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| **Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-18)Dubai, 29 October – 16 November 2018** |  |
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| PLENARY MEETING | **Addendum 1 toDocument 64-E** |
|  | **8 October 2018** |
|  | **Original: English** |
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| Asia-Pacific Telecommunity Administrations |
| Asia-Pacific Common Proposals for the work of the Conference |
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This Addendum contains the following Asia-Pacific Common proposals (ACP). List of signatories can be found in Document 64.

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| [ACP/64A1/1](#acp_1) | NOC | CS |  | [ACP/64A1/14](#acp_14) | MOD | Resolution 131 |
| [ACP/64A1/2](#acp_2) | NOC | CV |  | [ACP/64A1/15](#acp_15) | MOD | Resolution 135 |
| [ACP/64A1/3](#acp_3) | MOD | Resolution 11 |  | [ACP/64A1/16](#acp_16) | MOD | Resolution 139 |
| [ACP/64A1/4](#acp_4) | MOD | Resolution 25 |  | [ACP/64A1/17](#acp_17) | MOD | Resolution 140 |
| [ACP/64A1/5](#acp_5) | MOD | Resolution 30 |  | [ACP/64A1/18](#acp_18) | MOD | Resolution 177 |
| [ACP/64A1/6](#acp_6) | MOD | Resolution 48 |  | [ACP/64A1/19](#acp_19) | MOD | Resolution 179 |
| [ACP/64A1/7](#acp_7) | MOD | Resolution 70 |  | [ACP/64A1/20](#acp_20) | SUP | Resolution 185 |
| [ACP/64A1/8](#acp_8) | MOD | Resolution 71 |  | [ACP/64A1/21](#acp_21) | MOD | Resolution 186 |
| [ACP/64A1/9](#acp_9) | MOD | Annex 1 to Resolution 71 |  | [ACP/64A1/22](#acp_22) | MOD | Resolution 197 |
| [ACP/64A1/10](#acp_10) | MOD | Resolution 101 |  | [ACP/64A1/23](#acp_23) | MOD | Resolution 200 |
| [ACP/64A1/11](#acp_11) | MOD | Resolution 102 |  | [ACP/64A1/24](#acp_24) | MOD | Resolution 203 |
| [ACP/64A1/12](#acp_12) | MOD | Resolution 123 |  | [ACP/64A1/25](#acp_25) | ADD: Draft New Resolution [ACP-1]: fostering Telecommunication/ICT-centric innovation |
| [ACP/64A1/13](#acp_13) | MOD | Resolution 130 |  |

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| **Proposal ACP/64A1/1 - Summary:** No change to any provisions in the Constitution, unless the proposed modifications are absolutely critical and could not be achieved through other possible means. |

**INTRODUCTION**

The Constitution, as the basic instrument of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and Convention of the ITU which complements it, are [international treaties](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_treaty) which are signed and [ratified](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratification) by all Member States of the ITU. They are the basic treaties that establish the legal basis for the Union and define its purpose and structure.

Ratification of the amendments to the Constitution and Convention is a complex and lengthy administrative process for ITU Member States, in particular for those Member States whose national language is not one of the six ITU official languages. Also frequent amendments to CS & CV will result in undermining the fundamental principles of ITU.

Stable CS and CV was a significant achievement in the last Plenipotentiary Conference 2014 (PP-14). A Council WG was established after PP-10 and had worked to propose options to ensure the stability of the CS and CV and reported to PP-14. The final decision of PP-14 was no change to CS and CV, which considerably helped the Member States.

Member states of Asia Pacific Telecommunity (APT) considered the issue of amendment to Constitution and Convention and propose no change to any provisions in the Constitution and Convention of the Union unless the proposed modifications are absolutely necessary and could not be achieved through other possible means.

**PROPOSAL**

In view of the above, APT Member Administrations propose no change to any provisions in the Constitution.

NOC ACP/64A1/1

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|  | CONSTITUTION OFTHE INTERNATIONALTELECOMMUNICATION UNION |

**Reasons:** No change to any provisions in the Constitution (CS) unless the proposed modifications are absolutely critical and could not be achieved through other possible means

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| **Proposal ACP/64A1/2 - Summary:** No change to any provisions in the Convention, unless the proposed modifications are absolutely critical and could not be achieved through other possible means. |

**INTRODUCTION**

The Constitution, as the basic instrument of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and Convention of the ITU which complements it, are [international treaties](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_treaty) which are signed and [ratified](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratification) by all Member States of the ITU. They are the basic treaties that establish the legal basis for the Union and define its purpose and structure.

Ratification of the amendments to the Constitution and Convention is a complex and lengthy administrative process for ITU Member States, in particular for those Member States whose national language is not one of the six ITU official languages. Also frequent amendments to CS & CV will result in undermining the fundamental principles of ITU.

Stable CS and CV was a significant achievement in the last Plenipotentiary Conference 2014 (PP-14). A Council WG was established after PP-10 and had worked to propose options to ensure the stability of the CS and CV and reported to PP-14. The final decision of PP-14 was no change to CS and CV, which considerably helped the Member States.

Member states of Asia Pacific Telecommunity (APT) considered the issue of amendment to Constitution and Convention and propose no change to any provisions in the Constitution and Convention of the Union unless the proposed modifications are absolutely necessary and could not be achieved through other possible means.

**PROPOSAL**

In view of the above, APT Member Administrations propose no change to any provisions in the Convention.

NOC ACP/64A1/2

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|  | CONVENTION OFTHE INTERNATIONALTELECOMMUNICATION UNION |

**Reasons:** No change to any provisions in the Convention (CV) unless the proposed modifications are absolutely critical and could not be achieved through other possible means.

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| **Proposal ACP/64A1/3 - Summary:** This proposal includes revision to Resolution 11 on ITU Telecom Events with regard to the support for developing countries to participate in ITU Telecom Forum and to foster SME participation under the ITU Telecom umbrella. |

**INTRODUCTION**

The annual ITU TELECOM world is one of the most important events of ITU which offer a universal opportunity for the display of, state-of-the-art technology concerning all aspects of telecommunications/ICT and related fields of activity, and provide forums for the exchange of views between Member States and industry.

The event therefore attracts a very wide range of participants from governments, corporates and small and medium enterprises (SMEs). Participating leaders at the event spans ministers and regulators, CEOs and CTOs of major ICT players, heads of international organizations and UN agencies, ambassadors, mayors, academics and SMEs from around the world.

For developing countries, attending to the ITU Telecom is an opportunity to approach the most up-to-date solutions and products from most well-known vendors at the exhibition and catch up with new insights every year. Moreover, the forums and leadership summit which have governments, regulatory bodies, the ICT industry and international organizations to join roundtables, networking sessions, panel debates bringing a lot of high level views and information of the most emerging and interested issues and topics.

However, except for the exhibition entry pass, all other entry passes such as forum pass, premium pass are very high cost for developing countries to attend, especially participants from governments and SMEs.

In addition, Resolution 11 (Rev. Busan, 2014) instructs the Council to report on the future of ITU Telecom events to the Plenipotentiary Conference 2018, including proposals for a fresh study of various options and mechanism in the organization of the event.

During the ITU Council 2018 meeting in Geneva, the ITU Telecom Secretariat reported that the ITU Telecom World Event was reformed in 2015, the event has move towards becoming the international platform providing services for ICT SMEs. The Council 2018 supported the ITU in its continuous reform of Telecom World and its ever more focus on SMEs.

**PROPOSAL**

For the above reason, APT Member Administrations would like to propose the revision to Resolution 11 as in the attachment.

MOD ACP/64A1/3

RESOLUTION 11 (Rev.DUBAI, 2018)

ITU Telecom events

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

considering

*a)* that the purposes of the Union, as reflected in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution, include to promote the extension of the benefits of the new telecommunication technologies to all the world's inhabitants and to harmonize the actions of Member States and Sector Members in the attainment of those ends;

*b)* that the telecommunication environment is undergoing considerable changes under the combined influence of advances in technology, the globalization of markets and growing user demand for integrated cross‑border services adapted to their needs;

*c)* that the need for a global framework to exchange information on telecommunication strategies and policies has been evident for many years;

*d)* that telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) events are of considerable importance in keeping the membership of the Union and the wider telecommunication/ICT community informed of the latest advances in all fields of telecommunications/ICT and the possibilities of applying these achievements for the benefit of all Member States and Sector Members, particularly the developing countries[[1]](#footnote-1)1;

*e)* that ITU Telecom events fulfil the mandate to keep Member States and Sector Members informed of, and offer a universal opportunity for the display of, state-of-the-art technology concerning all aspects of telecommunications/ICT and related fields of activity, and provide a forum for the exchange of views between Member States and industry;

*f)* that financial difficulties are the main limitation for developing countries to participate in ITU’s events in general and ITU Telecom in particular whereas the price for some types of entry pass are really high cost;

*g)* that ITU's participation in national, regional and global exhibitions on telecommunications/ICT and related areas of activity will serve to promote and enhance ITU's image and make it possible, without significant financial expenses, to broaden the promotion of its achievements to the end user, while at the same time attracting new Sector Members and Associates to participate in its activities;

*h)* the commitments made by Switzerland and the State of Geneva (the headquarters of ITU) towards ITU Telecom events, notably its exceptional support to the ITU Telecom World events since 1971 in the form of hosting most of them successfully,

emphasizing

*a)* that it is necessary for the Union, as an international organization playing a leading role in the field of telecommunications/ICT, to continue organizing an annual event to facilitate the exchange of information by high-level participants on telecommunication policies;

*b)* that the organization of exhibitions is not the main objective of ITU and, if it is decided to arrange such exhibitions in conjunction with Telecom events, they should preferably be outsourced,

noting

*a)* that an ITU Telecom Board has been established to advise the Secretary-General in the management of ITU Telecom events, and will act in accordance with ITU Council decisions;

*b)* that ITU Telecom events are also facing challenges, such as the increasing costs of exhibits and the trend towards reducing their size, the specialization of their scope and the need to provide value to industry;

*c)* that ITU Telecom events need to provide value and opportunities for participants to earn a reasonable return on their investments;

*d)* that the operational flexibility that the ITU Telecom management has been afforded in order to meet all the challenges in its field of activity and compete in the commercial environment has proven to be useful;

*e)* that ITU Telecom needs a transition period to adapt to new market conditions;

*f)* that ITU has participated as an exhibitor in exhibitions organized by other parties,

noting further

*a)* that participants, and in particular industry members, are seeking reasonable predictability of time and place of ITU Telecom events and opportunities to earn a reasonable return on investment;

*b)* that there is increased interest in further developing the ITU Telecom events as a key platform for discussions among policy-makers, regulators and industry leaders;

*c)* that there are requests for more competitive raw space costs and participation fees, preferential or discounted hotel prices and adequate numbers of hotel rooms, in order to make the events more accessible and affordable;

*d)* that the ITU Telecom brand should be reinforced by appropriate means of communication in order to remain one of the most respected telecommunication/ICT events;

*e)* that there is a need to ensure the financial viability of ITU Telecom events;

*f)* that the ITU Telecom 2009 event incorporated measures called for in [Council Resolution 1292 (2008)](http://www.itu.int/md/S08-CL-C-0091/en), in regard to giving due consideration to the emerging trend for forums, the need to seek participation from a wider spectrum of industries/businesses, the need to actively encourage Heads of State, Heads of Government, ministerial, CEO and VIP participation, and the need for broader dissemination of forum discussion and outcomes;

*g)* that the ITU Telecom events held in Dubai in 2012 and in Bangkok in 2013 were a success and were well attended and highly appreciated;

*h)* that since the ITU TELECOM World event was reformed in 2015, the event has moved towards becoming the international platform providing services for ICT SMEs,

resolves

1 that the Union should, in collaboration with its Member States and its Sector Members, organize ITU Telecom events related to issues of major importance in the current telecommunication/ICT environment and addressing market trends, technological development and regulatory issues, among others;

2 that the Secretary-General is fully accountable for ITU Telecom activities (including planning, organization and finance);

3 that ITU Telecom events should be organized on a predictable and regular basis, preferably at the same time each year, taking due account of the need to ensure that the expectations of all participating stakeholders in such events are met, and, in addition, to ensure that they do not overlap with any major ITU conferences or assemblies;

4 that each ITU Telecom event shall be financially viable and shall have no negative impact on the ITU budget on the basis of the existing cost-allocation system as determined by the Council;

5 that the Union, in its venue selection process for ITU Telecom events, shall ensure:

5.1 an open and transparent bidding process, based on the model host-country agreement as approved by the Council, in consultation with Member States;

5.2 that preliminary market and feasibility studies are conducted, including consultations with interested participants from all regions;

5.3 accessibility and affordability for participants, especially from developing countries, to join ITU Telecom forums, taking into account the existing budgetary resources and any potential financial implications for the Union;

5.4 the generation of positive revenues from ITU Telecom events;

5.5 that selection of venues for ITU Telecom events is based on the principle of rotation between regions, and between Member States within regions to the extent possible;

6 that the audit of ITU Telecom accounts shall be carried out by the External Auditor of the Union;

7 that, once all expenses have been recovered, a significant part of any generated positive revenues over expenses derived from ITU Telecom activities shall be transferred to the ICT Development Fund under the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau, for specific telecommunication development projects, primarily in the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to define and propose the mandate, the principles and the composition of the ITU Telecom Board to the Council for approval, with due consideration to ensuring transparency and to appointing some individuals with experience in the organization of telecommunication/ICT events;

2 to ensure the appropriate management of all ITU Telecom events and resources, in line with the regulations of the Union;

3 to consider measures that will enable and assist Member States which are capable and willing to do so, particularly developing countries, to host and stage ITU Telecom events;

4 to consult the ITU Telecom Board, on an ongoing basis, on a broad range of topics;

5 to develop a business plan for each proposed event;

6 to ensure the transparency of ITU Telecom events and report on them in a separate annual report to the Council, including:

– all ITU Telecom business activities;

– all activities of the ITU Telecom Board, including the proposals on the themes and venues for the events;

– the reasons for the selection of venues for future ITU Telecom events;

– financial implications and risks for future ITU Telecom events, preferably two years in advance;

– action taken with respect to the use of any positive revenues generated;

7 to continue to develop initiatives to grow and foster SME participation within the context of the ITU Telecom platform and identify opportunities to hold other ITU activities/meetings/events under the ITU Telecom umbrella;

8 to propose to the 2019 session of the Council a mechanism to implement *resolves* 5;

9 to revise the model host-country agreement and use all the means possible to get it approved by the Council as soon as possible, with the said model host-country agreement to include clauses that allow the Union and the host country to make changes deemed necessary as a result of *force majeure* or other performance criteria;

10 that an ITU Telecom event be held every year, ensuring that it does not overlap with any major ITU conferences or assemblies: the determination of the venue shall be based on competitive selection, and the contract negotiation shall be based on the model host-country agreement approved by the Council;

11 to ensure that, if an ITU Telecom event is held in the same year as a plenipotentiary conference, the ITU Telecom event should preferably take place no later than the plenipotentiary conference;

12 to ensure that there is internal control and that internal and external audits of the accounts for the different ITU Telecom events are carried out on regular basis;

13 to report annually to the Council on the implementation of this resolution, and to the next plenipotentiary conference on the future evolution of the ITU Telecom events,

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

1 to give due consideration, in planning ITU Telecom events, to the possible synergies with the major ITU conferences and meetings, and vice versa, where justified;

2 to encourage the participation of ITU in national, regional and global telecommunication/ICT events, within the available financial resources,

instructs the Council

1 to review the annual report on ITU Telecom events as described under *instructs the Secretary-General*6 and the mechanism referred to in *instructs the Secretary-General 8* above, and give guidance on future trends for those activities;

2 to review and approve the allocation of part of the positive revenues generated by ITU Telecom events to development projects within the framework of the ICT Development Fund;

3 to review and approve the Secretary-General's proposals on the principles for a transparent decision-making process on the venues of ITU Telecom events, including the criteria which serve as a basis for that process; such criteria shall include cost elements, as well as the rotation system as referred to in *resolves* 5and *instructs the Secretary-General 10* above, and the additional costs which may result from holding the events outside the city of the headquarters of the Union;

4 to review and approve the Secretary-General's proposals on the mandate and the composition of the ITU Telecom Board, taking into account *instructs the Secretary-General*1 above;

5 to review and approve the model host-country agreement, as soon as possible;

6 to review, as appropriate, the frequencies and venue of ITU Telecom events on the basis of the financial results of these events;

7 to report on the future of these events to the next plenipotentiary conference, including proposals for a fresh study on various options and mechanisms in the organization of the events.

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| **Proposal ACP/64A1/4 - Summary:** The APT Member Administrations would like to introduce revisions to *Resolution 25 (Rev. Busan, 2014) Strengthening the regional presence.* |

This contribution proposes modifications to Resolution 25to establish a review, led by the Secretary General, to determine whether the ITU’s regional presence is effectively meeting the needs of the ITU membership. The proposed review would consider matters such as:

* the location and number of field offices, with a view to defining criteria for determining the needs for a field office and the process for establishing such an office;
* the representation of all three sector;
* the linkages between the ITU’s regional presence and other regional organizations; and
* the implications of the reform of the UN development system to position it to deliver the SDGs.

The modifications to Resolution 25 will also encourage the ITU to provide fellowships to representatives from Least Developed Countries (LDC), Small Island Developing States (SIDS), Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDC), Low-income countries and delegates from other developing countries who have made contributions, and include information on this in reporting to ITU Council and Plenipotentiary.

The modifications to Resolution 25 will also emphasize the important role that the ITU’s regional presence plays in addressing priorities identified by ITU Member States.

**PROPOSAL**

APT Member Administrations would like to propose the following revisions to *Resolution 25 (Rev. Busan, 2014) Strengthening the regional presence* and its Annex (Elements for evaluation of the ITU regional presence) to the Plenipotentiary Conference.

MOD ACP/64A1/4

RESOLUTION 25 (Rev. dubai, 2018)

Strengthening the regional presence

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

considering

*a)* the benefits to the population of telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) and the need to promote their greater availability in developing countries[[2]](#footnote-2)1;

*b)* that the development of national and regional telecommunication/ICT infrastructures assists in narrowing the national and global digital divides;

*c)* the commitment of the ITU Member States to promoting access to telecommunications/ICTs at affordable prices, with special attention to the most disadvantaged,

bearing in mind

*a)* Article 1 Purposes of the Union of the Constitution of ITU, to promote and to offer technical assistance to developing countries in the field of telecommunications, and also to promote the mobilization of the material, human and financial resources needed for its implementation, as well as access to information;

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

*c)* Resolution 5 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on enhanced participation by developing countries in the activities of the Union;

*d)* Resolution ITU-R 48 (Rev. Geneva, 2015) of the Radiocommunication Assembly, on strengthening the regional presence in the radiocommunication study group work;

*e)* Resolution 44 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries;

*f)* the 2009 United Nations Joint Inspection Unit report, which made a number of recommendations on ways to improve the ITU regional presence;

*g)* the 2016 United Nations Joint Inspection Unit report, which made a recommendation relating to regional presence and noted that recommendations from its 2009 report remained relevant,

notes with appreciation

*a)* Resolution 70/1 of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

*b)* Resolution 71/243 of the UNGA on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

*c)* Resolution 72/279 of the UNGA on repositioning the UN development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review to better position the UN operational activities for development to support countries in their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

recognizing

*a)* the difficulty faced by many countries, particularly developing countries with stringent budgetary constraints, in participating in the activities of ITU;

*b)* that regional offices are an extension of ITU as a whole, and that, therefore, ITU’s capacity to hold electronic meetings as provided for by Resolution 167 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference will serve to build up the effectiveness of the Union's activities, including project implementation as set forth in Resolution 157 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference,

convinced

*a)* that the regional presence is a tool of ITU for working as closely as possible with its membership, serving as a channel for disseminating information on its activities, developing closer ties with regional and subregional organizations and providing technical assistance to countries in special need;

*b)* of the importance of continuing to strengthen coordination between the Radiocommunication Bureau (BR), the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB), the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) and the General Secretariat;

*c)* that the regional and area offices enable ITU to be more aware of and more responsive to the specific needs of the regions;

*d)* that resources are limited, and that efficiency and effectiveness are therefore key considerations for activities to be undertaken by ITU, as well as of the need to consolidate the technical expertise and knowledge of the human resources assigned to regional and area offices;

*e)* that, to be effective, the regional presence must have the necessary level of authority to meet the diverse requirements of the membership;

*f)* that adequate online access between headquarters and the field offices significantly enhances technical cooperation activities;

*g)* that all relevant electronic information available at headquarters should also be available to regional offices;

*h)* that full engagement and commitment from the regional and area offices is fundamental for the successful implementation of the strategic plan for the Union and the Buenos Aires Action Plan,

noting

*a)* the role that should be assumed by the ITU regional offices in executing projects related to the regional initiatives, and the need to strengthen collaboration with the regional telecommunication organizations;

*b)* that both the Plenipotentiary Conference and the ITU Council have endorsed the principle that regional and area offices should be entrusted with clear and specific functions;

*c)* that there should be greater cooperation among BDT, the other Bureaux and the General Secretariat in order to encourage participation by the regional offices in their respective spheres;

*d)* that there is a need for ongoing evaluation of the resourcing requirement for regional and area offices to deliver their agreed mandates,

noting also

that regional and area offices represent the presence of the entire Union, that their activities should be linked to ITU headquarters and should reflect the coordinated objectives of all three Sectors, and that regional activities should enhance the effective participation of all members in ITU work,

resolves

1 to strengthen the functions of the regional offices so that they continue to play a part in the implementation of programmes and projects, including capacity building and training considering the issues of interest of developing countries, in the framework of the regional initiatives set out in Resolution 17 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC, within the resources allocated by the financial plan, and, where appropriate, in collaboration with regional telecommunications organizations;

2 that regional offices play a key role in facilitating discussions on regional matters and the dissemination of information and results of activities of all three Sectors of the Union, while avoiding the duplication of such functions with headquarters;

3 that the regional and area offices shall be empowered to make decisions within their mandate, while the coordination functions and the balance between ITU headquarters and the regional and area offices should be facilitated and improved;

4 that the regional and area offices should contribute to the annual four-year rolling operational plans of the General Secretariat and of the three Sectors, with content specific to each regional and area office, then set up and continue to publish the annual plan/events on the ITU website for implementation;

5 that regional and area offices shall actively engage in the implementation of the strategic plan for the Union, in particular with respect to the strategic goals, all sectoral and intersectoral objectives and following up on the accomplishment of the strategic targets;

6 that regional and area offices shall actively engage in the implementation of the Buenos Aires Action Plan, in particular with respect to the objectives and their respective outcomes, the outputs and the regional initiatives;

7 that cooperation between the ITU regional and area offices, relevant regional organizations and other international organizations dealing with development and financial matters should continue to be fostered, in the interests of optimizing the use of resources and avoiding duplication, and that Member States should be kept updated through BDT, where necessary, in order to ensure that their needs are being met in a coordinated and consultative fashion;

8 that the regional offices shall be fully involved in the organization of regional events/meetings/conferences, in close collaboration with the General Secretariat, the relevant Bureau(x) and the regional organizations, taking into consideration the priorities identified in members’ annual proposals, in order to increase efficiency in the coordination of such events, avoid duplication of events/topics and derive benefit from synergy between the Bureaux and regional offices;

9 that, for the effective performance of their duties, regional offices must have sufficient resources, within the resources allocated by the financial plan, including the technological platforms to hold electronic meetings and utilize electronic working methods (EWM) with their respective Member States;

10 that sufficient resources have to be made available in order for BDT to be able to operate effectively in the interests of bridging the digital divide;

11 that, to promote the participation of developing countries in ITU activities, Least Developed Countries (LDC), Small Island Developing States (SIDS), Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDC), Low-income Countries are eligible to receive ITU fellowships, and if financially available, fellowships can be awarded to delegates of other developing countries who have made contributions,

further resolves

to review the regional presence of the ITU in consideration of the criteria contained in the annex to this resolution,

instructs the Council

1 to continue to include the regional presence as an item on the agenda of each session of the Council in order to examine its evolution and adopt decisions for its continuing structural adaptation and operation, with the aim of fully meeting the requirements of the Union's membership and giving effect to the decisions adopted at meetings of the Union, and of consolidating the coordination and complementary aspects of activities between ITU and regional and subregional telecommunication organizations;

2 to allocate the appropriate financial resources within the financial limits established by the Plenipotentiary Conference;

3 to report to the next plenipotentiary conference on the progress made in implementing this resolution;

4 to analyse the performance of regional and area offices based on the annual report of the Secretary-General, the results of the satisfaction survey conducted by the Secretary-General, the strategic plan for the Union, the four-year rolling operational plans of the General Secretariat and the three Sectors and the evaluation criteria identified in annex to this resolution, and to take appropriate measures for improving the ITU regional presence;

5 to continue to consider further implementation of the recommendations from the 2009 and 2016 JIU reports (Council Documents C09/55 and C16/49);

6 to consider the outcomes of the review conducted by the Secretary-General and take appropriate action,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to facilitate the task of the Council by providing all necessary support for strengthening the regional presence as described in this resolution;

2 to adapt, where necessary, the prevailing terms and conditions of host-country agreement(s) to the changing environment in the respective host country, after prior consultations with countries concerned and the representatives of the regional intergovernmental organizations of the affected countries;

3 to review ITU regional presence, taking into consideration the elements contained in annex to this resolution, and report to Council 2020, including suggesting appropriate measures to ensure the continued effectiveness and efficiency of the ITU’s regional presence;

4 to submit each year to the Council a report on the regional presence containing, for each specific regional office, detailed information on how the goals and objectives identified in the strategic plan and the four-year rolling operational plans of the General Secretariat and the three Sectors are being delivered in the context of the results-based management framework; the report should include detailed information on:

i) staffing, including number of staff members and category of employment;

ii) finances, including budget allocated to the offices and expenditure per objective and output, in accordance with the Buenos Aires Action Plan;

iii) activities of the three Sectors, outcomes of projects, including regional initiatives, events/meetings/conferences and regional preparatory meetings, and attraction of new Sector Members, in coordination with regional intergovernmental organizations;

iv) the fellowships awarded;

5 to conduct, once every four years, within the existing financial resources, a survey of the level of satisfaction of Member States, Sector Members and regional telecommunication organizations with ITU's regional presence, and to present the results in a report to the session of Council prior to each plenipotentiary conference;

6 to continue to engage with the United Nations Secretary-General, other United Nations development system entities and Member States with a view to support full implementation of United Nations General Assembly resolutions 71/243 and 72/279,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to implement the following measures for further strengthening the regional presence:

i) to strengthen the regional and area offices by identifying functions which could be decentralized and implementing them as soon as possible;

ii) to review the internal administrative procedures pertaining to the work of the regional offices, with a view to their simplification and transparency and enhancing work efficiency;

iii) to assist countries in implementing the regional initiatives defined in the Buenos Aires Action Plan, in accordance with Resolution 17 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC;

iv) to establish clear procedures for consulting Member States, in order to prioritize the consolidated regional initiatives and keep Member States informed on project selection and funding;

v) to solicit specialized input from the regional and area offices to better inform decision-making and address the crucial needs of the ITU membership in the region;

vi) to provide the regional and area offices with greater flexibility, including, but not limited to:

• functions relating to the dissemination of information, provision of expert advice and hosting of meetings, courses and seminars;

• any functions and tasks that may be delegated to them relating to the preparation and implementation of their allocated budgets;

• ensuring their effective participation in discussions on the future of the Union and on strategic issues concerning the telecommunication/ICT sector,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, in close consultation with the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Radiocommunication Bureau and the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

1 to take the necessary measures for further strengthening of the regional presence, as described in this resolution, and measures to ensure that BR and TSB activities are effectively covered in the regional and area offices;

2 to support the review of the ITU's regional presence, taking into account the elements set out in annex to this resolution;

3 to review and determine the appropriate posts, including permanent posts, in regional and area offices, and provide specialized staff on an as-needed basis to meet particular needs;

4 to fill in a timely manner vacant posts in the regional and area offices, where appropriate, planning staff availability and giving due consideration to the regional distribution of staff positions;

5 to ensure that the regional and area offices are given sufficient priority among the activities and programmes of the Union as a whole, and that, to supervise the implementation of funds-in-trust projects and projects financed from the ICT Development Fund, they have the required autonomy, the decision-making authority and the appropriate means;

6 to take the necessary measures to improve the exchange of information between headquarters and field offices;

7 to strengthen the human resource capabilities and provide the regional and area offices with a measure of flexibility in terms of the recruitment of professional staff as well as support staff;

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

to continue cooperating with the Director of BDT in enhancing the ability of the regional and area offices to provide information on their Sectors' activities, as well as the necessary expertise, to strengthen cooperation and coordination with the relevant regional organizations and to facilitate the participation of all Member States and Sector Members in the activities of the three Sectors of the Union.

ANNEX TO RESOLUTION 25 (Rev. DUBAI, 2018)

Elements for review of the ITU regional presence

The review of ITU's regional presence takes into account the functions assigned to its regional offices under Annex A: "Generic activities expected of the regional presence" of Resolution 1143 adopted by the ITU Council at its 1999 session, in *resolves* 1 to 11 of Resolution 25 (Rev. Busan, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, the recommendations of the JIU reports in *bearing in mind f )*, and the development system reforms at *bearing in mind g)*, and in other pertinent decisions.

The review of the regional presence should take into account, but not be limited to, the following elements:

a) the extent of fulfilment of the provisions of Resolution 25 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) by the Telecommunication Development Bureau, the General Secretariat and the other two Bureaux, as appropriate;

b) how further decentralization could ensure greater efficiency at lower cost, taking into consideration accountability and transparency;

c) the result of past surveys of the level of satisfaction of Member States, Sector Members and regional telecommunication organizations with ITU's regional presence;

d) assistance for developing countries to participate in ITU activities;

e) the extent of possible duplication between the functions of ITU headquarters and the regional offices;

f) the degree of autonomy in decision-making currently accorded to regional offices, and whether greater autonomy could enhance their efficiency and effectiveness;

g) the effectiveness of collaboration and coordination between the ITU regional offices, regional telecommunication organizations and other regional and international development and financial organizations;

h) how regional presence and the organization of activities in the regions can enhance the effective participation of all countries in ITU work;

i) the resources currently made available to the regional offices for reducing the digital divide;

j) the optimal structure of the ITU regional presence, including reporting lines, and the location and number of regional and area offices.

In preparing this review, input should be sought from Member States and Sector Members which benefit from ITU's regional presence, as well as from the regional offices, from regional and international organizations and from any other relevant entities.

A report on this review should be submitted by the Secretary-General to the Council at its 2020 session for consideration and appropriate action.

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| **Proposal ACP/64A1/5 - Summary:** The APT Member Administrations would like to introduce revisions to *Resolution 30 (Rev. Busan, 2014)-Special measures for the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition* of the Plenipotentiary Conference |

The ITU is the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies – ICTs. It allocates global radio spectrum and satellite orbits, develop the technical standards that ensure networks and technologies seamlessly interconnect, and strive to improve access to ICTs to underserved communities worldwide.[[3]](#footnote-3)

At the Council Working Group for Strategic and Financial Plan for 2020-2023 proposed *Goal 1 – Growth: Enable and foster access to and increased use of telecommunication/ICT in support of the digital economy and society* to the Council 2018 and will be brought forward to the ITU PP18 to be adopted by ITU Member States.

At the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-17) which convened in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 2017, one of the key objectives of ITU-D which was adopted was the "Inclusive Digital Society: Foster the development and use of telecommunications/ICTs and applications to empower people and societies for sustainable development.[[4]](#footnote-4)

Hence, it is empirical to highlight the relevant key areas of the digital economy, which supports **Resolution 30,** supporting the transition through harnessing of new and emerging technologies and introduce appropriate measures that are within the mandate of the ITU, to facilitate the development of the digital economy.

**PROPOSAL**

APT Member Administrations would like to propose the following revisions to Resolution 30 (Rev. Busan, 2014) for the consideration of PP-18.

MOD ACP/64A1/5

RESOLUTION 30 (Rev. dubai, 2018)

Special measures for the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition

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

considering

*a)* United Nations resolutions on programmes of action for the least developed countries (LDCs), small island developing states (SIDS), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and countries with economies in transition,

*b)* Resolution 72/200 of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), on information and communication technologies (ICTs) for sustainable development;

*c)* UNGA Resolution 72/228, on science, technology and innovation for development;

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

*e)* Resolution 135 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on ITU's role in the development of telecommunications/ICTs, in providing technical assistance and advice to developing countries[[5]](#footnote-5)1 and in implementing relevant national, regional and interregional projects,

recognizing

*a)* the importance of telecommunications/ICTs as an enabler that harnesses the potential and opportunities as a result of digital innovation which can benefit the socio-economic development of the countries concerned and help achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted in Resolution 70/1 of the United Nations General Assembly;

*b)* that the vision of an Information society and transformation into the digital economy cannot be achieved without embracing the principle of inclusiveness,

having noted

*a)* Resolution 16 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on special actions and measures for LDCs, SIDs, LLDCs and countries with economies in transition;

*b)* Output 4.4 of Objective 4 of the Buenos Aires Action Plan for concentrated assistance to LDCs, SIDS and LLDCs;

*c)* Resolution 1 (Dubai, 2012) of the World Conference on International Telecommunications, on special measures for LLDCs and SIDS for greater access to international optical fibre networks,

concerned

*a)* that the number of LDCs remains high despite the progress that has been made in recent years, and that it is necessary to address the situation;

*b)* that the challenges confronting LDCs, SIDS, LLDCs and countries with economies in transition continue to pose a threat to the development agenda of these countries;

*c)* that LDCs, SIDS and LLDCs are vulnerable to devastation caused by natural disasters and lack the resources needed to respond effectively to such disasters;

*d)* that the geographical location of SIDS and LLDCs is an obstacle to international connectivity of the telecommunication networks with these countries,

aware

that improvement of the telecommunication networks and their international interconnectivity in these countries will give an impetus towards social and economic integration across sectors and overall development, and provide the opportunity to create knowledge societies, participate in the digital economy as well as achieving the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),

recalling

former Resolution 49 (Doha, 2006) of WTDC, on special actions for LDCs and SIDS,

resolves

to support the transition of concerned Member States, to the digital economy, through harnessing of new and emerging technologies and assist them in developing strategies to enhance telecommunication/ICTs infrastructure in facilitating this transition,

instructs the Secretary-General and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to continue to review the state of telecommunication/ICT services in LDCs, SIDS, LLDCs and countries with economies in transition, so identified by the United Nations and needing special measures for the development of telecommunications/ICTs, and to identify areas of critical weakness requiring priority action;

2 to continue submitting to the ITU Council concrete measures intended to bring about genuine improvements and effective assistance to these countries, from the Special Voluntary Programme for Technical Cooperation, the Union's own resources and other sources of finance;

3 to work towards providing the necessary administrative and operational structure for identifying the needs of these countries and for proper administration of the resources appropriated for LDCs, SIDS, LLDCs and countries with economies in transition;

4 to propose new and innovative measures, as well as partnerships or alliances with other international and regional bodies, that may generate additional funds or joint projects to be used for telecommunication/ICT development in these countries, in order to get benefits from the opportunities that financial mechanisms offer in using ICT for development, as stated in the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society;

5 to continue enhancing the ITU web-based tools, in an effort to effectively consolidate all guidelines, recommendations, technical reports, best practices and use cases developed by ITU sectors, identifying strategies and mechanisms to facilitate and allow Member States to proactively use these tools to hasten the transfer of knowledge;

6 to report annually on this matter to the Council,

instructs the Council

1 to consider the above-mentioned reports and take appropriate action so that the Union may continue to display its keen interest and cooperate actively in the development of telecommunication/ICT services in these countries;

2 to make appropriations for this purpose from the Special Voluntary Programme for Technical Cooperation, the Union's own resources and any other sources of finance, and promote partnerships among all stakeholders in this regard;

3 to keep the situation under constant review and to report on this matter to the next plenipotentiary conference,

encourages least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition

to continue according high priority to telecommunication/ICT activities and projects that promote overall socio-economic development, including those that make it possible to improve international connectivity conditions, by adopting cooperation activities funded from bilateral or multilateral sources, for the benefit of the wider population,

invites the Member States

to cooperate with LDCs, SIDS, LLDCs and countries with economies in transition in promoting and supporting regional, subregional, multilateral and bilateral projects and programmes for the development of telecommunications/ICTs and the integration of telecommunication infrastructure making it possible to improve international connectivity conditions.

