encourage the relevant ITU-T study groups to develop a definition of “OTT” and “OTT services” and to continue their studies relating, in particular, to the following:

– gap analysis in OTT regulation and the applicability of traditional telecommunication regulation to OTT, and, in general, the feasibility of its application to the latest services;

– the economic impact of technology and service convergence and of OTT implementation;

– privacy and personal data protection;

– authentication in messaging systems;

– technical analysis of possible implementation measures and mechanisms that ensure the protection of user interests, having regard to the technological characteristics of OTT services;

– countering spam;

2 to support studies on any other aspects of OTT that call for the development of public policies, on the basis of proposals and opinions emanating from Council working groups, advisory groups and study groups, ITU symposiums/seminars, etc.,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to encourage the relevant ITU-D study groups to continue their studies on OTT issues, with a particular focus on the following:

– national regulation and other matters relating to the migration from existing to broadband networks, including next-generation networks, mobile services and IPv6 implementation;

– methods and approaches in national and international regulation that facilitate the expansion of user access to OTT services, foster investment in OTT services and support fair competition between traditional and OTT services;

– the study of business arrangements between telecommunication/ICT market players and OTT providers at the national and international levels which are already being applied or could be applied in order to satisfy the growing demand and other changes in the market;

– assessment of problems and challenges and survey of best practices and recommendations in relation to OTT regulation;

2 to support other OTT-related activities under ITU-D’s mandate requiring the development of public policies on the basis of proposals and opinions emanating from Council working groups, advisory groups and study groups, ITU symposiums/seminars, etc.,

instructs the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau

to encourage the relevant ITU-R study groups to continue their studies on the development and implementation of OTT services in systems of the various radiocommunication services,

instructs the Directors of the Bureaux

1 to work collaboratively for the implementation of this resolution;

2 to collaborate with CWG-Internet and keep it informed of the status and results of the studies on the above topics;

3 to assist ITU Member States, particularly developing countries, in the development and implementation of OTT, as well as in regard to OTT-related international public policy,

instructs the Council Working Group on international Internet-related Public Policy Issues

1 on the basis of inputs from ITU-T, ITU-D and ITU-R study groups, Member State contributions and the results of open consultations on the subject of OTT, to analyse current regulatory practices in regard to OTT and draw up proposals for the ITU Council on possible approaches to the development of international public policy in the area of OTT regulation, with particular attention to:

– regulatory requirements for services of the same type provided by traditional operators and OTT providers;

– determination of the necessary and adequate level of OTT service regulation for protecting user interests and ensuring a competitive market environment;

– regulation required to ensure the protection of personal data and privacy, as well as authentication in the use of OTT services, particularly messaging systems;

– conditions for the use of traditional telecommunication operators’ networks by OTT providers;

2 to discuss other OTT-related issues which, in the view of ITU-T, ITU-D and ITU-R representatives and CWG-Internet participants, call for regulation;

3 to submit the results of its work to the Council at its 2021 session for a decision on subsequent work;

4 to assist ITU Member States in the formulation of OTT-related public policies,

instructs the ITU Council

1 to examine the results of the work carried out and CWG-Internet’s report on the implementation of this resolution and take appropriate actions;

2 to submit a report on the work done and progress made in implementing this resolution to the 2022 Plenipotentiary Conference, including proposals for further measures, if necessary,

invites the ITU membership

to contribute to the above-mentioned activities and play an active part in the implementation of this resolution.

Draft New Resolution – "Appointment and maximum term of office for chairmen and vice‑chairmen of Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups"

# 1 Introduction

In all three Sectors, resolutions are in force governing the appointment and maximum term of office for chairmen and vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups, namely:

Resolution 15-6 of the 2015 Radiocommunication Assembly; Resolution 35 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly; and Resolution 61 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference.

The 2010 Plenipotentiary Conference adopted Resolution 166 (Guadalajara, 2010), on the number of vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups.

The texts of these resolutions are virtually identical.

It would seem appropriate to agree upon a unified approach to the appointment of chairmen and vice-chairmen of Sector study groups and advisory groups by adopting a new PP resolution entitled “Appointment and maximum term of office for chairmen and vice chairmen of Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups”.

This would eliminate the need for a similar resolution in each Sector and make it sufficient to include an appropriate reference in each Sector’s Resolution 1.

# 2 Proposals

2.1 To adopt a new PP resolution entitled “Appointment and maximum term of office for chairmen and vice chairmen of Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups”.

2.2 To abrogate Resolution 166 (Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference.

2.3 To recommend to the 2019 Radiocommunication Assembly, the 2020 World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly and the 2021 World Telecommunication Development Conference that they abrogate their corresponding sectoral resolutions and insert an appropriate reference in Resolution 1 on the working methods of their respective Sectors.

ADD RCC/62A1/24

Draft New Resolution [RCC-2]

Appointment and maximum term of office for chairmen and vice-chairmen   
of Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

considering

*a)* Resolution 166 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the number of vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups;

*b)* Resolution 58 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on strengthening of relations between ITU and regional telecommunication organizations and regional preparations for the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*c)* Resolution 70 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on mainstreaming a gender perspective in ITU and promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women through information and communication technologies;

*d)* Resolution ITU-R 15-6 of the 2015 Radiocommunication Assembly (RA), Resolution 35 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) and Resolution 61 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), relating to the appointment and maximum terms of office for chairmen and vice-chairmen of their respective advisory groups and study groups;

*e)* Council Resolution 1386 (2017), on the establishment of a joint ITU Coordination Committee for Vocabulary (ITU CCV),

considering further

*a)* that, in accordance with No. 242 of the Convention, RA, WTSA and WTDC shall appoint the chairman and one vice-chairman or more for each study group, and that, 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;

*b)* that, in accordance with No. 243 of the Convention, if the workload of any study group requires, the assembly or conference shall appoint such additional vice-chairmen as it deems necessary;

*c)* that No. 244 of the Convention describes the procedure for replacing a study group chairman or vice‑chairman who is unable to carry out his or her duties at some time in the interval between two Sector assemblies or conferences;

*d)* that procedures and qualifications for the chairman and vice-chairmen of advisory groups should generally follow those for the appointment of study group chairmen and vice-chairmen;

*e)* that experience of ITU in general and the Sector concerned in particular would be of particular value for the chairman and vice-chairmen of the Sector's advisory group;

*f)* that the relevant sections of Resolution 1 on the working methods of each Sector contain guidelines for the appointment of chairmen and vice-chairmen of study groups and advisory groups at the assembly or conference,

recognizing

*a)* that currently the three ITU Sectors have established similar appointment procedures, required qualifications and guidelines with respect to chairmen and vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups[[19]](#footnote-24)1;

*b)* the need to seek and encourage suitable representation of chairmen and vice-chairmen coming from developing countries[[20]](#footnote-25)2;

*c)* 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;

*c)* that a specific time-limit on the term of office guarantees, on the one hand, reasonable stability to advance the work, and, on the other, 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*

*a)* that a maximum time in office of two terms for chairmen and vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups provides for an adequate level of stability while providing the opportunity for different individuals to serve in these capacities;

*b)* that the management team of an advisory group or study group should include at least the chairman, vice‑chairmen and subordinate group chairmen;

*c)* the convenience of nominating by consensus per regional organization[[21]](#footnote-26)3 for the vice-chairmen of advisory groups;

*d)* the value of prior experience of the nominee at least as chairman or vice-chairman of a working party or as rapporteur, associate rapporteur or editor in the respective study groups,

resolves

1 that candidates for the posts of chairmen and vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups (including, to the extent practicable, the Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM) and Coordination Committee for Vocabulary (CCV)[[22]](#footnote-27)4 in ITU-R, and the Standardization Committee for Vocabulary (SCV)[[23]](#footnote-28)5 in ITU-T) should be appointed according to the procedures given in Annex 1, the qualifications given in Annex 2 and the guidelines given in Annex 3 to this resolution and in *resolves* 2 of Resolution 58 (Rev. Busan, 2014);

2 that candidates for the posts of chairmen and vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups should be identified, taking into account that, for each study group, advisory group and committee for vocabulary, the assembly or conference concerned will appoint the chairman and only the number of vice-chairmen deemed necessary for the efficient and effective management and functioning of the group in question, applying the guidelines given in Annex 3;

3 that nominations for the posts of chairmen and vice‑chairmen of Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups should be accompanied by a biographical profile highlighting the qualifications of the individuals proposed, taking into careful consideration continuity in participation in the Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups, and that the Director of the Bureau concerned will circulate the profiles to the heads of delegation present at the assembly or conference;

4 that the term of office for both chairmen and vice-chairmen should not exceed two terms of office between consecutive assemblies or conferences;

5 that the term of office in one appointment (e.g. as a vice-chairman) does not count towards the term of office for another appointment (e.g. as a chairman) and that steps should be taken to provide some continuity between chairmen and vice-chairmen;

6 that the interval between assemblies or conferences during which a chairman or vice-chairman is elected under No. 244 of the Convention does not count towards the term of office,

resolves further

1 that vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups and study groups should be encouraged to assume the leadership role of activities in order to ensure equitable distribution of the tasks to achieve greater involvement by the vice-chairmen in the management and work of advisory groups and study groups;

2 that the appointment of vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups should be limited to two candidates, and of vice-chairmen of study groups to two or three candidates from each regional organization, taking into account Resolution 70 (Rev. Busan, 2014) and *resolves* 2 of Resolution 58 (Rev. Busan, 2014), to ensure equitable geographical distribution among the ITU regions so as to ensure that every region is represented by not more than three competent and qualified candidates;

3 that the appointment of candidates from countries that do not hold any position of chairmen or vice-chairmen should be encouraged;

4 that each ITU regional organization attending RA, WTSA and WTDC should be encouraged, when assigning the positions to individual experienced professionals, to observe fully the principle of equitable geographical distribution among ITU regional organizations, and the need to promote more efficient participation by the developing countries;

5 that the above-mentioned guidelines may, to the extent practicable, be applied to conference preparatory meetings of ITU-R,

invites Member States and Sector Members

1 to support their successful candidates for such posts in the Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups, and support and facilitate their task during their term of office;

2 to promote the nomination of women candidates for the posts of chairmen and vice-chairmen of the Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups.

