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| PLENARY MEETING | **Addendum 1 to Document 55-E** |
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| African Telecommunication Union Administrations | |
| african Common Proposals for the Work of the Conference | |
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MOD AFCP/55A1/1

RESOLUTION 48 (Rev. DUBAI, 2018)

Human resources management and development

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union ( Dubai, 2018),

recognizing

No. 154 of the ITU Constitution,

recalling

*a)* Resolution 48 (Rev. Antalya, 2006) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on human resources management and development;

*b)* the strategic plan for the Union as described in Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, and the need for a highly skilled and motivated workforce to attain the goals contained therein,

noting

*a)* the various policies[[1]](#footnote-1)1 which impact on the ITU staff including, *inter alia*, the Standards of Conduct for the International Civil Service established by the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC), the ITU Staff Regulations and Staff Rules and the ITU ethics policies;

*b)* the adoption of a number of resolutions since 1996 by the United Nations General Assembly, highlighting the need for gender balance throughout the United Nations system;

*c)* Decision 517, adopted by the ITU Council at its 2004 session, on strengthening the dialogue between the Secretary-General and the ITU Staff Council;

*d)* Resolution 1253, adopted by the Council at its 2006 session, establishing the Tripartite Group on Human Resources Management, and the group's various reports to the Council concerning its achievements, such as the elaboration of the strategic plan, the establishment of an ethics policy, and other activities;

*e)* Resolution 25 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on strengthening the regional presence, and specifically on the importance of the role played by the regional offices in disseminating information on ITU's activities to its Member States and Sector Members;

*f)* the human resources strategic plan which was adopted by the Council at its 2009 session (Document C09/56) as a living document;

*g)* the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan on gender equality and the empowerment of women (UN-SWAP);

*h)* the ITU Human Resources Reporting and Statistics to the ITU Council 2018, noted that ITU developed a policy on gender equality in line Resolution 70. That aims at a common vision for the integration of a gender dimension in the organization;

*i)* Resolution 70 (Rev. Busan, 2014) the main resolution for gender equality in ITU foresees further efforts to accelerate the process of gender mainstreaming in ITU. It calls for the integration of a gender perspective in the implementation of the ITU strategic and the financial plan;

*j)* Resolution 55 (WTSA Dubai, 2012): mainstreaming a gender perspective in ITU-T Activities,

considering

*a)* the value of the human resources of the Union to the fulfilment of its goals;

*b)* that ITU's human resources strategies should emphasize the continued importance of maintaining a well-trained, geographically equitable and gender-balanced workforce, while recognizing budget constraints;

*c)* the value, both to the Union and to the staff, of developing those resources to the fullest extent possible through various human resources development activities, including in-service training and training activities in accordance with staffing levels;

*d)* the impact on the Union and its staff of the continuing evolution of activities in the field of telecommunications and the need for the Union and its human resources to adapt to this evolution through training and staff development;

*e)* the importance of human resources management and development in support of ITU's strategic orientations and goals,

*f)* the need to follow a recruitment policy appropriate to the requirements of the Union, including the redeployment of posts and recruitment of specialists at the start of their career;

*g)* the need to achieve equitable geographical distribution of appointed staff of the Union;

*h)* the need to facilitate the recruitment of more women in the Professional and higher categories, especially at the senior levels;

*i)* the need for ITU to increase strategic outreach in order to reach more qualified women around the world especially from developing countries;

*j)* the constant advances made in telecommunications and information and communication technology and operation and the corresponding need to recruit specialists of the highest standard of competence,

resolves

1 that the management and development of ITU's human resources should continue to be compatible with the goals and activities of the Union and with the United Nations common system;

2 that ICSC recommendations approved by the United Nations General Assembly should continue to be implemented;

3 that, with immediate effect, within available financial resources, and to the extent practicable, vacancies should be filled through greater mobility of existing staff;

4 that internal mobility should, to the extent practicable, be coupled with training so that staff can be used where they are most needed;

5 that internal mobility should be applied, to the extent feasible, to cover needs when staff retire or leave ITU in order to reduce staffing levels without terminating contracts;

6 that, pursuant to *recognizing* above[[2]](#footnote-2)2, staff in the Professional and higher categories shall continue to be recruited on an international basis and that posts identified for external recruitment shall be advertised as widely as possible and communicated to the administrations of all Member States of the Union and through the regional offices; however, reasonable promotion possibilities must continue to be offered to existing staff;

7 that, when filling vacant posts by international recruitment, in choosing between candidates who meet the qualification requirements for a post, preference shall be given to candidates from regions of the world which are under-represented in the staffing of the Union, taking into account the balance between female and male staff mandated by the United Nations common system;