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| **Proposal ACP/64A1/6 - Summary:** The APT Member Administrations would like to introduce revisions to *Resolution 48 (Rev. Busan, 2014) Human Resources Management and Development* |

This contribution proposes modifications to *Resolution 48 (Rev. Busan, 2014) Human resources management and development* to ensure United Nations (UN) reform and other system-wide priorities, as well as recommendations of the UN Joint Inspection Unit, are given due consideration in the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

The ITU, as the UN specialised agency for information and communication technologies (ICTs), should consider the management and development reform agendas for the wider UN System initiated by the UN Secretary-General. Given the important role of ICTs in enabling the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, it is important that the ITU be positioned to collaborate effectively with other UN agencies to support the delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals.

This contribution also addresses broader UN system-wide priorities including gender equality and diversity; anti-corruption, anti-fraud and whistleblowing; sexual exploitation and abuse and workplace harassment; and accountability and transparency.

The Joint Inspection Unit has also made a number of recommendations relating to human resource management and should be referenced in Resolution 48.

**PROPOSAL**

APT Member Administrations would like to propose the following revisions to *Resolution 48 (Rev. Busan, 2014) Human Resources Management and Development* of the Plenipotentiary Conference and its Annex 2 (Facilitating the Recruitment of Women at the ITU).

MOD ACP/64A1/6

RESOLUTION 48 (Rev. dubai, 2018)

Human resources management and development

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

recognizing

No. 154 of the ITU Constitution,

recalling

*a)* 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, which resolves to accord high priority to the incorporation of gender policies in the management, staffing and operation of ITU;

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

noting

*a)* the various policies[[6]](#footnote-6)1 which impact on the ITU staff including, *inter alia*, the Standards of Conduct for the International Civil Service established by the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC), the ITU Staff Regulations and Staff Rules and the ITU ethics policies;

*b)* the adoption of a number of resolutions since 1996 by the United Nations General Assembly, highlighting the need for gender balance throughout the United Nations system;

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

*d)* Resolution 1253, adopted by the Council at its 2006 session, establishing the Tripartite Group on Human Resources Management, and the group's various reports to the Council concerning its achievements, such as the elaboration of the strategic plan, the establishment of an ethics policy, and other activities;

*e)* Resolution 25 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on strengthening the regional presence, and specifically on the importance of the role played by the regional offices in disseminating information on ITU's activities to its Member States and Sector Members;

*f)* the human resources strategic plan which was adopted by the Council at its 2009 session (Document C09/56) as a living document;

*g)* the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan 2.0 on gender equality and the empowerment of women (UN-SWAP);

*h)* the request by the UN Chief Executive Board for all UN specialized agencies to prepare their gender parity strategy in order to implement the UN system-wide parity strategy launched by the UN Secretary-General in September 2017;

*i)* the United Nations Secretary-General’s report on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse and the zero-tolerance policy;

*j)* the recommendations relevant to human resource management of the report of the United Nations Joint Inspection Unit on review of management and administration in the ITU, published in 2016,

noting with concern

the findings of the United Nations Joint Inspection Unit report entitled “Review of Whistle-blower Policies and Practices in United Nations System Organizations” with respect to the Union,

*welcoming*

*a)* the Report of the United Nations Secretary-General on Shifting the management paradigm in the United Nations (A/72/492), specifically the section on simplifying human resource management;

*b)* the United Nations General Assembly resolution 72/266 B on shifting the management paradigm in the United Nations and having considered the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Shifting the management paradigm in the United Nations: implementing a new management architecture for improved effectiveness and strengthened accountability”,

considering

*a)* the value of the human resources of the Union to the fulfilment of its goals;

*b)* that ITU's human resources strategies should emphasize the continued importance of maintaining a well-trained and geographically equitable workforce, while recognizing budget constraints;

*c)* the value, both to the Union and to the staff, of developing those resources to the fullest extent possible through various human resources development activities, including in-service training and training activities in accordance with staffing levels;

*d)* the impact on the Union and its staff of the continuing evolution of activities in the field of telecommunications and the need for the Union and its human resources to adapt to this evolution through training and staff development;

*e)* the importance of human resources management and development in support of ITU's strategic goals;

*f)* the need to follow a recruitment policy appropriate to the requirements of the Union, including the redeployment of posts and recruitment of specialists both at the start of their career and with experience in other organisations;

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

*h)* the need to facilitate the recruitment of more women in the Professional and higher categories, especially at the senior levels;

*i)* the constant advances made in telecommunications and information and communication technology and operation and the corresponding need to recruit specialists of the highest standard of competence;

*j)* the importance of promoting gender mainstreaming and equal representation of women,

resolves

1 that the management and development of ITU's human resources should continue to be compatible with the goals and activities of the Union and with the United Nations common system;

2 that ICSC recommendations approved by the United Nations General Assembly should continue to be implemented;

3 that, with immediate effect, within available financial resources, and to the extent practicable, vacancies should be filled through greater mobility of existing staff;

4 that internal mobility should, to the extent practicable, be coupled with training so that staff can be used where they are most needed;

5 that internal mobility should be applied, to the extent feasible, to cover needs when staff retire or leave ITU in order to reduce staffing levels without terminating contracts;

6 that, pursuant to *recognizing* above[[7]](#footnote-7)2, staff in the Professional and higher categories shall continue to be recruited on an international basis and that posts identified for external recruitment shall be advertised as widely as possible and communicated to the administrations of all Member States of the Union and through the regional offices; however, reasonable promotion possibilities must continue to be offered to existing staff;

7 that, when filling vacant posts by international recruitment, in choosing between candidates who meet the qualification requirements for a post, preference shall be given to candidates from regions of the world which are under-represented in the staffing of the Union, taking into account the balance between female and male staff mandated by the United Nations common system;

8 that, when filling vacant posts by international recruitment and when no candidate fulfils all the qualification requirements, recruitment can take place at one grade below, on the understanding that since not all the requirements of the post are met, the candidate will have to fulfil certain conditions before being given the full responsibilities of the post and promotion to the grade of the post,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to implement best-practice human resource policies and practices to ensure ITU achieves its management goals, taking into account the matters outlined in Annex 1 to this resolution;

2 to continue to prepare, with the assistance of the Coordination Committee, and in collaboration with the regional offices, and implement medium-term and long-term human resources management and development plans to respond to the needs of the Union, its membership and its staff, including the establishment of benchmarks within these plans;

3 to maintain recruitment policies and procedures designed to facilitate equitable geographical and gender representation among appointed staff (see Annex 2 to this resolution);

4 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;

5 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;

6 to continue to submit to the Council annual reports on the implementation of the human resources strategic plan and to provide to the Council, electronically where possible, statistics related to the issues outlined in Annex 1 to this resolution, and on other measures adopted in pursuance of this resolution;

7 as required under the United Nations Secretary-General’s report on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse, to report and provide updates on progress made with regard to sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment in the workplace to the Council, as appropriate;

8 to address the findings of the Joint Inspection Unit report entitled “on whistle-blower policies and practices in United Nations system organizations with respect to the Union and report to the Council on actions taken,

instructs the Council

1 to ensure that the necessary staff and financial resources are made available for addressing issues related to human resources management and development in ITU as they emerge, within approved budget levels;

2 to examine the Secretary-General's reports on these matters and to decide on the actions to be taken;

3 to allocate the appropriate resources for in-service training in accordance with an established programme, representing, to the extent practicable, a target of three per cent of the budget allocated to staff costs;

4 to follow with the greatest attention the question of recruitment and to adopt, within existing resources and consistent with the United Nations common system, the measures it deems necessary to secure an adequate number of qualified candidates for Union posts, particularly taking account of *considering* *b),* *c),h)* and *i)* above.

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

Matters for reporting to the Council on staff issues, including staff
in regional and area offices, and recruitment issues

– Alignment between the Union's strategic priorities and staff functions and posts

– Staff career and staff promotion policy

– Contracts policy

– Compliance with United Nations common system policies/recommendations

– Use of best practices

– Staff recruitment processes and openness

– Balance between external and internal recruitment

– Employment of persons with disabilities, including services and facilities for staff with disabilities

– Voluntary separation and early-retirement programmes

– Succession planning

– Short-term posts

– General characteristics of implementation of a human resources development plan indicating outcomes of work designed to "ensure effective and efficient use of human, financial and capital resources, as well as a safe and secure working environment that is conducive to work"

– Total staff development spend, including a breakdown by specific items of the development plan

– Analysis of the consistency of ITU's compensation package with the United Nations common system, with a view to examining all elements of staff compensation together with other human resources elements, in order to seek ways of reducing the burden on the budget

– Improvements to human resources services

– Performance evaluation and appraisals

– Staff in regional and area offices

– In-service training (with interruption of duties)

– External training (with interruption of duties)

– Geographical representation

– Gender balance

– Staff breakdown by age

– Social protection of staff

– Flexibility of working conditions

– Relationship between management and staff

– Workplace diversity

– Use of modern management tools

– Ensuring occupational safety

– Staff morale and measures to improve it

– Reflecting the views of all staff on various aspects of work and relations in the organization using surveys and questionnaires (as required) to collect data

– Conclusions and proposals based on the identification and analysis of strengths and weaknesses (risks) in regard to staff development in the Union and proposed modifications to the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules

– Measures related to facilitating the recruitment of women, as outlined in Annex 2 to this resolution.

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

Facilitating the recruitment of women at ITU

1 ITU should advertise vacancy notices as widely as possible to encourage employment applications from qualified and competent women.

2 ITU Member States are encouraged to put forward qualified female candidates.

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 target of 50 per cent of all candidates moving forward to the next level are women.

5 Unless there are no qualified female candidates, every short-list of candidates presented to the Secretary-General or their delegate for appointment must include at least one woman.

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| **Proposal ACP/64A1/7 - Summary:** The APT Member Administrations would like to introduce revisions to *Resolution 70 (Rev. Busan, 2014) Mainstreaming A Gender Perspective in ITU and Promotion Of Gender Equality And The Empowerment Of Women Through Information and Communication Technologies* |

**Introduction**

This contribution proposes a number of modifications to Resolution 70 includingensuring the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) considers the United Nations (UN) management and development reform agendas for the wider UN system. These reforms are important for the UN system to support the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and the modifications include addressing the ITU’s role in supporting the delivery of gender-related elements of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The proposed modifications also consider other system-wide priorities, such as a new emphasis on gender in the implementation and monitoring of the action lines within the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), the implementation of the second phase of the UN System-Wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-SWAP 2.0), and the UN Secretary General’s 2017 strategy to achieve full gender parity across the UN system.

The proposed modifications also seek to strengthen, clarify and update the resolution.

**PROPOSAL**

APT Member Administrations would like to propose the following revisions to *Resolution 70 (Rev. Busan, 2014) Mainstreaming a Gender Perspective in ITU and Promotion of Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women through Information and Communication Technologies* to the Plenipotentiary Conference.

MOD ACP/64A1/7

RESOLUTION 70 (Rev.dubai, 2018)

Mainstreaming a gender perspective in ITU and promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women through information and communication technologies

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

recalling

*a)* the initiative taken by the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) at the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) in adopting Resolution 7 (Valletta, 1998), transmitted to the Plenipotentiary Conference (Minneapolis, 1998), which resolved that an ITU gender task force be established;

*b)* the endorsement of that resolution by the Plenipotentiary Conference in its Resolution 70 (Minneapolis, 1998), in which the conference resolved, *inter alia*, to incorporate a gender perspective[[8]](#footnote-8)1 in the implementation of all programmes and plans of ITU;

*c)* Resolution 55 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, which encourages mainstreaming a gender perspective in the activities of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T);

*d)* Resolution 55 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC, resolving that the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) should maintain close links and collaborate, as appropriate, with the ITU Gender Task Force established in the framework of the ITU General Secretariat by the ITU Council in 2013 and with the Working Group on Broadband and Gender of the Broadband Commission for Digital Development, reciprocally supporting gender mainstreaming in the Union and joining forces to eliminate inequalities in access to and use of telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs), in the interests of building a non-discriminatory and egalitarian information society;

*e)* Resolution 1327 adopted by the Council at its 2011 session, on ITU's role in ICTs and the empowerment of women and girls;

*f)* ECOSOC Resolution 2012/24, on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system, which welcomed the development of the UN System-Wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-SWAP)[[9]](#footnote-9)2, and ECOSOC Resolution 2018/7, which notes that increased attention is required in the implementation of the second phase (2018-2022) – UN SWAP 2.0 to address persistent structural areas of weakness, including gender architecture and parity, resource allocation and capacity assessment, to ensure the successful implementation of the updated Action Plan;

*g)* Resolution 70/125 of the United Nations General Assembly, which commits to closing the digital gender gap and mainstreaming gender in the World Summit on the Information Society process, including through a new emphasis on gender in the implementation and monitoring of the action lines;

*h)* Resolution 70/1 of the United Nations General Assembly on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which resolves to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls and realises that gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls is crucial to progress all Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets,

noting

*a)* the UN Secretary General’s commitment to achieve full gender parity across the UN system through the launch of a Strategy in 2017 as the start of a system-wide campaign to advance this priority and referenced in UNGA Resolution 72/234;

*b)* the triple mandate of UN Women for normative support, coordination and operational functions to provide an effective platform for delivering results on gender equality and women’s empowerment;

*c)* the Agreed Conclusions of the sixty-first and sixty-second session on the Commission on the Status of Women promotes digital change for women’s empowerment including rural women and supports women’s access to skills development by expanding the scope of education and training opportunities including communications technology and digital fluency,

noting also

*a)* the decision of the Council at its 2013 session endorsing the Union's Gender Equality and Mainstreaming Policy (GEM), with the aim of integrating a gender perspective throughout the Union and leveraging the power of telecommunications/ICTs to empower both women and men;

*b)* that the ITU, in its strategic plan, includes gender equality issues with a view to debating and exchanging ideas to define, throughout the organization, a concrete action plan to address issues and barriers with clear deadlines and goals,

recognizing

*a)* that society as a whole, particularly in the context of the information and knowledge society, will benefit from equal participation of women and men in policy-making and decision-making and equal access to ICTs for both women and men;

*b)* that ICTs are tools through which gender equality and women's empowerment can be advanced, and are recognized as integral to societies in which both women and men can substantively contribute and participate;

*c)* that the outcomes of WSIS, namely the Geneva Declaration of Principles, the Geneva Plan of Action, the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, outlined the concept of the information society, and that continued efforts must be undertaken in this context to bridge the gender digital divide, remove gender barriers in the use and access to ICT and include a gender perspective;

*d)* the WSIS+10 Statement on implementation of the WSIS outcomes states the need to ensure that the information society enables women's empowerment and their full participation on the basis of equality in all spheres of society and in all decision-making processes;

*e)* that there are a growing number of women in the telecommunication/ICT sector with decision-making power, including in relevant ministries, national regulatory authorities and industry, who should promote the work of ITU so as to encourage girls to choose a career in the field of telecommunications/ICT and foster the use of ICTs for the social and economic empowerment of women and girls;

*f)* that there is a growing need to bridge the gender digital divide in order to empower women and girls, with special attention to women in rural and marginalized urban areas;

*g)* that Member States have committed to Sustainable Development Goal 5 (SDG5): Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls, of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and gender equality should be mainstreamed across all SDGs and targets to achieve gender equality and empower women and girls,

recognizing further

*a)* the progress achieved in raising awareness, both within ITU and among Member States, of the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective in all ITU work programmes and of increasing the number of women professionals in ITU, especially at the senior management level, while at the same time working towards the equal access of women and men to posts in the General Service category;

*b)* the success of the international "Girls in ICT Day" organized by ITU, which is held every year on the fourth Thursday of April;

*c)* the continuation of the GEM-TECH Award under the new name of the Gender Equality Mainstreaming – Technology (GEM-TECH) EQUALS in Tech Award, as a special award of ITU and UN Women for outstanding performers and role models in gender equality and mainstreaming in the area of ICTs;

*d)* the considerable recognition given to the work of ITU in gender and telecommunications/ICT within the United Nations family of organizations, including the EQUALS Global Partnership and the EQUALS in Tech Award, awarded jointly by the United Nations and the Union to role models in the area of gender equality,

considering

*a)* the progress made by ITU in gathering and publishing data and analyses that help communicate the different access to, involvement with, and effects of telecommunications/ICTs on gender equality;

*b)* the results achieved by the ITU’s internal Gender Task Force in promoting gender equality;

*c)* the study conducted by ITU-T on women in telecommunication standardization, exploring perspectives and activities related to mainstreaming a gender perspective in ITU-T and determining the degree to which women are active participants in all ITU-T activities,

noting further

*a)* that there is a need for ITU to continue studying, gathering data, analysing, building statistics, assessing and evaluating effects and promoting a better understanding of the impact of telecommunications/ICTs on the achievement of gender equality and women’s empowerment;

*b)* that ITU should have a role in establishing and reporting on gender-relevant indicators for the telecommunication/ICT sector that would contribute to reducing disparities in terms of access to and appropriation of ICTs and to national, regional and international mainstreaming gender equality;

*c)* that more work needs to be done to ensure that gender equality is mainstreamed in all ITU policies, work programmes, information dissemination activities, publications, study groups, seminars, workshops and conferences;

*d)* that there is a need to foster participation of women and girls in the telecommunication/ICT domain at an early age to ensure input for further policy developments in the required areas contributes to their empowerment;

*e)* the need for ICT tools and applications to empower women and facilitate their access to the job market in the formal non-traditional sector,

taking into account

the amendments made in Resolution 48 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on human resources management and development, outlining procedures to facilitate the recruitment of women at ITU,

encourages Member States and Sector Members

1 to undertake action that promotes mainstreaming gender equality in ICT learning across government, the public and private and sectors and academia, including in rural and remote areas;

2 to review and revise, as appropriate, their respective policies and practices to ensure that recruitment, employment, training and advancement of women and men in the ICT sector are undertaken on a fair and equitable basis;

3 to facilitate the capacity building and employment of women and men equally in the telecommunication/ICT field, including at senior levels of responsibility in telecommunication/ICT administrations, government and regulatory bodies and intergovernmental organizations and in the private sector;

4 to review their policies and strategies related to the information society so as to ensure the inclusion of a gender perspective in all activities and the fostering of gender balance to secure equal opportunities through the use and appropriation of telecommunications/ICTs;

5 to promote and increase the interest of, and opportunities for, women and girls in telecommunication/ICT careers, including women and girls in rural and remote areas, during elementary, secondary and higher education and lifelong education;

6 to attract more women and girls to pursue STEM careers, and acknowledge the achievements of leading women in these fields;

7 to encourage more women to take advantage of the opportunities offered by ICTs to establish and develop a business and to foster potential contributions to economic growth;

8 to encourage balanced representation of both women and men in delegations to ITU conferences, assemblies and meetings;

9 to actively participate in and promote EQUALS, the global partnership to bridge the digital divide,

resolves

1 to continue the work being done at ITU, and particularly in BDT, to promote gender equality in telecommunications/ICTs by recommending measures at the international, regional and national level on policies and programmes that improve socio-economic conditions for women, particularly in developing countries[[10]](#footnote-10)3;

2 to accord high priority to the incorporation of gender policies in the management, staffing and operation of ITU, so that ITU can become a leading organization in the implementation of gender-equality values and principles to take advantage of the possibilities offered by ICTs to empower both men and women;

3 to incorporate a gender perspective in the implementation of the ITU strategic plans and financial plans as well as in the operational plans of the Sectors and the General Secretariat;

4 to have ITU compile and process statistical data from countries and draw up indicators that take into account gender equality issues and highlight trends in the sector, as well as the effects and impact of the use and appropriation of telecommunications/ICTs, broken down by sex,

instructs the Council

1 to accord high priority to monitoring the implementation of the ITU Gender Equality and Mainstreaming Policy (GEM), so that ITU can become a model organization in terms of gender equality and leverage the power of telecommunications/ICTs to empower women and men;

2 to continue and expand on existing initiatives and to accelerate the gender mainstreaming process in ITU as a whole, within existing budgetary resources, so as to ensure capacity building and the appointment of women to senior-level positions, including ITU elected positions;

3 to explore allocation of resources within the ITU’s budget to facilitate the implementation of this resolution to the fullest extent possible;

4 to examine the possibility for ITU, in close collaboration with relevant regional organizations, to take appropriate measures to establish a regional platform for women, devoted to using ICT in order to promote gender equality and empowerment of women and girls,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to continue to ensure that a gender perspective is incorporated in work programmes, management approaches and human resources development activities of ITU, and to submit an annual written report to the Council on progress made in the implementation of the GEM policy and action plan, reflecting, with statistics broken down by gender, the distribution of women and men by category within ITU, as well as the participation of women and men in ITU conferences and meetings;

2 to ensure the inclusion of a gender perspective in all ITU contributions with respect to the priority areas that must be tackled for the implementation of WSIS Action Lines;

3 to give priority to gender parity for posts in the Professional and higher categories in ITU, particularly in senior positions, in line with the UN Secretary-General’s Gender Parity Strategy;

4 to give appropriate priority to gender balance when choosing between candidates who have equal qualifications for a post, taking into account geographical distribution (No. 154 of the ITU Constitution) and the balance between women and men;

5 to amend ITU recruitment procedures to ensure that at each recruitment stage, a target of 50 per cent of the candidates who move up to the next stage are women;

6 to report to the next plenipotentiary conference on the results and progress made on the inclusion of a gender perspective in the work of ITU, and on the implementation of this resolution;

7 to make sure that each short-list submitted to the Secretary-General for appointment includes a woman;

8 to ensure gender parity in the composition of ITU statutory committees;

9 to organize training in mainstreaming gender equality for all staff;

10 to continue to support gender equality mainstreaming in cooperation with other relevant organizations, through special initiatives like the EQUALS in Tech Award, co-organized by ITU and UN Women;

11 to make efforts to mobilize voluntary contributions from Member States, Sector Members and others for this purpose;

12 to encourage administrations to give equal opportunities to women and men candidates for elected official posts and for membership of the Radio Regulations Board;

13 to encourage the launch of the "Global Network of women ICT decision-makers";

14 to announce a year-long call to action, with a focus on the theme "Women and girls in ICT";15 to bring this resolution to the attention of the United Nations Secretary-General in an effort to promote greater cooperation and coordination in the policies, programmes and projects being implemented by ITU and interlinking access, use and appropriation of telecommunications/ICT and broadband among women and girls, and to promote gender equality, empowerment and the socio-economic development of women and girls;

16 to fulfil the obligations of submitting reports as required by UN-SWAP and ensure compliance with performance indicators,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to continue promoting, among the other United Nations agencies, ITU Member States and Sector Members, the international “Girls in ICT Day”, which, since 2011, takes place every fourth Thursday of April, and during which telecommunication/ICT companies, other enterprises with telecommunication/ICT departments, telecommunication/ICT training institutions, universities, research centres and all telecommunication/ICT‑related institutions are invited to organize activities for girls and young women, as well as online training and/or workshops, day camps and summer camps, in order to promote and increase the interest of, and opportunities for, women and girls in telecommunication/ICT careers during elementary, secondary and higher education;

2 to call upon women's organizations and non-governmental and civil-society organizations throughout the world to join in the celebration of the international Girls in ICT Day, as well as to provide online training and/or workshops and day camps, among others;

3 to continue the work of BDT in promoting the use of telecommunications/ICTs for the economic and social empowerment of women and girls, helping them to tackle disparities and facilitating the acquisition of skills for life,

invites Member States and Sector Members

1 to make voluntary contributions to ITU to support the implementation of this resolution to the fullest extent possible;

2 to observe annually the international Girls in ICT Day, held on the fourth Thursday of April, to share with BDT lessons learned from the Girls in ICT Day activities whenever necessary, and to invite ICT companies, other companies with ICT departments, ICT training institutions, universities, research centres and all ICT-related institutions to organize an open day for girls;

3 to actively support and participate in the work of BDT in promoting the use of telecommunications/ICTs for the economic and social empowerment of women and girls;

4 to actively participate in the launch of a "Global Network of women ICT decision-makers" aimed at promoting the work of ITU in using ICTs for the social and economic empowerment of women and girls, including by building partnerships and building synergies between existing networks at national, regional and international levels, as well as fostering successful strategies to improve gender balance at senior-level positions in telecommunication/ICT administrations, government, regulatory bodies and intergovernmental organizations, including ITU, and in the private sector;

5 to highlight a gender perspective in the Questions under study in the ITU-D study groups and the programmes of the Buenos Aires Action Plan;

6 to further develop internal tools and programming guidelines in the area of promotion of gender equality in the use of ICTs;

7 to collaborate with relevant stakeholders that have significant experience in mainstreaming gender equality in projects and programmes, in order to provide specialized training for women on ICT use;

8 to provide support so that women and girls can have access to studies and careers in telecommunications/ICTs, by creating opportunities, fostering their incorporation into teaching and learning processes, and/or encouraging their professional training;

9 to support and/or promote the funding of studies, projects and proposals that contribute to overcoming gender inequalities, fostering and promoting telecommunications/ICTs to empower women and girls;

10 to nominate on an annual basis deserving organizations and individuals for the EQUALS in Tech Award.

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| **Proposal ACP/64A1/8 - Summary:** The APT Member Administrations would like to introduce revisions to *Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) Strategic plan for the Union* |

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU), as the United Nations (UN) specialised agency for information and communication technologies (ICTs), should consider the management and development reform agendas initiated by the UN Secretary-General. Given the important role of ICTs in enabling the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, it is important that the ITU be positioned to collaborate effectively with other UN agencies to support the delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The ITU should also consider other UN system-wide priorities, including a commitment to diversity, gender parity and non-discrimination. This includes greater representation of women on governing boards and senior positions, and the removal of systematic and organizational barriers to diversity.

The Joint Inspection Report published in 2016, also includes a number of recommendations relating to strategic planning and therefore should be referenced in Resolution 71. These include Member States actively engaging in the Council Working Group Strategic and Financial Plan, ITU management analyzing KPIs to reassess whether the results of the ITU’s work are being accurately measured and Member States closely following the reporting of each component of the Union via a thorough review of the implementation of the Strategic Plan at Council.

**PROPOSAL**

APT Member Administrations would like to propose the following revisions to *Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014)* for the consideration of PP-18.

MOD ACP/64A1/8

RESOLUTION 71 (Rev. dubai, 2018)

Strategic plan for the Union for 2020-2023

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

considering

*a)* the provisions of the ITU Constitution and ITU Convention relating to strategic policies and plans;

*b)* Article 19 of the Convention, on the participation of Sector Members in the Union's activities;

*c)* Resolution 70 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, which resolves to incorporate a gender perspective in the implementation of the strategic and financial plans for 2016-2019 as well as in the operational plans of the Sectors and the General Secretariat;

*d)*  Resolution 72 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, which underlines the importance of linking strategic, financial and operational plans as a basis for measuring progress in achieving the objectives and goals of ITU,

welcoming

United Nations General Assembly resolutions 71/243 of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and 72/279 of 31 May 2018 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

noting

the challenges faced by the Union in achieving its purposes in the constantly changing telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) environment as well as the context for the development and implementation of the strategic plan, as outlined in Annex 1 to this resolution,

recognizing

*a)* the experience gained in implementing the previous strategic plans for the Union;

*b)* the recommendations of the report by the United Nations Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) on Strategic Planning in the United Nations system, published in 2012;

*c)* the recommendations relevant to strategic planning and risk management of the report of the JIU on review of management and administration in the ITU, published in 2016;

*d)* that the effective linkage between the strategic plan and the financial plan, which is detailed in Annex 1 to Decision 5 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, can be achieved through reallocation of the resources of the financial plan to the various Sectors, and then to the goals and objectives of the strategic plan, as presented in Annex 3 to this resolution,

resolves

to adopt the strategic plan for 2020-2023, contained in Annex 1 to this resolution,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 in coordination with the Directors of the three Bureaux, to develop and implement an ITU results framework for the strategic plan of the Union, following the principles of results-based budgeting (RBB) and result-based management (RBM);

2 in coordination with the Directors of the three Bureaux, when reporting annually to the ITU Council, to present annual progress reports on the implementation of the strategic plan and on the performance of the Union towards the achievement of its goals and objectives, including recommendations to adjust the plan in the light of changes in the telecommunication/ICT environment and/or as a result of the performance evaluation, in particular by:

i) updating the sections of the strategic plan related to objectives, outcomes and outputs;

ii) making all modifications necessary to ensure that the strategic plan facilitates the accomplishment of ITU's mission, taking account of proposals by the competent Sector advisory groups, decisions by conferences and by assemblies of the Sectors and changes in the strategic focus of the Union's activities, within the context of the financial limits established by the Plenipotentiary Conference;

iii) ensuring the linkage between the strategic, financial and operational plans in ITU, and developing the corresponding human resources strategic plan;

3 to distribute these reports to all Member States, after consideration by the Council, urging them to circulate the reports to Sector Members, as well as to those entities and organizations referred to in No. 235 of the Convention which have participated in these activities;

4 to continue to engage with the United Nations Secretary-General, other United Nations development system entities and Member States with a view to support full implementation of United Nations General Assembly resolutions 71/243 of 21 December 2016 and 72/279 of 31 May 2018,

instructs the Council

1 to oversee further development and implementation of the ITU results framework for the implementation of the strategic plan of the Union;

2 to oversee further development and implementation of the strategic plan, and when necessary adjust the strategic plan, on the basis of the Secretary-General's reports;

3 to present an assessment of the results of the strategic plan to the next plenipotentiary conference, along with a proposed strategic plan for the next period;

4 To take appropriate action to support the implementation of UNGA Resolutions 71/243 and 72/279,

invites the Member States

to contribute national and regional insights on policy, regulatory and operational matters to the strategic planning process undertaken by the Union in the period before the next plenipotentiary conference, in order to:

− strengthen the effectiveness of the Union in fulfilling its purposes as set out in the instruments of the Union, by cooperating in the implementation of the strategic plan;

− assist the Union in meeting the changing expectations of all its constituents as national structures for the provision of telecommunication/ICT services continue to evolve,

invites Sector Members

to communicate their views on the strategic plan of the Union through their relevant Sectors and the corresponding advisory groups.

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| **Proposal ACP/64A1/9 - Summary:** The Goals in the Strategic Plan have included the need to support the development of the digital economy and the digital transformation of the society. However, none of the Objectives nor Outcomes outline how ITU can support the development of the digital economy through digitalisation and digital transformation. While it is mindful that the Goals, Objectives and Outcomes in the Strategic Plan should remain broad, the Objectives and Outcomes should nevertheless make mention of the intended Goals so as to ensure consistency and alignment in the achievement of the Goals. Hence this proposal provides slight amendments that seeks to bridge the disconnect.  |

**INTRODUCTION**

The Council Working Group for Strategic and Financial Plans 2020-2023 (CWG-SFP) had concluded its work with draft Strategic Plan for 2020-2023. The current Goals in the draft Strategic Plan finalized by the CWG SFP emphasized the importance of the Digital Economy. However, this focus is not adequately reflected in the specific objectives and outcomes of the sectors and inter-sectoral component.

During the three meetings of the CWG-SFP, many members had made several interventions in support of the Digital Economy and Digital Transformation. Further, the current draft of the Strategic Plan included inputs (in Goal 1 and Goal 4) by members to support the Digital Economy. In view of the importance that members had placed on the development of the Digital Economy, it is crucial for the APT to contribute to this agenda. Given so, the aim of these amendments is to encourage the ITU to place more emphasis on the development of the Digital Economy and through digitalisation and digital transformation.

**PROPOSAL**

APT Member Administrations would like to propose amendments to Annex 1 of Resolution 71, specifically various ITU-D Outcomes, Outputs and Inter-Sectoral Objective and Outcome.