ANNEX 1

Procedure for the appointment of chairmen and vice‑chairmen of  
Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups

1 Typically, the positions of chairmen and vice‑chairmen to be filled are known in advance of the assembly or conference.

a) In order to help the assembly or conference to appoint chairmen/vice‑chairmen, Member States and Sector Members of the Sector in question are encouraged to indicate to the Director of the Bureau suitable candidates, preferably three months, but no later than two weeks, before the opening of the assembly or conference.

b) In nominating suitable candidates, Sector Members should carry out prior consultations with the administration/Member State concerned, in order to avoid any possible disagreement in regard to such nomination.

c) On the basis of received proposals, the Director of the Bureau will circulate to Member States and Sector Members the list of candidates. The list of candidates should be accompanied by a list of the qualifications of each candidate as given in Annex 2 to this resolution.

d) On the basis of this document and any relevant received comments, the heads of delegation, at a suitable time during the assembly or conference, should be invited to prepare, in consultation with the Director of the Bureau, a consolidated list of designated chairmen and vice‑chairmen of Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups, to be submitted in a document to the assembly or conference for final approval.

e) In drafting the consolidated list, the following should be taken into account: In cases where there are two or more candidates with identical qualifications for the same chairman position, preference should be given to candidates from Member States and Sector Members having the lowest number of designated Sector advisory group and study group chairmen.

2 Situations which cannot be considered within the above will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis at the assembly or conference. For example, if a merger of two existing study groups is envisaged, the proposals pertaining to the relevant study groups can be considered. Therefore, the procedure outlined in § 1 can still be applied.

3 However, if the assembly or conference decides to set up a completely new study group, discussions will have to be held at the assembly or conference and appointments made.

4 These procedures should be applied for appointments made by an advisory group under delegated authority.

5 Vacant positions of chairmen and vice-chairmen that occur in mid-term between assemblies or conferences are filled in accordance with No. 244 of the Convention.

ANNEX 2

Qualifications of chairmen and vice‑chairmen

1 No. 242 of the Convention states that:

"… 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."

Whilst giving primary consideration to the qualifications below, there should be an appropriate representation of chairmen and vice-chairmen from developing countries, including the least developed countries, small island developing states and countries with economies in transition.

2 As regards competence, the following qualifications, *inter alia*, appear to be of paramount importance when appointing chairmen and vice‑chairmen:

‒ relevant professional knowledge and experience;

‒ continuity in participation in the relevant study group or, for chairmen and vice-chairmen of advisory groups, in ITU and the corresponding Sector in particular;

‒ managerial skills;

‒ availability for immediate commencement of duties and thereafter until the next assembly or conference;

‒ knowledge of activities related to the Sector's mandate.

3 Particular reference to the above qualifications should be included in the biographical profile to be circulated by the Director of the Bureau.

ANNEX 3

Guidelines for appointment of the optimum numbers of vice-chairmen   
for Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups

1 Pursuant to No. 242 of the Convention, and to the extent practicable, the requirements of competence, equitable geographical distribution and the need to promote more effective participation by the developing countries should be taken into account[[24]](#footnote-29)1.

2 To the extent possible, and taking into account the need for demonstrated competence, appointment or selection to the management team should utilize the human resources of as broad a range of Member States and Sector Members as possible, at the same time recognizing the need to appoint only the number of vice-chairmen necessary for the efficient and effective management and functioning of the study groups, consistent with the projected structure and work programme.

3 The workload should be a factor in determining the appropriate number of vice-chairmen to ensure that every aspect within the purview of the Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups is fully managed. The distribution of tasks among the vice-chairmen shall be made in the framework of each study group and advisory group, and may be modified according to the needs of the work.

4 The total number of vice-chairmen proposed by any administration should be reasonable, so as to observe the principle of equitable distribution of posts among the Member States concerned.

5 Regional representation in the advisory groups and study groups of all three Sectors should be taken into account, so 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[[25]](#footnote-30)2.

**Reasons:** It would be desirable to agree on a unified approach to the appointment of study group and advisory group chairmen/vice-chairmen in the three Sectors and do away with the corresponding sectoral resolutions. The main provisions of Resolution 166 (Rev. Busan, 2014) are included in Annex 3 to the resolution.

SUP RCC/62A1/25

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),

**Reasons:** The main provisions of Resolution 166 (Rev. Busan, 2014) are included in the text of the new resolution on the appointment of Sector study group and advisory group chairmen/vice-chairmen.

proposals for the further study of big data

# 1 Introduction

The international community as a whole now acknowledges that the world has entered the era of the fourth industrial revolution, which will see every industry being digitally remastered through a revolution in the course of which all countries will undergo a digital transformation. At the national level, governments are already adopting strategies and programmes to develop digital economies over the coming years.

An integral part of this technological progress lies in cloud computing, which in turn is a driver for such major technological advances as, among others, big data, the Internet of Things, machine learning and artificial intelligence (AI).

Our new computer-based world produces vast amounts of data, generated not only by companies and individuals but also by devices themselves, including camera images and the data emanating from sensors and applications.

Big data play a crucial role in the advances being made in numerous areas, such as healthcare, education, finance, industry, agriculture and other social and economic spheres.

At the same time, while the big data sector signifies progress and innovation through the ushering in of new and convenient services and opportunities for social and economic development, it also comes with the serious threat of their misuse.

# 2 Discussion

All three ITU Sectors are engaged in studies relating to big data.

Within the framework of its studies on technical, operational and tariff issues and adoption of corresponding recommendations in the interests of worldwide telecommunication standardization, the Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T), through its Study Group 3, is carrying out studies relating to big data (Question 11/3 “Economic and policy aspects of big data and digital identity in international telecommunications services and networks”), involving in particular:

‒ the development of guidelines and/or ITU-T recommendations pertaining to big data;

‒ the collection and analysis of examples of best practices among the members of ITU-T Study Group 3 in regard to the protection of personal data;

‒ consideration of the ethical aspects of big data, in terms of the achievement of a balance between economic benefits and ethical questions.

The Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D), whose mission involves the organization and coordination of technical cooperation and assistance activities, is pursuing studies within the framework of its Study Group 1 (Question 3/1 “Emerging technologies, including cloud computing, m-services and OTTs: Challenges and opportunities, economic and policy impact for developing countries”) by reviewing country policies relating to development of the big data sector.

The Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) is likewise engaged in studies on the subject of big data: data collection (from IoT and M2M); data transmission (networks and services – 5G/IMT-2020 and beyond, satellite networks and systems, EESS, METSAT, etc.); intelligent transport systems, meteorological systems, smart cities.

# 3 Proposal

Having regard to the foregoing, we consider it important that ITU continue its work on the study of big data issues.

To this end, we propose the consideration and adoption of a new resolution of the Plenipotentiary Conference concerning ITU’s study activities in the field of big data.

