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| Member States of the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) |
| ECP 3 - REVISION TO RESOLUTION 101: |
| Internet Protocol-based networks |
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RESOLUTION 101 (Rev. bucharest, 2022)

Internet Protocol-based networks

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

recalling

*a)* Resolution 101 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*b)* Resolutions 102, 130, 133, 180 and 197 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of this conference;

*c)* United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution 70/1, on transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

*d)* UNGA Resolution 70/125, on the outcome document of the UNGA high-level meeting on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS);

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

*f)* the WSIS+10 statement on the implementation of WSIS outcomes and vision for WSIS beyond 2015, which were adopted at the ITU-coordinated WSIS+10 High-Level Event (Geneva, 2014), based on the Multistakeholder Preparatory Platform (MPP) process, together with other UN agencies and inclusive of all WSIS stakeholders, were endorsed by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Busan, 2014) and were submitted to the UNGA overall review;

*g)* 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[[1]](#footnote-1)1 at both the regional and international levels;

*h)* Resolution 23 (Rev. Kigali, 2022) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on Internet access and availability for developing countries and charging principles for international Internet connection;

*i)* Resolution 69 (Rev. Geneva, 2022) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on non-discriminatory access and use of Internet resources;

*j)* Resolution 64 (Rev. Geneva, 2022) of WTSA, on Internet Protocol (IP) address allocation and facilitating the transition to and deployment of IPv6;

*k)* UNGA 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 regardless of age, gender, location, disability and taking into account persons with specific needs and members of marginalised groups, as well as women and children;

*b)* that one of the purposes of the Union is to promote and enhance participation of entities and organizations in the activities of the Union and foster fruitful cooperation and partnership between them and Member States;

*c)* 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;

*d)* that another purpose of the Union is to promote capacity building related to telecommunications/ICTs among member states, sector members, organisations and best practices in order to share information on the development and deployment of telecommunications,

considering

*a)* that UNGA Resolution 70/125 welcomed the remarkable evolution and diffusion of information and communications technologies, underpinned by the contributions of both the public and private sectors, which have seen penetration of these technologies into almost all corners of the globe, created new opportunities for social interaction, enabled new business models, and contributed to economic growth and development in all other sectors, while noting the unique and emerging challenges related to their evolution and diffusion;

*b)* that advances in the global information infrastructure, including the development of IP-based networks used for the Internet, and protocol developments, continue to be an issue of crucial importance, as an important enabler of achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as well as social, economic, environmental and cultural development in the twenty-first century;

*c)* that emerging telecommunications/ICTs will continue to transform both the Internet and overall achievement of the SDGs as well as increase global connectivity;

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

*e)* that the Internet permits the introduction of new services in telecommunication/ICTs based on its highly advanced technology, e.g. steady progress in adopting cloud computing, and that e-mail and text messaging, voice over IP, video and real-time TV (IPTV) over the Internet continue to record high levels of use, even though there are challenges, and that new services in telecommunication/ICT services are contributing to higher levels of social benefit and inclusion, providing new channels among citizens, businesses and governments to share and augment knowledge, as well as participate in decisions that affect their lives and work, and providing greater numbers of people access to services and data that might previously have been out of reach or unaffordable;

*f)* 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;

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

*h)* that Resolution 23 (Rev. Kigali, 2022) 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;

*i)* that Resolution 23 (Rev.  Kigali, 2022) of WTDC also recognized the requirement not only to deploy technical infrastructure “but also measures to promote availability of local content, applications and services, in a range of languages and at affordable prices, while providing access to remotely available content regardless of location”;

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

*k)* that Resolution 77 (Rev. Kigali, 2022) of WTDC recognized the work of the Internet Society (ISOC), the Internet Exchange Federation and the regional IXP associations and other stakeholders in support of the establishment of IXPs in developing countries in order to promote better connectivity;

*l)* 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;

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

*n)* that skills and literacy are essential for individuals to get the most out of Internet connectivity;

*o)* that greater international Internet connectivity narrows the digital divide for all citizens, but in particular for vulnerable groups in remote, rural underserved communities, as well as women and children;

