Geneva, 5 April 2013

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| **Telecommunication Standardization Bureau** |  |
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| Ref:  Tel:  Fax:  Email: | **TSB Circular 19**  TSBDIR  +41 22 730 5852 +41 22 730 5853 [tsbdir@itu.int](mailto:tsbdir@itu.int) | - To Administrations of Member States of the Union;  - To ITU-T Sector Members;  - To ITU-T Associates;  **Copy:**  - To the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of ITU-T Study Groups;  - To the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau;  - To the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau. |
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| **Subject:** | **Voluntary financial contributions for the work of ITU-T** |

Dear Sir/Madam,

In response to Resolution 34 “Voluntary Contributions”, revised by the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly at its meeting in Dubai 20-29 November 2012 (see Annex), I would like to appeal to you for voluntary contributions to fund activities of the ITU-T Sector.

The additional cost for the full implementation of the decisions taken at WTSA-12 is CHF 720k per annum as estimated by the WTSA-12 Budget Committee. This amount is not included in the draft budget for 2014-2015 (to be presented to the 2013 session of Council in June) due to the need to balance the budget without withdrawal from the reserve fund. Full implementation cannot be achieved with the current level of ITU-T resources as all possible efficiency savings have already been made. Additional resources, such as voluntary contributions, will therefore be necessary to fully deliver the mandated programme of activities resulting from WTSA-12.

Voluntary contributions can be used to fund specific projects or other new initiatives, including any activities which help achieve the objectives of WTSA Resolution 44 (“Bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries”). They can be given either in cash or in kind. As in the past, TSB will always check with the sponsor to make sure that the funds are used as intended.

Examples of what the Bridging the Standardization Gap (BSG) fund has been used for in the past are:

* Security Manual
* Handbooks/technical reports on:
  + Migration scenarios from legacy network to Next Generation Networks in developing countries
  + Applications of wireless sensor networks in Next Generation Networks
  + Technical manual on QoS for mobile networks
  + Access Networks
  + Future Networks
  + Mobility Management in ITU-T:  Its current development and next steps heading towards Future Networks
  + Multi-connection/Multi (M-RATs) Radio Access Technologies in NGN: Bridging Next Generation Networks with Mobile Future Networks with simultaneous connectivity
  + Accessible Digital Television – From Idea to Reality
  + Impacts of MTC and Non-MTC Mobile Data Applications on Mobile Networks
  + Production of Overvoltage Protection guide
* Two-week in-depth tutorial on fibre optics in Rwanda
* Funding of speakers’ participation and fellowships for participants from developing countries to attend ITU workshops in developing countries (some examples: Workshop on Conformance & Interoperability in November 2012, BSG Workshop in India in 2012, BSG workshop in Fiji, Moldova and Algeria in 2011, Malaysia in 2010)

Even if you are not in a position right now to provide voluntary funding, I would like to invite you to submit to me any projects or initiatives of interest for ITU‑T that you consider could be financed under voluntary contributions. Possible projects are:

* Development of e-learning courses on:
  + Recommendation ITU-T A.1 et al.
  + the roles of Rapporteurs and Editors
  + how to submit contributions
  + how to draft Recommendations
  + Technical ITU-T Recommendations
  + Intellectual Property Rights
* Development of implementation guidelines for new ITU-T Recommendations to enable developing countries to adopt them
* Development of technical reports / web based guides / applications on ITU-T Recommendations
  + Electromagnetic compatibility
  + Climate Change
  + e-Waste
  + Public-key infrastructure
  + Others
* Conduct a study on the role of innovation management and innovation stimulation programmes on bridging the standardization gap between the developed and developing countries
* Organise webinars during each Study Group meeting on topics of interest for developing countries, encouraging questions from the audience to be posted on the Standards Q&A website, sponsorship of webinars
* ITU workshops in developing countries (fellowships and costs for speakers)
* Translation of reports
* Fellowships to attend ITU-T meetings
* Provision of remote participation to ITU-T meetings
* Support of focus groups
* Support of regional groups
* Sponsorship of prizes for application challenges

I take this opportunity to thank again the sponsors that we have had in the past, especially Microsoft, Cisco, NSN and Korean Communications Commission who contributed to the BSG Fund.

Please give your kind consideration to this request which will help support ITU-T in fulfilling the ambitious programme agreed at WTSA-12 for the new study period 2013 – 2016, and let me know if you would like any further information.

Yours faithfully,

Malcolm Johnson  
Director of the Telecommunication  
Standardization Bureau

Annex: 1

ANNEX 1

RESOLUTION 34 (Rev. Dubai, 2012)

**Voluntary contributions**

*(Montreal, 2000; Florianópolis, 2004; Johannesburg, 2008; Dubai, 2012)*

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Dubai, 2012),

*considering*

*a)* Resolution 71 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the strategic plan for the Union 2012-2015, targeting ambitious strategic objectives in the activities of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU‑T);

*b)* Resolution 123 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, which invites Member States and Sector Members to make voluntary contributions to the fund for bridging the standardization gap;

*c)* Decision 5 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference and the annexes thereto, limiting expenditure of the Union for the period 2012 to 2015;

*d)* Resolution 44 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of this assembly, on bridging the standardization gap between developed and developing countries[[1]](#footnote-1)1, which describes the sources from which funds will be raised for the purpose of bridging the standardization gap,

*recalling*

*a)* that the ITU Constitution, Convention and Financial Regulations stipulate that the Secretary-General may accept voluntary financial contributions in cash or in kind, in addition to the regular contributions from the Member States, Sector Members and Associates;

*b)* that expenditures under voluntary contributions are outside the limits of expenditure set by ITU plenipotentiary conferences;

*c)* that important voluntary contributions made to ITU‑T in the past permitted ITU‑T to make significant progress in its work,

*considering further*

that voluntary contributions are valuable, rapid and efficient instruments in the financing of extra activities for the Sector,

*resolves*

1 to encourage the financing of specific projects, focus groups or other new initiatives, including any activities which help achieve the objectives of Resolution 44 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of this assembly, on bridging the standardization gap, by voluntary contributions;

2 to invite Sector Members and Associates to finance voluntarily the participation of developing countries, and in particular remote participation using electronic working methods, in ITU-T meetings and workshops;

3 to invite Member States, Sector Members and Associates from both developing and developed countries to submit to the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau projects and other initiatives of interest for ITU‑T to be financed under voluntary contributions.

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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)