8 that, when filling vacant posts by international recruitment and when no candidate fulfils all the qualification requirements, recruitment can take place at one grade below, on the understanding that since not all the requirements of the post are met, the candidate will have to fulfil certain conditions before being given the full responsibilities of the post and promotion to the grade of the post;

9 that it is important to assess the impact of the decisions taken under this resolution to ensure that it is delivering the expected outputs,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to ensure that human resources management and development help ITU achieve its management goals, taking into account the matters outlined in Annex 1 to this resolution;

2 to continue to prepare, with the assistance of the Coordination Committee, and in collaboration with the regional offices, and implement medium-term and long-term human resources management and development plans to respond to the needs of the Union, its membership and its staff, including the establishment of benchmarks within these plans;

3 to study how best practices in human resources management might be applied within the Union, and report to the Council on the relationship between management and staff in the Union;

4 to fully develop, in the near future, recruitment policies and procedures designed to facilitate equitable geographical and gender representation among appointed staff (see Annex 2 to this resolution);

5 to recruit, as appropriate within the available financial resources, and taking into account geographical distribution and balance between female and male staff, specialists who are starting their careers at the P.1/P.2 level;

6 with a view to further training in order to enhance professional competence in the Union, based on consultations with staff members, as appropriate, to examine and report to the Council how a programme of training for both managers and their staff could be implemented within the available financial resources throughout the Union;

7 to continue to submit to the Council annual reports on the implementation of the human resources strategic plan and to provide to the Council, electronically where possible, statistics related to the issues outlined in Annex 1 to this resolution, and on other measures adopted in pursuance of this resolution,

instructs the Council

1 to ensure that the necessary staff and financial resources are made available for addressing issues related to human resources management and development in ITU as they emerge, within approved budget levels;

2 to examine the Secretary-General's reports on these matters and to decide on the actions to be taken;

3 to allocate the appropriate resources for in-service training in accordance with an established programme, representing, to the extent practicable, a target of three per cent of the budget allocated to staff costs;

4 to follow with the greatest attention the question of recruitment and to adopt, within existing resources and consistent with the United Nations common system, the measures it deems necessary to secure an adequate number of qualified candidates for Union posts, particularly taking account of *considering* *b),c)* and *h)* above;

5 to set up a Working Group of the Council, to assess the impact of the actions and decisions mandated in this resolution in line with terms of reference contained in Annex 3.

ANNEX 1 TO RESOLUTION 48 (Rev. DUBAI, 2018)

Matters for reporting to the Council on staff issues, including staff   
in regional and area offices, and recruitment issues

– Alignment between the Union's strategic priorities and staff functions and posts

– Staff career and staff promotion policy

– Contracts policy

– Compliance with United Nations common system policies/recommendations

– Use of best practices

– Staff recruitment processes and openness

– Balance between external and internal recruitment

– Employment of persons with disabilities, including services and facilities for staff with disabilities

– Voluntary separation and early-retirement programmes

– Succession planning

– Short-term posts

– General characteristics of implementation of a human resources development plan indicating outcomes of work designed to "ensure effective and efficient use of human, financial and capital resources, as well as a safe and secure working environment that is conducive to work"

– Total staff development spend, including a breakdown by specific items of the development plan

– Analysis of the consistency of ITU's compensation package with the United Nations common system, with a view to examining all elements of staff compensation together with other human resources elements, in order to seek ways of reducing the burden on the budget

– Improvements to human resources services

– Performance evaluation and appraisals

– Staff in regional and area offices

– In-service training (with interruption of duties)

– External training (with interruption of duties)

– Geographical representation

– Gender balance

– Staff breakdown by age

– Social protection of staff

– Flexibility of working conditions

– Relationship between management and staff

– Workplace diversity

– Use of modern management tools

– Ensuring occupational safety

– Staff morale and measures to improve it

– Reflecting the views of all staff on various aspects of work and relations in the organization using surveys and questionnaires (as required) to collect data

– Conclusions and proposals based on the identification and analysis of strengths and weaknesses (risks) in regard to staff development in the Union and proposed modifications to the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules

– Measures related to facilitating the recruitment of women, as outlined in Annex 2 to this resolution

- Assessing the impact of implementation of this resolution.

ANNEX 2 TO RESOLUTION 48 (Rev. DUBAI, 2018)

Facilitating the recruitment of women at ITU

1 Within existing budgetary constraints, ITU should advertise vacancy notices as widely as possible to encourage employment applications from qualified and competent women.

2 ITU Member States are encouraged to put forward qualified female candidates, wherever possible.

3 Vacancy notices should encourage the submission of applications from women.

4 ITU recruitment procedures should be amended to ensure that, if the number of applications so allows, at every screening level, a minimum target of 33 per cent of all candidates moving forward to the next level are women.