ADD RCC/62A1/26

Draft New Resolution [RCC-3]

Studies relating to big data

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

considering

*a)* Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019;

*b)* Resolution 92 (Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on enhancing the standardization activities in the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector related to non-radio aspects of international mobile telecommunications;

*c)* Resolution 93 (Hammamet, 2016) of WTSA, on interconnection of 4G, IMT-2020 networks and beyond;

*d)* 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;

*e)* UNGA Resolution 68/167, on the right to privacy in the digital age;

*f)* Resolution 89 (Hammamet, 2016) of WTSA, on promoting the use of information and communication technologies to bridge the financial inclusion gap;

*g)* Resolution 94 (Hammamet, 2016) of WTSA, on standardization work in the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector for cloud-based event data technology;

*h)* draft newresolution XXX (Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on artificial intelligence for sustainable development;

*i)* Recommendation ITU-T Y.3600 (06.11.2015), on big data – cloud computing based requirements and capabilities,

considering further

that the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) (Tunis, 2005) identified ITU as moderator for the implementation of WSIS Action Lines C2, C5 and C6 relating to the building of confidence and security in the use of information and communication technology (ICT), and as facilitator for the implementation of Action Lines C1, C3, C4, C7, C8, C9 and C11, which is inextricably linked to the collection, processing, storage and availability of multiple types of data,

recalling

*a)* that big data is becoming an area of increasing interest to the international telecommunication/ICT market;

*b)* that big data are an integral component of the development of the digital economy;

*c)* that big data play a crucial role in the achievement of progress in numerous spheres, such as healthcare, education, finance, industry, agriculture and other social and economic contexts;

*d)* that half of the world's population is now connected to the Internet, and that the number of access devices generating data on user behaviour and preferences lies in the billions;

*e)* that, against a backdrop of increasing fixed-mobile convergence, IMT systems and next-generation networks are now being evolved to provide diverse usage scenarios and applications such as enhanced mobile broadband, massive machine-type communications and ultra reliable and low-latency communications, which are having a considerable impact on future network architectures;

*f)* that while the big data sector signifies progress and innovation through the ushering in of new and convenient services and opportunities for social and economic development, it also comes with the serious threat of their misuse,

recognizing

*a)* that World Telecommunication and Information Society Day 2017 (WTISD-17), marking the 152nd anniversary of ITU, highlighted the theme “Big data for big impact”, presenting big data as a key tool in tackling the challenges involved in achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030;

*b)* that, in the interests of developing relevant ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) recommendations, ITU-T is carrying out studies on big data through its Study Group 3 (Tariff and accounting principles and international telecommunication/ICT economic and policy issues), Study Group 13 (Future networks, with focus on IMT-2020, cloud computing and trusted network infrastructures) , Study Group 17 (Security) and Study Group 20 (Internet of things (IoT) and smart cities and communities (SC&C)), in accordance with their respective scope and mandates;

*c)* that ITU’s Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) is carrying out studies through its Study Group 1 (Enabling environment for the development of telecommunications/ICTs) on the development of national telecommunication/ICT policy as well as regulatory, technical and strategy development which best enables countries to benefit from the wide sphere of telecommunication/ICT innovation, including infrastructure, cloud computing, consumer protection and future networks, as an engine for sustainable growth;

*d)* that the ITU Radiocommunication Sector is likewise engaged in studies on big data (data collection (from IoT and M2M); data transmission (networks and services – 5G/IMT-2020 and beyond, satellite networks and systems, EESS, METSAT, etc.); intelligent transport systems, meteorological systems, smart cities);

*e)* that to ensure the systematic and efficient gathering, dissemination and preservation of vital scientific data in digital form, studies need to be carried out on big data and their development;

*f)* that big data play an important role in the exchange of medical data;

*g)* that in numerous sectors, for example industry, water resource management, agriculture, the oil and gas sector, energy and transportation, big data are used in optimizing resources and managing expenditure and in performance monitoring and forecasting,

noting

*a)* the importance of big data in developing a sustainable, innovative and secure economy and in migrating to a digital economy;

*b)* the ITU Secretary-General’s call to action at WTISD-17, under the theme “Big data for big impact” (17 May 2017, Geneva, Switzerland),

resolves to instruct the Secretary-General, in consultation and collaboration with the Directors of the three Bureaux

1 to coordinate the activities of the Union to implement this resolution;

2 to step up international efforts focusing on the all-encompassing and thorough study of big data issues, including through enhanced cooperation with other United Nations agencies, scientific and research organizations, sectoral standards development organizations (SDOs), Member States and Sector Members;

3 to submit an annual report on the results of implementation of this resolution to the ITU Council at its 2019-2022 sessions;

4 to submit a report to the next plenipotentiary conference in 2022,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

1 to continue to organize and coordinate the work of ITU-T, in particular the activities of the relevant ITU-T study groups aimed at creating the conditions for the proper study and standardization of big data, as one of the key mechanisms for ensuring and expediting achievement of the SDGs;

2 to continue collaboration with relevant organizations for the organization of studies and exchange of best practices through the holding of joint workshops, training sessions, joint coordination activity groups and any other appropriate means,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to conduct work on implementing the outcomes of ITU's activities and of joint efforts by ITU and other SDOs on the development of standards relating to big data;

2 to continue to organize the work of ITU-D particularly in regard to the exchange of experience relating to the elaboration of national big data development policies that would be of benefit to developing countries in their use of cloud computing and big data;

3 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 (rules) in the area of big data;

4 within the framework of the Telecommunication Development Bureau’s activities on telecommunication/ICT capacity building and of the ITU Academy initiative, to coordinate, where appropriate, with organizations and professionals with specialized knowledge and experience of training and capacity building in the field of big data, in the interests of satisfying the growing demand for experts (for example, data scientists),

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to work collaboratively, with the participation of different stakeholders, to foster privacy, security and ethics in the use of big data;

2 to raise the awareness of Member States and Sector Members regarding the adverse impact that may result from the misuse of big data, potentially resulting in serious negative consequences for the world economy and thus limiting access to development and investment in the area of big data;

3 to work together on the study of matters related to big data and to the use of technologies for their collection, processing and storage and for accessing multiple types of data within a context of combined mobile-wired telecommunication network architecture deployment,

instructs the Council

1 to consider the reports of the Secretary-General referred to in *instructs the Secretary-General* 4 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,

instructs the 2020 World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly

to consider the results of the studies on big data and identify future activities of priority concern to developing countries,

invites Member States and Sector Members

1 to exchange information on the current state of legislative and technical measures in the area of big data;

2 to participate actively in studies on big data being carried out within the Union and in collaboration with other SDOs, through contributions and by other appropriate means.

Draft revision of decision 5

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

Introduction

During the preparatory process for PP-18, the Council Working Group for Strategic and Financial Plans (CWG-SFP) and the Council Working Group on Financial and Human Resources (CWG-FHR) held meetings at which they discussed and elaborated proposals for changes to the text of Decision 5 (Rev. Busan, 2014), on revenue and expenses for the Union for the period 2016-2019, and the annexes thereto, having regard to, among other things, the new realities in the telecommunication/ICT environment and to the need for active involvement by ITU in achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations.

At the eighth meeting of CWG-FHR, the Chairman acknowledged a proposal from the General Secretariat to work together with the Russian Federation on the preparation of a consolidated draft revision of Decision 5, taking into account the remarks made on the matter by meeting participants (CWG-FHR-8/28). The consolidated draft was submitted to the fourth meeting of CWG-SFP (CWG-SFP-4/11), on the basis of whose work interested parties were invited to take its contents into account when drawing up their proposals to PP-18.

From Document C18/45, on efficiency measures, it emerges that virtually all of the measures set out in Annex 2 “Measures for reducing expenses”, to Decision 5 (Rev. Busan, 2014), have run their course and are unlikely to result either in any future savings or, more importantly, in any further efficiency gains for the Union. It is evident that ITU needs to focus not so much on the reduction (saving) of expenses as on enhancing the efficiency with which all its available resources are used, and on optimizing the efforts made in all its spheres of activity. To this end, it is necessary to identify new and innovative efficiency measures to help balance the future budgets and contribute to optimized use of the Union’s finances.

Having regard to the foregoing, we propose below a draft revision of Decision 5 (Rev. Busan, 2014) which takes account of the proposals made by the General Secretariat (CWG-SFP-4/11).

The main changes are as follows:

1 The text of Decision 5 takes account of ITU’s new strategic priorities, as reflected in draft Resolution 71 (Addendum 1 to Document C18/64).

2 Duplication, including of texts from other documents, is avoided where appropriate.

3 In order to increase the transparency of the Union’s cash flows, it is proposed to insert two tables in Annex 1 "Financial plan of the Union for 2020-2023: Revenue and expenses" to Decision 5:

– Table 1 – Financial plan of the Union for 2020-2023: Revenue and expenses;

– Table 2 – Allocation of funds for ITU development (RBB format), in which it is proposed to reflect the allocation of resources advanced to the Sectors and General Secretariat to ensure their activities for achieving the ITU strategic goals set out in draft Resolution 71.

4 In drawing up the measures set out in Annex 2 to Decision 5 (Rev. Busan, 2014), particular attention was focused on measures designed to enhance the efficiency of ITU’s work.