RESOLUTION 71 (Rev.Dubai, 2018)

Strategic plan for the Union for 2020-2023

MOD ACP/64A1/9#48507

ANNEX 1 to RESOLUTION 71 (Rev. dubai, 2018)

ITU Strategic plan for 2020-2023

**1. ITU Strategic Framework 2020-2023**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **🡨 RBM planning** | **Implementation 🡪** | **Vision & mission** | **Vision** is the better world ITU wants to see.**Mission** refers to the main overall purposes of the Union, as per the Basic Instruments of ITU. | **Values:** ITU's shared and common beliefs that drive its priorities and guide all decision-making processes |
| **Strategic goals & targets** | **Strategic goals** refer to the Union's high-level targets to which the objectives contribute, directly or indirectly. They relate to the whole of ITU.**Targets** are the expected results during the period of the strategic plan; they provide an indication as to whether the goal is being achieved. Targets may not always be achieved, for reasons that may be beyond the control of the Union. |
| **Objectives & outcomes** | **Objectives** refer to the specific aims of the Sectoral and intersectoral activities in a given period.**Outcomes** provide an indication as to whether the objective is being achieved. Outcomes are usually partly, but not entirely, within the organization's control. |
| **Outputs** | **Outputs** are the final tangible results, deliverables, products and services achieved by the Union in the implementation of the operational plans. |
| **Activities** | **Activities** are various actions/services for transforming resources (inputs) into outputs. Activities may be grouped into processes. |

**1.1 Vision**

“An **information society**, empowered by the **interconnected world**, where **telecommunication/information and communication technologies** enable and accelerate s**ocial**, **economic** and **environmentally** sustainable **growth** and **development** for everyone”

**1.2 Mission**

“To **promote**, **facilitate** and **foster** **affordable** and **universal** **access** to **telecommunication/information and communication technology networks**, **services** and **applications** and their **use** for **social**, **economic** and **environmentally sustainable growth** and **development**”

**1.3 Values**

The Union recognizes that achieving its mission requires that it builds and maintains **trust** among its membership and inspires the **confidence** of the public at-large. This applies to both what the Union does and how it is done.

The Union is committed to continuously building and safeguarding that trust by ensuring that its actions are guided by the following values:

**Efficiency**: focusing on the purposes of the Union, making decisions on the basis of appropriate studies, evidence and experience, taking effective action and monitoring outputs, avoiding internal ITU duplication;

**Transparency** and **accountability:** By enhancing transparency and accountability processes for better decisions, actions, results and management of the resources, ITU communicates and demonstrates progress towards the achievement of its goals;

**Openness**: Being aware of and responsive to the needs of all its membership, as well as the activities and expectations of intergovernmental organizations, the private sector, civil society, technical community and academia;

**Universality** and **neutrality**: As a United Nations specialized agency, ITU reaches, covers and represents all parts of the world. Within the remit of the Basic Instruments of the Union, its operations and activities reflect the express will of its membership preferably by consensus. ITU also recognizes the overarching pre-eminence of human rights, including the right to freedom of opinion and expression, which includes the freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers, and the right to not be subjected to arbitrary interference with privacy;

**People-centred**, **service-oriented** and **results-based**: Being people-centred, ITU is focused on people in order to deliver results that matter to each and every individual. Being service-oriented, ITU is committed to further delivering high-quality services and maximizing satisfaction of beneficiaries and stakeholders. Being results-based, ITU aims for tangible results and to maximize the impact of its work.

The Union expects all of its staff to faithfully adhere to the Standards of Conduct for the International Civil Service and the ITU Code of Ethics. ITU also expects that any partner will uphold the highest standards of ethical behavior.

**1.4 Strategic Goals**

The strategic goals of the Union are listed hereafter and support ITU’s role in facilitating progress towards the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

**Goal 1 – Growth: Enable and foster access to and increased use of telecommunication/ICT in support of the digital economy and society**

Recognizing the role of telecommunications/ICTs as a key enabler for social, economic and environmentally sustainable development, ITU will work to enable and foster access to, and increase the use of, telecommunications/ICTs, foster the development of telecommunication/ICTs in the support of digital economy and help developing countries make their transition to the digital economy. Growth in the use of telecommunications/ICTs has a positive impact on short- and long-term socio-economic development as well as on the growth of the digital economy towards building an inclusive digital society. The Union is committed to work together and collaborate with all stakeholders in the telecommunication/ICT environment in order to achieve this goal.

Goal 2 – Inclusiveness: Bridge the digital divide and provide broadband access for all

Being committed to ensuring that everyone without exception benefits from telecommunications/ICTs, ITU will work to bridge the digital divide for an inclusive digital society and enable the provision of broadband access for all, leaving no one offline. Bridging the digital divide focuses on global telecommunication/ICT inclusiveness, fostering telecommunication/ICT access, accessibility, affordability and use in all countries and regions and for all peoples, including women and girls, youth and marginal and vulnerable populations, people from lower socio-economic groups, indigenous peoples, older persons and persons with disabilities.

Goal 3 – Sustainability: Manage emerging risks, challenges and opportunities resulting from the rapid growth of telecommunication/ICT

To promote the beneficial use of telecommunications/ICTs, ITU recognizes the need to manage emerging risks, challenges and opportunities from the rapid growth of telecommunications/ICTs. The Union focuses on enhancing the quality, reliability, sustainability, resilience of networks and systems as well as building confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs. Accordingly, the Union will work to enable the seizing of opportunities presented by telecommunications/ICTs while working towards minimizing the negative impact of undesired collaterals.

**Goal 4 – Innovation: Enable innovation in telecommunication/ICT in support of the digital transformation of society**

The Union recognizes the crucial role of telecommunications/ICT in the digital transformation of society. The Union seeks to contribute to the development of an environment that is conducive to innovation, where advances in new technologies become a key driver for the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Goal 5 – Partnership: Strengthen cooperation among ITU membership and all other stakeholders in support of all ITU strategic goals

In order to facilitate the achievement of the above strategic goals, the Union recognizes the need to foster engagement and cooperation among governments, private sector, civil society, intergovernmental and international organizations, and the academic and technical communities. The Union also recognizes the need to contribute to the global partnership to strengthen the role of telecommunication/ICTs as means of implementation of the WSIS Action Lines and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

**1.5 Targets**

Targets represent the effect and long-term impact of ITU’s work and provide an indication of progress towards achievement of the strategic goals. The Union will work collaboratively with the full range of other organizations and entities around the world committed to advancing the use of telecommunications/ICTs. The purpose of such targets is to provide the direction where the Union should focus its attention and to materialize the ITU vision for an interconnected world for the four-year period of the strategic plan. The following targets for each of the ITU’s strategic goals reflect criteria that are specific, measurable, action-oriented, realistic, relevant, time-bound, and traceable.

Table 1. Targets

|  |
| --- |
| Target |
| **Goal 1: Growth** |
| Target 1.1: by 2023, 65% of households worldwide with access to the Internet |
| Target 1.2: by 2023, 70% of individuals worldwide will be using the Internet |
| Target 1.3: by 2023, Internet access should be 25% more affordable (baseline year 2017) |
| Target 1.4: by 2023, all countries adopt a digital agenda/strategy |
| Target 1.5: by 2023, increase the number of broadband subscriptions by 50% |
| Target 1.6: by 2023, 40% of countries to have more than half of the broadband subscriptions more than 10 Mbit/s |
| Target 1.7: by 2023, 40% of population should be interacting with government services online |
| **Goal 2: Inclusiveness** |
| Target 2.1: by 2023, in the developing world, 60% of households should have access to the Internet |
| Target 2.2: by 2023, in the least developed countries, 30% of households should have access to the Internet |
| Target 2.3: by 2023, in the developing world, 60% of individuals will be using the Internet |
| Target 2.4: by 2023, in the least developed countries, 30% of individuals will be using the Internet |
| Target 2.5: by 2023, the affordability gap between developed and developing countries should be reduced by 25% (baseline year 2017) |
| Target 2.6: by 2023, broadband services should cost no more than 3% of average monthly income in developing countries |
| Target 2.7: by 2023, 96% of world population covered by broadband services |
| Target 2.8: by 2023, gender equality in Internet usage and mobile phone ownership should be achieved |
| Target 2.9: by 2023, enabling environments ensuring accessible telecommunications/ICTs for persons with disabilities should be established in all countries |
| Target 2.10: by 2023, improve by 40% the proportion of youth/adults with telecommunication/ICT skills |
| **Goal 3: Sustainability** |
| Target 3.1: by 2023, improve cybersecurity preparedness of countries, with key capabilities: presence of strategy, national computer incident/emergency response teams and legislation |
| Target 3.2: by 2023, increase the global e-waste recycling rate to 30% |
| Target 3.3: by 2023, raise the percentage of countries with an e-waste legislation to 50% |
| Target 3.4: by 2023, net telecommunication/ICT-enabled Greenhouse Gas abatement should have increased by 30% compared to the 2015 baseline |
| Target 3.5: by 2023, all countries should have a National Emergency Telecommunication Plan as part of their national and local disaster risk reduction strategies |
| **Goal 4: Innovation** |
| Target 4.1: by 2023, all countries should have policies/strategies fostering telecommunication/ICT-centric innovation |
| **Goal 5: Partnership** |
| Target 5.1: by 2023, increased effective partnerships with stakeholders and cooperation with other organization and entities in the telecommunication/ICT environment |

**1.6 Strategic Risk Management**

Bearing in mind the prevailing challenges, evolutions and transformations that have the most potential to impact on ITU activities during the period of the strategic plan, the list of top-level strategic risks presented in Table below has been identified, analysed and evaluated. These risks have been considered when planning the strategy for 2020-2023, and the corresponding mitigation measures have been identified as necessary. It should be emphasized that the strategic risks are not meant to represent deficiencies of ITU's operations. They represent forward-looking uncertainties that may affect efforts to fulfil the mission of the Union during the period of the strategic plan.

ITU has identified, analysed and assessed these strategic risks. Apart from the strategic planning processes, setting the overall framework on how to mitigate these risks, operational mitigation measures will be defined and implemented through the operational planning process of the Union.

Table 2. Strategic risks and mitigation strategies

| **Risk** | **Mitigation strategy** |
| --- | --- |
| 1. **Diminishing relevance and ability to demonstrate clear added value**

- Risk of duplication of efforts and inconsistencies inside the organization that affects our ability to demonstrate added value- Risk of conflicting efforts, inconsistencies and competition with other relevant organizations and bodies that leads to misperception of ITU’s mandate, mission and role | - Risk avoidance: by clear **mandates** of each structure and **role in the Union**;- Risk limitation: **improve the cooperation framework**;- Risk avoidance: identify and **concentrate on areas** with **clear added value**;- Risk transfer: by establishing **long term partnerships**;- Risk limitation: by an appropriate and consistent **communication strategy** (**internal** and **external**). |
| 1. **Spreading too thin**

- Risk of mission dilution and losing sight of the organization core mandate | - Risk avoidance: by **prioritizing,** **focusing and building on the strengths** of the Union;- Risk limitation: by ensuring **consistency** of ITU activities / **working outside of silos**. |
| 1. **Failure to respond quickly to emerging needs and innovate sufficiently while still providing high quality deliverables**

- Risk of unresponsiveness, leading to disengagement of membership and other stakeholders- Risk of being left behind- Risk of lower quality deliverables | - Risk avoidance: **plan for the future** while being **agile**, **responsive** and **innovative**, focus on purposes of the Union;- Risk limitation: define, promote and implement a **fit-for-purpose organizational culture**;- Risk transfer: proactively **engage stakeholders**. |
| 1. **Concerns regarding trust and confidence**

- Risk of rising concerns related to trust by membership and stakeholders- Risk of rising concerns on confidence within membership | - Risk avoidance: **adopt and implement common values** – all actions guided by the adopted values;- Risk limitation: **engage with membership** and other stakeholders, **improve communication** and **transparency**, **commit to the values**, and **promote ownership of strategic initiatives; ensure adherence to the core Mission and Goals and organizational procedures**. |
| 1. **Inadequate internal structures, tools, methodology and processes**

- Risk of structures, methods and tools becoming inadequate, failing to be effective | - Risk limitation: Optimize internal structures, **improve tools**, **methodologies** and **processes**;- Risk transfer: Initiate processes for **quality control**;- Risk limitation: Improve **internal** and **external communication**. |
| 1. **Insufficient funding**

- Risk of reduced financial contributions and sources of revenue | - Risk limitation: identify and explore **new markets** and **players**; **prioritization of core activities**;- Risk limitation: ensure **effective financial planning**;- Risk limitation: membership **engagement strategies**;- Risk transfer: increase **relevance of ITU activities**. |

**2 ITU results framework**

ITU will implement the strategic goals of the Union for 2020-2023 through a number of objectives to be attained in this period. Each Sector will contribute to the overarching goals of the Union in the context of its specific remit, through implementation of the Sector-specific objectives and the overarching intersectoral objectives. The Council will ensure efficient coordination and oversight of this work.

The Enablers support the overall objectives and strategic goals of the Union. The activities and support services of the General Secretariat and the Bureaux provide these Enablers to the work of the Sectors and the whole Union.



ITU-R Objectives:

1. R.1 (Spectrum/orbit regulation and management): Meet, in a rational, equitable, efficient, economical and timely way, the ITU membership’s requirements for radio-frequency spectrum and satellite-orbit resources, while avoiding harmful interference
2. R.2 (Radiocommunication standards): Provide for worldwide connectivity and interoperability, improved performance, quality, affordability and timeliness of service and overall system economy in radiocommunications, including through the development of international standards
3. R.3 (Knowledge sharing): Foster the acquisition and sharing of knowledge and know-how on radiocommunications

ITU-T Objectives:

1. T.1 (Development of standards): Develop [non-discriminatory[[11]](#footnote-11)1] international standards (ITU-T recommendations), in a timely manner, and foster interoperability and improved performance of equipment, networks, services and applications
2. T.2 (Bridging the standards gap): Promote the active participation of the membership, in particular developing countries, in the definition and adoption of [non-discriminatory] international standards (ITU-T recommendations) with a view to bridging the standardization gap
3. T.3 (Telecommunication resources): Ensure effective allocation and management of international telecommunication numbering, naming, addressing and identification resources in accordance with ITU-T recommendations and procedures
4. T.4 (Knowledge sharing): Foster the acquisition, awareness, sharing of knowledge and know how on the standardization activities of ITU-T
5. T.5 (Cooperation with standardization bodies) Extend and facilitate cooperation with international, regional and national standardization bodies

ITU-D Objectives:

1. D.1 (Coordination): Foster international cooperation and agreement on telecommunication/ICT development issues
2. D.2 (Modern and secure telecommunication/ICT infrastructure): Foster the development of infrastructure and services, including building confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs
3. D.3 (Enabling environment): Foster an enabling policy and regulatory environment conducive to sustainable telecommunication/ICT development
4. D.4 (Inclusive digital society): Foster the development and use of telecommunications/ICTs and applications to empower people and societies for sustainable development

Inter-Sectoral Objectives:

1. I.1 (Collaboration) Foster closer collaboration among all stakeholders in the telecommunication/ICT ecosystem
2. I.2 (Emerging telecommunication/ICT trends) Enhance identification, awareness and analysis of digital transformation and emerging trends in the telecommunication/ICT environment
3. I.3 (Telecommunication/ICT accessibility) Enhance telecommunications/ICTs accessibility for persons with disabilities and specific needs
4. I.4 (Gender equality and inclusion) Enhance the use of telecommunication/ICTs for gender equality and inclusion and empowerment of women and girls
5. I.5. (Environmental sustainability) Leverage telecommunication/ICTs to reduce environmental footprint
6. I.6 (Reducing overlap and duplication) 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

Table 3. Linkage of ITU objectives with the Strategic Goals[[12]](#footnote-12)2:

|  | **Goal 1: Growth** | **Goal 2: Inclusiveness** | **Goal 3: Sustainability** | **Goal 4: Innovation** | **Goal 5: Partnership** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Objectives** | **ITU-R objectives** |  |  |  |  |  |
| R.1. Spectrum/orbit regulation and management | ☑ | ☑ | ☑ | ☑ | 🗸 |
| R.2. Radiocommunication standards | ☑ | ☑ | 🗸 | ☑ | 🗸 |
| R.3. Knowledge sharing | 🗸 | ☑ | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 |
| **ITU-T objectives** |  |  |  |  |  |
| T.1. Development of standards | ☑ | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 |
| T.2. Bridging the standards gap | 🗸 | ☑ |  | 🗸 |  |
| T.3. Telecommunication resources | ☑ | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 |
| T.4. Knowledge sharing | 🗸 | ☑ | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 |
| T.5. Cooperation with standardization bodies | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | ☑ |
|  | **ITU-D objectives** |  |  |  |  |  |
| D.1. Coordination | 🗸 | ☑ | 🗸 | 🗸 | ☑ |
| D.2. Modern and secure telecommunication/ICT infrastructure | ☑ | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 |
| D.3. Enabling environment | 🗸 | 🗸 | ☑ | ☑ | 🗸 |
| D.4. Inclusive digital society | 🗸 | ☑ | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 |
| **Inter-Sectoral objectives** |  |  |  |  |  |
| I.1. Collaboration | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | ☑ |
| I.2. Emerging telecommunication/ICT trends | 🗸 |  | 🗸 | ☑ | 🗸 |
| I.3. Telecommunication/ICT accessibility | 🗸 | ☑ |  | 🗸 | 🗸 |
| I.4. Gender equality and inclusion | 🗸 | ☑ |  |  | 🗸 |
| I.5. Environmental sustainability | 🗸 |  | ☑ | 🗸 | 🗸 |
|  | I.6. Reducing overlap and duplication | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | ☑ |

**2.1 Objectives, Outcomes and Outputs / Enablers**

Table 4: ITU-R Objectives, Outcomes and Outputs

|  |
| --- |
| **R.1 (Spectrum/orbit regulation and management) Meet, in a rational, equitable, efficient, economical and timely way, the ITU membership’s requirements for radio-frequency spectrum and satellite-orbit resources, while avoiding harmful interference** |
| *Outcomes* | *Outputs* |
| R.1-a: Increased number of countries having satellite networks and earth stations recorded in the Master International Frequency Register (MIFR)R.1-b: Increased number of countries having terrestrial frequency assignments recorded in the MIFRR.1-c: Increased percentage of assignments recorded in the MIFR with a favourable findingR.1-d: Increased percentage of countries which have completed the transition to digital terrestrial television broadcastingR.1-e: Increased percentage of spectrum assigned to satellite networks which is free from harmful interference R.1-f: Increased percentage of assignments to terrestrial services recorded in the MIFR which are free from harmful interference | R.1-1: Final acts of world radiocommunication conferences, updated Radio RegulationsR.1-2: Final acts of regional radiocommunication conferences, regional agreementsR.1-3: Rules of Procedure and other decisions of the Radio Regulations Board (RRB)R.1-4: Publication of space notices and other related activitiesR.1-5: Publication of terrestrial notices and other related activities |
|  |  |
| **R.2 (Radiocommunication standards)** **Provide for worldwide connectivity and interoperability, improved performance, quality, affordability and timeliness of service and overall system economy in radiocommunications, including through the development of international standards** |
| *Outcomes* | *Outputs* |
| R.2-a: Increased mobile-broadband access and use, including in frequency bands identified for international mobile telecommunications (IMT)R.2-b: Reduced mobile-broadband price basket, as a percentage of gross national income (GNI) per capitaR.2-c: Increased number of fixed links and increased amount of traffic handled by the fixed service (Tbit/s)R.2-d: Increased number of households with digital terrestrial television receptionR.2-e: Increased number of satellite transponders (equivalent 36 MHz) on communication satellites in operation and corresponding capacity (Tbit/s); Number of VSAT terminals; Number of households with satellite television receptionR.2-f: Increased number of devices with radionavigation-satellite receptionR.2-g: Increased number of satellites having Earth exploration payloads in operation, corresponding quantity and resolution of transmitted images and data volume downloaded (Tbytes) | R.2-1: Decisions of the Radiocommunication Assembly, ITU-R resolutionsR.2-2: ITU-R recommendations, reports (including the CPM report) and handbooksR.2-3: Advice from the Radiocommunication Advisory Group |
| **R.3 (Knowledge sharing)** **Foster the acquisition and sharing of knowledge and know-how on radiocommunications** |
| *Outcomes* | *Outputs* |
| R.3-a: Increased knowledge and know-how on the Radio Regulations, Rules of Procedure, regional agreements, recommendations and best practices on spectrum useR.3-b: Increased participation in ITU-R activities (including through remote participation), in particular by developing countries | R.3-1: ITU-R publicationsR.3-2: Assistance to members, in particular developing countries and LDCsR.3-3: Liaison/support to development activitiesR.3-4: Seminars, workshops and other events |

Table 5. Enablers for ITU-R

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Supported Objective(s) | BR activities | Contribution to the Outcomes of the Sector | Results |
| **R.1** | Efficient processing of frequency assignment notices | Increased certainty for planning new radiocommunication networks | Reduced processing time for publication of noticesProcessing time within regulatory limits |
| **R.1, R.2, R.3** | Development, maintenance and improvement of ITU-R software, databases and online toolsTechnical, regulatory, administrative, outreach and logistical activities in support of ITU-R objectives | Increased reliability, efficiency and transparency in the application of the Radio Regulations. | New and improved ITU-R software, databases and online toolsEfficient and timely delivery of ITU-R outputs and support to ITU-R objectivesBR contributions to ITU-R meetings, conferences and events |

Table 6. ITU-T Objectives, Outcomes and Outputs

|  |
| --- |
| **T.1 (Development of standards)** **Develop [non-discriminatory] international telecommunication/ICT standards (ITU-T recommendations), in a timely manner, and foster interoperability and improved performance of equipment, networks, services and applications** |
| *Outcomes* | *Outputs* |
| T.1-a: Increased utilization of ITU-T recommendationsT.1-b: Improved conformance to ITU-T recommendationsT.1-c: Enhanced standards in new technologies and services | T.1-1: Resolutions, recommendations and opinions of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA)T.1-2: WTSA regional consultation sessionsT.1-3: Advice and decisions of the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG)T.1-4: ITU-T recommendations and related results of ITU-T study groupsT.1-5: ITU-T general assistance and cooperationT.1-6: Conformity databaseT.1-7: Interoperability test centers and eventsT.1-8: Development of test suites |
|  |  |
| **T.2 (Bridging the standards gap) Promote the active participation of the membership, in particular developing countries, in the definition and adoption of [non-discriminatory] international telecommunication/ICT standards (ITU-T recommendations) with a view to bridging the standardization gap** |
| *Outcomes* | *Outputs* |
| T.2-a: Increased participation in the ITU-T standardization process, including attendance of meetings, submission of contributions, taking leadership positions and hosting of meetings/workshops, especially from developing countriesT.2-b: Increase of the ITU-T membership, including Sector Members, Associates and Academia | T.2-1: Bridging the standardization gap (e.g. remote participation, fellowships, establishment of regional study groups)T.2-2: Workshops and seminars, including offline and online training activities, complementing the capacity-building work on bridging the standardization gap T.2-3: Outreach and promotion |
|  |  |
| **T.3 (Telecommunication resources) Ensure effective allocation and management of international telecommunication numbering, naming, addressing and identification resources in accordance with ITU-T recommendations and procedures** |
| *Outcomes* | *Outputs* |
| T.3-a: Timely and accurate allocation of international telecommunication numbering, naming, addressing and identification resources, as specified in the relevant recommendations | T.3-1: Relevant TSB databasesT.3-2: Allocation and management of international telecommunication numbering, naming, addressing and identification resources in accordance with ITU-T recommendations and procedures |
|  |  |
| **T.4 (Knowledge sharing) Foster the acquisition, awareness, sharing of knowledge and know how on the standardization activities of ITU-T** |
| *Outcomes* | *Outputs* |
| T.4-a: Increased knowledge on ITU-T standards and on best practices in their implementation of ITU-T standards T.4-b: Increased participation in ITU-T's standardization activities and increased awareness of the relevance of ITU-T standardsT.4-c: Increased Sector visibility | T.4-1: ITU-T publicationsT.4-2: Database publicationsT.4-3: Outreach and promotionT.4-4: ITU Operational Bulletin |
|  |  |
| **T.5 (Cooperation with standardization bodies) Extend and facilitate cooperation with international, regional and national standardization bodies** |
| *Outcomes* | *Outputs* |
| T.5-a: Increased communications with other standards organizationsT.5-b: Decreased number of conflicting standardsT.5-c: Increased number of memoranda of understanding/collaboration agreements with other organizationsT.5-d: Increased number of ITU-T A.4, A.5 and A.6 qualified organizationsT.5-e: Increased number of workshops/events organized jointly with other organizations | T.5-1: Memoranda of understanding (MoUs) and collaboration agreementsT.5-2: ITU-T A.4/A.5/A.6 qualifications T.5-3: Jointly organized workshops/events |

Table 7. Enablers for ITU-T

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Supported ITU-T Objective(s) | TSB activities | Contribution to the Outcomes of the Sector | Results |
| **T.1** | - Timely and efficient provisioning of documents (WTSA Resolutions, Recs, Opinions, ITU-T Recs, SGs related documents, reports)- Secretariat support and organization and logistical support for meetings- Advisory services- TSB EWM services and information services- Operation and maintenance of C&I DBs; logistical support for interop/testing events, testbeds | - Increased quality of ITU-T recommendations | - Timely up-to-date information for delegates and standards community about ITU-T’s products and services |
| **T.2** | - Organization of BSG hands-on training sessions; fellowship financial support; logistical support of regional groups- Organization of workshops- Announcements (ITU newsblog, promotional activities)- Account management of ITU-T memberships, retention of current members and proactive acquisition of new members | - Increased ITU-T membership and participation in the standardization process | - Active participation of delegates and organizations that have so far only participated passively in ITU-T activities, or not at all |
| **T.3** | - Processing and publication of international numbering, addressing, naming and identification applications / resources | - Timeliness and accuracy in the allocation of the resources | - Timely availability of numbering information facilitates management of networks |
| **T.4** | - ITU-T publication services- Development and maintenance of ITU-T databases- Outreach and promotion service (ITU newsblog, social media, web)- Organization of workshops, CTO group meetings, Kaleidoscope, sessions at ITU Telecom, WSIS etc | - Increased knowledge and awareness on ITU-T standards, increased participation in ITU-T activities and increased Sector visibility | - Timely availability of publications (documents; databases) and easy to use services enhances the delegate experience |
| **T.5** | - Maintenance and management of MoUs; establishment of new MoUs- Maintenance and management of A.4/A.5/A.6 DB- Logistical support for jointly organized WSs and events- Support services for various collaboration activities (WSC, GSC, CITS, FIGI, WSIS, U4SSC …) | - Increased cooperation with other organizations | - Collaboration activities |

Table 8. ITU-D Objectives, Outcomes and Outputs

|  |
| --- |
| **D.1 (Coordination) Foster international cooperation and agreement on telecommunication/ICT development issues** |
| *Outcomes* | *Outputs[[13]](#footnote-13)* |
| D.1-a: Enhanced review and increased level of agreement on the draft ITU-D contribution to the draft ITU strategic plan, the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) Declaration, and the WTDC Action PlanD.1-b: Assessment of the implementation of the Action Plan and of the WSIS Plan of ActionD.1-c: Enhanced knowledge-sharing, dialogue and partnership among the ITU membership on telecommunication/ICT issuesD.1-d: Enhanced process and implementation of telecommunication/ICT development projects and regional initiativesD.1.e: Facilitation of agreement to cooperate on telecommunication/ICT development programmes between Member States, and between Member States and other stakeholders in the ICT ecosystem, based on requests from ITU Member States involved | D.1-1 World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) and WTDC Final ReportD.1-2 Regional preparatory meetings (RPMs) and final reports of the RPMsD.1-3 Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) and reports of TDAG for the Director of BDT and for WTDCD.1-4 Study groups and guidelines, recommendations and reports of study groupsD.1-5 Platforms for regional coordination, including regional development forums (RDFs)D.1-6: Implemented telecommunication/ICT development projects and services related to regional initiatives. |
|  |  |
| **D.2 (Modern and secure telecommunication/ICT Infrastructure) Foster the development of infrastructure and services, including building confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs** |
| *Outcomes* | *Outputs* |
| D.2-a: Enhanced capacity of the ITU membership to make available resilient telecommunication/ICT infrastructure and services.D.2-b: Strengthened capacity of Member States to effectively share information, find solutions, and respond to threats to cybersecurity, and to develop and implement national strategies and capabilities, including capacity building, encourage national, regional and international cooperation towards enhanced engagement among Member States and relevant players.D.2-c: Strengthened capacity of Member States to use telecommunications/ICTs for disaster risk reduction and management, to ensure availability of emergency telecommunications, and support cooperation in this area. | D.2-1 Products and services on telecommunication/ICT infrastructure and services, wireless and fixed broadband, connecting rural and remote areas, improving international connectivity, bridging the digital standardization gap, conformance and interoperability, spectrum management and monitoring, the effective and efficient management and proper use of telecommunication resources within the mandate of ITU, and the transition to digital broadcasting, such as assessment studies, publications, workshops, guidelines, and best practices.D.2-2 Products and services in building confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs, such as reports and publications, and to contribute to the implementation of national and global initiatives.D.2-3 Products and services on disaster risk reduction and management, and emergency telecommunications, including assistance to enable Member States to address all phases of disaster management, such as early warning, response, relief, and restoration of telecommunication networks. |
|  |  |
| **D.3 (Enabling Environment) Foster an enabling policy and regulatory environment conducive to sustainable telecommunication/ICT development** |
| *Outcomes* | *Outputs* |
| D.3-a: Strengthened capacity of Member States to enhance their policy, legal and regulatory frameworks conducive to development of telecommunications/ICTs.D.3-b: Strengthened capacity of Member States to produce high-quality, internationally comparable telecommunication/ICT statistics which reflect developments and trends in telecommunications/ICTs, based on agreed standards and methodologies.D.3-c: Improved human and institutional capacity of the ITU membership to tap into the full potential of telecommunications/ICTs.D.3-d: Strengthened capacity of the ITU membership to integrate telecommunication/ICT innovation and digitalisation in national development agendas and to develop strategies to promote innovation initiatives, including through public, private, and public-private partnerships. | D.3-1 Products and services on telecommunication/ICT policy and regulation for better international coordination and coherence, such as assessment studies and other publications, and other platforms to exchange information.D.3-2 Products and services on telecommunication/ICT and digitalisation statistics and data analysis, such as research reports, collection, harmonization and dissemination of high-quality, internationally comparable statistical data, and forums of discussion.D.3-3 Products and services on capacity building and human skills development, including those on international Internet governance, such as online platforms, distance and face-to-face training programmes to enhance practical skills and shared material, taking into account partnerships with telecommunication/ICT education stakeholders.D.3-4 Products and services on telecommunication/ICT innovation, such as knowledge-sharing and assistance, upon request, on developing a national innovation agenda; mechanisms for partnerships; development of projects, studies and telecommunication/ICT innovation policies. |
|  |  |
| **D.4 (Inclusive Digital Society) Foster the development and use of telecommunications/ICTs and applications to empower people and societies for sustainable development** |
| *Outcomes* | *Outputs* |
| D-4-a: Improved access to and use of telecommunication/ICT in least developed countries (LDCs), small island developing states (SIDS) and landlocked developing countries (LLDCs), and countries with economies in transition.D.4-b: Improved capacity of the ITU membership to accelerate economic and social development by leveraging and using new technologies and telecommunication/ICT services and applications.D.4-c: Strengthened capacity of the ITU membership to develop strategies, policies and practices for digital inclusion, in particular for the empowerment of women and girls, persons with disabilities and other persons with specific needs.D.4-d: Enhanced capacity of the ITU membership to develop telecommunication/ICT strategies and solutions on climate-change adaptation and mitigation and the use of green/renewable energy. | D.4-1 Products and services on concentrated assistance to LDCs, SIDS and LLDCs and countries with economies in transition, to foster availability and affordability of telecommunications/ICTs.D.4-2 Products and services on telecommunication/ICT policies supporting the development of the digital economy, ICT applications and new technologies, such as information sharing and support for their deployment, assessment studies, and toolkits.D.4-3 Products and services on digital inclusion for girls and women and people with specific needs (elderly, youth, children and indigenous people, among others), such as awareness-raising on digital inclusion strategies, policies and practices, development of digital skills, toolkits and guidelines and forums of discussion to share practices and strategies.D.4-4 Products and services on ICT climate-change adaptation and mitigation, such as promotion of strategies and dissemination of best practices on mapping vulnerable areas and developing information systems, metrics, and e-waste management. |

Table 9. Enablers for ITU-D

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Supported Objective(s) | BDT activities | Contribution to the Outcomes of the Sector | Results |
| **D.1, D.2, D.3, D.4** | 1. Development and implementation of efficient strategies in telecommunication/ICT development towards achieving WSIS Action Lines and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including communication and promotion activities | - Increased understanding and sharing of the ITU-D objectives and outputs- Increased guidance for ITU-D activities- Increased clarity of the programme of activities | - Measurable progress towards ITU’s role in achieving WSIS Action Lines and SDGs- Increased level of international cooperation in the area of telecommunication/ICT development- Increased level of satisfaction by Member States with services and products provided by BDT |
| 2. Efficient administration of and support to telecommunication/ICT development activities through coordination of and collaboration among services, finance and budget administration, event organization support and IT support. | - Clear and coordinated scheduling of events- Provision of necessary financial, IT and manpower support within available resource limits- Provision of reliable support to events | - Enhanced coordination and collaboration in organizing events and implementing activities- Efficient use of financial resources- Timely and efficient organization of events- Increased quality and coordination of BDT’s reporting to Member States |
| 3. Efficient organization of and support to activities on telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, ICT applications and cybersecurity. | - Identification of priorities and needs of Member States- Development of relevant products and services and their timely delivery to end users- Effective involvement of all relevant stakeholders in the development and delivery of products and services to Member States | - Increased quality and enhanced accessibility of products, services, and expertise developed and delivered by BDT in the areas of telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, ICT applications, and cybersecurity- Increased level of satisfaction by Member States- Tangible improvements in ITU’s Member States as a result of BDT’s activities in areas of telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, ICT applications, and cybersecurity- Enhanced role of telecommunications/ICTs in the social and economic development of Member States |
| 4. Efficient organization of and support to activities on projects and knowledge management through capacity building, project support, ICT data and statistics, and emergency telecommunication support. | - Identification of priorities and needs of Member States- Development of relevant products and services and their timely delivery to end users- Effective involvement of all relevant stakeholders in the development and delivery of products and services to Member States | - Increased quality and enhanced accessibility of products, services, and expertise developed and delivered by BDT in the areas of projects and knowledge management - Increased level of satisfaction by Member States- Tangible improvements in ITU’s Member States as a result of BDT’s activities in the areas of projects and knowledge management- Successful mitigation of emergency telecommunication risks |
| 5. Efficient organization of and support to innovation and partnership activities through partnership building, innovation, and study group coordination services. | - Identification of priorities and needs of Member States- Development of relevant products and services and their timely delivery to end users- Effective involvement of all relevant stakeholders in the development and delivery of products and services to Member States | - Increased quality and enhanced accessibility of products, services, and expertise developed and delivered by BDT in the areas of partnership building and innovation- Increased level of satisfaction by Member States- Wider participation of stakeholders and partners in the development of telecommunications/ICTs in developing countries- Increased level of resources from donors for the benefit of Member States’ efforts to develop their telecommunication/ICTs |
| 6. Efficient delivery and coordination of activities in telecommunication/ICT development through regional and area office activities | - Increased ITU outreach in various regions and areas of the world | - Effective and efficient delivery of products, services, information, and expertise of BDT and ITU to Member States- Increased level of satisfaction by Member States with services and products provided by BDT |

