

RESOLUTION 56 (Doha, 2006)

Creation of a new Question in Study Group 1 regarding access to telecommunication services for persons with disabilities

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

noting

- a) that access to telecommunication services for persons with disabilities is a recurring issue on the regulatory agenda of many Member States;
- b) that Resolution 20 (Rev.Istanbul, 2002) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference establishes that access to telecommunication technologies, facilities and services should be non-discriminatory,

considering

- a) that persons with disabilities face particular difficulties to access and use telecommunication services;
- b) that some countries have developed systems to allow persons with disabilities to have access to telecommunication services;
- c) that access to telecommunications for persons with disabilities should be equivalent to that of any other person with no disabilities;
- d) that technological developments can contribute to making telecommunication services viable and accessible for the community of persons with disabilities,

taking into account

- a) that enhanced access to telecommunication services by people with disabilities may contribute to their personal development and social integration, and improve their economic situation;
- b) that actions have been taken previously to make available information from countries where telecommunication services are provided to the community with disabilities;
- c) that the effort must be continued and strengthened so that access to telecommunications by people with disabilities becomes a reality in the mid-term in developing countries,

recognizing

- a) that the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector has the appropriate mechanisms within its respective study groups to carry out coordinated efforts on the subject of universal and non-discriminatory access to telecommunication services;
- b) that related work on user needs for persons with disabilities has been undertaken in the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector and in other organizations, which could be an important source of information,

recognizing further

that any action to be taken by the Telecommunication Development Bureau shall be consistent with the existing budgetary constraints established by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Marrakesh, 2002) and with subsequent decisions of the ITU Council,

resolves

to establish a new Question, to be developed by the appropriate study group, focused on analysis of strategies and policies for the promotion and development of systems that allow access to telecommunication services to persons with disabilities,

invites

Member States that participate in the study of this new Question to contribute with their own experiences regarding the implementation of solutions for affording persons with disabilities access to telecommunication services.