The following reference documents were used in the preparation of this contribution:

*Decision 563 (С11, last modified С14); Resolution 1384 of C17; Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014); Resolution 72 (Rev. Busan, 2014); Resolution 91 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010); Resolution 151 (Rev. Busan, 2014); Resolution 48 (Rev. Busan, 2014); Resolution 191 (Busan, 2014); Resolution 200 (Busan, 2014); Document C17/123; Document CWG-SFP-2/4; Document CWG-SFP-2/6 Rev.2, Document CWG-FHR-8/28; Document CWG-SFP-4/11; Document CWG-SFP-4/10; Document C18/45; Document C18/64 + Add. 1-5; Financial Regulations and Financial Rules of ITU; ITU Constitution; ITU Convention.*

MOD RCC/62A1/27

DECISION 5 (Rev.Dubai, 2018)

Revenue and expenses for the Union for the period 2020-2023

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

considering

the strategic plan for 2020-2023, including the goals, objectives and outputs of the Union, in accordance with Resolution 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, and the priorities identified therein,

considering further

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

*b)* that, in the consideration of the draft financial plan of the Union for 2020-2023, the challenge to increase revenues in support of increasing programme demands is substantial, as is the need to make more efficient use of the Union’s resources in order to achieve the goals and objectives of the strategic plan;

*c)* that there is a need for linkage between strategic, financial and operational planning in ITU,

noting

Resolution 151 (Rev. Dubai, 2018), on results-based management, an important component of which relates to planning, programming, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation, the implementation of which should facilitate the further strengthening of the Union’s management system, including its financial management,

noting further

that Resolution 48 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of this conference stresses the importance of the human resources of the Union for the fulfilment of its goals, objectives and outputs,

decides

1 that the Council is authorized to draw up the two biennial budgets of the Union in such a way that the total expenses of the General Secretariat and the three Sectors of the Union are 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 2020-2023 shall remain unchanged, at CHF 318 000;

1.2 that expenses on interpretation, translation and text processing in respect of the official languages of the Union shall not exceed [CHF 85 million] for the years 2020-2023;

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 expenses;

2 that, if no plenipotentiary conference is held in 2022, the Council shall establish the biennial budgets of the Union for 2024-2025 and 2026-2027 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 expenses in excess of the limits established in the budget for conferences, meetings and seminars if such additional expenses can be compensated by savings 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 expense;

5 that the Council shall have the task of effecting every possible economy, in particular taking into account the options for reducing expenses contained in Annex 2 to this decision, and considering possible funding shortfalls, and, to this end, that it shall establish the lowest possible budgets commensurate with the needs of the Union, within the limits established by *decides* 1 above;

6 that the following minimum guidelines should be applied in relation to any expense 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 expense reductions which would affect cost-recovery revenue;

c) fixed costs related to the reimbursement of loans or after-service health insurance (ASHI) should be maintained at the required level;

d) expenses relating to regular maintenance costs for ITU buildings in order to ensure the security and health of staff should be optimized;

e) the information services function in the Union should be maintained at an effective level;

7 that the Council should aim under normal circumstances at keeping the Reserve Account at a level above six per cent of total annual expenses,

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

1 to prepare the draft biennial budgets for the years 2020-2021, as well as 2022-2023, 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 for increasing budget revenues and efficiency in the use of financial resources 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 2019 and 2021 ordinary sessions, complete and accurate data as needed for the development, consideration and establishment of the biennial budget;

2 to make every effort to achieve balanced biennial budgets, 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, and to report annually to the Council,

instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux

1 to provide to the Council, on an annual basis, a report on ITU budget implementation for the previous year and on anticipated implementation of the ITU budget for the current year;

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;

3 to provide to the Council, on annual basis, a report with analyses of expenses relating to each item in Annex 2 to this Decision, and to propose further appropriate measures to be undertaken to reduce expenses,

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 savings made during implementation of the budget or from the Reserve Account, the funds necessary to keep ASHI at a sustainable level;

2 to review and approve the biennial budgets for 2020-2021 and 2022-2023, 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 consider further appropriations in the event that additional sources of revenue are identified or savings achieved;

4 to examine the cost-efficiency and cost-reduction programme drawn up by the Secretary-General;

5 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, funded from budgetary savings or through a withdrawal from the Reserve Account for a maximum amount of CHF 5 million within the limits established in *decides* 7 above;

6 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;

7 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*6 above;

8 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 2024-2027 at its 2021 ordinary session,

invites Member States

to announce their provisional class of contribution for the period 2024-2027 before the end of the calendar year 2017.

ANNEX 1 TO DECISION 5 (REV. DUBAI, 2018)

Table 1

Financial plan of the Union for 2020-2023: Revenue and expenses

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Planned Revenue 2020-2023** | | | |
|  | *Amounts in thousands of Swiss francs* | | |
|  | a | b | a + b |
|  | Draft budget  2020−2021 | Draft budget 2022−2023 | Draft financial plan 2020−2023 |
| A Assessed contributions |  |  |  |
| A.1 Member State contributions |  |  |  |
| A.2 Sector Member contributions |  |  |  |
| − ITU-R |  |  |  |
| − ITU-T |  |  |  |
| − ITU-D |  |  |  |
| Total Sector Members |  |  |  |
| A.3 Associates |  |  |  |
| − ITU-R |  |  |  |
| − ITU-T |  |  |  |
| − ITU-D |  |  |  |
| Total Associates |  |  |  |
| A.4 Academia |  |  |  |
| A Total assessed contributions |  |  |  |
| B Cost recovery |  |  |  |
| B.1 Project support cost revenue |  |  |  |
| B.2 Publication sales |  |  |  |
| B.3 Products and services under cost recovery |  |  |  |
| − UIFN |  |  |  |
| − Telecom |  |  |  |
| − Processing of satellite network filings |  |  |  |
| B Total cost recovery |  |  |  |
| C Revenue from interest |  |  |  |
| D Other revenue |  |  |  |
| E Payment into/Withdrawal from the Reserve Account |  |  |  |
| F Funding gap |  |  |  |
| TOTAL REVENUE |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Planned expenses 2020-2023 | | | |
| General Secretariat |  |  |  |
| Radiocommunication Sector |  |  |  |
| Telecommunication Standardization Sector |  |  |  |
| Telecommunication Development Sector |  |  |  |
| TOTAL EXPENSES |  |  |  |
| REVENUE LESS EXPENSES | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Table 2

Allocation of funds for ITU development for the period 2020-2023  
(RBB format)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Goals | Estimates 2020-2021 | | | | Total 2020-2021 | Estimates 2022-2023 | | | | Total 2022-2023 | Total 2020-2023 |
| GS | ITU-R | ITU-T | ITU-D | ITU | GS | ITU-R | ITU-T | ITU-D | ITU | ITU |
| *Amounts in thousands of Swiss francs* | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Goal 1: Growth |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Goal 2: Inclusiveness |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Goal 3: Sustainability |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Goal 4: Innovation |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Goal 5: Partnership |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Total ITU expenses** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

ANNEX 2 TO DECISION 5 (REV. DUBAI, 2018)

Measures for improving ITU’s efficiency and reducing its expenses

1) Identification and elimination of all forms and instances of duplication of functions and activities between all ITU structural bodies and measures. Coordination, harmonization and closer cooperation between the Sectors, including optimization of management methods, logistics, coordination and support by the Secretariat.

2) Enhancement of regional office efficiency in implementing the goals and objectives of ITU as a whole, as well as in the use of local experts and the local network of contacts and resources. Maximum coordination of activities with regional organizations and rational use of existing financial and human resources, including savings on travel costs and costs associated with the planning and organization of events held outside Geneva.

3) Continuation of activities aimed at improving staff recruitment, training and utilization, without lowering the quality and volume of planned work, in the interests of the entire ITU membership, including the regional offices.

4) The use of consultants/experts 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.

5) Reduction by the General Secretariat and the three Sectors of the Union of the cost of documentation by, among other measures, conducting paperless conferences and meetings of all kinds and at all levels, pursuing initiatives aimed at making ITU a fully paperless organization, and fostering the adoption of innovative ICT solutions as viable and most sustainable substitutes for paper, without any drop in the quality of the information provided to event participants or to ITU staff in the course of their day-to-day work.

6) Reducing to the absolute minimum necessary the printing and distribution of ITU promotional/non-revenue generating publications.

7) Implementation of practicable measures for making savings in the provision of interpretation and the translation of ITU documents, including by limiting the size of documents, and in the preparation of publications for events of all kinds and at all levels, without prejudice to the goals of Resolution 154 (Rev. XXXX, XXXX); optimization of resource usage in the language services, including through the use of alternative translation procedures, while maintaining translation quality and the accuracy of telecommunication/ICT terminology.

8) Increasing the efficiency of WSIS programme activities and ensuring activities aimed at achievement of the SDGs, within the resources allocated by PP-18 and, as appropriate, through cost recovery and voluntary contributions. Participation by the regional offices, in collaboration with other United Nations agencies, in WSIS activities being carried out at the regional level.

9) Optimization of the duration of meetings of Council working groups, ITU study groups, regional groups established by ITU study groups, advisory groups and others, and the holding of such meetings with the aid of ICT capabilities. Reduction of the number of groups to the absolute minimum necessary through their restructuring and/or termination of their work in the absence of any outcomes and/or where there is duplication of activities, while avoiding any risk, in particular, of failure to fulfil the strategic and operational goals and objectives of the Union.

10) Appeals to Member States to reduce to the minimum necessary the number of issues raised and time devoted to their consideration at all conferences, assemblies and other meetings.

11) 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.

12) 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.

13) Continued implementation by the General Secretariat of the comprehensive plan to improve the stability and predictability of the financial base of the Union, mobilizing the necessary resources and, inter alia, improving the management of corporate projects requiring significant long-term investments.

14) Member States, Sector Members and other ITU members to take all possible measures to settle/eliminate arrears to the Union.

15) 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-17 and the Buenos Aires Action Plan and financed directly as activities from the Sector budget.

16) Optimization of expenses related to maintenance, routine repair and renovation/reconstruction of the ITU buildings and facilities and to the provision of safety in accordance with applicable UN system standards.

