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RESOLUTION 68 (Rev. Geneva, 2022)

The importance of industry engagement in the work of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector

(Johannesburg, 2008; Dubai, 2012; Hammamet, 2016; Geneva, 2022)

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Geneva, 2022),

considering

*a)* Article 1 of the ITU Constitution, on the purposes of the Union, one of which being 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 for the fulfilment of the overall objectives as embodied in the purposes of the Union;

*b)* Article 3 of the Constitution, on the rights and obligations of Member States and Sector Members, which states in No. 28A that Sector Members shall be entitled to participate fully in the activities of the Sector of which they are members;

*c)* Article 19 of the ITU Convention on the participation of entities and organizations other than administrations in the Union’s activities;

*d)* Resolution 14 (Rev. Antalya, 2006) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on recognizing the rights and obligations of all Sector Members of the Union, which provides further details regarding the rights and obligations of Sector Members, noting that these entities may participate in all activities of the Sector concerned, with the exception of formal votes and some treaty-making conferences;

*e)* Resolution 170 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the admission of Sector Members from developing countries[[1]](#footnote-1) to participate in the work of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector and the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T);

*f)* Resolution 122 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the evolving role of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), underlining the critical importance for Member States and ITU-T Sector Members working closely together, in a proactive, cooperative and forward-looking way, taking into account their respective responsibilities and objectives, in order to the promote the continued evolution of ITU-T;

*g)* Resolution 208 (Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference on appointment and maximum term of office of chairmen and vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups, which places considerable emphasis on selecting chairmen in particular on the basis of equitable geographic distribution and competence, including relevant professional knowledge and experience, as well as managerial skills,

bearing in mind

*a)* Goal 5 of the strategic plan of the Union for 2020-2023 (Resolution 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, which establishes the importance of partnerships and the need to foster engagement and cooperation among governments, the private sector, civil society, intergovernmental and international organizations, and the academic and technical communities;

*b)* Part 4 of the strategic plan (Implementation and evaluation), in Annex 1 to Resolution 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2018), which highlights the advantages of defining specific criteria for prioritizing among different activities and initiatives that the Union is willing to undertake, such as involvement in work in which ITU adds significant value;

*c)* that the unprecedented rate of development of new telecommunications/ICTs, with the need for standards to keep pace, and the convergence of telecommunication, computer, broadcasting and information technologies to create an expanding number of value-added and integrated communication systems have placed a premium on the role of the private sector in ensuring that ITU keeps pace with changes in the broader telecommunication/ICT landscape;

*d)* that in ITU-T, industry has offered its expertise to areas of work in which high value has been achieved,

recognizing

*a)* that since 2009 chief technology officer (CTO) and CxO meetings of high-level, private-sector executives have been organized by the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB) to discuss the standardization landscape, identify and coordinate standards priorities and ways to best address the needs of the private sector, the reports of which have been reviewed by the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG);

*b)* that TSAG, in advising the membership and the study groups on evolving strategic issues and performing a gap analysis for industry processes, has identified metrics and criteria that can be used to guide a strategy such as review of the engagement of industry in terms of contributions/attendance/leadership;

*c)* that, in order to measure industry’s impact on the overall achievement of the strategic goals of the Union in specific areas of ITU-T activity where significant added value has been achieved, the use of statistical analyses and metrics can be employed to monitor and assess progress of work in various ITU-T study groups;

*d)* that such analyses can be leveraged to focus resources into high-priority activities;

*e)* that the metrics and correlations show that industry participation has a clear impact on the value of ITU-T Recommendations in the market;

*f)* that there are other global standards development organizations (SDOs) carrying out work in similar areas and industry participants already devote resources to other SDOs,

*g)* that within the mandate, roles and responsibilities of WTSA, as a broad and inclusive forum where Member States and ITU-T Sector Members are able to discuss the future of ITU-T and consider the Sector’s overall structure and functioning and set goals for ITU-T, the engagement and participation of industry [should could] be enhanced,

noting

that these data-driven insights will be essential for forming a strategy to ensure that the structure of ITU-T is optimized for current and future work,

resolves to instruct the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

1 to encourage the enhanced participation of industry in the activities of the Sector;

2 to continue to organize and expand meetings for industry executives, e.g. that represent a diverse stakeholder view other than the current CTO/CxO group meetings, in order to assist in identifying and coordinating standardization priorities and subjects and to report to TSAG;

3 to organize a workshop where Member States and ITU-T Sector Members are able to discuss the future of ITU-T and consider the Sector’s overall structure and functioning and set goals for ITU-T;

4 to engage industry, including representatives from developing countries, to the maximum extent possible in the activities of ITU-T in line with relevant provisions of the Constitution, the Convention and relevant resolutions of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

5 to encourage Member States to support the participation of industry in the preparatory processes for WTSAs, particularly in discussions which reflect industry priorities, in accordance with WTSA Resolution 43 (Rev. Geneva, 2022),

invites the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group

1 to study how to create an effective and efficient mechanism that would improve industry engagement, including representatives from developing countries, and participation across the areas of ITU-T expertise;

2 to continue the analysis aimed at enhancing industry participation at the level of not only the study groups, but also the rapporteur groups, and in joint meetings with other international organizations;

3 to identify options for the establishment, under the auspices of TSAG, an industry-focused group whose objective is to identify key issues and actions to ensure continued and increased industry engagement in the work of ITU-T;

4 to conduct discussions with the leading companies in the standardization industry aimed at identifying proposals to enhance their participation in ITU-T activities,

invites the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

to assist the study groups and TSAG in the identification of further measures to enhance the participation of industry in the work of ITU-T,

invites Member States, Sector Members, Associates and other participants in the work of ITU-T

1 to provide contributions and proposals on how the engagement and participation of industry can be enhanced;

2 to encourage the engagement and participation of industry in ITU-T leadership positions in areas where technical expertise is essential as a key component for the sustainability of ITU-T in a highly competitive and diverse standardization ecosystem.

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1. *##Please insert standard footnote on developing countries* [↑](#footnote-ref-1)