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| **Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-22) Bucharest, 26 September – 14 October 2022** |  |
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| PLENARY MEETING | **Addendum 2 to Document 76-E** |
|  | **1 September 2022** |
|  | **Original: English** |
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| Member States of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL) | |
| IAP 02 - PROPOSAL TO MODIFY RESOLUTION 189 ON | |
| Assisting Member States to combat and deter mobile device theft | |
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**Abstract:**

It is proposed to modify PP Resolution 189 on “Assisting Member States to combat and deter mobile device theft” considering the update on the resolutions on the same topic discussed at WTSA-20 and WTDC-22.

MOD IAP/76A2/1

RESOLUTION 189 (REV. Bucharest, 2022)

Assisting Member States to combat and deter mobile device theft

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

recalling

*a)* Resolution 196 (Rev. [Dubai, 2018]) of this conference, on protecting telecommunication service users/consumers;

*b)* Resolution 174 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of this Conference, on ITU's role with regard to international public policy issues relating to the risk of illicit use of ICTs;

*c)* Resolution 97 (Rev. Geneva, 2020) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on combating mobile telecommunication device theft;

*d)* Resolution 84 (Rev. Kigali, 2022) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on the role of telecommunications/ICTs in combating and dealing with counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices;

*e)* Resolution 64 (Rev. Kigali, 2022) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on protecting and supporting users/consumers of telecommunication/ICT services,

considering

*a)* that the positive impact of mobile telecommunications, technological progress and development generated by all related services have made the increasing penetration of mobile telecommunication/ICT devices;

*b)* that thieves steal expensive personal commodities, including mobile devices;

*c)* that the widespread use of mobile telecommunications in the world has also been accompanied by a rise in the problem of mobile device theft;

*d)* that the act of mobile device theft can sometimes have a negative impact on the health and safety of citizens, on users' data and on their sense of security and confidence in the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs);

*e)* that some governments have implemented laws to make it illegal to modify unique identifiers in mobile devices;

*f)* that problems that occur around the crimes related to mobile device theft have become a worldwide issue, since these stolen devices may be of high monetary value and are often very easily resold on the international markets;

*g)* that the illicit trading of stolen mobile devices constitutes a risk to consumers and causes loss of revenue for the industry;

*h)* that some governments as well as industry have implemented regulations, law-enforcement actions, policies and technological mechanisms to prevent and combat mobile device theft;

*i)* that ITU can assist all members in the use of relevant ITU recommendations and play a positive role by offering all interested parties a platform for encouraging discussions, the exchange of best practices, industry cooperation to define technical guidelines and the dissemination of information on combating mobile device theft;

*j)* that most manufacturers of mobile devices and operating system vendors, as well as operators, offer solutions for consumers, such as free anti-theft applications and re-activation prevention tools, with the aim of reducing the rate of mobile device theft;

*k)* that it is important to find innovative solutions and adopt national, regional and global strategies to fight mobile device theft,

recognizing

*a)* that, in several regions, tampering with (making unauthorized changes to) or replication of mobile ICT device unique identifiers have become a means of unlawful use of stolen mobile devices;

*b)* that tampering with (making unauthorized changes to) identifiers adversely affects holders of genuine devices when their unique identifier is replicated in other devices and, as a result, the use of these genuine devices in the mobile networks is being blocked;

*c)* that it is important to adopt national, regional and worldwide strategies to fight mobile device theft;

*d)* that several Member States have adopted regulations with the aim of ensuring that mobile service providers generate and share information on stolen mobile device databases at national and international level, and that the implementation of these regulations may serve as a tool to stop the reuse of those devices;

*e)* that it is becoming important to continue searching for innovative solutions in order to deter mobile device theft,

concerned

that the rate of mobile device theft in some regions of the world remains high, despite efforts made in recent years,

aware

that manufacturers, operators and industry associations have been developing different technological solutions and governments have been developing policies and, in some cases, regulations to address the global problem of mobile device theft,

resolves

to explore and encourage the development of ways and means to continue to combat and deter mobile device theft and its negative effects, taking into account *considering d)* above,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, in coordination with the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau and the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

1 to compile and share information on best practices developed by industry or governments in combating mobile device theft, especially from regions where the rate of mobile phone theft has fallen;

2 to consult with the relevant ITU Radiocommunication Sector and ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector study groups, manufacturers of mobile devices, manufacturers of telecommunication network components, operators and other telecommunication standards-development organizations related to these matters, such as GSMA and 3GPP, in order to identify existing and future technological measures, both software and hardware, to mitigate the use of stolen mobile devices;

3 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 reduce mobile device theft and the use of stolen mobile devices in their countries, and also spread best practices in combating mobile device theft;

4 to share information and experiences about measures related to tampering (unauthorized changes) of mobile telecommunication/ICT identifiers and prevent tampered devices from accessing mobile networks,

instructs the Secretary-General

to report to the ITU Council, as appropriate, on progress of the work,

invites Member States and Sector Members

1 to contribute to the studies and experiences in this area;

2 to facilitate education and awareness initiatives, as needed, in order to reduce the use of stolen mobile devices by users;

3 to adopt measures to exchange information on the unique identifiers of devices reported as stolen or lost in other countries and regions, taking necessary actions to protect users' data, taking into account national and regional legal frameworks, and measures to block the use of these devices in their mobile networks;

4 to take the necessary actions to prevent, discover and control tampering (unauthorized changes) and replication of unique mobile ICT device identifiers, and prevent devices with tampered/replicated identifiers from accessing mobile networks and to share information and experiences on controlling, tampering of unique mobile telecommunications/ICT device identifiers;

5 to urge the industry and manufacturers of mobile devices to adopt measures to prevent the tampering with (making unauthorized changes to) mobile ICT identifiers.

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