17) Increased use of remote participation in order to reduce and/or eliminate travel to meetings the proceedings of which are webcast and, preferably, captioned, including remote presentation of documents and contributions.

18) Improving and prioritizing internal electronic and flexible working methods in order to reduce operational and capital costs, as well as travel from regional offices to Geneva and vice versa.

19) Taking into account No. 145 of the Convention, exploration and implementation of a full range of electronic working methods to secure a possible reduction in the costs, number and duration of meetings, including those of the Radio Regulations Board.

20) Introduction of innovative cross-cutting means of improving the Union's productivity.

21) Continuation of work on the simplification and harmonization (or elimination), as appropriate, of internal administrative processes and their subsequent digitization and automation.

22) Consideration of the future sharing of certain general services with other United Nations agencies and introduction of such sharing where advantageous.

23) Any additional measures adopted by the Council and the ITU management, including measures to increase the efficiency of the internal audit function, institutionalize functions of evaluation, assess and minimize the risk of fraud and other risks, implement external auditor, IMAC and JIU recommendations in a timely manner, and implement the Information Technology and Information Management Strategy.

DRAFT REVISION OF DECISION 11 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

Creation and management of Council working groups

The RCC ascribes great importance to improving the strategy and mechanisms for creating and managing Council working groups (CWGs) dealing with the most relevant areas of ITU activity and drawing up proposals to the Council on ways of improving the efficiency of the Union’s activities in those areas in periods between ITU plenipotentiary conferences.

In accordance with the instructions of the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference (Busan, October 2014) and Decision 11 (Rev. Busan, 2014), on the creation and management of Council working groups, the Council adopted a number of measures intended to improve the efficiency of the CWGs. The 2015 session of the Council adopted Decision 584, which sets out the basic principles of appointing chairmen and vice-chairmen of Council working groups and their terms of office. The 2016 session of the Council adopted Resolution 1333 (Revised 2016), which took account of those principles, the proposals of the CWG on Financial and Human Resources, and the proposals from the Member States of the Council.

The proposed revision of Decision 11 (Rev. Busan, 2014) reflects the experience of the CWGs acquired since the 2014 plenipotentiary conference, and a number of modifications and adjustments have been made in the light of the aforementioned Council Decisions, as well as inputs of ITU Member States from other regional telecommunication organizations.

MOD RCC/62A1/28

DECISION 11 (Rev. DUBAI, 2018)

Creation and management of Council working groups

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

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. Dubai, 2018) of this conference, on the strategic plan for the Union for 2020-2023, identifies key issues, goals, strategies and priorities for the Union as a whole, for each of the Sectors and for the General Secretariat;

*e)* Annex 2 to Decision 5 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), which sets out options for reducing expenditure, including by reducing the number of Council working groups (CWGs) to the absolute minimum necessary and by cutting back to the extent possible on the number and duration of physical meetings of CWGs;

*f)* that the Council adopted at its 2016 session Council Resolution 1333 (Rev. 2016) on guiding principles for the creation, management and termination of Council working groups;

*g)* Resolution 70 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) 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 CWG 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 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 CWGs, but that there remains a need to promote and enhance equitable geographical distribution and gender balance,

decides

1 that decisions regarding the creation, continuation or termination of CWGs shall be taken by the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference or Council on a case-by-case basis;

2 that the Council should decide to create working groups based on decisions of the Plenipotentiary Conference and/or key issues, goals, strategies and priorities identified in Resolution 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)[[26]](#footnote-32)1;

3 that, when creating a CWG, the Council should define clearly its terms of reference and working methods in line with the Rules of Procedure of the Council, and may review such terms of reference in the light of evolving requirements;

4 that, when creating a CWG and defining its terms of reference, the Council should take effective steps to avoid any duplication of activities between CWGs, as well as between CWGs and groups within the ITU Sectors;

5 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;

6 that the term of office of CWG chairmen and vice-chairmen should not exceed the interval between consecutive plenipotentiary conferences, that a period in office in one CWG does not count towards a period in office in another CWG, and that steps should be taken to provide some continuity between CWG chairmen and vice-chairmen;

7 that if a CWG chairman is unable to remain in office, a new chairman shall, as a rule, be nominated from among the current vice-chairmen of that CWG, in which case the “partial” term of office shall not be taken into account in any appointment for the subsequent term;

8 that, to the extent possible, the Council should merge existing CWGs 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;

9 that, to the extent possible, the Council should integrate CWG meetings into the agenda and time allocation of the annual sessions of the Council;

10 that, if it is not possible to fulfil *decides* 9 above, the meetings of various groups should be collocated in order to hold them in sequence or back-to-back in a cluster;

11 that the Council should consider the results of the actions taken in this regard at its subsequent ordinary sessions and take any necessary decisions.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DEFINITIVE AMOUNT OF THE CONTRIBUTORY UNIT   
AND CLASS OF CONTRIBUTION

Introduction

At the Council sessions of 2015‑2018, a number of documents on possible ways of improving the roll‑out of the plenipotentiary conference (PP) were discussed. One of the most important proposals considered and endorsed by the Council was the proposal to ensure that PP-18 adopts a realistic strategic plan, budget and financial limits for the Union for the period 2020-2023. These proposals correspond to the provisions of Article 8 of the ITU Constitution while taking account of the practice of a number of previous ITU plenipotentiary conferences.

It should be noted that, starting with the Plenipotentiary Conference of 2002 in Marrakesh, the size of the contributory unit remained constant. In addition, there was no review of the unit once ITU Member States declared the class of contribution definitively chosen by them. Applying the practice already used at a number of plenipotentiary conferences, when establishing the amount of the contributory unit at the start of the plenipotentiary conference there is no need to apply the procedure for reviewing the definitive upper limit of the amount of the contributory unit, but to approve definitively the amount of the contributory unit on the first day of work of the plenipotentiary conference.

In this case, Member States can already declare their definitively chosen class of contribution on the third day of PP-18, in accordance with No. 116E of the Constitution.

RCC/62A1/29

Proposals

In order to ensure that a realistic strategic plan, basis for the budget and financial limits for the Union are established for the period 2020-2023, to propose to the Plenipotentiary Conference 2018 that it:

a) approve the definitive upper limit of the amount of the contributory unit (CHF 318 000) on the first day of PP-18 (as was done at PP-14);

b) establish the third day of the plenipotentiary conference as the day on which ITU Member States declare their definitive choice of class of contribution;

c) publish the classes of contribution definitively chosen by ITU Member States immediately following b) above.

STREAMLINING PP AND SECTOR RESOLUTIONS

# I Introduction

A number of resolutions in all three Sectors are based directly on relevant PP resolutions. In practice, the texts of the documents are very close, and the main operative sections of Radiocommunication Assembly (RA), World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) and World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) resolutions reproduce and/or expand on element(s) in the relevant PP resolution, for example:

| Subject area | PP Resolution | WTSA Resolution | WTDC Resolution | RA Resolution |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Regional presence | PP Res. 25 | WTSA Res. 54 | WTDC Res. 17 | ITU-R Res. 48 |
| WSIS + SDG | PP Res. 140 | WTSA Res. 75 | WTDC Res. 30 | ITU-R Res. 61 |
| Sector Members, Associates | PP Res. 152 | WTSA Res. 31 | WTDC Res. 27 | ITU-R Res. 43 |
| Use of languages on an equal footing | PP Res. 154 | WTSA Res. 67 | WTDC Res. 86 | ITU-R Res. 35/36 |
| Chairmanship in SGs/advisory groups | PP Res. 166 | WTSA Res. 35 | WTDC Res. 61 | ITU-R Res. 15 |
| Accessibility | PP Res. 175 | WTSA Res. 70 | WTDC Res. 58 | ITU-R Res. 67 |
| Conformance and Interoperability | PP Res. 177 | WTSA Res. 76 | WTDC Res. 47 | ITU-R Res. 62 |
| Inter-Sector coordination | PP Res. 191 | WTSA Res. 18 | WTDC Res. 59 | ITU-R Res. 6 & 7 |

It seems appropriate, in approving resolutions at the plenipotentiary conference on issues covering three or, in some cases, two Sectors, to recommend when considering the issues at sectoral assemblies/conferences, either not to adopt Sector resolutions, or to include in their content only references to the relevant PP resolution, new developments and documents directly affecting the activities of a particular Sector and occurring after the PP, and specific instructions addressed to the Sector in question.

# II Proposals

RCC/62A1/30

In approving resolutions at PP-18 on issues covering three or, in some cases, two Sectors, by a decision of the plenary to recommend to sectoral assemblies/conferences when considering such issues, either to suppress/not to adopt new Sector resolutions, or to shorten them significantly by including in their content only references to the relevant PP resolution, new developments and documents directly affecting the activities of a particular Sector and occurring after the PP, and specific instructions addressed to the Sector in question and not reflected in the PP resolution.

RCC/62A1/31

In the light of the results of PP-18, to instruct the secretariat to identify specific instructions to each ITU Sector contained in the PP-18 outcome documents and concerning resolutions on the issues in question, and on that basis to submit a document for consideration by the Sector advisory groups and Council in 2019 for the purpose of organizing and monitoring the implementation of the relevant instructions.