Table 10. Inter-Sectoral Objectives, Outcomes and Outputs

|  |
| --- |
| **I.1 (Collaboration) Foster closer collaboration among all stakeholders in the telecommunication/ICT ecosystem** |
| *Outcomes* | *Outputs* |
| I.1-a: Increased collaboration among relevant stakeholdersI.1-b: Increased synergies from partnerships on telecommunication/ICTsI.1-c: Increased recognition of telecommunications/ICTs as a cross-cutting enabler for implementing the WSIS Action Lines and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[ I.1-d: Enhanced support to tech SMEs developing and delivering ICT products and services ][[14]](#footnote-14) | I.1-1: Inter-Sectoral world conferences, forums, events and platforms for high-level debateI.1-2: Knowledge-sharing, networking and partnershipsI.1-3: Memoranda of understanding (MoUs)I.1-4: Reports and other inputs to UN inter-agency, multilateral and intergovernmental processes[ I.1-5: Establishment of support services for tech SMEs in ITU activities and events ] |
|  |  |
| **I.2 (Emerging telecommunication/ICT trends) Enhance identification, awareness and analysis of digital transformation and emerging trends in the telecommunication/ICT environment** |
| *Outcomes* | *Outputs* |
| I.2-a: Identification, awareness and analysis of digital transformation and emerging trends in telecommunications/ICTs | I.2-1: Intersectoral initiatives and reports on relevant emerging telecommunication/ICT trends and other similar initiatives I.2-2: ITU News Digital formatI.2-3 Platforms to exchange information about new trends |
|  |  |
| **I.3 (Telecommunication/ICT accessibility) Enhance telecommunications/ICTs accessibility for persons with disabilities and specific needs** |
| *Outcomes* | *Outputs* |
| I.3-a: Increased availability and compliance of telecommunication/ICT equipment, services and applications with universal design principlesI.3-b: Increased engagement of organizations of persons with disabilities and specific needs in the work of the UnionI.3-c: Increased awareness, including multilateral and intergovernmental recognition, of the need to enhance access to telecommunications/ICTs for persons with disabilities and specific needs | I.3-1: Reports, guidelines, standards and checklists relating to accessibility of telecommunications/ICTsI.3-2: Mobilization of resources and technical expertise, for example, through promoting greater participation in international and regional meetings by persons with disabilities and specific needs I.3-3: Further development and implementation of the ITU Accessibility Policy and related plansI.3-4: Advocacy, both at UN level and at regional and national levels |
|  |  |
| **I.4 (Gender equality and inclusion) Enhance the use of telecommunication/ICTs for gender equality and inclusion, and empowerment of women and girls** |
| *Outcomes* | *Outputs* |
| I.4-a: Enhanced access to and use of telecommunication/ICTs to promote the empowerment of womenI.4-b: Enhanced participation of women at all level of decision making in the work of the Union and the telecommunication/ICT sectorI.4-c: Increased engagement with other UN organizations and stakeholders involved in using telecommunication/ICTs to promote the empowerment of womenI.4-d: Full implementation of UN system-wide strategy on gender parity within ITU’s remit | I.4-1: Toolkits, assessment tools and guidelines for policy development and skills development and other practices for implementationI.4-2: Networks, collaboration, initiatives and partnershipsI.4-3: Advocacy, both at UN level and at regional and national levelsI.4-4: Support the Equals partnership |
|  |  |
| **I.5 (Environmental sustainability) Leverage telecommunication/ICTs to reduce environmental footprint** |
| *Outcomes* | *Outputs* |
| I.5-a: Improved efficiency of environmental policies and standardsI.5-b: Reduced energy consumption from telecommunication/ICT applicationsI.5-c: Increasing number of recycled e-wasteI.5-d: Improved solutions for Smart Sustainable Cities | I.5-1: Energy efficiency policies and standardsI.5-2: Safety and environmental performance of ICT equipment and facilities (e-waste management)I.5-3: Global platform for Smart Sustainable Cities, including development of KPIs |
|  |  |
| **I.6 (Reducing overlap and duplication) 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** |
| *Outcomes* | *Outputs* |
| I.6-a: Closer and more transparent collaboration among the ITU Sectors, the General Secretariat and the 3 BureauxI.6-b: Reducing the areas of overlap and duplication among the ITU Sectors and the work of the General Secretariat and the 3 BureauxI.6-c: Realise savings through avoidance of areas of overlap | I.6-1: Process to identify and eliminate all forms and instances of duplication of functions and activities between all ITU structural bodies, optimizing, inter alia, management methods, logistics, coordination and support by the SecretariatI.6-2: Implement the concept of “One ITU”, harmonizing, to the extent feasible, procedures across Sectors and regional offices/regional presence in the implementation of goals and objectives of the ITU and Sectors |

Table 11. General Secretariat Enablers / Support Services

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Supported Objective(s) | GS activities | Contribution to the Outcomes | Results |
| All | Management of the Union | - Effective and efficient governance of the organization- Effective coordination among the Sectors of the Union | - Improved internal coordination- Management of the strategic risks of the organization- Decisions of the governing bodies being implemented- Development, implementation and monitoring of the Strategic and Operational Plans- Level of implementation of accepted Recommendations- Application of efficiency measures- Overall quality of support services provided |
| All | Event management services (including translation and interpretation) | - Efficient and accessible ITU conferences, meetings, events and workshops | - High quality of services provided for ITU events (availability of documents, courtesy and professionalism of ITU’s conference service staff, quality of interpretation, quality of documents, quality of conference premises and facilities)- Improved financial efficiency |
| All | Publication services | - Ensuring the quality, availability, and cost effectiveness of the ITU publications | - High quality of ITU publications- Expeditious publishing process- Improved financial efficiency |
| All | ICT services | - Reliable, efficient and accessible information and communication technology infrastructures and services | - Users satisfied with the ICT services provided by ITU- Availability and functionality of ICT services (high-availability, IT safety and security, library and archive services, delivery of promised services on a timely basis, help provided in using technology effectively, introduction of new and innovative ICT services, ICT services valuable to ITU staff and delegates)- - Increased number of platforms/systems facilitating the digital transformation of the organization- Business continuity and disaster recovery in place |
| All | Safety and security services | - Ensuring a safe and secure working environment for ITU staff and delegates | - Overall safety and security of organization’s premises and assets worldwide- Reduced work related injuries or incidents- Staff preparedness for missions |
| All | Human resources management services (including payroll, staff administration, staff well-being, organization design and recruitment, planning and development) | - Ensuring efficient use of human resources, in a work-conducive environment | - Develop and implement the HR framework fostering sustainable and satisfied workforce, including the elements of career development and training- Workforce adapted to the evolving environment and the evolving needs of the organization- Expeditious recruitment processes- Gender parity among ITU employees / gender parity in ITU statutory committees |
| All | Financial resources management services (including budget and financial analysis, accounts, procurement, travel) | - Ensuring efficient planning and use of financial and capital resources | - IPSAS compliance and unqualified Annual audit of Accounts- Procurement and Travel Services: ITU guidelines and UN good practices in place- No overspend in budget implementation- Cost savings from efficiency measures implemented |
| All | Legal services | - Provision of legal advice- Ensuring adherence to rules and procedures | - Interests, integrity and reputation of the Union protected- Rules and regulations applied |
| All | Internal audit | - Ensuring efficient and effective governance and management controls | - Internal audit recommendations being implemented |
| All | Ethics office | - Promoting highest standards of ethical behaviour | - Adherence to the Standards of Conduct for the International Civil Service and the ITU Code of Ethics |
| All | Engagement with the membership / Membership support services | - Ensuring efficient membership-related services | - Increased number of members- Increased membership satisfaction- Increased revenue from Sector Members, Associates and Academia |
| All | Communication services | - Ensuring effective communication services | - Increased regular engagement of key stakeholders on ITU digital platforms- Improved media coverage of ITU- Improved perception of the work of ITU- Improved traffic on ITU multimedia channels (Flickr, YouTube, etc.)- Increase in ITU News traffic and engagement- Increase in Social Media engagement and referrals |
| All | Protocol services | - Ensuring efficient management of protocol services | - Increased satisfaction of delegates and visitors |
| All | Facilitation of the work of governing bodies (PP, Council, CWGs) | - Supporting and facilitating the decision-making processes of the governing bodies | - Improved efficiency of the governing bodies meetings |
| All | Facilities management services | - Ensuring efficient management of ITU premises | - Efficient management of the process of developing the new ITU building- Cost savings in managing ITU facilities- ITU to remain a Carbon Neutral organization |
| All | Content development and management services / Corporate strategic management and planning | - Ensuring efficient planning- Strategic advisory to senior management | - Approval of the ITU planning instruments by membership- Support to the development of strategic initiatives |
| Inter-sectoral Objectives I.1, I.2 | Coordination and cooperation in promoting telecommunication/ICTs that contribute to the WSIS Acton Lines and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development | - Increased synergies, collaboration, transparency and internal communication on the partnerships developed and the activities undertaken on international cooperation for the promotion of ICT for SDGs- Better coordination of organization of ITU events and meetings- Increased consistency for planning the participation in conferences and fora | - New and improved measures and mechanisms with a view to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the organization- Coordinated ITU work and contribution to the WSIS Action Linesand the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development |
| Inter-sectoral Objectives I.3, I.4, I.5, I.6 | Coordination and cooperation in areas of mutual interest (including accessibility, gender, environmental sustainability) | - Coordinated work in the areas of mutual interest, promoting synergies and introducing efficiencies and savings in the use of the ITU resources- Increased consistency for planning the participation in conferences and fora- Increased internal communication on the activities undertaken on all thematic areas.- Better coordination of organization of ITU events and meetings | - Implementation of the consolidated Annual Work Plan per thematic area- New and improved measures and mechanisms, with a view to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the organization |

**3 Linkage with the WSIS Action Lines and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

Linkage with the WSIS Action Lines

ITU has a leading role in the WSIS process, where as a lead facilitator, along with UNESCO and UNDP, coordinates the multi-stakeholder implementation of the Geneva Plan of Action. Notably, ITU is the sole facilitator on three different WSIS Action Lines; **C2** (Information and communication infrastructure), **C5** (Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs) and **C6** (Enabling environment).

Mapping ITU outputs and key activities to WSIS Action Lines (based on information from the ITU SDG Mapping Tool)



Linkage with the Sustainable Development Goals

With the adoption of the UNGA Resolution “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” ITU, along with the rest of the UN family, needs to support Member States and contribute to the worldwide efforts to achieve the SDGs. The associated 17 SDGs and 169 related targets offer a holistic vision for the UN system.

The role of Information Communication Technologies (ICTs) as essential catalysts to fast-forward the achievement of the SDGs is clearly highlighted in the 2030 Agenda: “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”. ITU, as the UN’s specialized agency for ICTs and global connectivity, has a key role to play in promoting prosperity in our digital world.

In order to maximise ITU’s contribution to the 2030 Agenda, ITU’s primary focus is in addressing **SDG 9** (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure) and Target 9.c aiming to significantly increase access to ICTs and provide universal and affordable access to the Internet. Indeed, the infrastructure that powers our world and forms the backbone of the new digital economy is vital. It is essential to so many of the technological applications and potential solutions to the SDGs and is crucial for them to be both global and scalable.

As **SDG17** (Partnership for the Goals) highlights ICTs as a means of implementation, with crosscutting transformative potential, it is imperative that ITU leverages this broad impact. Notable SDGs where ITU has a particularly strong impact include **SDG 11** (Sustainable Cities and Communities), **SDG 10** (Reduced Inequalities), **SDG 8** (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 1 (No Poverty), **SDG 3** (Good-Health and Well-Being), **SDG 4** (Quality Education) and **SDG 5** (Gender Equality).

It is, therefore, through infrastructure and connectivity and in partnership with all stakeholders that ITU will contribute the most towards achieving the remaining SDGs.

Mapping ITU outputs and key activities to SDGs (as per the ITU SDG Mapping Tool[[15]](#footnote-15))



ITU is also the custodian of five SDG indicators (4.4.1, 5.b.1, 9.c.1, 17.6.2 and 17.8.1) contributing to the UNSTATS monitoring of the SDGs.

Linking ITU Strategic Goals to SDG targets[[16]](#footnote-16)

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| **Goal 1 – Growth** |
| **SDG Target (indicator(s))**: 1.4 (1.4.1), 2.4 (2.4.1), 4.1 (4.1.1), 4.2 (**4.2.2**), 4.3 (4.3.1), 4.4 (**4.4.1**), 4.A (4.A.1), 5.5 (**5.5.1**, **5.5.2**), 5.B (**5.B.1**), 6.1, 6.4 (6.4.1), 7.3 (7.3.1), 8.2 (8.2.1), 8.10 (8.10.2), 9.1, 9.2, 9.3 (9.3.1, 9.3.2), 9.4 (9.4.1), 9.5, 9.C (**9.C.1**), 11.3 (11.3.2), 11.5 (11.5.2), 11.B (11.B.1, 11.B.2), 13.1 (13.1.2), 13.3 (13.3.2), 17.6 (17.6.1, **17.6.2**) |
| **Goal 2 – Inclusiveness** |
| **SDG Targets (indicator(s))**: 1.4 (1.4.1), 1.5 (1.5.3), 2.C (2.C.1), 3.D (3.D.1), 4.1 (4.1.1), 4.2 (**4.2.2**), 4.3 (4.3.1), 4.4 (**4.4.1**), 4.5 (4.5.1), 4.6 (4.6.1), 4.7 (4.7.1), 4.A (4.A.1), 4.B (**4.B.1**), 4.C (4.C.1), 5.1 , 5.2 (5.2.1, 5.2.2), 5.3, 5.5 (**5.5.1**, **5.5.2**), 5.6 (5.6.1, 5.6.2), 5.A (5.A.1, 5.A.2), 5.B (**5.B.1**), 5.C, 6.1, 6.4 (6.4.1), 7.1 (7.1.1, 7.1.2), 7.B (7.B.1), 8.3 (8.3.1), 8.4 (8.4.2), 8.5 (8.5.1), 8.10 (8.10.2), 9.1, 9.2, 9.3 (9.3.1, 9.3.2), 9.4 (9.4.1), 9.5, 9.A (9.A.1), 9.B (9.B.1), 9.C (**9.C.1**), 10.2 (10.2.1), 10.6, 10.7 (10.7.1), 10.B (10.B.1), 10.C (10.C.1), 11.1 (11.1.1), 11.2, 11.3 (11.3.2), 11.5 (11.5.2), 11.A, 11.B (11.B.1, 11.B.2), 12.1 (12.1.1), 12.A (12.A.1), 13.1 (13.1.2), 13.3 (13.3.2), 13.A(13.A.1), 13.B (13.B.1), 14.A (14.A.1), 16.2 (16.2.2), 16.8 (16.8.1), 17.3 (17.3.2), 17.6 (17.6.1, **17.6.2**), 17.7, 17.8 (**17.8.1**), 17.9 (17.9.1), 17.18 |
| **Goal 3 – Sustainability** |
| **SDG Targets (indicator(s))**: 1.5 (1.5.3), 2.4 (2.4.1), 8.4 (8.4.2), 8.5 (8.5.1), 8.10 (8.10.2), 9.1, 9.2, 9.4 (9.4.1), 9.5, 9.A (9.A.1), 11.6 (11.6.1, 11.6.2), 11.A, 11.B (11.B.1, 11.B.2), 12.1 (12.1.1), 12.2 (12.2.1, 12.2.2), 12.4 (12.4.1, 12.4.2), 12.5 (12.5.1), 12.6 (12.6.1), 12.7 (12.7.1), 12.8 (12.8.1), 12.A (12.A.1), 16.2 (16.2.2), 16.4, 17.7 |
| **Goal 4 – Innovation** |
| **SDG Targets (indicator(s))**: 2.4 (2.4.1), 2.C (2.C.1), 3.6 (3.6.1), 3.D (3.D.1), 4.3 (4.3.1), 4.4 (**4.4.1**), 4.5 (4.5.1), 4.6 (4.6.1), 4.7 (4.7.1), 4.A (4.A.1), 4.B (**4.B.1**), 5.A (5.A.1, 5.A.2), 6.1, 6.4 (6.4.1), 7.1 (7.1.1, 7.1.2), 7.2 (7.2.1), 7.3 (7.3.1), 8.2 (8.2.1), 8.3 (8.3.1), 8.10 (8.10.2), 9.1, 9.2, 9.3 (9.3.1, 9.3.2), 9.4 (9.4.1), 9.5, 9.A (9.A.1), 9.B (9.B.1), 9.C (**9.C.1**), 10.5 (10.5.1), 10.C (10.C.1), 11.2, 11.3 (11.3.2), 11.4, 11.5 (11.5.2), 11.6 (11.6.1, 11.6.2), 11.B (11.B.1, 11.B.2), 12.3, 12.5 (12.5.1), 12.A (12.A.1), 12.B (12.B.1), 13.1 (13.1.2), 14.4 (14.4.1), 14.A (14.A.1), 16.3, 16.4, 16.10 (16.10.2), 17.7 |
| **Goal 5 – Partnership** |
| **SDG Targets (indicator(s))**: 3.D (3.D.1), 4.4 (**4.4.1**), 4.7 (4.7.1), 4.A (4.A.1), 4.B (**4.B.1**), 4.C (4.C.1), 5.1, 5.2 (5.2.1, 5.2.2), 5.3, 5.5 (**5.5.1**, **5.5.2**), 5.6 (5.6.1, 5.6.2), 5.A (5.A.1, 5.A.2), 5.B (**5.B.1**), 5.C, 7.B (7.B.1), 8.3 (8.3.1), 8.4 (8.4.2), 9.1, 9.2, 9.3 (9.3.1, 9.3.2), 9.4 (9.4.1), 9.5, 9.A (9.A.1), 9.B (9.B.1), 9.C (**9.C.1**), 10.5 (10.5.1), 10.6, 10.B (10.B.1), 10.C (10.C.1), 11.1 (11.1.1), 11.2, 11.3 (11.3.2), 11.5 (11.5.2), 11.B (11.B.1, 11.B.2), 12.3, 12.6 (12.6.1), 12.7 (12.7.1), 12.8 (12.8.1), 12.A (12.A.1), 12.B (12.B.1), 13.1 (13.1.2), 13.3 (13.3.2), 16.2 (16.2.2), 16.3, 16.4, 16.8 (16.8.1), 16.10, (16.10.2), 17.6 (17.6.1, **17.6.2**), 17.7, 17.8 (**17.8.1**), 17.9 (17.9.1), 17.18 |

**4 Implementation and evaluation of the Strategic Plan**

The strong and coherent linkage between the Union’s strategic, operational and financial planning is ensured by implementing the ITU results-based management (RBM) framework in accordance with Resolutions 71, 72 and 151 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference.

Results will be the main focus of strategy, planning and budgeting in the ITU RBM framework. Performance monitoring and evaluation, together with risk management, will ensure that the strategic, operational and financial planning processes are based on informed decision-making and appropriate resource allocation.

The ITU performance monitoring and evaluation framework will be further developed according to the strategic framework outlined in the strategic plan for 2020-2023, to measure progress towards achievement of the ITU objectives and outcomes, strategic goals and targets set out therein, evaluating performance and detecting issues that need to be addressed.

The ITU risk-management framework will be further developed, to ensure an integrated approach to the ITU RBM framework set in the strategic plan for the Union for 2020-2023.

Implementation criteria

Implementation criteria set the framework to enable proper identification of appropriate activities of the Union, so that the objectives, outcomes and strategic goals of the Union are achieved in the most effective and efficient manner. They define the criteria for establishing priorities for the resource-allocation process within the biennial budget of the Union.

The implementation criteria set for the Union's strategy for ~~2016-2019~~ 2020-2023 are:

**- Adherence to ITU values**: The core values of ITU shall drive priorities and provide the basis for decision-making.

**- Following results-based management principles**, including:

* **Performance monitoring and evaluation**: Performance in the achievement of the goals/objectives shall be monitored and evaluated in accordance with the operational plans, as approved by the Council, and opportunities for improvement shall be identified, in order to support the decision-making process.
* **Risk identification, assessment and treatment**: An integrated process to manage uncertain events that may impact on the achievement of objectives and goals shall be in place, to enhance informed decision-making.
* **Results-based budgeting principles**: The budgeting process shall allocate resources on the basis of the goals and objectives to be achieved, as defined within this strategic plan.
* **Impact-oriented reporting**: Progress towards the achievement of ITU's strategic goals shall be clearly reported, focusing on the impact of the activities of the Union.

**- Implementing efficiently**: Efficiency has become an overarching imperative for the Union. ITU shall assess whether its stakeholders obtain maximum benefit from the services ITU provides, according to the resources available (value for money).

**- Aiming to mainstream UN recommendations and apply harmonized business practices**, since ITU is part of the UN system as a UN specialized agency.

**- Working as One ITU**: The Sectors shall work cohesively for the implementation of the strategic plan. The secretariat shall support coordinated operational planning, avoiding redundancies and duplication and maximizing synergies across the Sectors, the Bureaux and the General Secretariat.

**- Long-term development of the organization to sustain performance and relevance of expertise**: Aspiring to the concept of the learning organization, the organization shall continue operating in an interconnected way and to invest further in staff so as to sustainably deliver most value.

**- Prioritization**: It is important to define specific criteria for prioritizing among different activities and initiatives that the Union is willing to undertake. The factors to be considered are the following:

* **Added value**:
* Prioritize based on unique value contribution by ITU (outcomes that cannot be achieved otherwise)
* Be involved where and to the extent that ITU adds significant value
* Not prioritize activities that other stakeholders can undertake
* Prioritize based on ITU's available expertise for implementation.
* **Impact and focus**:
* Focus on maximum impact for the wider constituency, while considering inclusiveness
* Undertake fewer activities with greater impact, rather than many activities with diluted impact
* Be consistent and undertake activities that clearly contribute to the big picture as determined by the ITU strategic framework
* Give priority to activities yielding tangible results.
* **Membership needs**:
* Prioritize membership demands, by following a customer-oriented approach
* Give priority to activities that Member States cannot implement without the support of the organization.

# Appendix A. Allocation of resources (linkage with the financial plan)

(to be updated according to the Financial Plan for 2020-2023)

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| **Proposal ACP/64A1/10 - Summary:** The APT Member Administrations would like to introduce revisions to *Resolution 101 (Rev. Busan, 2014) Internet Protocol-based networks* of the Plenipotentiary Conference |

The ITU is the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies – ICTs. It allocates global radio spectrum and satellite orbits, develop the technical standards that ensure networks and technologies seamlessly interconnect, and strive to improve access to ICTs to underserved communities worldwide.[[17]](#footnote-17)

At the Council Working Group for Strategic and Financial Plan for 2020-2023, *Goal 1 – Growth: Enable and foster access to and increased use of telecommunication/ICT in support of the digital economy and society* was proposed to the Council 2018 and will be taken to the ITU PP18 to be adopted by ITU Member States.

One of the key objectives of ITU-D which was adopted at the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-17) which convened in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 2017 was the "Inclusive Digital Society: Foster the development and use of telecommunications/ICTs and applications to empower people and societies for sustainable development.[[18]](#footnote-18)

Taking into consideration these developments, it is empirical to highlight the key areas of the digital economy in the relevant resolutions of the Plenipotentiary Conference, specifically **Resolution 101,** byemphasizing the significance of interoperability and seamless flow of data, to facilitate the achievement of the 2030 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

**PROPOSAL**

APT Member Administrations would like to propose the following revisions to *Resolution 101 (Rev. Busan, 2014)* for the consideration of PP-18.

MOD ACP/64A1/10

RESOLUTION 101 (Rev. dubai, 2018)

Internet Protocol-based networks

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

recalling

*a)* Resolution 101 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*b)* Resolutions 102, 130, 133 and 180 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference;

*c)* Resolution 197 (Busan, 2014) of this conference to facilitate the Internet of Things to prepare fora globally connected world and that the implementation of Internet Protocol version six (IPv6) will contribute to the future development of IoT;

*d)* the outcomes of the Geneva (2003) and Tunis (2005) phases of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), especially §§ 27 c) and 50 d) of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, relating to international Internet connectivity;

*e)* that the WSIS+10 High-Level Event (Geneva, 2014), in its Statement on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes and the WSIS Vision Beyond 2015, determined that one of the priority areas to be addressed by the Post-2015 Development Agenda must be: "Encouraging the full deployment of IPv6 to ensure the long-term sustainability of the addressing space, including in light of future developments in the Internet of Things";

*f)* No. 196 of the ITU Convention, which stipulates that telecommunication standardization study groups shall pay due attention to the study of questions and to the formulation of recommendations directly connected with the establishment, development and improvement of telecommunications in developing countries[[19]](#footnote-19)1 at both the regional and international levels;

*g)* Resolution 23 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on Internet access and availability for developing countries and charging principles for international Internet connection;

*h)* Resolution 69 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on non-discriminatory access and use of Internet resources and telecommunications/information and communication technologies;

*i)* Recommendation ITU‑T D.50, on general tariff principles – principles applicable to international Internet connection;

*j)* Resolution 64 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of WTSA, on IP address allocation and facilitating the transition to and deployment of IPv6;

*k)* United Nations General Assembly Resolution 68/302, on the review of WSIS;

*l)* Opinion 1 (Geneva, 2013) of the World Telecommunication/Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Policy Forum (WTPF), on promoting Internet exchange points (IXPs) as a long-term solution to advance connectivity;

*m)* Opinion 2 (Geneva, 2013) of WTPF, on fostering an enabling environment for the greater growth and development of broadband connectivity;

*n)* Opinion 3 (Geneva, 2013) of WTPF, on supporting capacity building for the deployment of IPv6;

*o)* Opinion 4 (Geneva, 2013) of WTPF, in support of IPv6 adoption and transition from IPv4;

*p)* Opinion 5 (Geneva, 2013) of WTPF, on supporting multistakeholderism in Internet governance;

*q)* Opinion 6 (Geneva, 2013) of WTPF, on supporting operationalizing the enhanced cooperation process,

aware

*a)* that one of the purposes of the Union is to promote the extension of new telecommunication technologies to all the world's inhabitants;

*b)* that, in order to fulfil its purposes, the Union should, among other things, facilitate the worldwide standardization of telecommunications, with a satisfactory quality of service,

considering

*a)* that advances in the global information infrastructure, including the development of Internet Protocol (IP)-based networks and especially the Internet, and future IP developments, continue to be an issue of crucial importance, as an important enabler of the achievement of the SDGs including the growth of the world economy in the twenty-first century ;

*b)* the need for preserving and promoting multilingualism on the Internet for an integrating and inclusive information society;

*c)* that the Internet permits the introduction of new and emerging technologies in telecommunication/ICT services which continue to record high levels of use and enable the digital economy even though there are challenges regarding quality of service, uncertainty of origin, the high cost of international connectivity as well as other issues such as consumer protection, cyber-security, data privacy, etc., caused by the provisioning of IP-based services;

*d)* that current and future IP-based networks and future IP developments will continue to introduce dramatic changes in the way we acquire, produce, circulate and consume information;

*e)* that broadband development and rising demand for Internet access being experienced particularly in developing countries lead to the need for affordable international Internet connectivity;

*f)* that Resolution 23 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC noted "that the composition of costs for operators, whether regional or local, is in part, significantly dependent on the type of connection (transit or peering) and the availability and cost of backhaul and long-haul infrastructure", as it relates to developing countries;

*g)* that Opinion 1 (Geneva, 2013) of WTPF deems that the establishment of Internet exchange points (IXPs) is a priority to tackle connectivity problems, improve service quality and increase network connectivity and resilience, fostering competition and reducing interconnection costs;

*h)* that results of studies on international Internet connection costs, especially for developing countries, should continue to be examined in order to improve affordable Internet connectivity;

*i)* Resolution 1 (Dubai, 2012) of the World Conference on International Telecommunications (WCIT), on special measures for landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and small island developing States (SIDS) for access to international optical fibre networks,

considering further

*a)* that the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU‑D) has made significant progress and carried out several studies on the promotion of infrastructure and the use of the Internet in developing countries under its 2010 Hyderabad Action Plan, through human capacity-building efforts such as its Internet training centre initiative, and through the outcomes of the WTDC‑14 Dubai Action Plan, which endorsed the continuation of these studies,

*b)* that studies are ongoing in the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU‑T) on IP‑based network issues, including service interoperability with other telecommunication networks, numbering, signalling requirements and protocol aspects, security and infrastructure component costs, issues associated with migration from existing networks to next-generation networks (NGN) and evolution to future networks, and implementation of the requirements of Recommendation ITU‑T D.50;

*c)* that the general cooperation agreement between ITU‑T and the Internet Society (ISOC)/Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), as referred to in Supplement 3 to the ITU‑T Series A recommendations, continues to exist,

recognizing

*a)* that IP-based networks have evolved to a widely accessible medium used for global commerce and communication, and there is therefore a need to continue to identify the global and regional activities related toIP‑based networks with respect to, for example:

i) infrastructure, interoperability and standardization;

ii) Internet naming and addressing;

iii) dissemination of information about IP-based networks and the implications of their development for ITU Member States, particularly the developing countries;

*b)* that significant work on IP-related issues and the future Internet is being conducted within ITU and many other international bodies;

*c)* that the quality of service of IP-based networks should be consistent with ITU‑T recommendations and other recognized international standards;

*d)* that it is in the public interest that IP-based networks and services, and other telecommunication networks should be both interoperable and provide global reachability, bearing in mind *recognizing* *c)* above;

*e)* that the significance of interoperability and seamless flow of data enabled by IP-based networks and other telecommunication networks is an important factor in enabling the digital economy,

requests the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector

to continue its collaborative activities on IP-based networks with ISOC/IETF and other relevant recognized organizations, in respect of interconnectivity with existing telecommunication networks and migration to NGN and future networks,

requests the three Sectors

to continue to consider and update their work programmes on IP-based networks and on migration to NGN and future networks,

resolves

1 to explore ways and means for greater collaboration and coordination between ITU and relevant organizations[[20]](#footnote-20)2 involved in the development of IP‑based networks and the future Internet, through cooperation agreements, as appropriate, in order to increase the role of ITU in Internet governance so as to ensure maximum benefits to the global community;

2 that ITU shall fully embrace the opportunities for telecommunication/ICT development that arise from the growth of IP-based services, in conformity with the Union’s purposes and the outcomes of the Geneva (2003) and Tunis (2005) phases of WSIS, taking into account the quality and security of services and the affordability of international connectivity for developing countries, especially for LLDCs and SIDS;

3 that ITU shall clearly identify, for its Member States and Sector Members and for the general public, the range of Internet-related issues that fall within the responsibilities incumbent on the Union under its basic texts and the activities in the WSIS outcome documents and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development where ITU has a role;

4 that ITU shall continue to collaborate with other relevant organizations to ensure that growth in IP-based networks and services, along with and taking into consideration traditional networks, delivers maximum benefits to the global community, including issues mentioned in the considering c) above and shall continue to participate, as appropriate, in any directly related new international initiatives, such as the initiative in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on the United Nations Broadband Commission for Digital Development formed for this purpose;

5 to continue the study of international Internet connectivity as an urgent matter, as called for in § 50d) of the Tunis Agenda (2005)*,* and to call upon ITU‑T, in particular Study Group 3, which has responsibility for Recommendation ITU‑T D.50 and which has compiled an initial set of guidelines in Supplement 2 to Recommendation ITU‑T D.50 (05/2013), to complete as soon as possible its studies that have been ongoing since WTSA‑2000;

6 to take into account the provisions of Resolution 23 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC, in particular undertaking studies on the structure of international Internet connection costs for developing countries, with emphasis on the influence and effects of the connection mode (transit and peering), secure cross-border connectivity and the availability and cost of backhaul and long-haul physical infrastructure,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to prepare an annual report to the ITU Council with the appropriate input from Member States, Sector Members, the three Sectors and the General Secretariat, that provides a comprehensive summary both of the activities that ITU is already undertaking in regard to IP-based networks and services and any changes thereto, including the development of NGNs and future networks, and of the roles and activities of other relevant international organizations, describing their involvement in IP-based network and services issues; the report shall indicate the degree of cooperation between ITU and these organizations, drawing the required information wherever possible from existing sources, and containing concrete proposals on improving ITU activities and such cooperation, and shall be distributed widely among the Member States and Sector Members, the advisory groups of the three Sectors and other groups involved one month before the Council session;

2 based on this report, to continue collaborative activities related to IP-based networks, especially those related to the implementation of the relevant outcomes of the two phases of WSIS (Geneva, 2003 and Tunis, 2005), and to consider the WSIS+10 Statement on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes adopted at the ITU‑coordinated High-Level Event;

3 to submit a report, based on input from Member States and Sector Members, to the Council, for its consideration, on the need to convene the sixth WTPF at an appropriate time pursuant to Resolution 2 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to provide capacity building to developing countries, including LDCs, SIDS and LLDCs, in order to connect the unconnected, including through provision of the necessary assistance by the ITU regional offices to achieve this goal,

invites the Council

to consider the report referred to in *instructs the Secretary-General*3, take into account comments, if any, made by the advisory groups of the three Sectors through their respective Bureau Directors on implementation of this resolution, and take necessary action, as appropriate,

invites Member States and Sector Members

1 to participate in, and follow the progress of, the current work of the Sectors of the Union;

2 to increase awareness at national, regional and international level among all interested non-governmental parties and to facilitate their participation in relevant ITU activities, and in any other relevant activities emanating from the Geneva (2003) and Tunis (2005) phases of WSIS.

