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| **Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-22) Bucharest, 26 September – 14 October 2022** |  |
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| PLENARY MEETING | **Addendum 20 to Document 44-E** |
|  | **9 August 2022** |
|  | **Original: English** |
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| Member States of the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) | |
| ECP 22 - REVISION TO RESOLUTION 188: | |
| COMBATING COUNTERFEIT TELECOMMUNICATION/INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY DEVICES | |
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MOD EUR/44A20/1

RESOLUTION 188 (REV. bucharest, 2022)

Combating counterfeit telecommunication/information   
and communication technology devices

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Bucharest, 2022),

recalling

*a)* Resolution 177 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of this conference, on conformance and interoperability (C&I);

*b)* Resolution 47 (Rev. Kigali, 2022) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on enhancement of knowledge and effective application of ITU recommendations in developing countries[[1]](#footnote-1)1, including C&I testing of systems manufactured on the basis of ITU recommendations;

*c)* Resolution 79 (Rev. Kigali, 2022) of WTDC, on the role of telecommunications/information and communication technologies in combating and dealing with counterfeit and tampered telecommunication/information and communication devices,

recognizing

*a)* the noticeable growing sale and circulation of counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices in the markets, which have an adverse impact on governments, manufacturers, vendors and consumers;

*b)* that counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices may have a negative impact on security and quality of service for users;

*c)* that counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices often contain illegal and unacceptable levels of hazardous substances, threatening consumers and the environment;

*d)* that several countries have introduced some awareness-raising campaigns, practices and regulations in their markets in order to limit and deter counterfeit products and devices, which have had a positive impact, and that developing countries may benefit from these experiences;

*e)* that industry-led unique telecommunication/ICT device identifiers are limiting and deterring the use of counterfeit ICT devices;

*f)* that industry initiatives have been created to establish collaboration between operators, manufacturers and consumers;

*g)* that collaboration with industry is critically important and trying to replicate existing industry programmes could make it more difficult to combat counterfeit telecommunications/ICT devices;

*h)* that Member States, industry and other stakeholders face significant and different challenges in finding effective solutions to combat counterfeit devices, given the innovative and creative ways used by persons engaged in this illicit activity to evade enforcement/legal measures and the different environments in which they operate;

*i)* that the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Criminal Police Organisation, the World Customs Organisation and other international organisations provide relevant support to Member States;

*j)* that ITU's Conformity and Interoperability and Bridging Standardization Gap programmes are intended to help by bringing clarity to standardization processes and product conformity with international standards;

*k)* that providing interoperability, safety and reliability of telecommunication/ICT devices should be a key objective of ITU recommendations,

considering

*a)* that, in general, telecommunication/ICT devices that do not comply with a country's applicable national conformity processes and regulatory requirements or other applicable legal requirements should be considered unauthorized for sale and/or activation on telecommunication networks of that country, subject to the laws of that country;

*b)* that ITU and other relevant stakeholders have key roles to play in fostering coordination between the parties concerned in order to study the impact of counterfeit and tampered telecommunication/ICT devices and the mechanism for limiting their use and to identify ways of dealing with them internationally and regionally;

*c)* the importance of maintaining user connectivity,

aware

*a)* that governments play an important role in combating the manufacture and international trade of counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices by formulating appropriate strategies, policies and legislation;

*b)* that the private sector plays an important role in combating counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices by cooperating and sharing information internationally in order to identify and block such devices;

*c)* of the related work and studies in relevant ITU-T and ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) study groups that could assist in combating and dealing with counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices, in particular ITU‑T Study Groups 5, 11, 17 and 20 and ITU-D Study Group 2;

*d)* that tampering with (making unauthorized changes to) telecommunication/ICT devices, especially when replicating a legitimate identifier, may diminish the effectiveness of solutions adopted by the countries and industry to address counterfeiting;

*e)* that there is currently cooperation with other standards-development organizations (SDOs), the World Trade Organization (WTO), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Customs Organization (WCO) on matters related to counterfeit products;

*f)* that in promoting and adopting solutions there is a need to share best practice and build cooperation, confidence and trust among all stakeholders,

resolves to instruct the Directors of the three Bureaux

1 to assist Member States in addressing their concerns with respect to counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices, through information sharing, seminars and workshops, at regional or global level, including conformity assessment systems;

2 to raise awareness among Member States of the activities and the support available from industry and other organisations to combat counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices;

3 to assist all the membership, considering relevant ITU‑T recommendations, in taking the necessary actions to prevent or detect the tampering with (making unauthorized changes to) and/or duplication of unique device identifiers, interacting with other telecommunication SDOs related to these matters,

invites Member States

1 to take all necessary measures to combat counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices and to review their regulations;

2 to cooperate and exchange expertise among themselves in this area;

3 to support and encourage participation in industry programmes combating counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices;

4 to consider the support available from other relevant international organisations to combat counterfeit devices,

invites all the membership

1 to participate actively in ITU studies relating to combating counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices in the relevant ITU-T and ITU-D study groups;

2 to take the necessary actions to prevent or detect tampering with (making unauthorized changes to) unique telecommunication/ICT devices identifiers;

3 to raise awareness among consumers regarding the negative impacts of counterfeit devices;

4 to exchange best practices in this area,

further invites Member States and Sector Members

to bear in mind the legal and regulatory frameworks of other countries concerning equipment that negatively affects the quality of their telecommunication infrastructure and services, in particular recognizing the concerns of developing countries with respect to counterfeit equipment.

**Reasons:** Europe proposes to introduce new language on collaboration with industry and the importance of raising awareness of the support available to Member States from other international organisations to combat counterfeit devices.

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1. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition [↑](#footnote-ref-1)