RCC/62A1/32

To propose to the ITU membership in preparations for the relevant Sector assemblies and conferences, to use the document prepared by the secretariat when revising the relevant Sector resolutions.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE 1988 AND 2012 INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION REGULATIONS (ITRs)

Under Article 4 of the ITU Constitution (“Instruments of the Union”), the International Telecommunication Regulations (ITRs) are one of two sets of Administrative Regulations that are included in the list of instruments of the Union (No 29 of the Constitution).

The ITRs complement the ITU Constitution and Convention, regulate the use of telecommunications, and are binding on all Member States (Nos. 29 and 31 of the Constitution).

The ITRs are a global treaty that is legally binding, and are intended to facilitate interconnection and interoperability of international information and communication services and to ensure efficiency, usefulness and availability of those services for the public.

The main purposes of the ITRs are to fulfil the purposes of the Union by promoting the development and efficient operation of telecommunications.

The first version of the ITRs (1988) was adopted by the 1988 World Administrative Telegraph and Telephone Conference (WATTC-88), in Melbourne, Australia. The 1988 text of the ITRs was developed for the world of telephony and telegraphy, at a time when, in most countries, telecommunications were under state control.

The last decade of the twentieth century and first few years of the twenty-first saw revolutionary changes in telecommunications (wired and wireless) and ICTs, and in telecommunication infrastructure. It was during these years that telecommunications and ICTs were to a large extent privatized, becoming more commercialized and competitive. From 1988 onwards also, the number of operators and private companies providing international telecommunication services increased considerably, indeed by orders of magnitude.

In the light of the changes that had occurred in telecommunications/ICTs, the Plenipotentiary Conference in 2010 resolved to revise the 1988 ITRs, which was done at the World Conference on International Telecommunications in 2012 (WCIT-12) in Dubai, UAE. WCIT-12 drafted a new version of the ITRs (ITR-2012). The WCIT-12 Final Acts were signed by 89 Member States, while 55 Member States participating at the conference did not sign.

WCIT-12 also adopted Resolution 4 (Dubai, 2012), on periodic review of the International Telecommunication Regulations (ITR), which resolved to invite the World Plenipotentiary in 2014 to consider this resolution and to take necessary action, as appropriate, to convene periodically (for example every eight years) a world conference on international telecommunications to revise the ITRs, taking into account the financial implications for the Union.

The detailed comparison of the 1988 and 2012 ITR texts set out in Annex 1 clearly shows that the 1988 text is out of date and not adapted to the modern telecommunication/ICT environment. In practice, the simultaneous application of two different versions of the ITRs, which are consistent, legally binding rules, is in essence contradictory and incompatible and can lead to conflicts when both the 1988 and 2012 versions are applied.

In the period following 1988, a considerable number of new trends emerged in the field of telecommunications/ICTs, which led to “digitization” of many users and economic sectors, and a growth in the quantity of data transferred, disseminated and collected via telecommunication/ICT networks, systems and applications.

This also resulted in the emergence of new questions requiring consideration at the international level, including:

• protection of personal privacy and data;

• development of new technologies and services;

• cybersecurity;

• adherence to fundamental principles of fair competition between services based on traditional and new technologies;

• protection of critical information infrastructure;

• protection of telecommunication/ICT systems from misuse, unsolicited bulk electronic communications, and so on.

Special attention needs to be devoted to new technologies such as the Internet of Things, big data, Artificial Intelligence, cloud computing, and so on.

In the light of the above, the ITRs need to be revised so as to respond proactively to these new trends and establish an appropriate international framework for cooperation.

Proposals

Considering that:

– the International Telecommunication Regulations are one of two sets of Administrative Regulations included in the list of ITU instruments (No. 29 of the Constitution), and recognizing Resolution 4 (Dubai, 2012) of WCIT, on periodic review of the International Telecommunication Regulations (ITR), and

– the Expert Group on the International Telecommunication Regulations set up pursuant to Resolution 146 (Rev. Busan, 2014) expressed divergent views regarding the ITRs,

**it is proposed:**

RCC/62A1/33

To draw up proposals for the revision of the 2012 ITRs, taking account of the differing views expressed, with a view to achieving consensus on a revised text, and to produce a final report on the work done, for submission to the 2020 session of the Council for comment and to the World Conference on International Telecommunications in 2020.

RCC/62A1/34

To revise Resolution 146 (Rev. Busan, 2014) accordingly (see Addendum 11 to document ...).

RCC/62A1/35

In discussion of the question of the International Telecommunication Regulations and Resolution 146, to take into account the **article-by-article comparison of the 1988 and 2012 ITRs** set out in the annex hereto.

ANNEX 1

Article by article comparison of the 1988 and 2012 ITRs

Note:

In the table below, the following conventions apply:

– provisions containing editorial corrections are shown in *italics*;