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| **Proposal ACP/64A1/11 - Summary:** This contribution aims to revise Res 102(Rev. BUSAN, 2014).  Open consultations held by CWG-Internet have been carried out many times and discussions are still going on to optimize this mechanism. It is important to sort out the relationship between open consultation and CWG-Internet. Moreover, CWG-Internet spent plenty of time on discussing the topic of next open consultation. There is a need to explore ways to optimize the efficiency of CWG, especially in determining the topic of open consultation. |

**INTRODUCTION**

PP-14 Resolution 102 instructs the Council to revise its Resolution 1344 to direct the CWG-Internet, limited to Member States, with open consultation to all stakeholders, and to conduct such open consultation according to the guidelines. Since the adoption of the open consultation by the CWG-Internet, discussions have been conducted on topics that are concerned by multiple Member States with significant results yielded.

Open consultations have been carried out many times and discussions are still going on to optimize this mechanism. It is important to sort out the relationship between open consultation and CWG-Internet.

Moreover, there is lack of preplanning, extensive consumption of time and insufficient utilization of this mechanism to carry out in-depth discussions on commonly concerned issue of international Internet policies. CWG-Internet spent plenty of time on discussing the topic of next open consultation. There is a need to explore ways to optimize the efficiency of CWG, especially in determining the topic of open consultation.

**PROPOSAL**

APT Member Administrations would like to propose to amend resolution 102 (Rev. BUSAN, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference. The revised draft resolution is attached to the annex.

MOD ACP/64A1/11

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 (UNGA);

*b)* the outcome documents of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event;

*c)* the results of the World Telecommunication/Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Policy Forum in regard to issues related to Resolutions 101, 102 and 133 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference;

*d)* Resolutions 47and 48 (Rev. Dubai, 2012), Resolutions 49, 50, 52, 64, 69 and 75 (Rev. Hammamet 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA),

recognizing

*a)* all relevant resolutions of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

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

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

considering

*a)* that the purposes of the Union are, *inter alia*, to promote, at the international level, the adoption of a broad approach to the issues of telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) in the global information economy and society, to promote the extension of the benefits of new telecommunication technologies to all the world's inhabitants and to harmonize the efforts of Member States and Sector Members in the attainment of those ends;

*b)* the need for preserving and promoting multilingualism on the Internet for an integrating and inclusive information society;

*c)* that advances in the global information infrastructure, including the development of Internet Protocol (IP)-based networks and the Internet, taking into account the requirements, features and interoperability of next-generation networks (NGN) and future networks, are of crucial importance as an important engine for growth in the world economy in the twenty-first century;

*d)* that the development of the Internet is essentially market-led and driven by private and government initiatives;

*e)* that the private sector continues to play a very important role in the expansion and development of the Internet, for example through investments in infrastructures and services;

*f)* that the public sector and public-private and regional initiatives continue to play a very important role in the expansion and development of the Internet, for example through investments in infrastructures and services;

*g)* that management of the registration and allocation of Internet domain names and addresses must fully reflect the geographical nature of the Internet, taking into account an equitable balance of interests of all stakeholders;

*h)* the role played by ITU in the successful organization of the two phases of WSIS, and that the Geneva Declaration of Principles and the Geneva Plan of Action, adopted in 2003, and the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, adopted in 2005, have been endorsed by UNGA;

*i)* that the management of the Internet is a subject of valid international interest and must flow from full international and multistakeholder cooperation on the basis of the outcomes of the two phases of WSIS;

*j)* that, as stated in the WSIS outcomes, all governments should have an equal role and responsibility for international Internet governance and for ensuring the stability, security and continuity of the existing Internet and its future development and of the future Internet, and that the need for development of public policy by governments in consultation with all stakeholders is also recognized;

*k)* work being carried out by the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) relevant to this resolution,

recognizing further

*a)* that ITU is dealing with technical and policy issues related to IP-based networks, including the existing Internet and evolution to NGN as well as studies into the future Internet;

*b)* that ITU performs worldwide coordination of a number of radiocommunication-related and telecommunication-related resource allocation systems and acts as a forum for policy discussion in this area;

*c)* that significant effort has been put in by ITU on ENUM, ".int", internationalized domain name (IDN), and country code top-level domain (ccTLD) issues through workshops and standardization activities;

*d)* that ITU has published a comprehensive and useful Handbook on Internet Protocol (IP)-based networks and related topics and Issues;

*e)* §§ 71 and 78a) of the Tunis Agenda with regard to the establishment of enhanced cooperation on Internet governance and the establishment of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF), as two distinct processes;

*f)* the relevant WSIS outcomes in §§ 29-82 of the Tunis Agenda concerning Internet governance;

*g)* that ITU should be encouraged to facilitate cooperation with all stakeholders as referred to in § 35 of the Tunis Agenda;

*h)* that Member States represent the interests of the population of the country or territory for which a ccTLD has been delegated;

*i)* that countries should not be involved in decisions regarding another country's ccTLD,

emphasizing

*a)* that the management of the Internet encompasses both technical and public policy issues and should involve all stakeholders and relevant intergovernmental and international organizations in accordance with §§ 35a) – e) of the Tunis Agenda;

*b)* that the role of governments includes providing a clear, consistent and predictable legal framework, in order to promote a favourable environment in which global ICT networks are interoperable with Internet networks and widely accessible to all citizens without any discrimination and to ensure adequate protection of public interests in the management of Internet resources, including domain names and addresses;

*c)* that WSIS recognized the need for enhanced cooperation in the future, to enable governments, on an equal footing, to carry out their roles and responsibilities, in international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet, but not in the day-to-day technical and operational matters that do not impact on international public policy issues;

*d)* that ITU, for its part, has started the process towards enhanced cooperation as one of the relevant organizations referred to in § 71 of the Tunis Agenda, and that the Council Working Group on international Internet-related public policy issues (CWG-Internet) should continue its work on Internet-related public policy issues;

*e)* that ITU can play a positive role by offering all interested parties a platform for encouraging discussions and for the dissemination of information on the management of Internet domain names and addresses and other Internet resources within the mandate of ITU,

noting

*a)* that CWG-Internet has furthered the objectives of Resolution 75 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) regarding public policy issues pertaining to the Internet;

*b)* Resolutions 1305, 1336 and 1344 adopted by the ITU Council;

*c)* that CWG-Internet shall include in its work all relevant decisions of this conference and all other resolutions relevant to the work of the group as stated in Council Resolution 1305 and the annex thereto;

*d)* the continued importance of openness and transparency in the development of international Internet public policy issues in line with § 35 of the Tunis Agenda;

*e)* the need for development of international Internet public policy by governments in consultation with all stakeholders;

*f)* ongoing activities in relevant ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU‑T) and ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU‑D) study groups relevant to this resolution,

resolves

1 to explore ways and means for greater collaboration and coordination between ITU and relevant organizations[[21]](#footnote-21)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 Internet governance so as to ensure maximum benefits to the global community;

2 that the sovereign and legitimate interests, as expressed and defined by each country, in diverse ways, regarding decisions affecting their ccTLDs, need to be respected and ensured, upheld and addressed via flexible and improved frameworks and mechanisms;

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[[22]](#footnote-22)2;

4 to continue the CWG-Internet activities as listed in the relevant Council resolutions,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to continue to take a significant role in international discussions and initiatives on the management of Internet domain names and addresses and other Internet resources within the mandate of ITU, taking into account future developments of the Internet, the purposes of the Union and the interests of its membership as expressed in its instruments, resolutions and decisions;

2 to take the necessary steps for ITU to continue to play a facilitating role in the coordination of international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet, as expressed in §35d) of the Tunis Agenda, interacting as necessary with other intergovernmental organizations in these domains;

3 in line with § 78a) of the Tunis Agenda, to continue to contribute as appropriate to the work of IGF, should the mandate of the IGF be extended by UNGA;

4 to continue to take the necessary steps for ITU to play an active and constructive role in the process towards enhanced cooperation as expressed in § 71 of the Tunis Agenda;

5 to continue to take the necessary steps in ITU's own internal process towards enhanced cooperation on international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet as expressed in § 71 of the Tunis Agenda, involving all stakeholders, in their respective roles and responsibilities;

6 to report annually to the Council on the activities undertaken on these subjects and to submit proposals as appropriate, and, after the endorsement of this report by Member States through consultation procedures in force, to submit the report to the Secretary-General of the United Nations;

7 to continue to disseminate, as appropriate, the reports of CWG-Internet to all relevant international organizations and stakeholders actively involved in such matters for their consideration in their policy-making processes,

instructs the Directors of the Bureaux

1 to contribute to CWG-Internet concerning the activities undertaken by their Bureaux which are relevant to the work of the group;

2 to provide assistance, within the Union's expertise, and within available resources, as appropriate, in cooperation with relevant organizations, to Member States, if so requested, in order to achieve their stated policy objectives with respect to the management of Internet domain names and addresses, other Internet resources and international Internet connectivity, within the remit of ITU, such as capacity building, availability and costs related to infrastructure, and with respect to Internet-related public policy issues, as stated in the annex to Council Resolution 1305, which identifies the role of CWG-Internet, within their mandate;

3 to liaise and to cooperate with the regional telecommunication organizations pursuant to this resolution,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

1 to ensure that ITU‑T performs its role in technical issues, and to continue to contribute ITU‑T expertise and to liaise and cooperate with appropriate entities on issues related to the management of Internet domain names and addresses and other Internet resources within the mandate of ITU, such as IP version 6 (IPv6), ENUM and IDNs, as well as any other related technological developments and issues, including facilitating appropriate studies on these issues by relevant ITU‑T study groups and other groups;

2 in accordance with ITU rules and procedures, and calling upon contributions from the ITU membership, to continue to play a facilitating role in coordination and assistance in the development of public policy issues pertaining to Internet domain names and addresses and other Internet resources within the mandate of ITU and their possible evolution;

3 to work with Member States, Sector Members and relevant international organizations, as appropriate, on issues concerning Member States' ccTLDs and related experiences;

4 to report annually to the Council, and also to WTSA, on the activities undertaken and achievements on these subjects, including proposals for further consideration as appropriate,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to organize international and regional forums and carry out necessary activities, in conjunction with appropriate entities, to discuss policy, operational and technical issues on the Internet in general, and on the management of Internet domain names and addresses and other Internet resources within the mandate of ITU in particular, including with regard to multilingualism, for the benefit of Member States, especially for developing countries, taking into consideration the content of the relevant resolutions of this conference, including this resolution, in addition to the content of the relevant resolutions of the world telecommunication development conference (WTDC);

2 to continue promoting, through ITU‑D programmes and study groups, the exchange of information, fostering debate and the development of best practices on Internet issues, and to continue to play a key role in outreach by contributing to capacity building, providing technical assistance and encouraging the involvement of developing countries in international Internet forums and issues;

3 to continue reporting annually to the Council and the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group, and also to WTDC, on the activities undertaken and achievements on these subjects, including proposals for further consideration as appropriate;

4 to liaise with the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau and to collaborate with other relevant organizations involved in the development and deployment of IP-based networks and the growth of the Internet, aiming to make available to Member States widely accepted best practices for the design, installation and operation of Internet exchange points (IXPs),

instructs the Council Working Group on international Internet-related public policy issues

1 to consider and discuss the activities of the Secretary-General and Directors of the Bureaux in relation to the implementation of this resolution;

2 to prepare ITU inputs into the above-mentioned activities as appropriate;

3 to continue to identify, study and develop matters on international Internet-related public policy issues, taking into account relevant ITU resolutions;

4 to explore ways to improve the efficiency of its work on determining the topic of open consultation,

instructs the Council

1 to revise its Resolution 1344 to direct the CWG-Internet, limited to Member States, with open consultation to all stakeholders, and to conduct such open consultation according to the following guidelines:

• CWG-Internet will decide on the international Internet-related public policy issues for open consultation, drawing 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;

• CWG-Internet should consider and discuss the summary record of open consultation and provide commentary;

• relevant inputs received from stakeholders will be submitted to CWG-Internet for consideration of the issues chosen for its next meeting;

2 taking into account annual reports presented by the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux, to take appropriate measures in order to contribute actively to international discussions and initiatives related to issues on international management of Internet domain names and addresses and other Internet resources within the mandate of ITU;

3 to consider the reports of CWG-Internet and take actions as appropriate;

4 to report to the 2018 plenipotentiary conference on the activities undertaken and achievements on the objectives of this resolution, including proposals for further consideration as appropriate,

invites Member States

1 to participate in the discussions on international management of Internet resources, including domain names and addresses, and in the process towards enhanced cooperation on Internet governance and international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet, so that worldwide representation in the debates can be ensured;

2 to continue to participate actively in the discussions and development of public policy issues related to Internet resources, including international Internet connectivity, within the remit of ITU, such as capacity building, availability and costs related to infrastructure, domain names and addresses, their possible evolution and the impact of new usages and applications, cooperating with the relevant organizations, and to contribute to CWG-Internet and ITU study groups on related matters,

invites Member States and Sector Members

to seek the appropriate means to contribute to enhanced cooperation on international public policy issues relating to the Internet, in their respective roles and responsibilities.

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| **Proposal ACP/64A1/12 - Summary:** The APT Member Administrations would like to introduce revisions to *Resolution 123 (Rev. Busan, 2014) Bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries* of the Plenipotentiary Conference |

Taking into consideration the development of digital economy, it is empirical to highlight the key areas of the digital economy in Resolution 123and introduce appropriate mechanisms to facilitate transfer of knowledge between ITU and its members.

Besides, the fact that developing countries are still dealing with the difficulty in shortage of budget for participation in ITU, it is helpful to reflect the needs and extend the support for developing countries in *Resolution 123 (Rev. Busan, 2014).*

**PROPOSAL**

APT Member Administrations would like to propose the following revisions to *Resolution 123 (Rev. Busan, 2014)* for the consideration of PP-18.

MOD ACP/64A1/12

RESOLUTION 123 (Rev. dubai, 2018)

Bridging the standardization gap between developing[[23]](#footnote-23)1 and developed countries

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

recalling

Resolution 123 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference,

noting

*a)* that "the Union shall in particular facilitate the worldwide standardization of telecommunications, with a satisfactory quality of service" (No. 13 in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution);

*b)* that, in connection with the functions and structure of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T), in Article 17, the Constitution indicates that those functions shall be "..., bearing in mind the particular concerns of the developing countries, to fulfil the purposes of the Union...";

*c)* that the strategic plan for the Union for 2020-2023, approved by means of Resolution 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of this conference, and its annexes, includes under the objectives of ITU-T to "*promote the active participation of the membership, in particular developing countries, in the definition and adoption of non-discriminatory international standards (ITU-T recommendations) with a view to bridging the standardization gap";*

*d)* that one of the strategic goals of the Union for 2020-2023 is "Inclusiveness – Bridge the digital divide and provide broadband access for all",

noting further

*a)* that the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) adopted Resolution 54 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) to assist in bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries;

*b)* that the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) adopted Resolution 47 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), which calls for activities to enhance knowledge and effective application of recommendations of ITU-T and of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) in developing countries, and Resolution 37 (Rev. Buenos Aires,2017), which recognizes the need to create digital opportunities in developing countries,

recalling

that the Geneva Plan of Action and Tunis Agenda for the Information Society of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) emphasize efforts to overcome the digital divide and development divides,

considering

the following outcome for ITU-T in the strategic plan for the Union for 2020-2023, adopted in Resolution 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2018):

• increased participation in the ITU-T standardization process, including attendance of meetings, submission of contributions, taking leadership positions and hosting of meetings/workshops, especially from developing countries;

* the new Strategic plan for the Union which is adopted in Resolution 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) includes the outcomes T.2-1 of TSB to promote the active participation of the membership, in particular developing countries: “Bridging the standardization gap (e.g. remote participation, fellowships, establishment of regional study groups)”,

considering further

that focus on the following activities is still needed:

• to develop interoperable, non-discriminatory international standards (ITU‑T recommendations);

• to assist in bridging the standardization gap between developed and developing countries;

• to extend and facilitate international cooperation among international and regional standardization bodies;

• to provide assistance to developing countries in bridging the digital divide by achieving broader telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT)-enabled socio-economic development,

recognizing

*a)* the continued shortage of skilled human resources in the standardization field in developing countries, resulting in a low level of developing-country participation in ITU-T and ITU-R meetings, in spite of the improvement observed in such participation lately, and, consequently, in the standards-making process, leading to difficulties when interpreting ITU-T and ITU-R recommendations;

*b)* ongoing challenges relating to capacity building, in particular for developing countries, in the light of rapid technological innovation and increased convergence of services;

*c)* the difficulty faced by developing countries with stringent budgetary constraints in participating in the activities of ITU, especially regular meetings of Study groups and advisory groups which are at expert level and meeting period could be up to 2 weeks

*d)* the moderate level of participation by representatives of developing countries in ITU standardization activities, whether through lack of awareness of these activities, difficulties in accessing information, lack of training for human talent in standardization-related matters, or lack of financial resources to travel to meeting sites, which are factors with impact in terms of widening the existing knowledge gap;

*e)* that technological needs and realities vary from country to country and region to region, and in many cases developing countries do not have opportunities or mechanisms to make them known;

*f)* that, for developing countries at the initial stage of introducing and/or switching to a new technology, it is important to have guidelines for the new technology in question that can be used to develop a national standard, which would make it possible to introduce or switch to the new technology in a timely manner;

*g)* that, in implementation of the provisions of the Annex to Resolution 44 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) and of Resolution 54 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of WTSA, ITU actions have been carried out through ITU-T to assist in reducing the standardization gap between developing and developed countries;

*h)* the importance for developing countries of developing guidelines regarding the implementation of ITU recommendations pursuant to Resolution 44 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of WTSA and Resolution 47 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC;

*i)* the need for high-quality, demand-driven international standards, which should be developed rapidly in line with the principles of global connectivity, openness, affordability, reliability, interoperability and security is critical to generate confidence for further investments specifically in infrastructure;

*j)* the digital transformation through the emergence of key technologies, enabling new services and applications and promoting the building of the information society and progress towards sustainable development, which must be taken into account in the work of ITU-T;

*k)* cooperation and collaboration with other standardization bodies and relevant consortia and forums are key to avoiding duplication of work and achieving efficient use of resources;

*l)* rapidly evolving technology continues to create a standardisation gap between developed and the developing countries is an obstacle for countries to transition to a digital economy,

recognizing further

the achievements by the ITU-T in transformative digital technologies will contribute towards the achievements of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the digital economy,

taking into account

*a)* that developing countries could benefit from improved capability in the application and development of standards;

*b)* that ITU-T and ITU-R activities and the telecommunication/ICT market could also benefit from better involvement of developing countries in standards-making and standards application;

*c)* that initiatives to assist in bridging the standardization gap are intrinsic to, and are a high priority task of, the Union;

*d)* that although ITU is making efforts to reduce the standardization gap, major disparities in knowledge and management of standards remain between developing and developed countries;

*e)* Resolution ITU-R 7 (Rev. Geneva, 2015) of the Radiocommunication Assembly (RA), on telecommunication development, including liaison and collaboration with ITU-D, which resolves that the Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG) and the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau shall continue to cooperate actively with the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) in identifying and implementing means of facilitating the participation of developing countries in study group activities;

*f)* that WTSA adopted Resolutions 32, 44 and 54 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016), all of which share the clear objective of contributing to bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries by means of:

i) providing installations, facilities and capacities in electronic working methods (EWM) in ITU-T meetings, workshops and training courses, especially for developing countries in order to promote their participation;

ii) intensifying the participation of the ITU regional offices in the activities of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB), in order to promote and coordinate standardization activities in their regions, to apply the relevant parts of the resolution, and to initiate campaigns aimed at encouraging the affiliation to ITU of new Sector Members, Associates and Academia from developing countries;

iii) inviting the new regions and Member States to create regional groups within the sphere of the ITU-T study groups, and to create corresponding regional standardization bodies in order to work closely with the ITU-D study groups and TDAG;

*g)* Resolution 37 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC, on bridging the digital divide, which aims at the establishment of international methods and mechanisms that strengthen international cooperation to bridge the digital divide by means of studies, projects and joint activities with ITU-R which seek to build capacities in efficient use of the satellite orbit/spectrum resource for the provision of satellite services, with a view to achieving affordable access to satellite broadband and facilitating network connectivity between different areas, countries and regions, especially in the developing countries, in accordance with the WSIS Geneva Action Plan and Tunis Agenda;

*h)* Resolution 47 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC, on enhancement of knowledge and effective application of ITU recommendations in developing countries, including conformance and interoperability testing of systems manufactured on the basis of ITU recommendations, which invited Member States and Sector Members to continue to engage in activities to enhance the application of ITU‑R and ITU-T recommendations in developing countries, and instructs the Directors of TSB and BDT, in close collaboration, to encourage the participation of developing countries in training courses, workshops and seminars by means of fellowships,

resolves to instruct the Secretary-General and the Directors of the three Bureaux

1 to work closely with each other on the follow-up and implementation of this resolution, as well as Resolutions 32, 44 and 54 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of WTSA, Resolutions 37 and 47 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC and Resolution ITU‑R 7 (Rev. Geneva, 2015) of RA, in order to step up actions intended and to reduce the standardization gap between developing and developed countries;

2 to maintain a close coordination mechanism among the three Sectors at the regional level for bridging the digital divide, through activities carried out by the ITU regional offices to that end;

3 to provide developing countries with assistance to enhance capacity building in the standardization field, including through collaboration with the relevant academia;

4 to identify ways and means to support the participation of representatives of developing countries including granting fellowships for those who submit contributions, to attend the meetings of the three Sectors of ITU and the dissemination of information on standardization;

5to further collaborate with the relevant regional organizations and support their work in this area;

6 to strengthen the mechanisms for preparing and submitting reports on the implementation of the action plan associated with Resolution 44 (Rev.Hammamet, 2016) of WTSA, taking into account the four-year rolling operational plans of each Bureau;

7 to promote the timely development of guidelines for developing countries on the basis of ITU-R and ITU-T recommendations, particularly those related to priority standardization issues, including the introduction of and switchover to new technologies, as well as the preparation and application of ITU recommendations;

8 to effectively consolidate all guidelines, recommendations, technical reports, best practices and use cases developed by ITU-R and ITU-T, through the utilisation of the ITU web-based tools, and to identify strategies and mechanisms to facilitate and allow Member States to proactively use these tools to hasten the transfer of knowledge,

invites Member States and Sector Members

to make voluntary contributions (financial and in-kind) to the fund for bridging the standardization gap, as well as to undertake concrete actions to support ITU's actions and the initiatives of its three Sectors and its regional offices in this matter.

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| **Proposal ACP/64A1/13 - Summary:** The APT Member Administrations would like to introduce revisions to *Resolution 130 (Rev. Busan, 2014) Strengthening the role of ITU in building confidence and security in the use of information and communication technologies* of the Plenipotentiary Conference |

**INTRODUCTION**

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-17) in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 2017, adopted objective 4 on a " Inclusive digital society: Foster the development and use of telecommunications/ICTs and applications to empower people and societies for sustainable development[[24]](#footnote-24)”

At the Council Working Group for Strategic and Financial Plan for 2020-2023 proposed *Goal 1 – Growth: Enable and foster access to and increased use of telecommunication/ICT in support of the digital economy and society* to the Council 2018 and it was agreed to be brought forward to the ITU PP18 to be adopted by ITU Member States.

WTDC‑17 has adopted the Buenos Aires Action Plan and its Objective 2, on Modern and secure telecommunication/ICT Infrastructure: Foster the development of infrastructure and services, including building confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs.

**PROPOSAL**

APT Member Administrations would like to introduce revision to Resolution 130 for ITU to support Member States in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs, and in dealing with existing and future threats.

MOD ACP/64A1/13

RESOLUTION 130 (Rev. dubai, 2018)

Strengthening the role of ITU in building confidence and security in the use of information and communication technologies

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

recalling

*a)* United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution 68/198, on information and communication technologies (ICTs) for development;

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

*c)* UNGA Resolution 68/243, on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security;

*d)* UNGA Resolution 57/239, on the creation of a global culture of cybersecurity;

*e)* the outcome documents of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event, containing the WSIS+10 Statement on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes and the WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015;

*f)* Resolution 174 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference;

*g)* Resolution 181 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*h)* Resolution 45 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on mechanisms for enhancing cooperation on cybersecurity, including countering and combating spam;

*i)* Resolution 140 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference;

*j)* Resolution 69 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC, on facilitating creation of national computer incident response teams (CIRTs), particularly for developing countries[[25]](#footnote-25)1, and cooperation between them;

*k)* Resolution 179 (Rev. Busan, 2014) on ITU's role in child online protection and Resolution 67 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC on the role of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU‑D) in child online protection;

*l)* that ITU Council Resolution 1305, adopted at its 2009 session, identified the security, safety, continuity, sustainability and robustness of the Internet as public policy issues that fall within the scope of ITU,

considering

*a)* that the ITU‑coordinated WSIS+10 High-Level Event reaffirmed the importance of building confidence and security in the use of ICTs, as mentioned in relevant paragraphs of the WSIS+10 outcome documents (Geneva, 2014);

*b)* the crucial importance of information and communication infrastructures and their applications to practically all forms of social and economic activity;

*c)* that, with the application and development of ICTs, new threats from various sources have emerged, that have had an impact on confidence and security in the use of ICTs by all Member States, Sector Members and other stakeholders, including all users of ICTs, and on the preservation of peace and the economic and social development of all Member States, and that threats to and vulnerabilities of networks continue to give rise to ever-growing security challenges across national borders for all countries, in particular developing countries, while noting in this context the strengthening of ITU's role in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs and the need to further enhance international cooperation and develop appropriate existing national, regional and international mechanisms (for example, agreements, best practices, memoranda of understanding, etc.);

*d)* that the ITU Secretary-General has been invited to support the International Multilateral Partnership Against Cyber-Threats (IMPACT), the Forum for Incident Response and Security Teams (FIRST) and other global or regional cybersecurity projects, as appropriate, and all countries, particularly developing countries, have been invited to take part in their activities;

*e)* the ITU Global Cybersecurity Agenda (GCA), which encourages international cooperation aimed at proposing strategies for solutions to enhance confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs;

*f)* that, in order to protect these infrastructures and address these challenges and threats, coordinated national, regional and international action is required for prevention, preparation, response and recovery from computer security incidents, on the part of government authorities, at the national (including the creation of national computer incident response teams (CIRTs)), and sub-national levels, the private sector and citizens and users, in addition to international and regional cooperation and coordination, and that ITU has a lead role to play within its mandate and competencies in this field;

*g)* the need for continual evolution in new technologies to support the early detection of, and coordinated and timely response to, events or incidents compromising computer security, or computer network security incidents that could compromise the availability, integrity and confidentiality of critical infrastructures in ITU Member States, and for strategies that will minimize the impact of such incidents and mitigate the growing risks and threats to which such platforms are exposed;

*h)* that the number of cyberthreats and cyberattacks is growing, as is dependence on the Internet and other networks that are essential for accessing services and information;

*i)* that the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU‑T) has adopted around 300 standards relating to building confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

*j)* the final report on Question 22‑1/1 (Securing information and communication networks: Best practices for developing a culture of cybersecurity) of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU‑D),

recognizing

*a)* that the development of ICTs has been and continues to be instrumental for the growth and development of the global economy, including the digital economy, underpinned by security and trust;

*b)* that the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) affirmed the importance of building confidence and security in the use of ICTs and the great importance of multistakeholder implementation at the international level, and established Action Line C5 (Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs), with ITU identified in the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society as moderator/facilitator for the action line, and that this task has been carried out by the Union in recent years, for example under GCA;

*c)* that WTDC‑17 has adopted the Buenos Aires Action Plan and its Objective 2, on Modern and secure telecommunication/ICT Infrastructure: Foster the development of infrastructure and services, including building confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs; and has also adopted Resolution 45 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), on mechanisms for enhancing cooperation on cybersecurity, including countering and combating spam, calling on the Secretary-General to bring the resolution to the attention of the next plenipotentiary conference for consideration and required action, and to report the results of these main areas of work to the Council and to the Plenipotentiary Conference in 2018, as appropriate; and Resolution 69 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), on the creation of national CIRTs, particularly for developing countries, and cooperation among them;

*d)* that, to support the creation of national CIRTs in Member States where these are needed and are currently absent, the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) adopted Resolution 58 (Rev. Dubai, 2012), on encouraging the creation of national CIRTs, particularly for developing countries; and WTDC‑17 adopted Resolution 69 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), on the creation of national CIRTs, including CIRTs responsible for government-to-government cooperation, particularly for developing countries, cooperation among them, and the importance of coordination among all relevant organizations;

*e)* § 15 of the Tunis Commitment, which states: "*Recognizing the principles of universal and non-discriminatory access to ICTs for all nations, the need to take into account the level of social and economic development of each country, and respecting the development-oriented aspects of the information society, we underscore that ICTs are effective tools to promote peace, security and stability, to enhance democracy, social cohesion, good governance and the rule of law, at national, regional and international levels. ICTs can be used to promote economic growth and enterprise development. Infrastructure development, human capacity building, information security and network security are critical to achieve these goals. We further recognize the need to effectively confront challenges and threats resulting from use of ICTs for purposes that are inconsistent with objectives of maintaining international stability and security and may adversely affect the integrity of the infrastructure within States, to the detriment of their security. It is necessary to prevent the abuse of information resources and technologies for criminal and terrorist purposes, while respecting human rights*", and that the challenges created by this misuse of ICT resources have only continued to increase since WSIS;

*f)* that the ITU‑coordinated WSIS+10 High-Level Event identified several challenges in the implementation of the WSIS action lines that still remain and that will need to be addressed beyond 2015;

*g)* that Member States, in particular developing countries, in the elaboration of appropriate and workable legal measures relating to protection against cyberthreats at the national, regional and international levels, may require assistance from ITU in establishing technical and procedural measures, aimed at securing national ICT infrastructures, on request from these Member States, while noting that there are a number of regional and international initiatives which may support these countries in elaborating such legal measures;

*h)* Opinion 4 (Lisbon, 2009) of the World Telecommunication/ICT Policy Forum, on collaborative strategies for creating confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

*i)* the relevant outcomes of WTSA‑16, notably:

i) Resolution 50 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016), on cybersecurity;

ii) Resolution 52 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016), on countering and combating spam;

*j)* that secure and trusted networks will build confidence and encourage the exchange and use of information and data,

aware

*a)* that ITU and other international organizations, through a variety of activities, are examining issues related to building confidence and security in the use of ICTs, including stability and measures to combat spam, malware, etc., and to protect personal data and privacy;

*b)* that ITU‑T Study Group 17, ITU-D Study Groups 1 and 2 and other relevant ITU study groups continue to work on technical means for the security of information and communication networks, in accordance with Resolutions 50 and 52 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) and Resolutions 45(Rev. Dubai, 2014) and 69 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017);

*c)* that ITU has a fundamental role to play in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

*d)* that ITU‑D Study Group 2 continues to carry out the studies called for in ITU‑D Question 3/2 (Securing information and communications networks: Best practices for developing a culture of cybersecurity), which has been reflected in UNGA Resolution 64/211;

*e)* that ITU is also assisting developing countries in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs and supporting the establishment of CIRTs, including CIRTs responsible for government-to-government cooperation, and the importance of coordination among all relevant organizations;

*f)* that Council Resolution 1336, adopted at its 2011 session, established a working group of the Council on international Internet-related public policy issues (CWG-Internet), whose terms of reference are to identify, study and develop matters related to international Internet-related public policy issues, including those issues identified in Council Resolution 1305 (2009) such as security safety, continuity, sustainability and robustness of the Internet;

*g)* that WTDC‑17 adopted Resolution 80 (Buenos Aires, 2017), on establishing and promoting trusted information frameworks in developing countries to facilitate and encourage electronic exchanges of economic information between economic partners;

*h)* of Article 6, on security and robustness of networks, and Article 7, on unsolicited bulk electronic communications, of the International Telecommunication Regulations adopted by the World Conference on International Telecommunications (Dubai, 2012),

noting

*a)* that, as an intergovernmental organization with private‑sector participation, ITU is well-positioned to play an important role, together with other relevant bodies and organizations, in addressing threats and vulnerabilities, which affect efforts to build confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

*b)* §§ 35 and 36 of the Geneva Declaration of Principles and § 39 of the Tunis Agenda, on building confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

*c)* that although there are no universally agreed upon definitions of spam and other terms in this sphere, spam was characterized by ITU‑T Study Group 2, at its June 2006 session, as a term commonly used to describe unsolicited electronic bulk communications over e‑mail or mobile messaging (SMS, MMS), usually with the objective of marketing commercial products or services;

*d)* the Union's initiative concerning IMPACT and FIRST,

bearing in mind

the work of the ITU established by Resolutions 50 and 52 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) and Resolution 58 (Rev. Dubai, 2012); Resolution 45 (Rev. Dubai , 2014) and Resolution 69 (Buenos Aires, 2017); Objective 2 of the Buenos Aires Action Plan; the relevant ITU‑T Questions on technical aspects regarding the security of information and communication networks; and ITU‑D Question 3/2,

resolves

1 to continue to give this work high priority within ITU, in accordance with its competences and expertise, including promoting common understanding among governments and other stakeholders of building confidence and security in the use of ICTs at national, regional and international level;

2 to give high priority to the work of ITU described under *bearing in mind* above, in accordance with its competencies and areas of expertise, and to continue to work closely, as appropriate, with other relevant bodies/agencies within the United Nations and other relevant international bodies, taking into account the specific mandates and areas of expertise of the different agencies, while being mindful of the need to avoid duplicating work between organizations and among the Bureaux or the General Secretariat;

3 that ITU shall focus resources and programmes on those areas of cybersecurity within its core mandate and expertise, notably the technical and development spheres, and not including areas related to Member States' application of legal or policy principles related to national defence, national security, content and cybercrime, which are within their sovereign rights, although this does not however exclude ITU from carrying out its mandate to develop technical recommendations designed to reduce vulnerabilities in the ICT infrastructure, nor from providing all the assistance that was agreed upon at WTDC‑17, including Objective 2 and in activities under Question 3/2;

4 to contribute to further strengthening the trust and security framework, consistent with ITU's role as lead facilitator of WSIS Action Line C5, taking into account Resolution 140 (Rev. Busan, 2014);