5 Unless there are no qualified female candidates, every short-list of candidates presented to the Secretary-General for appointment must include at least one woman.

ANNEX 3 TO RESOLUTION 48 (REV. Dubai, 2018)

Assessing the impact of Implementation of Resolution 48 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)

1 The ITU Council 2018-2022 to set up a working group of the Council with the following Terms of References.

2 The Terms of References to include:

a) analyse the reports of the Secretary General in respect to gender balance and geographical representation for ITU recruitment;

b) analyse the impact of the actions so far taken by ITU in implementing PP-14 Resolution 14;

c) propose actions to improve recruitment of women and ensure geographical representation;

d) to identify and propose solutions for non representation of women in the Top eleven nationalities of Professional & higher categories in ITU;

e) to identify and propose solutions for non representation of developing countries in the Top eleven nationalities of Professional & higher categories in ITU;

f) produce a final report to the Council of 2020 on its work;

g) report to Council 2018-2022.

3 The Council working Group will work for a period of 36 months and is expected to produce its report in time for the ITU Council of 2021

MOD AFCP/55A1/2

RESOLUTION 70 (Rev. DUBAI, 2018)

Mainstreaming a gender perspective in ITU and promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women through information and communication technologies

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

recalling

*a)* the initiative taken by the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) at the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) in adopting Resolution 7 (Valletta, 1998), transmitted to the Plenipotentiary Conference (Minneapolis, 1998), which resolved that an ITU gender task force be established;

*b)* the endorsement of that resolution by the Plenipotentiary Conference in its Resolution 70 (Minneapolis, 1998), in which the conference resolved, *inter alia*, to incorporate a gender perspective[[3]](#footnote-3)1 in the implementation of all programmes and plans of ITU;

*c)* Resolution 44 (Istanbul, 2002) of WTDC, converting the task force on gender issues into a working group on gender issues;

*d)* Resolution 55 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, which encourages mainstreaming a gender perspective in the activities of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T);

*e)* Resolution 55 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC, resolving that the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) should maintain close links and collaborate, as appropriate, with the ITU Gender Task Force established in the framework of the ITU General Secretariat by the ITU Council in 2013 and with the Working Group on Broadband and Gender of the Broadband Commission for Digital Development, reciprocally supporting gender mainstreaming in the Union and joining forces to eliminate inequalities in access to and use of telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs), in the interests of building a non-discriminatory and egalitarian information society;

*f)* Resolution 1327 adopted by the Council at its 2011 session, on ITU's role in ICTs and the empowerment of women and girls;

*g)* ECOSOC Resolution 2012/24, on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system, which welcomed the development of the UN System-Wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-SWAP)[[4]](#footnote-4)2;

*h)* the Preamble to the WSIS+10 Statement on implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), which reaffirmed the importance of promoting and maintaining gender equality and women's empowerment, guaranteeing the inclusion of women in the emerging global ICT society, taking into account the mandate of the newly established agency UN Women, the recommendations of the High-Level Panel on the Post-2015 Development Agenda and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted at the fourth World Conference on Women in 1995,

noting

*a)* United Nations General Assembly Resolution 64/289, on system-wide coherence, adopted on 21 July 2010, establishing the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, which would be known as "UN Women", with the mandate to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women;

*b)* that the United Nations Chief Executives Board, in April 2013, advocated the United Nations system-wide "Action Plan to measure gender equality and the empowerment of women", under which ITU will participate in the dissemination, coordination and communication and networking activities that are part of the strategy;

*c)* the conclusions agreed at the 55th session of the Commission on the Status of Women of the United Nations, held in March 2011, regarding the access and participation of women and girls in education, training and science and technology

noting also

*a)* the decision of the Council at its 2013 session endorsing the Union's Gender Equality and Mainstreaming Policy (GEM), with the aim of becoming a model organization for gender equality and to leverage the power of telecommunications/ICTs to empower both women and men;

*b)* that ITU, in its strategic plan, includes gender issues with a view to debating and exchanging ideas to define, throughout the organization, a concrete action plan with deadlines and goals,

recognizing

*a)* that society as a whole, particularly in the context of the information and knowledge society, will benefit from equal participation of women and men in policy-making and decision-making on the one hand and equal access to communication services for both women and men on the hand;

*b)* that ICTs are tools through which gender equality and women's empowerment can be advanced, and are integral to the creation of societies in which both women and men can substantively contribute and participate;

*c)* that the outcomes of WSIS, namely the Geneva Declaration of Principles, the Geneva Plan of Action, the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, outlined the concept of the information society, and that continued efforts must be undertaken in this context to bridge the gender digital divide;