– new provisions contained in the 2012 ITRs are shown in ***bold italics.***

| 1988 ITRs | 2012 ITRs |
| --- | --- |
| **PREAMBLE**  **1** While the sovereign right of each country to regulate its telecommunications is fully recognized, the provisions of the present Regulations supplement the International Telecommunication Convention, with a view to attaining the purposes of the International Telecommunication Union in promoting the development of telecommunication services and their most efficient operation while harmonizing the development of facilities for world-wide telecommunications. | **PREAMBLE**  **1** While the sovereign right of each State to regulate its telecommunications is fully recognized, the provisions of the present International Telecommunication Regulations (hereafter referred to as "Regulations") complement the Constitution and the Convention of the International Telecommunication Union, with a view to attaining the purposes of the International Telecommunication Union in promoting the development of telecommunication services and their most efficient operation while harmonizing the development of facilities for worldwide telecommunications.  **2 *Member States affirm their commitment to implement these Regulations in a manner that respects and upholds their human rights obligations.***  **3 *These Regulations recognize the right of access of Member States to international telecommunication services.*** |
| **Comment:** No. 2 in the Preamble of the 2012 ITRs is not technical or regulatory, and affirms the need to respect human rights such as privacy of communications, the right to free transmission of data, and protection of personal data. No. 3 of the 2012 ITRs reflects the spirit and the letter of the ITU Constitution and Convention. | |
| **ARTICLE 1**  **Purpose and Scope of the Regulations**  2  1.1 *a)* These Regulations establish general principles which relate to the provision and operation of international telecommunication services offered to the public as well as to the underlying international telecommunication transport means used to provide such services. They also set rules applicable to administrations.\*  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \* *or recognized private operating agency(ies).* | **ARTICLE 1**  **Purpose and Scope of the Regulations**  **4** 1.1 *a)* These Regulations establish general principles which relate to the provision and operation of international telecommunication services offered to the public as well as to the underlying international telecommunication transport means used to provide such services. ***These Regulations do not address the content-related aspects of telecommunications.***  **5** *b)* These Regulations also contain provisions applicable to those operating agencies, authorized or recognized by a Member State, to establish, operate and engage in international telecommunications services to the public, hereinafter referred as "*authorized operating agencies*". |
| **Comment:** No. 5 *b)* of the 2012 ITRs reflects the changes that have been occurring in telecommunications in recent decades. At the present time, international telecommunication services are provided not only by recognized operating agencies but also by many private operators that have the relevant licences but are not “recognized operating agencies”. The 1988 ITRs more or less excludes operators not included on the “recognized” list from the international telecommunication system. This comment applies to all ITR provisions in which the term “private operating agencies” is used. | |
| **6**  1.4 References to *CCITT Recommendations and Instructions* in these Regulations are not to be taken as giving to those Recommendations and Instructions the same legal status as the Regulations. | **9**  1.4 References to *Recommendations of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T)* in these Regulations are not to be taken as giving to those Recommendations the same legal status as these Regulations. |
| **Comment**: Updating an outdated provision. | |
| **7**  1.5 Within the framework of the present Regulations, the provision and operation of international telecommunication services *in each relation is pursuant to mutual agreement between administrations*1.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  1 or recognized private operating agency(ies). | 1.5 Within the framework of these Regulations, the provision and operation of international telecommunication services in each relation is *pursuant to mutual agreement between authorized operating agencies*. |
| **Comment**: Updating an outdated provision. | |
| **8** 1.6 In implementing the principles of these Regulations, administrations\* should comply with, to the greatest extent practicable, the relevant CCITT Recommendations, including any Instructions forming part of or derived from these Recommendations. | **11**  1.6 In implementing the principles of these Regulations, authorized operating agencies should comply with, to the greatest extent practicable, the relevant ITU-T Recommendations. |
| **Comment**: Updating an outdated provision. | |
| **9**  1.7  *a)*  These Regulations recognize the right of any Member, subject to national law and should it decide to do so, to require that administrations and *private operating agencies*, which operate in its territory and provide an international telecommunication service to the public, be authorized by that Member.  **10**  *b)* The Member concerned shall, as appropriate, encourage the application of relevant CCITT Recommendations by such service providers.  **11**  *с)* The Members, where appropriate, shall cooperate in implementing the International Telecommunication Regulations. | **12**  1.7  *a)*   These Regulations recognize the right of any Member State, subject to national law and should it decide to do so, to require that *authorized operating agencies* which operate in its territory and provide an international telecommunication service to the public be authorized by that Member State.  **13**  *b)* The Member State concerned shall, as appropriate, encourage the application of relevant ITU‑T Recommendations by such service providers.  **14**  *c)* The Member States, where appropriate, shall cooperate in implementing these Regulations. |
| **ARTICLE 2**  **Definitions**  …  15  2.2 *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. | **ARTICLE 2**  **Definitions**  …  **18**   2.3   *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. |
| **Comment**: The definitions in the English versions of the 1988 and 2012 ITRs are identical. The Russian version of the 2012 ITRs correctly translates the term “service” as “услуга”. | |
| **16**  2.3 *Government telecommunication* | **19**  2.4 *Government telecommunications* |
| **17**  2.4  Service telecommunication  A telecommunication that relates to public international telecommunications and that is exchanged among the following:  – administrations;  – *recognized private operating agencies*;  ... | **20**  2.5   *Service telecommunication*: A telecommunication that relates to public international telecommunications and that is exchanged among the following:  – Member States;  – *authorized operating agencies*; and  … |
| **Comment**: Any term used in the ITRs must be defined, and this was done in the 2012 ITRs.  The absence of a definition in the 1988 ITRs results in a lack of clarity in the settlement of legal disputes. | |
| **18**  2.5 *Privilege telecommunication* | Definition removed. |
| **22**  2.7 *Relation*  **25**  2.8 *Accounting rate:* The rate agreed between administrations2 in a given relation that is used for the establishment of international accounts.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  2 or recognized private operating agency(ies).  **26**  2.9 *Collection charge:* The charge established and collected by an administration\* from its customers for the use of an international telecommunication service. | **22**2.7 *Relation*  **25**2.8 *Accounting rate:* The rate agreed between authorized operating agencies, in a given relation that is used for the establishment of international accounts.  **26**2.9 *Collection charge*:  The charge established and collected by an authorized operating agency from its customers for the use of an international telecommunication service. |
| **Comment**: Identical terms ‑ “relation”, “accounting rate”, and collection charge” – are used in the English versions of 1988 and 2012. The Russian version of 2012 uses the correct current translations of these terms.  The definitions of the 2012 ITRs refer only to an authorized operating agency. | |
| **27**  2.10 *Instructions:* A collection of provisions drawn from one or more CCITT Recommendations dealing with practical operational procedures for the handling of telecommunication traffic (e.g., acceptance, transmission, accounting). | Definition removed. |
| **ARTICLE 3**  **International Network**  §§ 3.1 – 3.4 refer to the administration or recognized private operating agency. | **ARTICLE 3**  **International network**  §§ 3.1 – 3.4 do not now refer to recognized private operating agencies and refer instead to “authorized operating agencies”. |
| No analogous provisions. | **31**  ***3.5  Member States shall endeavour to ensure that international telecommunication numbering resources specified in ITU-T Recommendations are used only by the assignees and only for the purposes for which they were assigned; and that unassigned resources are not used.***  ***32  3.6   Member States shall endeavour to ensure that international calling line identification (CLI) information is provided taking into account the relevant ITU-T Recommendations.***  ***33  3.7  Member States should create an enabling environment for the implementation of regional telecommunication traffic exchange points, with a view to improving quality, increasing the connectivity and resilience of networks, fostering competition and reducing the costs of international telecommunication interconnections.*** |
| **Comment**: The new §§ 3.5 – 3.7 in the 2012 ITRs are intended to promote the adoption of additional measures to ensure high-quality and reliable international telecommunication services and the development of suitable infrastructure. | |
| **ARTICLE 4**  **International Telecommunication Services**  **32**  4.1 Members shall promote the implementation of international telecommunication services and shall endeavour to make such services generally available to the public in their national network(s). | **ARTICLE 4**  **International telecommunication services**  **34**  4.1 Member States shall promote the development of international telecommunication services and shall foster their availability to the public. |
| **Comment**: the provision is updated to reflect changes in the telecommunication sector (market liberalization, the emergence of many non-state operators, and so on). | |
| §§ 4.2 and 4.3 refer to administrations or private operating agencies. | §§ 4.2 and 4.3 are retained in essence but updated as regards the entities to which the ITRs are applicable. |
| No analogous provision. | ***4.4  Member States shall foster measures to ensure that authorized operating agencies provide free-of-charge, transparent, up-to-date and accurate information to end users on international telecommunication services, including international roaming prices and the associated relevant conditions, in a timely manner.*** |
| No analogous provision. | ***4.5  Member States shall foster measures to ensure that telecommunication services in international roaming of satisfactory quality are provided to visiting users.*** |
| No analogous provision. | ***4.6  Member States should foster cooperation among authorized operating agencies in order to avoid and mitigate inadvertent roaming charges in border zones.*** |
| No analogous provision. | ***4.7  Member States shall endeavour to promote competition in the provision of international roaming services and are encouraged to develop policies that foster competitive roaming prices for the benefit of end users.*** |
| **Comment:** §§ 4.4 – 4.7 in the 2012 ITRs introduce new obligations for Member States and authorized operating agencies, respectively, arising from the development of the telecommunication sector and the introduction of new types of international telecommunication service. | |
| **ARTICLE 5**  **Safety of Life and Priority of Telecommunications**  §§ 5.1 – 5.3 refer to administrations or private operating agencies. | **ARTICLE 5**  **Safety of life and priority of telecommunications**  §§ 5.1 – 5.3 have been updated with regard to the entities to which the ITRs and other ITU texts apply. |
|  | **48  *5.4 Member States should encourage authorized operating agencies to inform all users, including roaming users, in good time and free of charge, of the number to be used for calls to the emergency services.*** |
| **Comment**: § 5.4 introduces new obligations for Member States and authorized operating agencies, respectively, arising from the introduction of new types of international telecommunication services. | |
| No analogous article. | **ARTICLE 6**  **Security and robustness of networks**  ***49  6.1 Member States shall individually and collectively endeavour to ensure the security and robustness of international telecommunication networks in order to achieve effective use thereof and avoidance of technical harm thereto, as well as the harmonious development of international telecommunication services offered to the public.*** |
| **Comment**: Requirements regarding security and robustness of networks, and the international cooperation to achieve this, are key factors in the successful development of telecommunications/ICTs and the general economy, taking into account the increasing role of telecommunications/ICTs in the modern world. | |
| No analogous article. | **ARTICLE 7**  **Unsolicited bulk electronic communications**  **50** ***7.1 Member States should endeavour to take necessary measures to prevent the propagation of unsolicited bulk electronic communications and minimize its impact on international telecommunication services.***  ***51  7.2 Member States are encouraged to cooperate in that sense.*** |
| **Comment:** Unsolicited bulk electronic communications create significant problems for telecommunication operators and users. The absence of any obligations under this article could, deliberately or unintentionally, be used to cause adverse impact on the viability of a communication network or on telecommunication services. | |
| **ARTICLE 6**  **Charging and Accounting**  No analogous provision. | **ARTICLE 8**  **Charging and accounting**  **52  8.1****International telecommunication arrangements**  **53  *8.1.1  Subject to applicable national law, the terms and conditions for international telecommunication service arrangements may be established through commercial agreements or through accounting-rate principles established pursuant to national regulation.***  ***54  8.1.2  Member States shall endeavour to encourage investments in international telecommunication networks and promote competitive wholesale pricing for traffic carried on such telecommunication networks.*** |
| **42**  6.1  *Collection charges*  **43**  6.1.1  Each administration\* shall, subject to applicable national law, establish the charges to be collected from its customers. The level of the charges is a national matter; however, in establishing these charges, administrations3 should try to avoid too great a dissymmetry between the charges applicable in each direction of the same relation.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  3 or recognized private operating agency(ies).  **44**  6.1.2  The charge levied by an administration\* on customers for a particular communication should in principle be the same in a given relation, regardless of the route chosen by that administration\*. | **61*****Collection charges***  **62**8.2.5  The charges levied on customers for a particular communication should in principle be the same in a given relation, regardless of the international route used for that communication. In establishing these charges, Member States should try to avoid dissymmetry between the charges applicable in each direction of the same relation. |
| **45**  6.1.3  Where, in accordance with the national law of a country, a fiscal tax is levied on collection charges for international telecommunication services, this tax shall normally be collected only in respect of international services billed to customers in that country, unless other arrangements are made to meet special circumstances. | **63  8.3  Taxation**  **64**8.3.1  Where, in accordance with the national law of a country, a fiscal tax is levied on collection charges for international telecommunication services, this tax shall normally be collected only in respect of international services billed to customers in that country, unless other arrangements are made to meet special circumstances. |
| **Comment**: The provision on taxation has been allocated to a separate § 8.3 of this article in the 2012 ITRs, with the aim of preventing double taxation and thereby helping to lower prices for telecommunication services for consumers. | |
| **46**  6.2  *Accounting rate*  **47**  6.2.1  For each applicable service in a given relation, administrations\* shall by mutual agreement establish and revise accounting rates to be applied between them, in accordance with the provisions of Appendix 1 and taking into account relevant CCITT Recommendations and relevant cost trends. | **55  8.2**  **Accounting-rate principles**  **56 *Terms and conditions***  **57**8.2.1  The following provisions may apply where the terms and conditions of international telecommunication service arrangements are established through accounting-rate principles, established pursuant to national regulation. These provisions do not apply to arrangements established through commercial agreements.  **58**8.2.2  For each applicable service in a given relation, authorized operating agencies shall, by mutual agreement, establish and revise accounting rates to be applied between them, in accordance with the provisions of Appendix 1 and taking into account the relevant ITU-T Recommendations.  **59**8.2.3  Unless otherwise agreed, parties engaged in the provision of international telecommunication services shall follow the relevant provisions as set out in Appendices 1 and 2. |
| **48**  6.3  Monetary unit  **49**  6.3.1  In the absence of special arrangements concluded between administrations\*, 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 (IMF), currently the Special Drawing Right (SDR), as defined by that organization;  – *or the gold franc, equivalent to 1/3.061 SDR.50*  **50** 6.3.2 In accordance with relevant provisions of the International Telecommunication Convention, this provision shall not affect the possibility open to administrations4 of establishing bilateral arrangements for mutually acceptable coefficients between the monetary unit of the IMP and the gold franc.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  4 or recognized private operating agency(ies). | **60**  8.2.4  In the absence of special arrangements concluded between authorized operating agencies, 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 (IMF), currently the Special Drawing Right (SDR), as defined by that organization;  – *or freely convertible currencies or other monetary unit agreed between the authorized operating agencies.*  … |
| **Comment**: No. 60 (8.2.4) of the 2012 ITRs, which in the 1988 ITRs contained a reference to the “gold franc”, is outdated, while No. 60 (8.2.4) of the 2012 ITRs fully reflects the flexible practical approach used in the modern world. | |
| **51**  6.4  *Establishment of accounts and settlement of balances of account*  **52**  6.4.1  Unless otherwise agreed, administrations\* shall follow the relevant provisions as set out in Appendices 1 and 2. | *No. 8.2.3 above* |
| **53**  6.5  *Service and privilege telecommunications*  **54**  6.5.1  Administrations\* shall follow the relevant provisions as set out in Appendix 3. | **65**8.4  Service telecommunications  **66**8.4.1  Authorized operating agencies may in principle forego the inclusion of service telecommunications in international accounting, under the relevant provisions of the Constitution and the Convention and these Regulations, having due regard for the need for reciprocal arrangements. Authorized operating agencies may provide service telecommunications free of charge.  **67**8.4.2  The general operational, charging and accounting principles applicable to service telecommunications should take account of the relevant ITU-T Recommendations. |
| **Comment**: The provisions of Appendix 3 of the 1988 ITRs were incorporated directly in the text of the 2012 ITRs. | |
| **ARTICLE 7**  **Suspension of Services**  **55**  7.1  If a Member exercises its right in accordance with the Convention to suspend international telecommunication services partially or totally, that Member shall immediately notify the Secretary-General of the suspension and of the subsequent return to normal conditions by the most appropriate means of communication.  **56**  7.2  The Secretary-General shall immediately bring such information to the attention of all other Members, using the most appropriate means of communication. | **ARTICLE 9**  **Suspension of services**  **68**9.1  If a Member State exercises its right in accordance with the Constitution and the Convention to suspend international telecommunication services partially or totally, that Member State shall immediately notify the Secretary-General of the suspension and of the subsequent return to normal conditions by the most appropriate means of communication.  **69**9.2  The Secretary-General shall immediately bring such information to the attention of all other Member States, using the most appropriate means of communication. |
| **ARTICLE 8**  **Dissemination of Information** | **ARTICLE 10**  **Dissemination of information**  ***Comment:*** *The article has been updated but not fundamentally changed.* |
| No analogous article. | **ARTICLE 11**  **Energy efficiency/e-waste**  **71**  ***11.1***  ***Member States are encouraged to adopt energy efficiency and e-waste best practices taking into account the relevant ITU-T Recommendations.*** |
| **Comment:** Article 12 of the 2012 ITRs reflects the widely recognized requirements of the UN and of many other international organizations and the legislation of ITU Member States concerning environmental protection. ITU-T brought together considerable experience and adopted a number of L-series Recommendations on issues of energy efficiency, e-waste and other questions pertaining to the environment. | |
| No analogous article. | **ARTICLE 12**  **Accessibility**  **72** ***12.1***  ***Member States should promote access for persons with disabilities to international telecommunication services, taking into account the relevant ITU-T Recommendations.*** |
| **Comment**: Article 12 of the 2012 ITRs reflects the widely recognized requirements of the UN and of many other international organizations and the legislation of ITU Member States concerning the promotion of access to telecommunications for persons with disabilities, and includes a reference to Recommendations that reflect specific approaches to meeting those needs. | |
| **ARTICLE 9**  **Special Arrangements**  **58**  9.1  *a)*  *Pursuant to Article 31 of the International Telecommunication Convention (Nairobi, 1982)*, special arrangements may be entered into on telecommunication matters which do not concern Members in general. Subject to national laws, *Members may allow administrations\** or other organizations or persons to enter into such special mutual arrangements with *Members, administration*\* or other organizations or persons that are so allowed in another country for the establishment, operation, and use of special telecommunication networks, systems and services, in order to meet specialized international telecommunication needs within and/or between the territories of the Members concerned, and including, as necessary, those financial, technical, or operating conditions to be observed.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \* or recognized private operating agency(ies). | **ARTICLE** **13**  **Special** **arrangements**  **73**  13.1   *a)*  *Pursuant to Article 42 of the Constitution*, special arrangements may be entered into on telecommunication matters which do not concern Member States in general. Subject to national laws, *Member States may allow authorized operating agencies* or other organizations or persons to enter into such special mutual arrangements with *Member States and authorized operating agencies*, or other organizations or persons that are so allowed in another country for the establishment, operation and use of special international telecommunication networks, systems and services, in order to meet specialized international telecommunication needs within and/or between the territories of the Member States concerned, and including, as necessary, the financial, technical or operating conditions to be observed. |
| **Comment**: See Comment on No. 2/1.1 a) of the 1988 ITRs and No. 5 b) of the 2012 ITRs. | |
| **ARTICLE 10**  **Final Provisions**  **61**  10.1  These Regulations, of which Appendices 1, 2 and 3 form integral parts, shall enter into force on 1 July 1990 at 0001 hours UTC.  **62**  10.2  On the date specified in No. 61, the Telegraph Regulations (Geneva, 1973) and the Telephone Regulations (Geneva, 1973) shall be replaced by these International Telecommunication Regulations (Melbourne, 1988) pursuant to the International Telecommunication Convention.  **63**  10.3  If a Member makes reservations with regard to the application of one or more of the provisions of these Regulations, other Members and their administrations shall be free to disregard the said provision or provisions in their relations with the Member which has made such reservations and its administrations\*.  **64**  10.4  Members of the Union shall inform the Secretary-General of their approval of the International Telecommunication Regulations adopted by the Conference. The Secretary-General shall inform Members promptly of the receipt of such notifications of approval. | **ARTICLE 14**  **Final provisions**  **76**  14.1  These Regulations, of which Appendices 1 and 2 form integral parts, shall enter into force on 1 January 2015, and shall be applied as of that date, consistent with all the provisions of Article 54 of the Constitution.  **77**14.2  If a Member State makes reservations with regard to the application of one or more of the provisions of these Regulations, other Member States shall be free to disregard the said provision or provisions in their relations with the Member State which has made such reservations. |
| **Comment**: Updating of outdated provisions. | |