5 to support the transition of ITU Member States to the digital economy by building confidence and security in the use of ICT, in particular in dealing with existing and future threats, within the mandate of ITU,

instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux

1 to continue to review:

i) the work done so far in the three Sectors, under the ITU Global Cybersecurity Agenda and in other relevant organizations and initiatives to address existing and future threats in order to build confidence and security in the use of ICTs, such as the issue of countering spam, which is growing and on the rise;

ii) the progress achieved in the implementation of this resolution, with ITU continuing to play a lead facilitating role as the moderator/facilitator for Action Line C5, with the help of the advisory groups, consistent with the ITU Constitution and the ITU Convention;

2 consistent with Resolution 45 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), to report to the Council on activities within ITU and other relevant organizations and entities to enhance cooperation and collaboration, regionally and globally, to strengthen building confidence and security in the use of ICTs of Member States, in particular developing countries, taking into account any information provided by Member States, including information on situations within their own jurisdiction that could affect this cooperation;

3 consistent with Resolution 45 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), to report on memoranda of understanding (MoU) between countries, as well as existing forms of cooperation, providing analysis of their status, scope and how these cooperative mechanisms can be applied to strengthen cybersecurity and combat cyberthreats, with a view to enabling Member States to identify whether additional memoranda or mechanisms are required;

4 to facilitate access to tools and resources, within the available budget, required for enhancing confidence and security in the use of ICTs for all Member States, consistent with WSIS provisions on universal and non-discriminatory access to ICTs for all nations;

5 to continue to maintain the cybersecurity gateway as a way to share information on national, regional and international cybersecurity-related initiatives worldwide;

6 to report annually to the Council on these activities and to make proposals as appropriate;

7 to further enhance coordination between the study groups and programmes concerned,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

1 to intensify work within existing ITU‑T study groups in order to:

i) address existing and future threats and vulnerabilities affecting efforts to build confidence and security in the use of ICTs, taking into account new services and emerging applications based on telecommunication/ICT networks, by developing reports or recommendations, as appropriate, with the goal of implementing the resolutions of WTSA‑16, particularly Resolutions 50 and 52 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) and Resolution 58 (Rev. Dubai, 2012), allowing work to begin before a question is approved;

ii) seek ways to enhance the exchange of technical information in these fields, promote the adoption of protocols and standards that enhance security, and promote international cooperation among appropriate entities;

iii) facilitate projects deriving from the outcomes of WTSA‑16, in particular:

• Resolution 50 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016), on cybersecurity;

• Resolution 52 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016), on countering and combating spam;

2 to continue collaboration with relevant organizations with a view to exchanging best practices and disseminating information through, for example, joint workshops and training sessions and joint coordination activity groups, and, by invitation, through written contributions from relevant organizations,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 consistent with the results of WTDC‑17 and pursuant to Resolutions 45 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) and Resolution 69 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), Resolution 80 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017)and Objective 2 of the Buenos Aires Action Plan, to support ongoing regional and global cybersecurity projects, and to encourage all countries to take part in these activities;

2 upon request, to support ITU Member States in their efforts to build capacity, by facilitating Member States' access to resources developed by other relevant international organizations that are working on national legislation to combat cybercrime; supporting ITU Member States' national and regional efforts to build capacity to protect against cyberthreats/cybercrime, in collaboration with one another; consistent with the national legislation of Member States referred to above, assisting Member States, in particular developing countries, in the elaboration of appropriate and workable legal measures relating to protection against cyberthreats at national, regional and international levels; establishing technical and procedural measures, aimed at securing national ICT infrastructures, taking into the account the work of the relevant ITU‑T study groups and, as appropriate, other relevant organizations; establishing organizational structures, such as CIRTs, to identify, manage and respond to cyberthreats, and cooperation mechanisms at the regional and international level;

3 to provide the necessary financial and administrative support for these projects within existing resources, and to seek additional resources (in cash and in kind) for the implementation of these projects through partnership agreements;

4 to ensure coordination of the work of these projects within the context of ITU's overall activities in its role as moderator/facilitator for WSIS Action Line C5, and to eliminate any duplication regarding this important subject with the General Secretariat and ITU‑T;

5 to coordinate the work of these projects with that of the ITU‑D study groups on this topic, and with the relevant programme activities and the General Secretariat;

6 to continue collaboration with relevant organizations with a view to exchanging best practices and disseminating information through, for example, joint workshops and training sessions;

7 to support ITU Member States in the development of their national and/or regional cybersecurity strategies toward building national capabilities for dealing with cyberthreats in accordance with the principles of international cooperation, consistent with Objective 2 of the Buenos Aires Action Plan;

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

further instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

each within the scope of their responsibilities:

1 to implement relevant resolutions of both WTSA‑16 and WTDC‑17, including the programme described in Objective 2 of the Buenos Aires Action Plan, on providing support and assistance to developing countries in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

2 to identify and promote the availability of information on building confidence and security in the use of ICTs, specifically related to the ICT infrastructure, for Member States, Sector Members and relevant organizations;

3 without duplicating the work under ITU‑D Question 3/2, to identify best practices in establishing CIRTs, to prepare a reference guide for the Member States and, where appropriate, to contribute to Question 3/2;

4 to cooperate with relevant organizations and other relevant international and national experts, as appropriate, in order to identify best practices in the establishment of CIRTs;

5 to take action with a view to new questions being examined by the study groups within the Sectors on the establishment of confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

6 to identify and document practical steps to strengthen security in the use of ICTs internationally, based on widely accepted practices, guidelines and recommendations that Member States can choose to apply to improve their ability to combat cyberthreats and attacks and to strengthen international cooperation in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs, taking into account the ITU Global Cybersecurity Agenda (GCA) and within the available financial resources;

7 to support strategy, organization, awareness-raising, cooperation, evaluation and skills development;

8 to provide the necessary technical and financial support, within the constraints of existing budgetary resources, in accordance with Resolution 58 (Rev. Dubai, 2012);

9 to mobilize appropriate extrabudgetary resources, outside the regular budget of the Union, for the implementation of this resolution, to help developing countries,

instructs the Secretary-General

pursuant to his initiative on this matter:

1 to report to the Council, taking into account the activities of the three Sectors, on the implementation and effectiveness of the action plan to strengthen the role of ITU in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

2 to cooperate with relevant international organizations, including through the adoption of MoUs, subject to the approval of the Council in this regard, in accordance with Resolution 100 (Minneapolis, 1998) of the Plenipotentiary Conference,

requests the Council

to include the report of the Secretary-General in the documents sent to Member States in accordance with No. 81 of the Convention,

invites Member States

1 to consider joining appropriate competent international and regional initiatives for enhancing national legislative frameworks relevant to the security of information and communication networks;

2 to closely collaborate in strengthening regional and international cooperation, taking into account Resolution 45 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), with a view to enhancing confidence and security in the use of ICTs, in order to mitigate risks and threats;

3 to support ITU initiatives on cybersecurity, including the Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI), in order to promote government strategies and the sharing of information on efforts across industries and sectors;

4 to inform the Secretary-General of relevant activities related to this resolution regarding confidence and security in the use of ICTs,

invites Member States, Sector Members and Associates

1 to contribute on this subject to the relevant ITU study groups and to any other activities for which the Union is responsible;

2 to contribute to building confidence and security in the use of ICTs at the national, regional and international levels, by undertaking activities as outlined in § 12 of the Geneva Plan of Action, and to contribute to the preparation of studies in these areas;

3 to promote the development of educational and training programmes to enhance user awareness of risks in cyberspace;

4 to collaborate, as appropriate, in order to address and prevent problems that undermine confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs.

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| **Proposal ACP/64A1/14 - Summary:** *The proposal seeks to update Resolution 131 to improve the modality of data collection, the process of the revision of the relevant indices and the transparency of the development of indicator-related processes within the ITU-D. It also seeks to reflect the discussions at WTDC-17 which are related to this resolution.* |

**INTRODUCTION**

The ICT Development Index (IDI) was first established in 2008 to implement the mandates of Resolution 8 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) on Collection and dissemination of information statistics, WSIS targets, UN MDGs and SDGs, which was first published in a Measuring Information Society Report (MISR) in 2009. The IDI aims to mainly promote the bridging and reduction of digital divide between member states, with particular emphasis on official data and statistics collection (from member states’ ICT authorities, regulators and National Statistics Office (NSOs)) in order to measure digitization, digital divide and the impact of ICTs in reducing digital divide, to contribute towards the development of an inclusive information society, digital economy and sustainable development.

In this regard, WTDC-17 adopted the revision of Resolution 8 on Collection and dissemination of information and statistics with important updates and amendments, reflecting better the role of ICTs and ICT statistical data in achieving and measuring sustainable developments. However, there are further improvement which would be critical to effective indices which would accurately reflect a country’s ICT development. Given so, this proposal seeks to include possible improvement to the Statistical-related work done at ITU.

**PROPOSAL**

APT Member Administrations would like to propose various updates to Resolution 131 which pertains to the modality of data collection, the process of the revision of the relevant indices and the transparency of the development of indicator-related processes within the ITU-D.

MOD ACP/64A1/14

RESOLUTION 131 (Rev. dubai, 2018)

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

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, create new opportunities , while contributing to the short- and long-term socio-economic development , as well as the growth of the digital economy towards building an inclusive digital society;

*b)* that there is still an ongoing need to call for the promotion of knowledge and the development of skills in all populations in order to achieve greater economic, social and cultural development and to raise the standard of living of the world's citizens;

*c)* that each Member State is seeking to establish its own policies and regulatory frameworks based on ICT statistical data in order to narrow as effectively as possible the digital divide between those who have access to communication and information and those who do not;

*d)* that there has been a call for international organizations, including the ITU, to contribute in the development of the digital economy, within its mandate, furthering the measurement of the digital economy,

recognizing

*a)* that the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) represented an opportunity to identify a global strategy for narrowing the digital divide from the development standpoint;

*b)* that the outcome of the global Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development has resulted in agreement on the identification of a set of basic indicators and a methodological framework for producing internationally comparable data for the measurement of ICT for development, as called for by § 115 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society;

*c)* that the WSIS+10 High-Level Event, in its WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015, highlights that: "*ICTs will play a critical role in achieving the sustainable development goals. Taking into account the ongoing dialogue on the Post-2015 Development Agenda (MDG review process) and the WSIS implementation process, all stakeholders have indicated the necessity of increased interaction between both processes in order to ensure that efforts across the UN system are coherent and coordinated to achieve maximum and sustainable impact"*,

considering

*a)* that the Geneva Plan of Action adopted by WSIS provides for the following: "*In cooperation with each country concerned, develop and launch a composite ICT Development (Digital Opportunity) Index. It could be published annually, or every two years, in an ICT Development Report. The index could show the statistics while the report would present analytical work on policies and their implementation, depending on national circumstances, including gender analysis*";

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

*c)* the contents of Resolution 8 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) as well as the Bueno Aires Action Plan, on collection and dissemination of telecommunication/ICT information and statistics, with particular emphasis on consolidation of information and statistical data by the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), in order to avoid duplication in this field;

*d)* that, through the Buenos Aires Action Plan, WTDC called upon ITU-D to:

– collect, harmonize and disseminate data and official statistics in the area of telecommunications/ICTs using a variety of data sources and dissemination tools, such as the World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators (WTI) database, the ICT Eye ITU online portal, the UN Data portal and others;

– identify new and emerging data sources, including those related to big data and the Internet of Things and e-commerce, and exploring the feasibility of using such data for producing new indicators or improving existing ones;

– analyse telecommunication/ICT trends and produce regional and global research reports, such as the Measuring the Information Society (MIS) report as well as statistical and analytical briefs;

– benchmark telecommunication/ICT developments and clarify the magnitude of the digital divide (using tools such as the ICT Development Index and the ICT Price Basket) and measuring the impact of ICTs on development and the gender digital divide;

– develop international standards, definitions and methodologies on telecommunication/ICT statistics, in close cooperation with other regional and international organizations, including the United Nations, Eurostat, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development, for consideration by the United Nations Statistical Commission;

– provide a global forum for discussing information society measurements for ITU members and other national and international stakeholders, by organizing the World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium and its related statistical expert groups;

– encourage Members States to bring together different stakeholders in government, academia and civil society in raising national awareness about the importance of production and dissemination of high-quality data for policy purposes;

– contribute to the monitoring of internationally agreed goals and targets, including the SDGs, the WSIS action lines and the targets included in the ITU strategic plan and the Connect 2020 Agenda, and developing related measurement frameworks;

– maintain a leading role in the global Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development and its relevant task groups;

– provide capacity building and technical assistance to Member States for the collection of telecommunication/ICT statistics, in particular by means of national surveys, through the delivery of training workshops and the production of methodological manuals and handbooks;

*e)* the WSIS outcomes in relation to ICT indicators, especially the following paragraphs in the Tunis Agenda:

– § 113, which called for formulating appropriate indicators and benchmarking, among them indicators of ICT access and use, including community connectivity indicators, to clarify the magnitude of the digital divide, in both its domestic and international dimensions, and keep it under regular assessment, and track global progress in the use of ICTs to achieve internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including the MDGs;

– § 114, which recognized the importance of the development of ICT indicators for measuring the digital divide and noted the launch of the Partnership for Measuring ICT for Development;

– § 115, which noted the launch of the ICT Opportunity Index and the Digital Opportunity Index, based on the core indicators defined by the global Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development;

– § 116, which stressed the need to take into account different levels of development and national circumstances;

– § 117, which called for further development of these indicators, in collaboration with the global partnership, in order to ensure cost-effectiveness and non-duplication in this field;

– § 118, which invited the international community to strengthen the statistical capacity of developing countries[[26]](#footnote-26)1 by giving appropriate support at national and regional levels;

– § 119, in which a commitment is made to review and follow up progress in bridging the digital divide, taking into account the different levels of development among nations, so as to achieve the internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including the MDGs, assessing the effectiveness of investment and international cooperation efforts in building the information society, identifying gaps as well as deficits in investment and devising strategies to address them;

– § 120, which indicates that the sharing of information related to the implementation of WSIS outcomes is an important element of evaluation,

highlighting

*a)* the responsibilities that ITU-D had to assume as a result of the Tunis Agenda, especially its §§ 112 to 120 thereof;

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

*c)* that the WSIS+10 High-Level Event, in its WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015, states that: "*The evolution of the information society over the past 10 years is contributing towards, inter alia, the development of knowledge societies around the world that are based on principles of freedom of expression, quality education for all, universal and non-discriminatory access to information and knowledge, and respect for cultural and linguistic diversity and cultural heritage. When mentioning the information society, we also refer to the above-mentioned evolution and to the vision of inclusive knowledge societies*",

recognizing further

*a)* that, with a view to providing their populations with faster access to telecommunication/ICT services, many countries have continued to implement public policies for digital inclusion, including community connectivity in those communities that are poorly served with telecommunication facilities;

*b)* that the approach of achieving universal service through community connectivity and broadband access instead of seeking in the short term to ensure that all households have a telephone line has become one of the main goals of ITU;

*c)* that the ICT Development Index is considered as the most important indicator of the digital divide,

bearing in mind

*a)* that, in order to keep each country's public policy makers properly informed, ITU-D shall continue to strive to gather and periodically publish a variety of ICT statistics which provide some indication of the degree of progress in and penetration of telecommunication/ICT services in the different regions of the world;

*b)* that, according to the guidelines of the Plenipotentiary Conference, it is necessary to ensure as far as possible that the policies and strategies of the Union are fully in tune with the constantly changing telecommunication environment,

noting

*a)* that the Geneva Plan of Action adopted by WSIS identifies indicators and appropriate reference points, including indicators of ICT access and use, as elements for the follow-up and evaluation thereof;

*b)* that the single ICT Development Index (IDI) was developed by ITU-D and has been published annually since 2009 and there is a need to benchmark composite indices;

*c)* that Resolution 8 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) instructs the Director of BDT, among other actions, to prepare and compile community connectivity indicators and to participate in the establishment of core indicators to measure efforts to build the information society and, by doing so, to illustrate the scale of the digital divide and efforts made by developing countries to reduce it,

resolves

1 that ITU, as a specialized agency of the United Nations, should spearhead the tasks of development of a toolkit to assist members in establishing national statistical framework; compiling information and statistical data on telecommunications/ICTs; data for evaluating ICT trends; and data for measuring the impact of ICTs in narrowing the digital divide, showing, to the extent possible, their impact on matters related to gender, persons with disabilities and the different social sectors, as well as social inclusion, resulting from access in the areas of education, health, and government services, etc., including their influence on the development and quality of life of all persons, highlighting their contribution to progress, sustainable development and economic growth;

2 that ITU should strengthen its coordination with other relevant international organizations involved in the collection of ICT data, and establish a standardized set of indicators through the Partnership for Measuring ICT for Development, improving the availability and quality of ICT data and indicators and fostering the development of strategies and national, regional and international public policy;

3 that composite indices viz. the ICT Development Index (IDI), and the ICT Price Basket are benchmarked reflecting different levels of development and national circumstances as well as ICT trends, in application of the WSIS outcomes to accomplish its objectivity in consultation with Member States,

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 , 2 and 3 above;

2 to continue to promote the adoption of measures necessary to ensure that indicators of community connectivity and ICT access and use are taken into account in regional and world meetings convened for the purpose of evaluating and following up the Geneva Plan of Action and Tunis Agenda, also considering the WSIS+10 Statement on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes and the emergence of new challenges in achieving the development of an inclusive information society in the wider context of the Post-2015 Development Agenda;

3 to ensure that projects, while having highly different goals and scopes, take account of the data, indicators and indices for measuring ICTs for their comparative analysis and for measurement of their results, such as for example in the implementation of Resolution 17 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to continue to promote the adoption of the ICT statistics and composite indices developed by ITU using internationally recognized and transparent methodology based on official data provided by Member States and to publish them regularly. In the absence of such data, other sources could be used and after informing the concerned Member States in advance of the other sources used to obtain the data;

2 to promote the activities required to define and adopt new indicators, including e‑application indicators, for the purpose of measuring the real impact of ICTs on countries' development;

3 to promote efforts to disseminate the internationally agreed ICT methodologies and indicators, in a transparent and timely manner, particularly in relation to surveys that contain data from member states;

4 to review, revise and further develop benchmarking, with immediate effect, including through consultation and inviting contributions from Member States and experts, and ensure that ICT indicators, the ICT Development Index (IDI) and the ICT Price Basket reflect the real development of the ICT sector, taking into consideration different levels of development and national circumstances as well as ICT trends, in application of the WSIS outcomes;

5 in order to give full effect to Resolution 8 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), to maintain a group of experts on ICT indicators and statistics so that Member States develop existing indicators and systematically review their methodologies and definitions, commencing this review in accordance with Resolution 8 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), and, as appropriate, to formulate any other ICT indicators that may be required;

6 to continue to hold the World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium and expert meetings, periodically, with participation by all Member States, Sector Members, experts on ICT indicators and statistics, and others interested in measuring ICTs and the information society;

7 to monitor the development and improvement of methodologies relevant to indicators and methods of data collection, through consultation with, and inviting contributions from, Member States, particularly by means of the Expert Group on ICT Household Indicators (EGH) and the Expert Group on Telecommunication/ICT Indicators (EGTI) and the World Telecommunication/ ICT Indicators Symposium (WTIS), coordinated by BDT;

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

9 to continue to work to promote an ICT Development Index using available internationally recognized and transparent methodologies as the means by which ITU responds to *considering a)* above;

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

11 to work on the development of indicators of community connectivity and ICT access and use and forward the results on an annual basis;

12 to adapt the data collection and the ICT Development Index in order to reflect the changing access to and use of ICTs, and to invite Member States to participate in such processes, while also taking into account their level of ICT and statistical database development;

13 to leverage the cross sectoral nature of ICTs to strengthen partnerships and collaboration with other sectors such as those dealing with health, education, energy, transport, agriculture and finance which can provide valuable data to support the digital economy;

14 to review ITU-D’s work in developing statistics and indicators taking into account Members’ input into the process: as such, the director is instructed to identify existing approaches for Members to provide regular inputs for their concerns in the development and analysis of statistics and indicators as well as the way they are presented;

15 to submit a report to the Council session on progress in the implementation of this resolution,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to encourage the participation of organizations who benefit from telecommunications/ICTs, particularly organizations involved in the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, to contribute towards the work of this resolution and to promote their potential membership of the ITU;

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

invites Member States

1 to participate in the submission to ITU-D of their national statistics on ICT access and use and community connectivity;

2 to participate actively in this endeavour by providing the statistics and information solicited, including statistics disaggregated by gender, as appropriate, and by engaging actively in discussions on ICT indicators and data collection methodologies through contributions, in particular by means of the Expert Group on ICT Household Indicators (EGH), the Expert Group on Telecommunication/ICT Indicators (EGTI) and World Telecommunication/ ICT Indicators Symposium (WTIS) coordinated by BDT, including contributions for the review, revision and further development of benchmarking of ICT indicators and the ICT Development Index (IDI) and the ICT Price Basket.

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| **Proposal ACP/64A1/15 -Summary:** The APT Member Administrations would like to introduce revisions to *Resolution 135 (Rev. Busan, 2014) ITU's role in the development of telecommunications/information and communication technologies, in providing technical assistance and advice to developing countries and in implementing relevant national, regional and interregional projects* of the Plenipotentiary Conference |

The ITU is the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies – ICTs. It allocates global radio spectrum and satellite orbits, develop the technical standards that ensure networks and technologies seamlessly interconnect, and strive to improve access to ICTs to underserved communities worldwide.[[27]](#footnote-27)

At the Council Working Group for Strategic and Financial Plan for 2020-2023, *Goal 1 – Growth: Enable and foster access to and increased use of telecommunication/ICT in support of the digital economy and society* was proposed to the Council 2018 and will be taken to the ITU PP18 to be adopted by ITU Member States.

One of the key objectives of ITU-D which was adopted at the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-17) which convened in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 2017 was the "Inclusive Digital Society: Foster the development and use of telecommunications/ICTs and applications to empower people and societies for sustainable development.[[28]](#footnote-28)

Taking into consideration these developments, it is empirical to highlight the key areas of the digital economy in the relevant resolutions of the Plenipotentiary Conference, specifically **Resolution 135,** and to encourage participation from the relevant sectors that contributes towards the development of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable development with ICT.

**PROPOSAL**

APT Member Administrations would like to propose the following revisions to *Resolution 135 (Rev. Busan, 2014)* for the consideration of PP-18.

MOD ACP/64A1/15

RESOLUTION 135 (Rev. dubai, 2018)

ITU's role in the development of telecommunications/information and communication technologies, in providing technical assistance and advice to developing countries[[29]](#footnote-29)1 and in implementing relevant national, regional and interregional projects

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

recalling

*a)* Resolution 135 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*b)* Resolution 34 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on assistance and support to countries in special need for rebuilding their telecommunication sector;

*c)* relevant resolutions of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) – especially Resolution 17 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017); the Buenos Aires Action Plan on implementation of initiatives at the national, regional, interregional and global levels approved by the six[[30]](#footnote-30)2 regions; Resolution 32 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010), on international and regional cooperation on regional initiatives; and Resolution 34 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), on the role of telecommunications/information and communication technology (ICT) in disaster preparedness, early warning, rescue, mitigation, relief and response – as well as the provisions of the outputs adopted by WTDC-17 and their linkage with those resolutions;

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

recognizing

that harnessing the potential of telecommunication/ICTs can benefit the socio-economic status of a developing country and help achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted in Resolution 70/1 of the UNGA and contribute towards the development of the digital economy,

considering

*a)* the development goals which require that telecommunications/ICTs be accessible to humanity as a whole, especially the peoples of developing countries;

*b)* the accumulated and advanced experience of ITU in implementing the above-mentioned resolutions;

*c)* the tasks assigned to ITU as regards Action Lines C2, C5 and C6 in the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, and required participation by ITU in implementing other action lines that depend on the availability of telecommunications/ICTs, in agreement with the United Nations agencies that collaborate in implementing these action lines;

*d)* the continued success achieved by the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector in its partnerships to implement many development actions, including developing telecommunication/ICT networks in several developing countries;

*e)* the Dubai Action Plan and the necessary optimization of resources to achieve the proposed goals;

*f)* the actions undertaken to implement Resolution 157 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on strengthening of the project execution function in ITU;

*g)* Resolution 59 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC, on strengthening coordination and cooperation among the three ITU Sectors on matters of mutual interest;

*h)* that technological advances in telecommunication systems are enabling sustainable and affordable access to information and knowledge as well as the development of the digital economy through the provision of highly connected communications services (broadband) of broad coverage (regional or global scope), so that countries can be connected directly, rapidly and reliably;

*i)* that broadband satellite and radiocommunication services are in turn providing highly connected, rapid, reliable and cost-efficient communications solutions both in metropolitan and in rural and remote areas, efficiently complementing fibre-optic and other technologies and serving as a fundamental driver of economic and social growth of countries and regions;

*j)* ITU’s role in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will require wider extension of collaboration and partnership with other key sectors highlighted under the SDGs in providing technical assistance and advice on telecommunications/information and communication technologies;

*k)* that it is deemed relevant to deepen collaboration and interrelated work among the different ITU Sectors with a view to carrying out studies and activities, including capacity building, for the provision of better advice and technical assistance to developing countries for optimal use of resources and the execution of national, regional and interregional projects,

resolves

1 that ITU should:

i) continue to coordinate efforts for the harmonization, development and enhancement of telecommunications/ICTs throughout the world towards building the information society, and to take appropriate measures to adapt itself to the trends in the telecommunication/ICT infrastructure development environment;

ii) maintain contacts with the United Nations Educational, Social and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to revise the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC), with a view to the continued implementation of Action Line C7 in the Tunis Agenda relating to education and cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP);

iii) contribute, in its areas of competence, to the evolution of the integrating information society, through, among other things, the creation of knowledge societies worldwide based on principles such as freedom of expression, equality and quality education for all, with the aim of ensuring equitable access to telecommunications/ICTs and to information and knowledge, and respect for linguistic and cultural diversity and cultural heritage;

iv) contribute, in its areas of competence, in defining and implementing ITU’s role in achieving the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as well as the development of the digital economy, providing technical assistance and advice on the development of telecommunications/ information and communication technologies, to harness the potential and opportunities from new and emerging technologies;

2 that the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) shall:

i) continue to provide highly qualified technical experts to offer advice in subjects of importance to developing countries, on an individual and collective basis, and to ensure adequate expertise through recruitment or short-term contracts, as appropriate;

ii) continue cooperating with financing sources, whether under the United Nations system, UNDP or other financing arrangements, and multiplying partnerships with Member States, Sector Members, financial institutions and international and regional organizations, to finance the activities related to the implementation of this resolution;

iii) continue its Special Voluntary Programme for Technical Cooperation, based on financial contributions, expert services or any other form of assistance, to help better meet the requests of developing countries in the telecommunication/ICT field as far as possible;

iv) take into account, when establishing the above-mentioned actions, previous national or regional connectivity plans, so that the actions carried out give effect to the priority aspects of these plans and the impact of the action undertaken in essential aspects serves the achievement of national, regional and ITU goals; if the administrations do not have these plans, the projects may also consider developing them;

v) promote and facilitate collaborative actions with the different Sectors of the Union in order to carry out studies and interrelated activities to complement the use of telecommunication technologies and systems so as to achieve optimal use of resources, including orbital resources and associated spectrum resources, and improve access to and the connectivity of telecommunication/ICT networks and systems to address the telecommunication needs of developing countries;

vi) promote collaborative activities in coordination with the different Sectors of the Union to create and build capacities so as to provide and deepen universal access to knowledge on optimal use of telecommunication resources, including orbital resources and associated spectrum resources, and to increase access to and the connectivity of telecommunication/ICT systems and networks included in national and regional telecommunication projects and plans,

invites regional and international financial organizations and agencies, equipment providers, operators, and all potential partners

to consider the possibility of ensuring complete or partial financing to implement cooperation programmes for developing telecommunications/ICTs, including the regionally approved initiatives under the Buenos Aires Action Plan and Resolution 17 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to submit an annual detailed report to the ITU Council on the results of the implementation of this resolution, including any recommendations which the Secretary-General may deem necessary, in agreement with the Director of BDT, to enhance the impact of this resolution;

2 to encourage entities in key sectors highlighted under the SDGs actively involved in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to participate in projects and programs as well as to become a member of the ITU,

invites the Council

to review the results achieved and to take all necessary steps to expedite the implementation of this resolution in the best possible way.

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| **Proposal ACP/64A1/16 - Summary:** The APT Member Administrations would like to introduce revisions to *Resolution 139 (Rev. Busan, 2014) Use of telecommunications/information and communication technologies to bridge the digital divide and build an inclusive information society* of the Plenipotentiary Conference |

**INTRODUCTION**

The ITU is the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies – ICTs. It allocates global radio spectrum and satellite orbits, develop the technical standards that ensure networks and technologies seamlessly interconnect, and strive to improve access to ICTs to underserved communities worldwide.[[31]](#footnote-31)

At the Council Working Group for Strategic and Financial Plan for 2020-2023, *Goal 1 – Growth: Enable and foster access to and increased use of telecommunication/ICT in support of the digital economy and society* was proposed to the Council 2018 and will be taken to the ITU PP18 to be adopted by ITU Member States.

One of the key objectives of ITU-D which was adopted at the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-17) which convened in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 2017 was the "Inclusive Digital Society: Foster the development and use of telecommunications/ICTs and applications to empower people and societies for sustainable development.[[32]](#footnote-32)

The new Industrial revolution takes into account important aspects from the technological, industrial and social point of view. New industrial revolution will affect many areas, such as, socio-economic factors, industry value chain, security, and workers’ education/skills. The impact on workers’ education/skills has disadvantaged many minority and vulnerable groups, such as women/girls, youth and persons with disabilities, caused by inter alia: use of autonomous robots (robotization), job displacements/unemployment and lack of digital skills.

To keep abreast of such quick technological advances and ensure developing countries’ roles in the global digital economy and inclusive information society, APT Member Administrations proposes this document which aims to discuss the underlying principles for the necessity of ITU capacity building programs for member countries, in particular for developing countries in encountering new industrial revolution.

Taking into consideration these developments, it is empirical to highlight the key areas of the digital economy in the relevant resolutions of the Plenipotentiary Conference, specifically **Resolution 139,** accelerating access and the adoption of broadband and introduce capacity building programs for member countries, in particular for developing countries in encountering new industrial revolution.

**PROPOSAL**

APT Member Administrations would like to propose the following revisions to *Resolution 139 (Rev. Busan, 2014)* for the consideration of PP-18.