*d)* the WSIS+10 Statement on implementation of the WSIS outcomes states the need to ensure that the information society enables women's empowerment and their full participation on the basis of equality in all spheres of society and in all decision-making processes;

*e)* that there are a growing number of women in the telecommunication/ICT field with decision-making power, including in relevant ministries, national regulatory authorities and industry, who could promote the work of ITU so as to encourage girls to choose a career in the field of telecommunications/ICT and foster the use of ICTs for the social and economic empowerment of women and girls;

*f)* that there is a growing need to bridge the digital divide in order to empower women, with special attention to women in rural and marginalized urban areas who are subject to traditional constraints which reinforce discrimination,

recognizing further

*a)* the progress achieved in raising awareness, both within ITU and among Member States, of the importance of mainstreaming gender perspective in all ITU work programmes and of increasing the number of women professionals in ITU, especially at the senior management level, while at the same time working towards the equal access of women and men to posts in the General Service category;

*b)* the success of the international "Girls in ICT Day" organized by ITU, which is held every year on the fourth Thursday of April;

*c)* the recent launch of the Gender Equality Mainstreaming – Technology (GEM-TECH) Award, as a special award of ITU and UN Women for outstanding performers and role models in gender equality and mainstreaming in the area of ICTs;

*d)* the considerable recognition given to the work of ITU in gender and telecommunications/ICT within the United Nations family of organizations, including the GEM-TECH Award, awarded jointly by the United Nations and the Union to role models in the area of gender equality,

considering

*a)* the progress made by ITU, and in particular the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), in the development and implementation of actions and projects that use ICTs for the economic and social empowerment of women and girls, as well as in increasing awareness of the links between gender issues and ICTs within the Union and among Member States and Sector Members;

*b)* the results achieved by the Working Group on Gender Issues in promoting gender equality;

*c)* the study conducted by ITU-T on women in telecommunication standardization, exploring perspectives and activities related to mainstreaming a gender perspective in ITU-T and determining the degree to which women are active participants in all ITU-T activities,

noting further

*a)* that there is a need for ITU to study, gather data, analyse, build statistics, assess and evaluate effects and promote a better understanding of the impact of telecommunications/ICTs on gender equality;

*b)* that ITU should have a role in establishing gender-relevant indicators for the telecommunication/ICT sector that would contribute to reducing disparities in terms of access to and appropriation of ICTs and to national, regional and international mainstreaming of a gender perspective;

*c)* that more work needs to be done to ensure that the gender and equity perspective is mainstreamed in all ITU policies, work programmes, information dissemination activities, publications, study groups, seminars, workshops and conferences;

*d)* that there is a need to foster participation of women and girls in the telecommunication/ICT domain at an early age and to provide input for further policy developments in the required areas, so as to ensure that the information and knowledge society contributes to their empowerment;

*e)* the need for ICT tools and applications to empower women and facilitate their access to the job market in non-traditional fields,

taking into account

the amendments made in Resolution 48 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on human resources management and development, outlining procedures to facilitate the recruitment of women at ITU,

encourages Member States and Sector Members

1 to undertake further or new actions, promoting the commitment to mainstreaming the gender perspective in government, the public and private and sectors, academia and industry, for the purpose of promoting innovation in telecommunication/ICT learning on an equal footing for men and women so as to foster the empowerment of women and girls, with special emphasis on rural and remote areas;

2 to review and revise, as appropriate, their respective policies and practices so as to ensure that recruitment, employment, training and advancement of women and men alike are undertaken on a fair and equitable basis;

3 to facilitate the capacity building and employment of women and men equally in the telecommunication/ICT field, including at senior levels of responsibility in telecommunication/ICT administrations, government and regulatory bodies and intergovernmental organizations and in the private sector;

4 to review their policies and strategies related to the information society so as to ensure the inclusion of a gender perspective in all activities and the fostering of gender balance to secure equal opportunities through the use and appropriation of telecommunications/ICTs;

5 to promote and increase the interest of, and opportunities for, women and girls in telecommunication/ICT careers, with special focus on women and girls in rural areas, during elementary, secondary and higher education and lifelong education;

6 to attract more women and girls to study computer science, and acknowledge the achievements of leading women in relevant areas, particularly in innovation;

7 to encourage more women to take advantage of the opportunities offered by ICTs to establish and develop a business and to foster potential contributions to economic growth,

resolves

1 to continue the work being done at ITU, and particularly in BDT, to promote gender equality in telecommunications/ICTs by recommending measures at the international, regional and national level on policies and programmes that improve socio-economic conditions for women, particularly in developing countries[[5]](#footnote-5)3;