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1. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. 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.” [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. 2 Such as contractual policy, succession planning, human resources training and development, etc. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. 3 https://www.unsystem.org/CEBPublicFiles/High-Level%20Committee%20on%20Programmes/Public%20Document/SWAP.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. 1 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. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
6. 2 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
7. 1 www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Documents/partnership/2012-12-ICT-E.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
8. 2 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
9. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
10. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
11. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
12. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
13. Revision of the ITRs is understood to mean the work of ITU Member States and Sector Members at the WCIT to remove and/or modify relevant provisions of the ITRs, or to include new provisions in the ITRs. This work may concern the entire text of the ITRs (full revision) or only individual provisions of the ITRs agreed in advance during the preparatory process. [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
14. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
15. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
16. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
17. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
18. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
19. 1 The criteria contained within this resolution do not apply to the designation of chairmen or vice‑chairmen of focus groups. [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
20. 2 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-25)
21. 3 Taking into account *resolves* 2 of Resolution 58 of the Plenipotentiary Conference. [↑](#footnote-ref-26)
22. 4 See Council Resolution 1386 (2017) [↑](#footnote-ref-27)
23. 5 See Council Resolution 1386 (2017) [↑](#footnote-ref-28)
24. 1 For those regions consisting of numerous administrations and with diverse economic and technological conditions within the region, to the extent possible the number of representatives of those regions may be increased, as appropriate. [↑](#footnote-ref-29)
25. 2 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. [↑](#footnote-ref-30)
26. 1 Taking into account the decisions of the Plenipotentiary Conference. [↑](#footnote-ref-32)