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| PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE | |
| DRAFT NEW RESOLUTION ON ITU'S ROLE IN PROMOTING THE DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF DIGITAL PLATFORM TO SUPPORT DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION | |
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**Abstract:**

Telecommunications have grown from a physical infrastructure that facilitates person-to-person communications to an enabling platform that underpins many human activities.

As a United Nations specialized agency for Telecommunications/ICTs, ITU is the leading organization in establishing mechanisms and developing the technical standards to ensure that digital infrastructures and technologies are seamlessly interconnected as an enabling digital platform for human activities in digital world.

In the context of the global innovation environment, the digital platform as "soft infrastructure" is now becoming an essential element in ecosystem development, introducing a physical reality into the world of electronic communications, goods, and services. The digital platform enables multi-directional network effects, value creation and plays a vital role in the digital transformation of the economy and society. Nowadays, digital platform is an essential component of the digital economy, with many potential capacities in connecting people and bridging digital gaps.

Keeping pace with the tendency of technological development and the need for socio-economic life, ITU needs to be more active by promoting its important role for the sustainable development of digital platform to achieve the success of global digital transformation and the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals of the UN.

ADD LAO/PNG/VTN/81/1

Draft New Resolution [LAO/PNG/VTN-1]

ITU’s role in promoting the development and use of digital platform to support digital transformation

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

recalling

*a)* Report of the UN Secretary-General Roadmap for Digital Cooperation in June 2020 to provide recommendations on how the international community could work together to optimise the use of digital technologies and mitigate the risks;

*b)* Resolution 204 (Dubai, 2018) on use of information and communication technologies to bridge the financial inclusion gap;

*c)* Resolution 205 (Dubai, 2018) on ITU's role in fostering telecommunication/information and communication technology-centric innovation to support the digital economy and society;

*d)* Resolution 123 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) on bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries;

*e)* Resolution 130 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) Strengthening the role of ITU in building confidence and security in the use of information and communication technologies;

*f)* Resolution 140 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) ITU's role in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as in their follow-up and review processes;

*g)* Resolution 201 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) on creating and enabling environment for the deployment and use of ICT applications;

*h)* The new 2022-25 Digital Strategy of UNDP to get ahead to the ever-evolving digital reality, equipped with the knowledge and tools to support partners at this time of rapid change;

*i)* The WSIS Action Line C6: Enabling Environment: Acting now: new and innovative policy and regulatory approaches for digital market development;

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

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

*l)* UNGA Resolution 68/220, on science, technology and innovation for development,

considering

*a)* that the pandemic has exacerbated inequalities, especially amongst migrants, persons with disabilities, women and girls, which lead to the urgent needs for universal digital inclusion, policies and programs to foster neutral acquisition of digital skills, as well as accessibility to ICT sectors and digital services and digital platforms;

*b)* that digital services are key drivers of economic growth, structural and sectoral resilience whether it is through legal, normative or political standards, integrated inter-sectoral frameworks are needed to foster collection, sharing and interoperability of data, leading in turn to an increased digitalization of services;

*c)* That ICTs strengthen sustainable trade through promoting inclusive, transparent and traceable value chains and international standards for electronic information exchange are an essential tool to overcome financial and technical gaps between different regions and a key driver to spur economic growth and strengthen cooperation;

*d)* that ITU's role in increasing access to and promoting development of telecommunications/ICTs contributes to the development of the digital transformation, ranging from high-level conferences to regional forum organized by ITU;

*e)* that the Union, among others, plays a fundamental role in providing global perspectives on the development of the information society as regards telecommunications/ICTs,

noting

*a)* that the benefits brought about by the digital transformation have mostly followed existing disparities between developing countries and developed countries;

*b)* that both phases of WSIS made commitments to bridge the digital divide and create digital opportunities,

recognizing

a) the essential role of telecommunications/ICTs to facilitate digital transformation and the development of the digital economy and help achieve the SDGs and other internationally agreed development goals;

b) the concept of digital transformation has become ever more important since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, and various stakeholders, including the United Nations (UN), has assisted countries in their respective capacities relying substantially on the digital component;

c) that developing countries would benefit from new services and applications enabled by the digital transformation provided by the emergence of key technologies, and from the building of the information society and progress towards sustainable development,

resolves

1 that the Union, within its mandate, is the leading organization in establishing mechanisms and developing the technical standards to ensure that digital infrastructures and technologies are seamlessly interconnected as an enabling digital platform for human activities in digital world;

2 that the Union, within its mandate, plays important role in the context of the global innovation environment, introducing a physical reality into the world of electronic communications, goods, and services,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to coordinate cross-sectoral activities in the Union and collaborate with other relevant United Nations agencies and stakeholders in implementing this resolution;

2 to prepare and submit a progress report on ITU activities related to this resolution to the next plenipotentiary conference in 2026;

3 to encourage the participation of SMEs in study groups and relevant ITU activities related to digital platform development,

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

1 to have an active collaboration to fulfill the needs of this resolution on areas of mutual interest related to digital platform development within the framework of the “One ITU” and enhacing coordination among the three sectors;

2 to take this resolution into account when carrying out activities in their respective sectors,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to facilitate efforts within the bureau, with the assistance of the regional offices, to promote digital platform in line with the bureau’s thematic priorities, regional initiatives, WSIS action lines, SDGs, study group questions and ITU-D projects;

2 to undertake studies and projects regarding policies and strategies on digital platform, enabling developing countries taking the full benefits of digital economy;

3 to continue and further develop ITU-D activities on digital platform including training programs and awareness campaigns, and to support global efforts in building capacity in digital platform development;

4 to assist member states, upon request, and within available resources, to develop national strategies in their respective digital platform development,

invites Member States

1 to promote widespread affordable access to digital services by supporting digital ecosystems, including digital platform through encouraging competition, innovation, private investment and public-private partnership;

2 to promote awareness and involvement of the public in development of digital platform through the promotion of national initiatives with the assistance of ITU;

3 to participate actively, in collaboration with other stakeholders, in the digital platform activities of the Union, while facilitating the participation of digital platform-related entrepreneurs, SMEs, start-ups and incubation;

4 to consider establishing policies/strategies that foster digital platform,

invites Sector Members, Associates and Academia

1 to contribute by sharing their experiences and expertise on fostering innovation and supporting the development of digital platform as described in this resolution;

2 within the framework of this resolution, to encourage the participation of digital platform-related entrepreneurs, SMEs, start-ups and incubation.

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