2 to accord high priority to the incorporation of gender policies in the management, staffing and operation of ITU, so that ITU can become a leading organization in the implementation of gender-equality values and principles to take advantage of the possibilities offered by ICTs to empower both men and women;

3 to incorporate a gender perspective in the implementation of the ITU strategic plan and financial plan for 2016-2019 as well as in the operational plans of the Sectors and the General Secretariat;

4 to have ITU compile and process statistical data from countries and draw up indicators that take into account gender issues and highlight trends in the sector, as well as the effects and impact of the use and appropriation of telecommunications/ICTs, broken down by gender,

5 To build on and consolidate past accomplishments by providing the necessary financial and human resources for the effective and sustained integration of a gender perspective in the development activities of ITU-D,

instructs the Council

1 to accord high priority to monitoring the implementation of the ITU Gender Equality and Mainstreaming Policy (GEM), so that ITU can become a model organization in terms of gender and leverage the power of telecommunications/ICTs to empower women and men;

2 to continue and expand on the initiatives carried out over the past eight years, and to accelerate the gender and equity mainstreaming process in ITU as a whole, within existing budgetary resources, so as to ensure capacity building and the appointment of women to senior-level positions, including ITU elected positions;

3 to examine the possibility for ITU, in close collaboration with relevant regional organizations, to take appropriate measures to establish a regional platform for women, devoted to using ICT in order to promote gender equality and empowerment of women and girls,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to continue to ensure that the gender perspective is incorporated in the work programmes, management approaches and human resources development activities of ITU, and to submit an annual written report to the Council on progress made in the implementation of the GEM policy, reflecting, with statistics broken down by gender, the distribution of women and men by category within ITU, as well as the participation of women and men in ITU conferences and meetings;

2 to ensure the inclusion of a gender perspective in all ITU contributions with respect to the priority areas that must be tackled for the implementation of WSIS beyond 2015;

3 to give particular attention to gender balance for posts in the Professional and higher categories in ITU, particularly in senior positions;

4 to give appropriate priority to gender balance when choosing between candidates who have equal qualifications for a post, taking into account geographical distribution (No. 154 of the ITU Constitution) and the balance between women and men;

5 to amend ITU recruitment procedures to ensure that, if the number of qualified and competent candidates so allows, at each recruitment stage, as a target at least one-third of the candidates who move up to the next stage are women;

6 to report to the next plenipotentiary conference on the results and progress made on the inclusion of a gender perspective in the work of ITU, and on the implementation of this resolution;

7 to make sure, unless there are no women among the qualified candidates, that each short-list submitted to the Secretary-General for appointment includes a woman;

8 to ensure gender balance in the composition of ITU statutory committees;

9 to establish an annual GEM prize for ITU members to recognize and commend individual contributions and examples of leadership to promote gender equality;

10 to organize training in mainstreaming the gender perspective for all staff;

11 to continue to support gender mainstreaming in cooperation with other relevant organizations, through special initiatives like the GEM-TECH Award, co-organized by ITU and UN Women;

12 to make efforts to mobilize voluntary contributions from Member States, Sector Members and others for this purpose;

13 to encourage administrations to give equal opportunities to women and men candidates for elected official posts and for membership of the Radio Regulations Board;

14 to encourage the launch of the "Global Network of women ICT decision-makers";

15 to announce a year-long call to action, with a focus on the theme "Women and girls in ICT";

16 to instruct the SG to bring Resolution 55, (Rev Buenos Aires 2017), to the attention of the UN SG, in an effort to promote increased coordination and cooperation for development policies, programmes and projects that link access to and use and appropriation of telecommunications/ ICTs and broadband for women and girls, taking into account the 2030 agenda for sustainable development ;

17 to support promotion of gender equality, empowerment and social and economic development of women and girls, taking into account the 2030 agenda for sustainable development goal 5.b;

18 to fulfil the obligations of submitting reports as required by UN-SWAP,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to continue promoting, among the other United Nations agencies, ITU Member States and Sector Members, the international “Girls in ICT Day”, which, since 2011, takes place every fourth Thursday of April, and during which telecommunication/ICT companies, other enterprises with telecommunication/ICT departments, telecommunication/ICT training institutions, universities, research centres and all telecommunication/ICT‑related institutions are invited to organize activities for girls and young women, as well as online training and/or workshops, day camps and summer camps, in order to promote and increase the interest of, and opportunities for, women and girls in telecommunication/ICT careers during elementary, secondary and higher education;

2 to call upon women's organizations and non-governmental and civil-society organizations throughout the world to join in the celebration of the international Girls in ICT Day, as well as to provide online training and/or workshops and day camps, among others;