MOD ACP/64A1/16

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.Busan, 2014) 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 the benefits of the advancement in information and communication technologies (ICTs) can create opportunities for digital services in developing countries[[33]](#footnote-33)1, and enable participation in the digital economy ;

*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; Dubai, 2014; and Buenos Aires, 2017) have continued to affirm that ICTs and ICT applications are essential for political, economic, social and cultural development, that they play an important role in poverty alleviation, job creation, environmental protection and the prevention and mitigation of natural and other disasters (in addition to the importance of disaster prediction), and that they must be placed at the service of development in other sectors; and that, therefore, opportunities offered by new ICTs should be fully exploited in order to foster sustainable development;

*h)* that Goal 2 in Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019, continues to declare that the aim is for ITU to assist in bridging the national, regional and international digital divide in ICTs and ICT applications by facilitating interoperability, interconnection and global connectivity of telecommunication networks and services, and by playing a leading role, within its mandate, in the multistakeholder participation process for follow-up and implementation of the relevant goals and objectives of WSIS, and to focus on bridging the digital divide and providing broadband for all;

*i)* that, even prior to WSIS, in addition to ITU activities, various activities were being executed by many organizations and entities to bridge the digital divide;

*j)* that such activity by the Union has been increasing since the conclusion of WSIS and the adoption of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, particularly in relation to implementation and follow-up, in accordance with the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019 and resolutions of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006, Guadalajara, 2010, and Busan, 2014),

recalling

*a)* Resolution 24 (Kyoto, 1994) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the role of ITU in the development of world telecommunications, Resolution 31 (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on telecommunication infrastructure and ICTs for socio-economic and cultural development, and Resolution 129 (Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on bridging the digital divide;

*b)* that the Union's World Telecommunication Development Report has highlighted the unacceptable imbalance in the distribution of telecommunications and the imperative and urgent need to remedy that imbalance;

*c)* that, in this context, the first WTDC (Buenos Aires, 1994), *inter alia*, called on governments, international agencies and all other parties concerned to accord, particularly in developing countries, an appropriate higher priority to investment and other related actions for the development of telecommunications;

*d)* that, since that time, WTDCs have established study groups, developed work programmes and approved resolutions to promote digital opportunities, highlighting the role of ICT in a number of areas;

*e)* that Resolutions 30 and 143 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference highlight that what countries need, as reflected in the two resolutions, is for the digital divide to be bridged, as a fundamental goal,

endorsing

a) Resolution 16 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC, on special actions and measures for the least developed countries (LDCs), small island developing states (SIDS), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and countries with economies in transition, which calls upon other Member States and Sector Members to establish partnerships with these countries, either directly or through the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), in order to bring increased investment into the ICT sector and to stimulate the modernization and expansion of networks in these countries in a bold attempt to reduce the digital divide and to achieve the ultimate goal of universal access in line with the Geneva Plan of Action, the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda;

b) Resolution 37 (Rev. 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 with others in order to benefit from experience gained;

*c)* that many countries do not have the necessary basic infrastructure, long-term plans, laws, regulations and such like in place for the development of ICT and ICT applications;

*d)* that LDCs, SIDS, LLDCs and countries with economies in transition still face particular problems in bridging the digital divide;

*e)* that it is necessary to study and analyse the social, demographic, economic and technological context of the communities in which it is intended to deploy infrastructure and implement plans for capacity building;

*f)* that it is important to identify sustainable best practice to deploy high speed broadband networks to assist developing countries achieve the SDGs;

*g)* that quality of broadband access will promote inclusion and support the vision of an information society,

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 bridging the digital divide will assist developing countries in reaping the opportunities and benefits from telecommunication/ICTs and the digital economy,

stressing

*a)* the important role played by telecommunications/ICTs and ICT applications in the development of e-government, labour, agriculture, health, education, transport, industry, human rights, environmental protection, trade and transfer of information for social welfare, and in the general economic and social progress of developing countries, especially for people living in rural or remote areas;

*b)* that telecommunication/ICT infrastructure and applications are central to achieving the goal of digital inclusion, enabling universal, sustainable, ubiquitous and affordable access to information,

mindful

*a)* that the Dubai Declaration stated that, with convergence, policy-makers and regulators should continue to promote widespread, affordable access to telecommunications/ICTs, including Internet access, through fair, transparent, stable, predictable and non-discriminatory enabling policy, legal and regulatory environments, including common approaches to conformance and interoperability that promote competition, increase consumer choices, foster continued technological and service innovation and provide investment incentives at national, regional and international levels;

*b)* that goals in the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019 are aimed at enabling and fostering the growth and sustained development of telecommunication networks and services, at facilitating universal access so that people everywhere can participate in, and benefit from, the emerging information society, and at providing assistance to developing countries in order to bridge the digital divide by achieving broader telecommunication/ICT-enabled socio-economic development;

*c)* that the Geneva Declaration of Principles adopted by WSIS recognized that policies that create a favourable climate for stability, predictability and fair competition at all levels should be developed and implemented in a manner that attracts more private investment in telecommunications and in ICT infrastructure;

*d)* that, in many ITU Member States, independent regulatory bodies have been established to deal with regulatory issues such as interconnection, determination of tariffs, licensing and competition, designed to promote digital opportunities at the national level,

appreciating

the various studies that have been carried out as part of the programme of technical cooperation and assistance activities of the Union,

resolves

1 that implementation of Resolution 37 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) should continue;

2 that the Union should continue to organize, sponsor and conduct necessary studies in order to highlight, in a different and changing context, the contribution of ICTs and ICT applications to overall development;

3 that the Union should continue to act as a clearing-house mechanism for the exchange of information and expertise in this regard, within the implementation of the Dubai Action Plan and in partnership with other appropriate organizations, and implement initiatives, programmes and projects aimed at promoting access to telecommunications/ICTs and ICT applications;

4 that ITU, in cooperation with the relevant organizations, continue its task of preparing adequate ICT reference indicators for measuring the digital divide, collecting statistical data, measuring the impact of ICTs and facilitating a comparative analysis of digital integration, which will continue to be a fundamental need in support of economic growth;

5 that ITU facilitate and promote the development of high speed broadband and universal access programmes,

continues to invite

the administrations and governments of Member States, agencies and organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, financial institutions and providers of telecommunication equipment and services and ICTs to extend their support for the satisfactory implementation of this resolution,

continues to encourage

all agencies responsible for development aid and assistance, including the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), UNDP and regional and national development funds, as well as donor and recipient Member States of the Union, to continue to attach importance to ICTs in the development process and to accord high priority for resource allocation to this sector,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to bring this resolution to the attention of all interested parties including, in particular, UNDP, IBRD, regional funds and national development funds for cooperation in implementing this resolution;

2 to report annually to the ITU Council on the progress made in the implementation of this resolution;

3 to arrange for the wide dissemination of the findings resulting from the activities carried out in accordance with this resolution,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, in coordination with the Directors of the other Bureaux, as appropriate

1 to continue to assist the Member States and Sector Members in developing a pro‑competitive policy and regulatory framework for ICTs and ICT applications;

2 to continue to assist Member States and Sector Members with strategies that expand access to telecommunication infrastructure, particularly for rural or remote areas;

3 to evaluate models for affordable and sustainable systems for access to information in rural or remote areas, communications and ICT applications on the global network, based on studies of these models;

4 to continue to conduct, within available resources, case studies concerning telecommunications/ICTs in rural areas and, if appropriate, to deploy a pilot model using IP-based technology, or equivalent thereof in the future, to extend rural access;

5 to promote and facilitate collaborative actions between the different Sectors of the Union to carry out studies, projects and inter-related activities identified in action plans of the Sectors, aiming to complement the development of the national telecommunication networks;

6 to continue to support Member States by providing a database of experts in the required field,and to fund the necessary actions for bridging the digital divide for developing countries within the resources allocated under the financial plan;

7 to strengthen cooperation and coordination with the relevant international and regional organizations, in particular those of the developing countries, in activities related to bridging the digital divide;

8 to provide assistance to developing countries to develop human capacity to navigate and extract the benefit from the new industrial revolution, through creating a culture of learning and collaboration, training opportunities, and other capacity building programs or joint programs in the areas of relevant bridging digital divide, building information society, and in fields relevant to new industrial revolution, and existing ICT industrial ecosystem, in accordance with UN SDGs and within the mandate of ITU,

instructs the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau

to implement actions, in coordination with the Director of BDT, in order to support studies and projects and, at the same time, promote joint activities aiming to build capacities for increasingly efficient use of the orbit/spectrum resource, with the purpose of expanding affordable access to satellite broadband and facilitating connectivity between networks, and between different zones, countries and regions, especially in developing countries,

instructs the Council

1 to allocate adequate funds, within approved budgetary resources, for the implementation of this resolution;

2 to review the Secretary-General's reports and take appropriate measures to ensure the implementation of this resolution;

3 to submit a progress report on this resolution to the next plenipotentiary conference,

invites Member States

1 to continue to undertake concerted action in order to achieve the objectives of Resolution 37 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, as was the case for Resolution 37 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010) of WTDC, by supporting this resolution as revised at this conference;

2 to conduct consultations with the beneficiaries of infrastructure plans, programmes and investment, considering current differences stemming from the social conditions and dynamics of the population, so as to ensure suitable appropriation of ICTs;

3 to promote the implementation of policies to foster public and private investments for the development and construction of radiocommunication systems, including satellite systems, in their own countries and regions, and to contemplate the inclusion of their use in the national and/or regional broadband plans as an additional tool that will help bridge the digital divide and meet telecommunication needs, especially in developing countries.

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| **Proposal ACP/64A1/17 - Summary:**This contribution aims to revise Res 140(Rev. Busan,2014): Delete UNGA review part; incorporate the 2030 agenda for sustainable development; highlight that WSIS and SDG contribute to the development of digital economy; explore ways to strengthen the promotion of WSIS prize projects. |

**INTRODUCTION**

The 2030 agenda for sustainable development (A/RES/70/1) was adopted at the70th session of the UN General Assembly in 2016, which covered 17 sustainable development goals. The new agenda calls on all countries to take action now to achieve the 17 sustainable development goals in the next 15 years.

As a specialized agency in the field of telecommunications and ICT established by the United Nations, ITU should play an active role in achieving the SDGs. In 2016, the Council revised the resolution 1332 of the Council. Resolution 1332 recognized that the 2030 agenda for sustainable development has a substantial impact on the activities of ITU and promoted the WSIS framework as the basis for the ITU to achieve the 2030 agenda.

It is necessary to revise resolution 140 of the Plenipotentiary Conference.

**PROPOSAL**

APT Member Administrations would like to propose to amend Resolution 140(Rev. Busan,2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference. The revised draft resolution is attached in proposal ACP/64A1/17.

MOD ACP/64A1/17

RESOLUTION 140 (Rev. dubAi, 2018)

ITU's role in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

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)* Resolution 113 (Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on WSIS;

*c)* Decision 8 (Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on ITU input to the WSIS Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action and the information document on ITU activities related to the Summit;

*d)* Resolution 200 (Busan, 2014) of this conference, on the Connect 2020 Agenda on global telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) development,

recalling further

*a)* the Geneva Declaration of Principles and the Geneva Plan of Action, adopted in 2003, and the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, adopted in 2005, all of which were endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA);

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

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

*d)* the WSIS+10 Statement on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes and Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015, adopted at the ITU‑coordinated WSIS+10 High-Level Event (Geneva, 2014),

considering

*a)* that ITU plays a fundamental role in providing global perspectives on the development of the information society;

*b)* the role played by ITU in the successful organization of the two phases of WSIS and its coordination of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event;

*c)* that the core competences of ITU in the field of ICTs – assistance in bridging the digital divide, international and regional cooperation, radio-spectrum management, standards development and the dissemination of information – are of crucial importance for building the information society, as stated in § 64 of the Geneva Declaration of Principles;

*d)* that the Tunis Agenda stated that "*each UN agency should act according to its mandate and competencies, and pursuant to decisions of their respective governing bodies, and within existing approved resources*" (§ 102b));

*e)* the establishment of a United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS) by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, at the request of the Summit, with the main objective of coordinating substantive and policy issues facing the United Nations' implementation of the WSIS outcomes, and that ITU is a permanent member of UNGIS, and shares a rotating chairmanship thereof;

*f)* that ITU, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) are playing lead facilitation roles in the multistakeholder implementation of the Geneva Plan of Action and Tunis Agenda, as called upon by WSIS;

*g)* that ITU is the moderator/facilitator for Action Lines C2 (Information and communication infrastructure), C5 (Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs) and C6 (Enabling environment) of the Tunis Agenda, and a potential partner for a number of other action lines, as identified by WSIS;

*h)* that Resolution 200 (Busan, 2014) endorsed the Connect 2020 global telecommunication/ICT goals and targets;

*i)* that ITU is given specific responsibility for maintaining the WSIS stocktaking database (§ 120 of the Tunis Agenda);

*j)* that ITU is capable of providing expertise relevant to the Internet Governance Forum as demonstrated during the WSIS process (§ 78a) of the Tunis Agenda);

*k)* that ITU has, *inter alia*, specific responsibility to study and report on international Internet connectivity (§§ 27 and 50 of the Tunis Agenda);

*l)* that ITU has a specific responsibility to ensure rational, efficient and economic use of, and equitable access to, the radio-frequency spectrum by all countries, based on relevant international agreements (§ 96 of the Tunis Agenda);

*m)* that "*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);

*n*) that the vision of an information society cannot be achieved without embracing the principle of inclusiveness in all efforts to promote and achieve the 2030 Agenda of Sustainable development contributing towards fostering greater economic participation,

considering further

*a)* that ITU and other international organizations should continue to cooperate and coordinate their activities where necessary for the global good;

*b)* the need for ITU to evolve constantly in response to changes in the telecommunication/ICT environment and, in particular, in respect of evolving technologies and new regulatory challenges;

*c)* the needs of developing countries[[34]](#footnote-34)1, including in the areas of building telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, strengthening confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs and implementation of the other WSIS goals;

*d)* the desirability of using ITU's resources and expertise in a way which takes account of the rapid changes in the telecommunication environment and of the WSIS outcomes, taking into account the outcomes of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event reviewed by UNGA in a comprehensive way;

*e)* the need to carefully deploy the Union's human and financial resources in a manner consistent with the priorities of the membership and cognizant of budgetary constraints, and the need to avoid duplication among the Bureaux and the General Secretariat;

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

*g)* that the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019 set out in Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference contains a commitment to implementation of the relevant WSIS outcomes in response to the changing telecommunication/ICT environment and its effects on the Union, as well as the priority areas to be addressed in implementing the WSIS outcomes beyond 2015, subject to the outcomes of the UNGA overall review;

*h)* that the ITU Council Working Group on WSIS (CWG-WSIS) constitutes an effective mechanism for facilitating Member State inputs on the role of ITU in implementing WSIS outcomes, as envisaged by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006 and Guadalajara, 2010);

*i)* that the Council has approved roadmaps for Action Lines C2, C5 and C6, which have been updated and made available on the web, as well as WSIS-related activities, which have been included in the ITU operational plans for 2015-2018;

*j)* that the international community is invited to make voluntary contributions to the special trust fund set up by ITU to support activities relating to the implementation of WSIS outcomes;

*k)* that ITU is capable of providing expertise in the field of statistical work by developing ICT indicators, using appropriate indicators and benchmarking to track global progress, and measuring the digital divide (§§ 113-118 of the Tunis Agenda),

noting

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

*b)* the establishment of the Broadband Commission for Digital Development at the invitation of the Secretary-General of ITU and the Director-General of UNESCO, taking note of the Broadband targets for 2015, which aim to make broadband policy universal and to increase affordability and uptake in support of internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);

*c)* that the digital economy encompasses all sectors,

taking into account

*a)* that WSIS acknowledged that multistakeholder participation is essential to the successful building of a people‑centred, inclusive and development-oriented information society;

*b)* the nexus between issues of telecommunication development and those of economic, social and cultural development, as well as its impact on social and economic structures in all Member States;

*c)* § 98 of the Tunis Agenda, which encourages strengthened and continuing cooperation between and among stakeholders and welcomes, in that respect, the ITU‑led Connect the World initiative;

*d)* that, in recent decades, the ICT landscape has dramatically changed progress in natural science, mathematics, engineering and technology: rapid innovation, diffusion and uptake of mobile technologies and improved access to the Internet have greatly expanded the gamut of opportunities that ICTs offer to promote inclusive development and bring the benefits of the information society to an increasing number of people around the world;

*e)* that UNGIS proposes that "*in collaboration with other stakeholders, the UN system should seek to take full advantage of ICTs in addressing the development challenges of the 21st century and to recognize them as cross-cutting enablers for the achievement of all three pillars of sustainable development*" and states that "*the potential of ICTs as key enablers of development, and as critical components of innovative development solutions, is fully recognized in the Post-2015 Development Agenda*";

*f)* the outcomes of the ITU‑coordinated WSIS+10 High-Level Event, based on the Multistakeholder Preparatory Platform (MPP), together with other United Nations agencies and inclusive of all WSIS stakeholders, which was conducted as an extended version of the WSIS Forum, under the mandates of the participating agencies and on a consensus basis;

*g)* that the ITU Secretary-General created the ITU WSIS Task Force, chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General, in order to fulfil, among others, the instructions handed down to the Secretary-General in Resolution 140 (Antalya, 2006) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*h)* the outcomes of the WSIS Forums;

*i)* the ITU report entitled "*WSIS+10 Report: ITU's Ten Year Contribution to the WSIS implementation and follow-up (2005-2014)*", outlining WSIS‑related activities of the Union,

endorsing

*a)* Resolution 30 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on the role of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU‑D) in implementing the WSIS outcomes, taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

*b)* Resolution 139 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference;

*c)* the relevant results of the 2015-2018sessions of the ITU Council, including Resolution 1332 (Rev. 2016);

*d)* programmes, activities and regional activities established by WTDC‑14 with the objective of bridging the digital divide;

*e)* the relevant work already undertaken and/or to be carried out by ITU in implementing the WSIS outcomes, under the aegis of CWG-WSIS and the WSIS Task Force;

*f)* Resolution 75 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on ITU‑T's contribution in implementing the outcomes of WSIS, taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

recognizing

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

*b)* ITU's commitment to the implementation of the goals and objectives of WSIS, as one of the most important goals for the Union;

*c)* ICT's potential in fulfilling the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other internationally-agreed development goals;

*d)* that telecommunication/ICT plays an essential role in digital transformation and the development of digital economy in particular[[35]](#footnote-35)1, and the implementation of WSIS outcomes will help facilitate the development of the digital economy and help achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

*e*) that harnessing the potential of telecommunication/ICT related to the digital economy can contribute to the socio-economic growth of a developing country and help achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted in Resolution 70/1 of the United Nations General Assembly,

resolves

1 that ITU should play a leading facilitating role in the implementation process, along with UNESCO and UNDP, as stated in § 109 of the Tunis Agenda;

2 that ITU should continue to coordinate WSIS Forums, World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD) and WSIS Project Prizes and maintain the WSIS Stocktaking database, while above activities should help implement WSIS outcomes and achieve SDGs;

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, proactively help achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

4 that ITU should continue carrying out those activities that come within its mandate, and participate with other stakeholders, as appropriate, in the implementation of Action Lines C1, C3, C4, C7, C8, C9 and C11 and all other relevant action lines and other WSIS outcomes and contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, within the financial limits set by the Plenipotentiary Conference;

5 that ITU should continue to adapt itself, taking into account technological developments and its potential to contribute significantly to building an inclusive information society and to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

6 to express its satisfaction with the successful outcomes of the Summit, in which the expertise and core competence of ITU were noted several times;

7 to express its satisfaction with the successful outcomes of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event to review implementation of WSIS outcomes, at which the importance of collaboration among United Nations agencies, governments and relevant stakeholders was noted several times;

8 to express its satisfaction and appreciation for ITU's efforts to initiate and coordinate the WSIS+10 (MPP and WSIS+10 High-Level Event in close collaboration with other relevant United Nations agencies and relevant stakeholders;

9 to express its satisfaction and appreciation for the efforts and contributions of other relevant United Nations agencies and all other stakeholders during the WSIS+10 MPP and the WSIS+10 High-Level Event;

10 to endorse the following outcome documents of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event:

– WSIS+10 Statement on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes;

– WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015;

11 to express its thanks to the staff of the Union, the host countries and CWG-WSIS for their efforts in the preparation of both phases of WSIS (Geneva, 2003 and Tunis, 2005) and the WSIS+10 High-Level Event (Geneva, 2014), as well as all members of ITU actively involved in implementing the WSIS outcomes;

12 that ITU, in coordination with UNESCO, UNCTAD and UNDP, contribute on the issue of ICT for development in the debate on the Post-2015 Development Agenda arranged by UNGA, taking into consideration the WSIS+10 High-Level Event outcome documents, with a focus on bridging the digital divide through sustainable development;

13 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 outcomes;

14 that ITU should, within available resources, continue to maintain the current public WSIS Stocktaking database, as one of the valuable tools for assisting with the follow-up of WSIS and SDG-related activities, as instructed in § 120 of the Tunis Agenda;

15 that ITU‑D shall give high priority to building information and communication infrastructure (WSIS Action Line C2), this being the physical backbone for all e‑applications, having regard to the Buenos Aires Declaration and Objective 2 of the Buenos Aires Action Plan and calling upon the ITU‑D study groups to do the same;

16 that ITU should submit a progress report on the implementation of WSIS outcomes which help achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, noting its contribution towards the development of digital economy concerning ITU to the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in 2022;

17 that ITU should strengthen the promotion of WSIS prize projects,

instructs the Secretary-General

to support ITU's role in implementing the WSIS outcomes and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as established by Member States,

instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux

1 to take all necessary measures for ITU to fulfil its role, as outlined in *resolves* 1, 2, 3, and 4 above, in accordance with the appropriate roadmaps;

2 to continue to coordinate, with the WSIS Task Force, the activities related to the implementation of WSIS outcomes and achievement of 2030 agenda for sustainable development for implementing *resolves* 1, 2, 3, and 4 above, with the aim of avoiding duplication of work among the ITU Bureaux and General Secretariat;

3 to continue to raise public awareness of the Union's mandate, role and activities and provide broader access to the Union's resources for the general public and other actors involved in the emerging information society;

4 to formulate specific tasks and deadlines for implementing the action lines referred to above, and incorporate them in the operational plans of the General Secretariat and the Sectors;

5 to report annually to the Council on the activities undertaken on these subjects, including their financial implications;

6 to prepare and submit a progress report on the ITU activities for the implementation of WSIS and the achievement of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to the next plenipotentiary conference in 2022;

7 to ensure that ITU participates actively, through the provision of its expertise and competency, in the UNGA overall review, in accordance with the modalities established by UNGA Resolution 68/302,

instructs the Directors of the Bureaux

to ensure that concrete objectives and deadlines (using results-based management processes) are developed for the implementation of WSIS outcomes and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and reflected in the operational plans of each Sector,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to follow, as soon as possible and in accordance with Resolution 30 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), a partnership approach in ITU‑D activities related to its roles in the implementation and follow-up of the WSIS outcomes and the achievement of SDGs,with particular attention to the needs of developing countries, in accordance with the provisions of the ITU Constitution and ITU Convention, and to report annually, as appropriate, to the Council,

requests the Council

1 to oversee, consider and discuss, as appropriate, ITU's implementation of the WSIS outcomes and related ITU activities, and, within the financial limits set by the Plenipotentiary Conference, to make resources available as appropriate;

2 to oversee ITU's adaptation to the information society, in line with *resolves* 5 above;

3 to maintain CWG-WSIS, in order to facilitate membership input and guidance on the ITU implementation of relevant WSIS outcomes and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to elaborate, in collaboration with other Council working groups, proposals to the Council that may be necessary for adapting ITU to its role in building the information society, with the assistance of the WSIS Task Force, these proposals possibly including amendments to the Constitution and the Convention;

4 to take into account the relevant UNGA decisions with regard to the overall review of implementation of the WSIS outcomes;

5 to include the report of the Secretary-General in the documents sent to Member States in accordance with No. 81 of the Convention;

6 to take all necessary measures, as appropriate, in follow-up to the results of the UNGA overall review of the implementation of the WSIS outcomes, within the financial limits set by the Plenipotentiary Conference;

7 to encourage the participation of the ITU membership and other relevant stakeholders in ITU's activities that support the implementation of WSIS implementation outcomes and the achievement of SDGs, as appropriate,

invites Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia

1 to participate actively in implementing WSIS outcomes, contribute to the WSIS Forum and WSIS Stocktaking database maintained by ITU and the WSIS Project Prizes, and participate actively in the activities of CWG-WSIS and in ITU's further adaptation to the information society;

2 to support, through relevant United Nations processes, the creation of synergies and institutional linkages between WSIS and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, so as to continue strengthening the impact of ICT for sustainable development and its contribution towards the development of digital economy;

3 to make voluntary contributions to the special trust fund set up by ITU to support activities relating to the implementation of WSIS outcomes;

4 to continue to contribute information on their activities to the public WSIS Stocktaking database maintained by ITU;

5 to contribute to and closely collaborate with the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development as an international, multistakeholder initiative to improve the availability and quality of ICT data and indicators, particularly in developing countries,

resolves to express

1 its warmest thanks and deepest gratitude to the Governments of Switzerland and Tunisia for having hosted the two phases of the Summit in close collaboration with ITU, UNESCO, UNCTAD and other relevant United Nations agencies;

2 its appreciation for the WSIS+10 High-Level Event, coordinated and hosted by ITU and co‑organized by ITU, UNESCO, UNCTAD and UNDP with the engagement of other United Nations agencies.

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| **Proposal ACP/64A1/18 - Summary:** The digital economy is developing rapidly worldwide and acknowledged to be a key enabler in transforming a nation into a digital society. In this development, Information and communication technologies (ICTs) forms the backbone of the digital economy and the ITU, as the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies – ICTs has a role in this development, within is given mandate. The role of credible conformity assessment is very crucial for all member countries, developed as well as developing countries. However, in reality many emerging technologies and its required equipment cannot be adopted by developing countries due to technical regulations that hamper the entry of telecommunications equipment and devices. Therefore, it is important to encourage ITU-T to establish and execute a testing laboratory recognition scheme and ITU Mark that complies with ITU-T Recommendations.APT Member Administrations would like to propose to modify *Resolution 177* *Conformance and Interoperability* to reflect the above statement. |

**INTRODUCTION**

The digital economy is developing rapidly worldwide and acknowledged to be a key enabler in transforming a nation into a digital society. In this development, Information and communication technologies (ICTs) forms the backbone of the digital economy and the ITU, as the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies – ICTs has a role in this development, within is given mandate.

Hence it is empirical to reflect the relevant key areas of the digital economy in **Resolution 177,** within the mandate of the ITU.

The role of credible conformity assessment is very crucial for all member countries, developed as well as developing countries. However, in reality many emerging technologies and its required equipment cannot be adopted by developing countries due to technical regulations that hamper the entry of telecommunications equipment and devices.

Therefore, it is important to encourage ITU-T to establish and execute a testing laboratory recognition scheme and ITU Mark that complies with ITU-T Recommendations

**PROPOSAL**

APT Member Administrations would like to propose to modify *Resolution 177* *Conformance and Interoperability.*

MOD ACP/64A1/18

RESOLUTION 177 (Rev. dubai, 2018)

Conformance and interoperability

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

recognizing

*a)* Resolution 76 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly;

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

*c)* Resolution 62 (Rev. Geneva, 2015) of the Radiocommunication Assembly;

*d)* that, at its 2013 session, the ITU Council updated the Action Plan for the Conformance and Interoperability (C&I) Programme initially established in 2012, the pillars of which are: 1) conformity assessment, 2) interoperability events, 3) human resource capacity building, and 4) assistance in the establishment of test centres and C&I programmes in developing countries[[36]](#footnote-36)1;

*e)* the progress reports made by the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB) to the Council at its 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014 sessions and to this conference,

noting

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

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 through seamless flow of data;

*b)* that technical training and institutional capacity building for testing and conformity are one of the essential tools for countries to promote global connectivity;

*c)* that ITU members may benefit from using the conformity assessment that many regional and national standards bodies already provide for conformity assessment, through mechanisms of collaboration with such organizations;

*d)* that a decision concerning the implementation of an ITU Mark would be postponed until pillar 1 (conformity assessment) of the Action Plan has reached a more mature stage of development (Council-12);

*e)* that MSMEs in ITU Member States requires access to affordable and interoperable technologies to facilitate their participation in the digital economy,

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. Hammamet, 2016), Resolution 62 (Rev. Geneva, 2015) and Resolution 47 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), and the Action Plan for the C&I Programme reviewed by the Council at its 2014 session (Document C14/24(Rev.1));

2 that this programme of work continue to be implemented, including the informative pilot conformity database and its development into a fully functioning database, in consultation with each region, taking into consideration a) the outcome and effect that the pilot conformity database may have on Member States, Sector Members and stakeholders (e.g. other standards-development organizations (SDOs)), b) the impact the database will have on bridging the standardization gap as relevant to each region, c) the potential liability issues for ITU and for Member States, Sector Members and stakeholders, and taking into account the results of regional ITU conformity and interoperability consultations;

3 to assist developing countries in establishing regional or subregional conformity and interoperability centres suitable to perform conformity and interoperability testing as appropriate and according to their needs,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

1 to continue consultations and assessment studies in all regions, taking into consideration the needs of each region, on implementation of the Action Plan endorsed by the Council, including, in collaboration with the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), the recommendations on human capacity building and assistance in the establishment of test facilities in developing countries;

2 to continue to carry out pilot projects for conformity to ITU‑T recommendations to increase the probability of interoperability in accordance with the Action Plan;

3 to enhance and improve standards-setting processes in order to improve interoperability through conformity;

4 to continuously update the Action Plan for the long-term implementation of this resolution;

5 to provide the Council with progress reports, including the results of studies, relating to the implementation of this resolution;

6 in cooperation with the Director of BDT, and based on the consultations in *instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau* 1 above, to implement the Action Plan agreed by the Council at its 2012 session and revised by the Council at its 2013 session,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, in close collaboration with the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau and the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

1 to advance the implementation of Resolution 47 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) and the relevant parts of the Action Plan, and to report to the Council;

2 to assist Member States in addressing their concerns with respect to non-compliant equipment;

3 to continue providing on-the-job capacity-building activities, in collaboration with recognized institutions and benefiting from the ITU Academy ecosystem, including activities related to preventing radiocommunication interference caused or received by ICT equipment,

invites the Council

1 to consider the reports of the Directors of the three Bureaux and to take all necessary measures so as to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of this resolution;

2 to report to the next plenipotentiary conference on the progress made with respect to this resolution;

3 to consider, after pillar 1 of the Action Plan has reached a more mature stage of development, the possible introduction of an ITU Mark, taking into account the technical, financial and legal implications;

4 to support the implementation of the ITU-T testing laboratories recognition procedure and make the list of recognized testing laboratories accessible for ITU members,

invites the membership

1 to populate the pilot conformity database with details of products tested to applicable ITU‑T recommendations in accredited test laboratories (first, second or third party), or by accredited certification bodies, or according to procedures adopted by an SDO or forum qualified in accordance with Recommendation ITU‑T A.5;

2 to participate in ITU-facilitated interoperability events and in the work of the ITU study groups related to conformity and interoperability issues;

3 to take an active role in building developing countries' capacity in conformity and interoperability testing, including through on-the-job training, particularly as part of any supply contract for telecommunication equipment, services and systems to these countries;

4 to support the establishment of regional conformity testing facilities, particularly in developing countries;

5 to participate in ITU assessment studies to promote the establishment of harmonized conformity and interoperability frameworks in the regions,

invites organizations qualified in accordance with Recommendation ITU‑T A.5

1 to participate in the ITU pilot conformity database activities and, sharing links on a mutual basis, to enrich its extent by referring to more recommendations and standards within a product, and to allow for more exposure of vendors' products and widen the portfolio of selection to the users;

2 to participate in developing countries' capacity-building programmes and activities facilitated by TSB and BDT, in particular offering opportunities for developing-country experts – particularly from operators – to gain on-the-job experience,

invites Member States

1 to contribute to the implementation of this resolution;

2 to encourage national and regional testing entities to assist ITU in implementing this resolution;

3 to adopt conformity-assessment regimes and procedures based on applicable ITU‑T recommendations, leading to better quality of service/quality of experience, and to higher probability of interoperability of equipment, services and systems,

further invites Member States

to contribute to the next radiocommunication assembly in 2019 in order for it to consider and take appropriate actions as deemed necessary with respect to C&I.

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| **Proposal ACP/64A1/19 - Summary:** ITU has formulated Child Online Protection guidelines, which provide important recommendations for the roles of the government, industry, teachers, parents in Child Online Protection, yet communities should also be involved in Child Online Protection efforts to identify new threats definition. Therefore this contribution aims to update and strengthen Resolution 179 (Rev. Busan, 2014) on ITU’s Role in Child Online Protection, to include the roles of communities and Civil Society Organizations (CSO). |

**INTRODUCTION**

Child Online Protection is a crucial issue for many countries worldwide. The development of telecommunication infrastructure has paved the way for global internet penetration, inclusive of households and communities, in which children are mostly brought up. Rapid internet adoption and penetration is not necessarily accompanied by awareness of parents, guardians, and communities concerning the many dangers of the internet towards children. 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, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and all other relevant United Nations resolutions regarding child online protection has been ratified by many countries, yet children are still exposed to many dangers on the internet. ITU has also formulated Child Online Protection guidelines, which provide important recommendations for the roles of the government, industry, teachers, parents in child online protection. However, no further references have been made for the involvement of the role of communities in Child Online Protection.

Therefore, to ensure Child Online Protection within all member states of ITU, APT members view that raising awareness on Child Online Protection is not only the responsibilities of parents, guardians, and teachers alone but also wider communities in a holistic socio-cultural approach. To raise awareness, various Child Online Protection socialization and campaigns must be conducted involving communities and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), to the fullest extent if possible. Furthermore, technological tools such as parental tools or other safety tools must be available and accessible by parents, guardians, teachers and communities.

**PROPOSAL**

APT Member Administrations would like to propose some revisions to Resolution 179 (Rev. Busan, 2014) on ITU’s Role in Child Online Protection, which is expected to promote and raise awareness on Child Online Protection by ITU members, as appears in the mentioned Resolution below.