*p)* that use of services and access to information supported by current and future IP-based networks and services can empower marginalised groups and persons with specific needs;

*q)* that investment and competition by the private sector are the primary drivers for telecommunications infrastructure development,

considering further

*a)* that the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector 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, its 2014 Dubai Action Plan and 2017 Buenos Aires Action Plan, and now its 2022 Kigali Action Plan which endorsed the continuation of these studies, through human capacity-building efforts such as its Internet training centre initiative;

*b)* that work is ongoing in other international entities and organizations with responsibilities in relation to IP-based networks, including but not limited to, the Universal Acceptance Steering Group, the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), the Regional Internet Registries (RIRs), in country code top-level domain (ccTLD) Regional Organisations, the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), the Internet Society, the Internet Exchange Federation and the regional IXP Associations to promote interoperability, standardization, the development and deployment of new applications and services and affordable international connectivity, particularly in developing countries;

*c)* that the general cooperation agreement between ITU‑T and 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 and opportunities of their development and deployment for ITU Member States, particularly the developing countries;

iv) support and advice available for ITU Member States, from the ITU and other entities and organizations with responsibilities in relation to IP-based networks, 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 and with stakeholders;

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

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

*e)* that the significance of interoperability and seamless transfer of data enabled by IP-based networks and other telecommunication networks is an important factor to enable growth of the economy, including the digital economy;

*f)* that IP-based networks and other telecommunication networks can foster sustainable development, and that policies in the field of telecommunications/ICTs should consider environmental challenges such as climate change mitigation,

requests the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector

to develop and strengthen its collaborative activities on IP-based networks with organizations with responsibilities in relation to IP-based networks, such as ICANN, the RIRs, the IETF, the Internet Society, the Internet Exchange Federation, the regional IXP associations 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, including strengthening collaboration with other entities and organizations as well as stakeholders for the benefit of ITU members, taking into account the impact and benefits of emerging telecommunications/ICTs,

resolves

1 to explore ways and means, in accordance with the Tunis Agenda, for greater reciprocal collaboration and coordination between ITU and relevant organizations involved in the development of IP-based networks and the future Internet, including, but not limited to, the Universal Acceptance Steering Group, 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) in the context of emerging telecommunications/ICTs, through cooperation agreements, as appropriate, and to promote greater participation by Member States in Internet governance, so as to ensure maximum benefits to the global community and promote affordable international connectivity;

2 that ITU shall fully embrace and promote 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 all and 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 including all stakeholders, 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 assist its membership to identify and access the advice and support that is available from other relevant entities and organisations, as appropriate, in order to promote the development and deployment of IP-based networks;

5 that ITU shall continue to collaborate with other relevant organizations and all stakeholders to ensure that growth in IP-based networks, along with and taking into consideration traditional networks, delivers maximum benefits to the global community, 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 Sustainable Development formed for this purpose;

6 to continue the study of international Internet connectivity as an urgent matter, as called for in § 50 d) of the Tunis Agenda (2005)*,* and to call upon ITU‑D, in particular Study Group 1, to provide guidance based on contributions of Member States and Sector Members on the support and best practice which is available from ITU-T, the Internet Society, the Regional IXP Associations;

7 to take into account the provisions of Resolution 23 (Rev. Kigali, 2022), 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, the deployment of IXPs, and the availability and cost of backhaul and long-haul physical infrastructure,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 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 UNGA Resolution 70/125, adopted by the General Assembly as the outcome document of its overall review of the implementation of WSIS outcomes;

2 to continue to raise awareness of the critical importance for sustainable development of affordable connectivity for all, including in the United Nations High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to provide capacity building to developing countries, including least developed countries, 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 and through collaboration and cooperation with entities and organizations with responsibilities in relation to IP-based networks;

2 to promote awareness among Member States and ITU members about the support available from ITU and from other relevant organizations to promote the development and deployment of IP-based networks;

3 to provide the necessary information and best-practice guidance related to the implementation of this resolution;

4 to coordinate actions to provide training and technical assistance with regard to the implementation of this resolution,

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 stakeholders 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;

3 to raise awareness of the critical importance for sustainable development of affordable connectivity to IP-based networks, including to the United Nations High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

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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)