3 to continue the work of BDT in promoting the use of telecommunications/ICTs for the economic and social empowerment of women and girls, helping them to tackle disparities and facilitating the acquisition of skills for life,

invites Member States and Sector Members

1 to make voluntary contributions to ITU to facilitate the implementation of this resolution to the fullest extent possible;

2 to observe annually the international Girls in ICT Day, held on the fourth Thursday of April, to share with BDT lessons learned from the Girls in ICT Day activities whenever necessary, and to invite ICT companies, other companies with ICT departments, ICT training institutions, universities, research centres and all ICT-related institutions to organize an open day for girls;

3 to actively support and participate in the work of BDT in promoting the use of telecommunications/ICTs for the economic and social empowerment of women and girls;

4 to actively participate in the launch of a "Global Network of women ICT decision-makers" aimed at promoting the work of ITU in using ICTs for the social and economic empowerment of women and girls, including by building partnerships and building synergies between existing networks at national, regional and international levels, as well as fostering successful strategies to improve gender balance at senior-level positions in telecommunication/ICT administrations, government, regulatory bodies and intergovernmental organizations, including ITU, and in the private sector;

5 [to highlight the gender perspective in the Questions under study in the ITU-D study groups and the programmes of the Buenos Aires Action Plan];

6 to further develop internal tools and programming guidelines in the area of promotion of gender equality in the use of ICTs;

7 to collaborate with relevant stakeholders that have significant experience in mainstreaming gender equality in projects and programmes, in order to provide specialized training for women on ICT use;

8 to provide support so that women and girls can have access to studies and careers in telecommunications/ICTs, by creating opportunities, fostering their incorporation into teaching and learning processes, and/or encouraging their professional training;

9 to support and/or promote the funding of studies, projects and proposals that contribute to overcoming gender inequalities, fostering and promoting telecommunications/ICTs to empower women and girls;

10 to nominate on an annual basis deserving organizations and individuals for the GEM-TECH Award.

**Reasons:** to promote increased coordination and cooperation with UN Agencies for development policies, programmes and projects that link access to and use and appropriation of telecommunications/ ICTs and broadband for women and girls and to take into account the 2030 agenda for sustainable development

MOD AFCP/55A1/3

RESOLUTION 130 (Rev. DUBAI, 2018)

Strengthening the role of ITU in building confidence and security in the use of information and communication technologies

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union ( Dubai, 2018),

recalling

*a)* United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution 68/198, on information and communication technologies (ICTs) for development;

*b)* UNGA Resolution 68/167, on the right to privacy in the digital age;

*c)* UNGA Resolution 68/243, on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security;

*d)* UNGA Resolution 57/239, on the creation of a global culture of cybersecurity;

*e)* the outcome documents of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event, containing the WSIS+10 Statement on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes and the WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015;

*f)* Resolution 174 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference;

*g)* Resolution 181 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*h)* Resolution 45 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on mechanisms for enhancing cooperation on cybersecurity, including countering and combating spam;

*i)* Resolution 140 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference;

*j)* Resolution 69 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC, on the creation of national computer incident response teams (CIRTs), particularly for developing countries[[6]](#footnote-6)1, and cooperation between them;

*k)* that ITU Council Resolution 1305, adopted at its 2009 session, identified the security, safety, continuity, sustainability and robustness of the Internet as public policy issues that fall within the scope of ITU,

considering

*a)* that the ITU‑coordinated WSIS+10 High-Level Event reaffirmed the importance of building confidence and security in the use of ICTs, as mentioned in relevant paragraphs of the WSIS+10 outcome documents (Geneva, 2014);

*b)* the crucial importance of information and communication infrastructures and their applications to practically all forms of social and economic activity;

*c)* that, with the application and development of ICTs, new threats from various sources have emerged, that have had an impact on confidence and security in the use of ICTs by all Member States, Sector Members and other stakeholders, including all users of ICTs, and on the preservation of peace and the economic and social development of all Member States, and that threats to and vulnerabilities of networks continue to give rise to ever-growing security challenges across national borders for all countries, in particular developing countries, while noting in this context the strengthening of ITU's role in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs and the need to further enhance international cooperation and develop appropriate existing national, regional and international mechanisms (for example, agreements, best practices, memoranda of understanding, etc.);

*d)* that the ITU Secretary-General has been invited to global or regional cybersecurity projects such as the Forum for Incident Response and Security Teams (FIRST), as appropriate, and all countries, particularly developing countries, have been invited to take part in their activities;

*e)* the ITU Global Cybersecurity Agenda (GCA), which encourages international cooperation aimed at proposing strategies for solutions to enhance confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs;