MOD ACP/64A1/19

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,

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 and communities who have responsibility for children's activities may need guidance on protecting children online;

*e)* that child online protection initiatives always consider the empowerment of the child online and have due regard to an equal balancing of children's right to be protected from harm and their civil and political rights;

*f)* that there is an urgent need and global demand for the protection of children from exploitation and exposure to danger and deception when using the Internet or information and communication technology (ICT);

*g)* the growing development, diversification and spread of access to ICTs worldwide, in particular the Internet, and the increasingly widespread use thereof by children, at times with no control or guidance;

*h)* that, in order to address the issue of cybersecurity for children, it is critical that proactive measures be taken in order to protect children online at national, regional or international level;

*i)* the requirement for international cooperation and continued application of a multistakeholder approach in order to promote social responsibility in the ICT sector so as to effectively make use of the variety of tools available to build confidence in the use of ICT networks and services, reducing the risks for children;

*j)* that child online protection is a subject of valid international global interest and is listed in the priorities of the world community's global agenda;

*k)* that child online protection involves a national, regional and international collaborative network, in conjunction with other United Nations agencies and partners, for action to promote the online protection of children by providing guidance on safe online behaviour,

recalling

*a)* the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989), the Declaration of the Rights of the Child adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 20 November 1989 and recognized in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and all relevant United Nations resolutions regarding child protection and child online protection;

*b)* that, within the framework of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the States Parties undertook to protect the child from all forms of exploitation and sexual abuse, and for that purpose, in particular, to take all appropriate national, bilateral and multilateral measures to prevent a) the inducement or coercion of a child to engage in any unlawful sexual activity; b) the exploitative use of children in prostitution or other unlawful sexual practices; c) the exploitative use of children in pornographic performances and materials (Article 34);

*c)* that, pursuant to Article 10 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (New York, 2000) on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, the States Parties shall take all necessary steps to strengthen international cooperation by multilateral, regional and bilateral arrangements for the prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution and punishment of those responsible for acts involving the sale of children, child prostitution, child pornography and child sex tourism; and shall also promote international cooperation and coordination between their authorities, national and international non-governmental organizations and international organizations;

*d)* United Nations Human Rights Council Resolution 20/8, adopted on 5 July 2012, which stresses that "the same rights that people have offline must also be protected online";

*e)* that the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), in the Tunis Commitment of 2005 (§ 24), recognized the role of ICTs in the protection of children and in enhancing the development of children, urging Member States to strengthen action to protect children from abuse and defend their rights in the context of ICTs, emphasizing that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration; accordingly, the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society (§ 90q)) set forth the commitment to using ICTs as a tool to achieve the internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals, by, *inter alia*, incorporating regulatory, self-regulatory and other effective policies and frameworks to protect children and young people from abuse and exploitation through ICTs into national plans of action and e‑strategies;

*f)* that the ITU Council Working Group on International Internet-related Public Policy Issues (CWG‑Internet), whose role was established by the 2009 session of the Council, held an open consultation on protecting children and young people from abuse and exploitation in order to understand how, as one of the public policy issues, it will be discussed within the scope of CWG‑Internet;

*g)* Resolution 1306 adopted by the 2009 session of the Council, under which a child online protection working group was set up, with the participation of Member States and Sector Members, and its mandate was defined by the ITU members in close collaboration with the secretariat of the Union;

*h)* that, during the 2012 WSIS Forum held in Geneva, a meeting was held with associates of the Child Online Protection (COP) initiative, at which it was agreed to work closely with the Family Online Safety Institute (FOSI) and the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) to provide necessary assistance to Member States,

recalling further

*a)* that ITU is the moderator/facilitator for Action Line C5 (Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs);

*b)* that the COP initiative was presented to the High-Level Segment of the Council in 2008, where it was endorsed by the Heads of State, ministers and heads of international organizations globally;

*c)* that ITU, in collaboration with its COP members, has created four sets of guidelines for the protection of children in cyberspace, namely: Guidelines for children, Guidelines for parents, guardians and educators, Guidelines for industry and Guidelines for policy-makers;

*d)* that, despite technical difficulties that have made it impossible to establish a single globally harmonized number, as provided for in Supplement 5 to Recommendation ITU‑T E.164 (11/2009), the contributions that the different study groups of the Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU‑T) can make are very important in identifying practical solutions and tools to facilitate access to child online protection hotlines worldwide,

taking into account

*a)* the discussions and observations made at the meetings of the Council Working Group on Child Online Protection (CWG-COP);

*b)* the need to continue working at global, regional and national levels to find available technological, managerial and organizational solutions to protect children online, along with innovative applications to make it easier for children to communicate with child online protection helplines;

*c)* the activities undertaken by ITU in the area of child online protection at the national, regional and international levels;

*d)* the activities undertaken by many countries in recent years;

*e)* the call of the world's youth at the BYND2015 Global Youth Summit (San José, Costa Rica, 2013) for Member States to develop policies to make online communities safe and secure,

resolves

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

2 that ITU should continue providing assistance and support to Member States, especially developing countries[[37]](#footnote-37)1, in developing and implementing roadmaps for the COP initiative;

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

requests the Council

1 to maintain CWG‑COP, in order to facilitate the membership's input and guidance on ITU's role in child online protection;

2 to facilitate the contribution and participation of all relevant stakeholders in the work of CWG‑COP to ensure maximum collaboration in implementing this resolution;

3 to encourage CWG‑COP to conduct one-day online consultations for youth prior to its meetings in order to listen to their views and opinions on different matters related to child online protection;

4 to continue to make output documents related to child online protection issues publicly accessible without password protection,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to continue identifying those activities that are carried out by other United Nations organizations in this domain and to coordinate with them appropriately, with the objective of establishing partnerships to maximize and synergize efforts in this important area;

2 to coordinate ITU efforts with other United Nations agencies and entities concerned with this issue, in order to contribute to existing global repositories with useful information, statistics and tools concerning child online protection;

3 to continue the coordination of ITU activities with other similar initiatives being undertaken at the national, regional and international levels, in order to eliminate possible overlaps;

4 to bring this resolution to the attention of other COP members and of the United Nations Secretary-General, with the aim of increasing the engagement of the United Nations system in child online protection;

5 to submit a progress report on the results of implementation of this resolution to the next plenipotentiary conference;

6 to continue to disseminate the documents and reports of CWG‑COP to all international organizations and stakeholders involved in such matters, so that they can collaborate fully;

7 to encourage Member States and Sector Members to submit best practices on issues of child online protection,

instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux

1 to continue to coordinate those activities that relate to the implementation of child online protection with respect to the effective application of *resolves* 1, 2 and 3 above, in order to avoid overlapping among the activities of the ITU Bureaux and the General Secretariat;

2 to work on enhancing the COP page on the ITU website to make it more informative for all users, within the available resources,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to report to the Council annually, as appropriate, on the implementation of Resolution 67 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017);

2 to collaborate closely with CWG‑COP and CWG‑Internet in order to avoid duplication of effort and to gain the best possible outputs through the work on the relevant ITU‑D study questions and the regional initiatives relevant to protecting children online;

3 to coordinate with other similar initiatives being undertaken at national, regional and international level with the objective of establishing partnerships to maximize efforts in this important area;

4 to assist developing countries in drawing the greatest possible attention to the problem of child online protection;

5 to disseminate the guidelines created by ITU, in collaboration with COP partners, through the ITU regional offices and relevant entities;

6 to consider the needs of children with disabilities in current and future awareness campaigns undertaken in coordination with the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau and in cooperation with relevant stakeholders and interested countries,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

1 to encourage the study groups of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU‑T), within the framework of their specific competencies and considering new technological developments:

 i) to seek solutions including recommendations to help governments, organizations and educators minimize risk to children in cyberspace taking into account rapidly changing ICT landscape,

 ii) to explore the possibility of identifying practical solutions and tools that facilitate access to child online protection hotlines worldwide and to encourage Member States, for the time being, to foster the allocation of a telephone number on a regional basis for this purpose;

2 to encourage ITU‑T Study Group 2 to continue exploring the option of introducing a single global telephone number in the future, for child online protection;

3 to coordinate ITU-T efforts amongst the ITU-T study groups, and to liaise with ITU-R and ITU-D;

4 to assist ITU‑T study groups in their various activities related to child online protection, to be performed, as appropriate, in collaboration with other relevant bodies,

invites Member States

1 to join and continue participating actively in CWG‑COP and in the related ITU activities, for the purposes of a comprehensive discussion and exchange of best-practice information on legal, technical, organizational and procedural issues, as well as capacity building and international cooperation for protecting children online;

2 to develop information, to educate and to create consumer-awareness campaigns aimed at parents, teachers, industry and the population in general, in order to make children aware of the risks that may be encountered online;

3 to exchange information on the current state of legislative, organizational and technical measures in the area of child online protection;

4 to consider establishing frameworks for national child online protection;

5 to foster the allocation of specific numbers to service communications dedicated to child online protection;

6 to promote the use of parental or other safety tools that are available and accessible for parents, guardians, teachers and communities;

7 to involve communities and civil society organizations for COP initiatives, socialization and campaign;

8 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;

9 to establish mechanisms for collaboration among government offices and institutions working on this issue to gather statistical information on access of students to the Internet,

invites Sector Members

1 to participate actively in CWG‑COP and in other ITU activities, with the aim of informing the ITU membership about technological solutions for protecting children online;

2 to develop innovative solutions and applications to facilitate communication between children and child online protection hotlines;

3 to collaborate, within their respective areas of competence, in the dissemination of public policies and initiatives that are implemented for child online protection;

4 to work on developing different programmes and applications to increase parental and school awareness;

5 to inform Member States about modern technological solutions for child online protection, taking into account the best practices of the sector and of other relevant stakeholders,

invites Member States and Sector Members

to exchange information on practical methods of identifying and introducing the most effective technologies to contribute to greater child online protection.

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| **Proposal ACP/64A1/20 - Summary:** Taking in to account the decision of WRC-15 regarding spectrum allocation to enable global flight tracking and due to fulfilling the resolve of Resolution 185(BUSAN, 2014), the Asia Pacific Telecommunity proposes the suppression of Resolution 185 to PP-18.  |

**INTRODUCTION**

Since the disappearance and tragic loss of Malaysian Airlines Flight MH370 in March 2014, there was an urgent need to take effective action by the ITU and other relevant organizations particularly the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) to address the concerns of the global community to improve and enhance the safety of aircrafts. Hence, ICAO requested the ITU to allocate the necessary spectrum for emergency aviation requirements, and the PP-14 instructed WRC-15 to consider global flight tracking in its agenda. Since then, the ITU has considered many initiatives to improve flight tracking for civil aviation. Specifically, the ITU has allocated frequency spectrum for the reception of ADS-B signals from aircrafts by space stations which would enable real-time tracking of aircrafts anywhere in the world.

The World Radiocommunication Conference-2015 (WRC-15) allocated 1087.7-1092.3 MHz frequency band in the Earth-to-space direction to aeronautical mobile-satellite (R) service to enable transmissions from aircrafts to satellites. This extends ADS-B signals beyond the line-of-sight to facilitate reporting the position of aircrafts equipped with ADS-B anywhere in the world, including oceans, polar regions and other remote areas. The decision of WRC-15 enables real time tracking of aircrafts and enhances safety of aviation that fully implements Resolution 185.

Considering the decision of WRC-15 to allocated spectrum to aeronautical mobile-satellite (R) service as the objective of Resolution 185, it is proposed to suppress this Resolution.

**PROPOSAL**

In view of the above, APT Member Administrations propose to suppress Resolution 185:

SUP ACP/64A1/20

RESOLUTION 185 (Busan, 2014)

Global flight tracking for civil aviation

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

**Reasons:** Due to the spectrum allocation of frequency band 1 087.7-1 092.3 MHz for ADS-B signals for aeronautical mobile-satellite (R) service (Earth-to-space) in WRC-15 (RR 5.328AA), and in line with the resolve part of Resolution 185, it is not necessary to maintain this Resolution.

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| **Proposal ACP/64A1/21 - Summary:** The APT Member Administrations would like to introduce revisions to *Resolution 186 Strengthening the role of ITU with regard to transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities* |

ITU is played a key role in the global spectrum management and satellite orbits. ITU-R and the Radiocommunication Bureau (BR) ensure the rational, equitable, efficient and economical use of the radio-frequency spectrum by all radiocommunication services. During the application of the Radio Regulations, BR has taken a number of measures to resolve the long-standing and emerging issues in space services. It has benefited all ITU Member States in term of accessing to the spectrum resource.

It is very important for Administrations to follow the coordination and notification provisions of the Radio Regulations that is complicated to many countries. The Radiocommunication Bureau has conducted many efforts to provide support to ITU Member States e.g:

+ World/Regional Radiocommunication Seminar;

+ The list of bringing into use of satellite network frequency assignments;

+ International monitoring system in accordance with Article 16 of the Radio Regulations.

These efforts are indeed strengthen the role of ITU with regard to transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities. Due to the growth of radiocommunication networks, the continuation efforts of the Bureau is helpful for ITU Member states to apply the Radio Regulations.

**PROPOSAL**

APT Member Administrations would like to propose the following revisions to *Resolution 186* for the consideration of PP-18.

MOD ACP/64A1/21

RESOLUTION 186 (REV. DUBAI, 2018)

Strengthening the role of ITU with regard to transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities

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

recalling

Resolution 68/50, on transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 5 December 2013, together with the associated Report A/68/189,

noting

Resolution 37 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on bridging the digital divide,

considering

*a)* that ITU Member States rely, *inter alia*, on reliable space radiocommunication services, such as the Earth exploration-satellite service, radiocommunication satellite services, the radionavigation-satellite service and the space research service;

*b)* that one of the strategic goals of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector is "to ensure interference-free operations of radiocommunication systems by implementing the Radio Regulations and regional agreements, as well as updating these instruments in an efficient and timely manner through the processes of world and regional radiocommunication conferences";

*c)* that the World and Regional Radiocommunication Seminars is an effective way to provide the knowledge on the current regulatory framework for international frequency management and the ITU-R Recommendations and best practices regarding the use of spectrum for both terrestrial and space services;

*d)* that the Radiocommunication Bureau published the list of bringing into use of satellite network frequency assignments that help to enhance the transparency of spectrum and satellite orbit resources,

taking into account

Articles 15 and 16 of the Radio Regulations,

resolves

to encourage the dissemination of information, capacity building and the sharing of best practices in the use and development of radiocommunication satellite networks/systems, with the objectives of, *inter alia*, bridging the digital divide and enhancing the reliability and availability of the above-mentioned satellite networks/systems,

invites the ITU Council

to consider and review any proposed cooperation agreements on the use of satellite monitoring facilities consistent with the objectives of this resolution, in light of their strategic and financial implications, within the budgetary limitations of the Union,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to encourage all Member States to consider these matters in the context of Resolution 37 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017),

instructs the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau

1 to promote access to information, upon request by administrations concerned, related to satellite-monitoring facilities, in order to address cases of harmful interference in accordance with Article 15 of the Radio Regulations, through cooperation agreements referred to under *invites the ITU Council* above, within the budgetary limitations of the Union, in order to implement the objectives of this resolution;

2 to continue taking action to maintain a database on cases of harmful interference reported in accordance with relevant provisions of the Radio Regulations, in consultation with Member States concerned;

3 to continue the efforts to disseminate information and assist ITU member states in the application of coordination and notification provisions through ITU world/regional radiocommunication seminars, workshops, ITU-R publications, software and database;

4 to coordinate activities, if necessary, with the Directors of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau and the Telecommunication Development Bureau;

5 to report on the implementation of this resolution as appropriate,

invites Member States and Sector Members

1 to actively participate the ITU regional radiocommunication seminars and share the best practices;

2 to promote the development of training programmes to enhance its operators awareness of spectrum coordination and notification;

3 to consider promoting the cooperation agreements on the use of satellite monitoring facilities in order to address cases of harmful interference in accordance with article 15 of the radio regulations, within the budgetary limitation of the Union.

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| **Proposal ACP/64A1/22 - Summary:** The Internet of Things (IoT) has developed rapidly with the near ubiquitous availability of wireless networks and cheap processors. This development creates new opportunities for non-ICT sectors, particularly in health, agriculture, transport and energy. Additionally, IoTs has the potential to drive the growth of the digital economy in helping to achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) ITU, as the United Nations specialized agency for ICTs, needs to better promote and speed up IoT networks and applications globally. APT member Administrations would like to call upon the ITU to promote the development of IoT and its applications taking into account elements of the digital economy as well as to look into assisting developing countries in facilitating domestic growth of IoT and its applications. |

**INTRODUCTION**

Resolution 197 on “Facilitating the Internet of Things to prepare for a globally connected world,” which was first developed in the 2014 Plenipotentiary Conference, resolved to facilitate ITU in helping its members to exchange experiences and information with relevant organisations and entities working on Internet of Things (IoT) and IoT Services.

As a result, the ITU-T Study Group 20 (IoT and its applications including smart cities and communities SC&C) wasestablished in 2015 to implement this Resolution. In addition, the WTSA-16 sought to enhance the standardization of Internet of Things, Smart Cities and Communities for global development (Resolution 98). The WTDC-17 in Buenos Aires went further to adopt a new Resolution on facilitating the Internet of Things and smart cities and communities for global development (Resolution 85).

Meanwhile, ICTs today form the backbone of the digital economy and has enormous potential to progress the 17 goals of the SDGs and to improve and transform people's lives in fundamental ways.

Hence, it would be crucial the key areas of the digital economy such as enabling technologies, digital infrastructure, flow of information, coherence of regulatory approaches & holistic government policy frameworks, and interoperability be reflected in Resolution 197 on IoT.

**PROPOSAL**

APT Member Administrations would like to propose to amend Resolution 197 (Busan, 2014) to promote the development of IoT and its application, and to include key components of the Digital Economy into the Resolution within the mandate of the ITU.

MOD ACP/64A1/22

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),

recalling

*a)* Resolution 201 (Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on creating an enabling environment for the deployment and use of information and communication technology applications;

*b)* Resolution 66 (Geneva, 2015) of the Radiocommunication Assembly, on studies related to wireless systems and applications for the development of IoT;

*c)* Resolution 98 (Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, on enhancing the standardization of Internet of things and smart cities and communities for global development;

*d)* Resolution 85 (Buenos Aires, 2017) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on Facilitating the Internet of Things and smart cities and communities for global development,

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 represented by next generation networks and emerging technologies could cause the globally connected world to be realized faster than expected;

*d)* that IoT has been expected to play a fundamental role in the fields of energy, transportation, health, agriculture, disaster management, public safety and home networks, and could benefit developing countries[[38]](#footnote-38)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 the development and application of IoT have increased the number of devices vulnerable to cyber threats;

*g)* that, considering the limited financial and human resources in developing countries, special attention should be given to developing countries,

recognizing

*a)* that ITU-T Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) approved the establishment of ITU-T Study Group 20 in 2015;

*b)* that studies on IoT and its applications are being carried out in the ITU-T to develop Recommendations, such as in the Joint Coordination Activity on IoT and smart cities and communities (SC&C), and the ITU-T Study Groups, in accordance with their respective scope and mandates;

*c)* the “United for Smart Sustainable Cities” (U4SSC), which is a UN initiative coordinated by ITU and UNECE and supported by CBD, ECLAC, FAO, ITU, UNDP, UNECA, UNECE, UNESCO, UN Environment, UNEP-FI, UNFCCC, UN-Habitat, UNIDO, UNU-EGOV, UN-Women and WMO to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 11: "Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable";

*d)* that the implementation of Internet Protocol version six (IPv6) will contribute to the future development of IoT;

*e)* that development of IoT creates new opportunities in the non-ICT sectors, in particular, health, agriculture, transport and energy, supporting the growth of the digital economy and helping to achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted in Resolution 70/1 of the United Nations General Assembly,

bearing in mind

*a)* that interoperability is required in order to develop services enabled by IoT (hereinafter "IoT services") at the global level, to the extent practicable with mutual collaboration among relevant organizations and entities, including other standards-development organizations (SDOs) involved in developing and using open standards to the extent practicable;

*b)* that industry forums are developing technical specifications for IoT;

*c)* that the application of IoT is expected to encompass all sectors, including but not limited to energy, transportation, health, agriculture, etc.;

*d)* that IoT-related activities will encourage the participation of all relevant organizations or entities around the world to promote the early establishment and expansion of IoT,

resolves

to further promote investment in and development of IoT and its applications 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 its applications , 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 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

1 to continue the work of relevant ITU-T study groups on enabling IoT as a basic enabler capable of facilitating the emergence of diverse services in the globally connected world, in collaboration with relevant sectors, and to prepare a report considering, in particular, the needs of developing countries in terms of the study on IoT and its applications;

2 to continue cooperation with relevant organizations, including SDOs, for exchanging best practices and disseminating information to increase interoperability of IoT services, through joint workshops, training sessions, Joint Coordination Activity groups and any other appropriate means,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to encourage and assist those countries which need support in adopting IoT and its applications , by providing relevant information, capacity building and best practices to enable the adoption of IoT, through seminars, workshops, etc.;

2 to develop a toolkit to assist members in establishing national statistical framework which guides the collection and dissemination of data and statistics on the social and economic impact of the Internet of Things,

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 l,

invites Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia

1 to consider developing best practices to enhance the development of IoT and its applications;

2 to participate actively in studies on IoT and its applications in the Union through contributions and by other appropriate means;

3 to encourage enterprises in various industries to participate in ITU's activities on IoT and its applications.

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| **Proposal ACP/64A1/23 - Summary:** The Connect 2020 Agenda from the beginning was discussed and developed by ITU membership in full alignment with the process of the ITU Strategic Plan, and the New Resolution on Connect 2020 Agenda (Res. 200, Busan) was endorsed accordingly at the PP14, in Rep. of Korea.The ITU Member States have already proposed revisions to the Strategic Goals and Targets for the Union, as part of the process of development of the draft ITU Strategic Plan for 2020-2023. The proposed goals and targets were reviewed by the 2018 Session of Council, and have been forwarded to the upcoming Plenipotentiary Conference for adoption. These strategic goals support ITU’s role in facilitating progress towards the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. |

**INTRODUCTION**

The Connect 2020 Agenda was discussed and drafted by ITU membership via an open and transparent process, in full alignment with the process of development of the ITU Strategic plan 2016-2019, enabling the wide participation of key stakeholders. During the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference, held from 20 October to 7 November 2014, in Busan, Korea (Rep. of), Member States stated their national commitments towards the fulfilment of the common vision, goals and targets, set by the Connect 2020 Agenda and unanimously endorsed the new Resolution 200 (Busan, 2014).

Since the adoption of the agenda, the Connect 2020 Agenda was integrated into existing ITU events and platforms and the goals to connect the unconnected have also been recognized by and were aligned with several other initiatives, events and fora.

The key criteria for the new branding, from a strategic and communications perspective, are the following:

* To have a strong communications impact;
* Be communicated as one of the key outcomes of PP-18, as it was the case in PP-14;
* Be a priority for the organization for the next strategic planning cycle 2020-2023, and aligned with the ITU Strategic Plan 2020-2023 and the proposed 5 Strategic Goals and Targets;
* Be linked with the current Connect 2020 Agenda – in order to ensure continuity;
* Be aligned with the WSIS process, as well as the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.

**PROPOSAL**

APT Member Administrations would like to propose to amend Resolution 200 (Busan, 2014) for it to continue to reflect their common vision, goals and targets beyond 2020.

MOD ACP/64A1/23

RESOLUTION 200 (rev. dubai, 2018)

Connect 2030 Agenda for global telecommunication/information and communication technology 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 all Member States of the United Nations to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and related Targets, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in Resolution 70/1;

*c)* the call for close alignment between the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) process and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by 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 Geneva Plan of Action, with a timeline for 2015;

*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 ‘Connect 2020 Agenda for global telecommunication/ICT development’ agreed by ITU Member States at the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in Busan, Korea in 2014 initially adopted by Resolution 200 (Busan, 2014),

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 role of the ITU as a United Nations specialized agency to support Member States and to contribute towards the worldwide efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals,

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 key role of ICT and global interconnectedness recognized in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (UNGA Resolution 70/1), acknowledging that “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 WSIS outcome documents – the Geneva Plan of Action (2003) and the Tunis Agenda (2005);

*c)* the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the WSIS and the request made to the United Nations entities facilitating the WSIS Action Lines to review their reporting and work plans to support implementation of the 2030 Agenda, adopted by UNGA Resolution 70/125;

*d)* the outcomes of the Connect series summits (Connect Africa, Connect CIS, Connect Americas, Connect Arab States and Connect Asia-Pacific) under the Connect the World global multistakeholder initiative set up within the context of WSIS;

*e)* the Buenos Aires Declaration adopted by the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC‑17) 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. Busan, 2014) of this conference;

*f)*  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,

recognizing further

*a)* that telecommunications/ICT is a key enabler to accelerate social, economic and environmentally sustainable growth and development;

*b)* the need to sustain current achievements and intensify efforts in promoting and financing ICTs for development;

*c)* the global challenges of the rapidly evolving telecommunication/ICT environment, as identified in Annex 2 to Resolution 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2018),

resolves

1 to reconfirm the shared global vision for the development of the telecommunication/ICT sector, under the agenda "Connect 2030", 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 stipulated in PP Resolution 71 , inspiring and inviting all stakeholders and entities to work together to implement the ‘Connect 2030 Agenda’, contributing to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

3 to call upon Member States to continue leveraging telecommunications/ICT as a key enabler for achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to monitor the progress towards achievement of the ‘Connect 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 2030 Agenda’;

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

4 to present annual consolidated progress reports to the ITU Council; and 4-year 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 their 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 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 Targets of the ITU Strategic Plan 2020-2023, and report on the progress through the annual Measuring the Information Society report,

instructs the Council

1 to review the annual progress achieved towards the accomplishment of the ‘Connect 2030 Agenda’;

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

invites the Member States

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

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

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

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

5 to ensure that ICTs are central to the the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, by being leveraged as an important tool to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals;

6 to contribute to the work of ITU, as elaborated in the strategic plan for the Union for 2020-2023 in Annex 1 to Resolution 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2018), that contributes to the ‘Connect 2030 Agenda’,

invites Sector Members, Associates and Academia

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

invites all stakeholders

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

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| **Proposal ACP/64A1/24 - Summary:** The APT Member Administrations would like to introduce revisions to *Resolution 203 (Busan, 2014)* **Connectivity to broadband networks**of the Plenipotentiary Conference to include aspects on connectivity for Smart Sustainable Cities and Communities.  |

**INTRODUCTION**

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development calls for action to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable vide goal 11. While acknowledging the ongoing work in ITU in BDT (Resolution 85 WTDC 2017), in TSB (Resolution 98 WTSA 2016) and BR, there is a need for a focused mandate from Plenipotentiary conference on the work of Smart Sustainable Cities and Communities (SSCC). The resolution seeks for a comprehensive and integrated approach from ITU in developing policy, standards, spectrum requirements on this important subject where ICTs have an impacting role to play.

Broadband and ubiquitous connectivity is one of the important elements for the development of SSCC, hence, the resolution 203 is revised to reflect these areas for action.

**PROPOSAL**

APT Member Administrations would like to introduce revision to Resolution 203 for ITU to support Member States on Connectivity to Broadband Networks and Smart Sustainable Cities and Communities.

MOD ACP/64A1/24

RESOLUTION 203 (REv. dubai, 2018)

Connectivity to broadband networks and Smart Sustainable Cities & Communities (SSCC)

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

considering

*a)* the results of the extensive work of the United Nations Broadband Commission for Digital Development, the reports of which recognize, *inter alia*, that affordable and accessible broadband infrastructure, with appropriate policy and strategy, is a fundamental enabling platform that fosters innovation and drives the development of national and global economies and the information society;

*b)* that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development calls for action to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable vide goal 11;

*c)* Opinion 2 (Geneva, 2013) of the fifth World Telecommunication/Information and Communication Technology Forum, on fostering an enabling environment for the greater growth and development of broadband connectivity;

*d)* the overall theme of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (Buenos Aires, 2017), namely "ICT for Sustainable Development Goals” (ICT④SDGs;

*e)* the Resolution 77 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), on broadband technology and applications for greater growth and development of telecommunications/information and communication services and broadband connectivity, as well as revised Question 1/1, on Strategies and policies for the deployment of broadband in developing countries, and Question 1/2, on Creating the smart cities and society: employing ICTs for sustainable social and economic development;

*f)* Resolution 9 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC, on participation of countries, particularly developing countries, in spectrum management, and Resolution 43 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC, on assistance for implementing IMT and future networks,

noting

*a)* that broadband connectivity empowers families, people, societies and businesses;

*b)* that broadband connectivity has the potential to bridge the digital divide;

*c)* that broadband connectivity can play a major role in providing vital information during emergency events and disaster relief efforts;

*d)* that broadband and ubiquitous connectivity play an important role in the development of SSCCs;

*e)* that many administrations have developed national broadband plans to enable broadband connectivity;

*f)* that some administrations are working on developing Smart Sustainable Cities and Communities;

*g)* that broadband connectivity complimented by digital applications and services play an essential role in the entire digital ecosystem;

*h)* that the WSIS vision of an information society and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development cannot be achieved without embracing the principle of inclusiveness in providing broadband connectivity,

recognizing

*a)* that connectivity to broadband networks is directly and indirectly enabled and supported by many diverse technologies, including fixed and mobile terrestrial technologies and fixed and mobile satellite technologies;

*b)* that spectrum is essential both for the direct provision of wireless broadband connectivity to users by satellite or terrestrial means and for the underlying enabling technologies;

*c)* that broadband plays a vital role in transforming economies and societies, as stated in the open letter from the Broadband Commission to the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference (Busan, 2014),

further recognizing

*a)* Resolution 98 (Hamammet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, on enhancing standardization of the Internet of Things and smart cities and communities for global development;

*b)* Resolution 85 (Buenos Aires, 2017) of World Telecommunications Development Conference, on facilitating the Internet of Things and smart cities and communities for global development;

*c)* Respective study groups,

resolves to instruct the Secretary-General

within the mandate of ITU,

1 to assist Member states to facilitate the development of national strategies and the deployment of broadband networks, including wireless broadband networks;

2 to coordinate the development of integrated ICT strategies for Smart Sustainable Cities and Communities across all the three sectors;

3 to report annually to the ITU Council on the progress of the work;

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

resolves to instruct the Directors of the three Bureaux

to consider cross sectoral approaches in facilitating the development of SSCCs to ensure optimal use of resources in conducting studies, developing case studies, delivering capacity building programmes, reports & publications, testing pilots etc., taking into account existing budgetary constraints of the Union,

resolves to instruct the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to continue to work closely with the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau and the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau on capacity-building activities related to the development of national strategies to facilitate the deployment of broadband networks, including wireless broadband networks, taking into account existing budgetary constraints of the Union,

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

to work in cooperation with Sector Members involved in the provision of services and applications to people, families, businesses and societal functions in order to address the need for further improved broadband networks, including wireless broadband networks, and to share relevant information, experience and expertise with the Telecommunication Development Bureau,

invites Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia

1 to further reinforce and recognize the overall socio-economic benefits of connectivity to broadband networks and services;

2 to support the development and cost-effective deployment of wireless broadband networks as part of their national broadband strategies and policies;

3 to facilitate connectivity to wireless broadband networks as one important component of enabling access to broadband services and applications;

4 to facilitate the development of SSCC.

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| **Proposal ACP/64A1/25 - Summary:** The APT Member Administrations would like to introduce the new resolution of *ITU’s role in fostering ICT-centric Innovation to Promote the Development of Digital Economy*. |

**INTRODUCTION**

Digital economy is an increasingly important driver of global economic growth and plays a significant role in accelerating economic development, enhancing productivity of existing industries, cultivating new markets and industries, and achieving inclusive, sustainable growth. Strong, vibrant and connected information and communication technologies (ICTs) will enable a thriving and dynamic digital economy, which drives global growth and benefits for all.

Benefits brought about by the digital economy through ICTs is not equitable between developing and developed countries. As a specialized agency of UN, ITU has the duty and potential to utilize its core competence in ICTs innovation, which can help all the members to seize the opportunities brought by the digital economy.

It is crucial that ITU’s role in fostering ICT-centric innovation to promote the development of digital economy could be reflected in the new resolution, such as facilitating the innovation and deployment of ICT infrastructures and applications, promoting an enabling environment for SMEs, and collaborating with other related UN agencies and organizations for providing capacity building related to digital skills.

**PROPOSAL**

APT Member Administrations would like to propose a new resolution to highlight ITU’s important role in fostering ICT-centric Innovation, aiming to promote the development of digital economy.

ADD ACP/64A1/25

Draft New Resolution [ACP-1]

ITU’s role in fostering Telecommunication/ICT-centric Innovation to Promote the Development of Digital Economy

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

considering

*a)* paragraph 15 in the document A/Res/70/1 of the UN Assembly on the roles and potential of the information and communications technology (ICT) in accelerating human progress, bridging digital divide, and developing knowledge societies;

*b)* a series of actions and measures on promoting the development of digital economy have been put forward in the Buenos Aires Declaration and the Buenos Aires Action Plan adopted at the 2017 World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-17), related; and WTDC-17 resolutions (including Resolutions 16, 30, 43, 63 and 77 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017));

*c)* Resolutions 137, 139, 197, 199 and 201 of this Conference mentioned the core elements of promoting the development of digital economy;

*d)* the dual responsibilities of ITU as a UN specialized agency for telecommunication/ICTs and an executive body for implementing relevant projects under the UN development system,

noting

*a)* new emerging information communication technologies, which depend on robust network infrastructure, are the major driving forces for accelerating the sustainable growth of digital economy;

*b)* the Goal 9 in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: “build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation”,

bearing in mind

benefits brought about by the digital economy through ICTs is not equitable between developing and developed countries, both phases of WSIS made commitments to bridge the digital divide and transform it into a digital opportunity,

resolves

1 that the Union facilitate the innovation and deployment (methods and approaches) of ICT infrastructures and applications that support the development of digital economy;

2 that the Union consolidate all guidelines, recommendations, technical reports, best practices developed by all sectors, relevant to the digital economy, made effectively accessible to the developing countries[[39]](#footnote-39)1 to hasten the transfer of knowledge to narrow the development gap;

3 that the Union foster innovation and promote an enabling environment for SMEs to support the development of the digital economy;

4 that the Union collaborate with other related UN agencies and organizations for providing capacity building related to digital skills which would assist participation in the digital economy,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

1 to continue to organize and coordinate necessary study on standards and application of the emerging technologies, through study groups, forums, symposiums and other necessary manners in collaboration with other international standard development organizations;

2 to strengthen the participation of the SMEs in study groups and relevant ITU activities which promotes the digital economy,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to provide technical assistance and capacity building support to developing countries in developing telecommunication/ICT infrastructures;

2 to cooperate with other related international and regional organizations on enhancing the Digital Skills Toolkit including how to adapt to the development of digital economy;

3 to cooperate with other related organizations on the measurement of digital economy development, in terms of the measurement of telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, telecommunication/ICT access and use by households and individuals, including some indicators related to e-commerce and telecommunication/ICT skills,

instructs the Secretary-General

to coordinate cross-sectoral activities in the ITU and collaborate with other relevant UN agencies and stakeholders in implementing this resolution,

invites Member States

1 to promote widespread affordable access to telecommunication/ICT services by encouraging competition, innovation, private investment and public private partnerships;

2 to encourage public participation in telecommunication/ICT-centric Innovation through the promotion of national initiatives with the assistance of ITU, and enhance occupational and skill training,

invites Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia

to contribute by sharing their initiatives, experiences, qualifications and expertise on telecommunication/ICT-centric innovation, to promote the development of the digital economy.

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. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. International Telecommunication Union, About International Telecommunication Union (ITU): https://www.itu.int/en/about/Pages/default.aspx [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. International Telecommunication Union, Provisional Final Report of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-17) pg. 62 [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. 1 Such as contractual policy, succession planning, human resources training and development, etc. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. 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-7)
8. 1 "Gender perspective": Mainstreaming a gender perspective is the process of assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policies or programmes in all areas and at all levels. It is a strategy for making women's as well as men's concerns and experiences an integral dimension of design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation so that women and men benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated. The ultimate goal is to achieve gender equality. (Source: Report of the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality, third session, New York, 25‑27 February 1998) [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. 2 <http://www.unwomen.org/~/media/Headquarters/Media/Stories/en/unswap-brochure.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. 3 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. 1 [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. 2 Boxes and ticks demonstrate primary and secondary links to goals [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. Within the context of the Outputs of the ITU-D contribution to the ITU strategic plan, “products and services” refers to activities within the mandate of ITU-D as defined by Article 21 of the ITU Constitution, including, among others, capacity building and dissemination of ITU expertise and knowledge [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. Pending discussions at PP-18 [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. ITU SDG Mapping Tool: <https://www.itu.int/sdgmappingtool> [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. SDG indicators with a reference to ICTs are highlighted in bold. [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. International Telecommunication Union, About International Telecommunication Union (ITU): https://www.itu.int/en/about/Pages/default.aspx [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
18. International Telecommunication Union, Provisional Final Report of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-17) pg. 62 [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
19. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
20. 2 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-20)
21. 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-21)
22. 2 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
23. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
24. International Telecommunication Union, Provisional Final Report of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-17) pg. 62 [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
25. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-25)
26. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-26)
27. International Telecommunication Union, About International Telecommunication Union (ITU): https://www.itu.int/en/about/Pages/default.aspx [↑](#footnote-ref-27)
28. International Telecommunication Union, Provisional Final Report of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-17) pg. 62 [↑](#footnote-ref-28)
29. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-29)
30. 2 Africa, Americas, Arab States, Asia and the Pacific, Commonwealth of Independent States, Europe. [↑](#footnote-ref-30)
31. International Telecommunication Union, About International Telecommunication Union (ITU): https://www.itu.int/en/about/Pages/default.aspx [↑](#footnote-ref-31)
32. International Telecommunication Union, Provisional Final Report of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-17) pg. 62 [↑](#footnote-ref-32)
33. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-33)
34. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-34)
35. 1 Buenos Aires Declaration [↑](#footnote-ref-35)
36. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-36)
37. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-37)
38. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-38)
39. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-39)