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| **Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-22) Bucharest, 26 September – 14 October 2022** |  |
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| PLENARY MEETING | **Addendum 24 to Document 76-E** |
|  | **1 September 2022** |
|  | **Original: English** |
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| Member States of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL) | |
| IAP 24 - PROPOSAL TO MODIFY RESOLUTION 203 ON | |
| Connectivity to broadband networks | |
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**Abstract:**

Regarding connectivity over broadband networks, it is proposed to modify Resolution 203 “Connectivity to broadband networks”, aiming at:

* Streamlining the Resolution to better focus its content;
* Including the notion of complementary connectivity solutions, and their importance in the context of expanding broadband networks and connectivity in general;
* Emphasizing all possible technologies in the context of expanding connectivity, wired, wireless, stratospheric, and space-based, not just wireless networks.
* Emphasizing the role of members in creating an enabling environment for investment and expansion of connectivity, including through SMEs and complementary access networks and solutions.

MOD IAP/76A24/1

RESOLUTION 203 (REV. bucharest, 2022)

Connectivity to broadband networks

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

considering

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

*b)* 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;

*c)* 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;

*d)* Resolution 71 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of this conference, on the strategic plan of the Union for 2024-2027;

*e)* Opinion 1 (Geneva, 2021) of the sixth World Telecommunication/Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Policy Forum, on enabling environment for the development and deployment of new and emerging telecommunications/ICT services and technologies to advance sustainable development;

*f)* Resolution 77 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC, on broadband technology and applications for greater growth and development of telecommunication/information and communication services and broadband connectivity;

*g)* Resolution 9 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC, on participation of countries, particularly developing countries, in spectrum management, Resolution 10 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010) of WTDC, on financial support for national spectrum-management programmes, and Resolution 43 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC, on assistance for implementing international mobile telecommunications (IMT) and future networks, and Resolution ITU‑R 69-1 (Sharm el-Sheikh, 2019) of the Radiocommunication Assembly, on development and deployment of international public telecommunications via satellite in developing countries,

noting

*a)* that broadband connectivity empowers families, people, societies and businesses, playing a fundamental role for the social, economic, cultural and environmental development of society as a whole;

*b)* the importance of broadband connectivity for facilitating the delivery of a broader range of digital services and applications, promoting investment and providing Internet access at affordable prices to both existing and new users in underserved and unserved areas, and bridging the existing 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 connectivity is vital for social, economic, cultural and environmental development, and broadband plans, policies and strategies are important to support its deployment;

*e)* that broadband initiatives not only seek to bridge the digital divide but also foster broadband development in rural areas,

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 and 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);

*d)* that enabling a regulatory and policy environment that promotes innovation and investment as well as local initiatives and complementary access networks and solutions covering unserved and/or underserved areas can contribute to increasing broadband connectivity,

resolves

to work towards providing broadband access for all (which will contribute to bridging the digital divide),

instructs 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 that would enable countries to develop and implement their respective national strategies to facilitate the deployment of broadband networks, including wired, wireless, and space-based 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 wired, wireless, and space-based broadband networks, and to share relevant information, experience and expertise with the Telecommunication Development Bureau,

invites Member States

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 promote widespread affordable access to broadband;

4 to facilitate connectivity to satellite and terrestrial broadband networks, including enabling access to spectrum, as appropriate, as one important component of access to broadband services and applications, including to remote, underserved and unserved areas;

5 to foster an environment for improving and/or enabling the development and deployment of broadband infrastructure, including the review and updating, as necessary, of their regulatory and policy frameworks aiming at, inter alia, at stimulating innovative connectivity solutions, promoting digital literacy and the adoption and deployment of new technologies, leading to diverse and affordable offers to consumers;

6 to adopt inclusive and innovative policies to close the digital divide, taking into account local providers, complementary access networks and solutions, and other relevant actors in the connectivity expansion;

7 to contribute to ITU studies and share best practices that advance the quality, affordability, development and deployment of broadband networks, especially for unserved and underserved areas.

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