*f)* that, in order to protect these infrastructures and address these challenges and threats, coordinated national, regional and international action is required for prevention, preparation, response and recovery from computer security incidents, on the part of government authorities, at the national (including the creation of national computer incident response teams (CIRTs)), and sub-national levels, the private sector and citizens and users, in addition to international and regional cooperation and coordination, and that ITU has a lead role to play within its mandate and competencies in this field;

*g)* the need for continual evolution in new technologies to support the early detection of, and coordinated and timely response to, events or incidents compromising computer security, or computer network security incidents that could compromise the availability, integrity and confidentiality of critical infrastructures in ITU Member States, and for strategies that will minimize the impact of such incidents and mitigate the growing risks and threats to which such platforms are exposed;

*h)* that the number of cyberthreats and cyberattacks is growing, as is dependence on the Internet and other networks that are essential for accessing services and information;

*i)* that the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU‑T) has adopted around 300 standards relating to building confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

*j)* the final report on Question 22‑1/1 (Securing information and communication networks: Best practices for developing a culture of cybersecurity) of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU‑D),

recognizing

*a)* that the development of ICTs has been and continues to be instrumental for the growth and development of the global economy, underpinned by security and trust;

*b)* that the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) affirmed the importance of building confidence and security in the use of ICTs and the great importance of multistakeholder implementation at the international level, and established Action Line C5 (Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs), with ITU identified in the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society as moderator/facilitator for the action line, and that this task has been carried out by the Union in recent years, for example under GCA;

*c)* that WTDC‑17 has adopted the Buenos Aires Action Plan and its Objective 2, , on modern and secure telecommunication/ICT infrastructure: foster the development of infrastructure and services, including building confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICT and has also adopted Resolution 45 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), on mechanisms for enhancing cooperation on cybersecurity, including countering and combating spam, calling on the Secretary-General to bring the resolution to the attention of the next plenipotentiary conference for consideration and required action, and to report the results of these main areas of work to the Council and to the Plenipotentiary Conference in 2018, as appropriate; and Resolution 69 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), on the creation of national CIRTs, particularly for developing countries, and cooperation among them;

*d)* that the Buenos Aires Declaration adopted by WTDC-17 declares that: "that building trust, confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs as well as personal data protection is a priority, with the need for international cooperation and coordination between governments, relevant organizations, private companies and entities in building capacity and exchanging best practices for the development of related public policies and legal, regulatory and technical measures that address, inter alia, personal data protection, and that stakeholders should work together to ensure the reliability and security of ICT networks and services";e) that, to support the creation of national CIRTs in Member States where these are needed and are currently absent, the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) adopted Resolution 58 (Rev. Dubai, 2012), on encouraging the creation of national CIRTs, particularly for developing countries; and WTDC‑14 adopted Resolution 69 (Rev.  Buenos Aires, 2017), on the creation of national CIRTs, including CIRTs responsible for government-to-government cooperation, particularly for developing countries, cooperation among them; *f)* § 15 of the Tunis Commitment, which states: "*Recognizing the principles of universal and non-discriminatory access to ICTs for all nations, the need to take into account the level of social and economic development of each country, and respecting the development-oriented aspects of the information society, we underscore that ICTs are effective tools to promote peace, security and stability, to enhance democracy, social cohesion, good governance and the rule of law, at national, regional and international levels. ICTs can be used to promote economic growth and enterprise development. Infrastructure development, human capacity building, information security and network security are critical to achieve these goals. We further recognize the need to effectively confront challenges and threats resulting from use of ICTs for purposes that are inconsistent with objectives of maintaining international stability and security and may adversely affect the integrity of the infrastructure within States, to the detriment of their security. It is necessary to prevent the abuse of information resources and technologies for criminal and terrorist purposes, while respecting human rights*", and that the challenges created by this misuse of ICT resources have only continued to increase since WSIS;

*g)* that the ITU‑coordinated WSIS+10 High-Level Event identified several challenges in the implementation of the WSIS action lines that still remain and that will need to be addressed beyond 2015;

*h)* that Member States, in particular developing countries, in the elaboration of appropriate and workable legal measures relating to protection against cyberthreats at the national, regional and international levels, may require assistance from ITU in establishing technical and procedural measures, aimed at securing national ICT infrastructures, on request from these Member States, while noting that there are a number of regional and international initiatives which may support these countries in elaborating such legal measures;

*i)* Opinion 4 (Lisbon, 2009) of the World Telecommunication/ICT Policy Forum, on collaborative strategies for creating confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

*j)* the relevant outcomes of WTSA‑12, notably:

i) Resolution 50 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016), on cybersecurity;

ii) Resolution 52 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016), on countering and combating spam,

aware

*a)* that ITU and other international organizations, through a variety of activities, are examining issues related to building confidence and security in the use of ICTs, including stability and measures to combat spam, malware, etc., and to protect personal data and privacy;

*b)* that ITU‑T Study Group 17, ITU-D Study Groups 1 and 2 and other relevant ITU study groups continue to work on technical means for the security of information and communication networks, in accordance with Resolutions 50 and 52 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) and Resolutions 45 and 69 (Rev. Dubai, 2014);

*c)* that ITU has a fundamental role to play in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

*d)* that ITU‑D Study Group 2 continues to carry out the studies called for in ITU‑D Question 3/2 (Securing information and communications networks: Best practices for developing a culture of cybersecurity), which has been reflected in UNGA Resolution 64/211;

*e)* that ITU is also assisting developing countries in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs and supporting the establishment of CIRTs, including CIRTs responsible for government-to-government cooperation, and the importance of coordination among all relevant organizations;

*f)* that Council Resolution 1336, adopted at its 2011 session, established a working group of the Council on international Internet-related public policy issues (CWG-Internet), whose terms of reference are to identify, study and develop matters related to international Internet-related public policy issues, including those issues identified in Council Resolution 1305 (2009) such as security safety, continuity, sustainability and robustness of the Internet;

*g)* that WTDC‑14 adopted Resolution 80 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), on establishing and promoting trusted information frameworks in developing countries to facilitate and encourage electronic information exchanges between economic partners;

*h)* of Article 6, on security and robustness of networks, and Article 7, on unsolicited bulk electronic communications, of the International Telecommunication Regulations adopted by the World Conference on International Telecommunications (Dubai, 2012),

noting

*a)* that, as an intergovernmental organization with private‑sector participation, ITU is well-positioned to play an important role, together with other relevant international bodies and organizations, in addressing threats and vulnerabilities, which affect efforts to build confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

*b)* §§ 35 and 36 of the Geneva Declaration of Principles and § 39 of the Tunis Agenda, on building confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

*c)* that although there are no universally agreed upon definitions of spam and other terms in this sphere, spam was characterized by ITU‑T Study Group 2, at its June 2006 session, as a term commonly used to describe unsolicited electronic bulk communications over e‑mail or mobile messaging (SMS, MMS), usually with the objective of marketing commercial products or services,

bearing in mind

the work of the ITU established by Resolutions 50 and 52 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) and Resolution 58 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) Resolutions 45 (Rev. Dubai , 2014) and Resolution 69 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017); Objective 2 of the Buenos Aires Action Plan; the relevant ITU‑T questions on technical aspects regarding the security of information and communication networks; and ITU‑D Question 3/2,

resolves

1 to continue to give this work high priority within ITU, in accordance with its competences and expertise, including promoting common understanding among governments and other stakeholders of building confidence and security in the use of ICTs at national, regional and international level;

2 to give high priority to the work of ITU described under *bearing in mind* above, in accordance with its competencies and areas of expertise, and to continue to work closely, as appropriate, with other relevant bodies/agencies within the United Nations and other relevant international bodies, taking into account the specific mandates and areas of expertise of the different agencies, while being mindful of the need to avoid duplicating work between organizations and among the Bureaux or the General Secretariat;

3 that ITU shall focus resources and programmes on those areas of cybersecurity within its core mandate and expertise, notably the technical and development spheres, and not including areas related to Member States' application of legal or policy principles related to national defence, national security, content and cybercrime, which are within their sovereign rights, although this does not however exclude ITU from carrying out its mandate to develop technical recommendations designed to reduce vulnerabilities in the ICT infrastructure, nor from providing all the assistance that was agreed upon at WTDC‑17, including Objective 2 and in activities under Question 3/2;

4 to contribute to further strengthening the trust and security framework, consistent with ITU's role as lead facilitator of WSIS Action Line C5, taking into account Resolution 140 (Rev. Busan, 2014);

5 to continue to maintain, in building upon the information base associated with the "ICT Security Standards Roadmap" and the ITU‑D efforts on cybersecurity, and with the assistance of other relevant organizations, an inventory of national, regional and international initiatives and activities to promote, to the maximum extent possible, the worldwide harmonization of strategies and approaches in this critically important area,

instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux

1 to continue to review:

i) the work done so far in the three Sectors, under the ITU Global Cybersecurity Agenda and in other relevant organizations and initiatives to address existing and future threats in order to build confidence and security in the use of ICTs, such as the issue of countering spam, which is growing and on the rise;

ii) the progress achieved in the implementation of this resolution, with ITU continuing to play a lead facilitating role as the moderator/facilitator for Action Line C5, with the help of the advisory groups, consistent with the ITU Constitution and the ITU Convention;

2 consistent with Resolution 45 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), to report to the Council on activities within ITU and other relevant organizations and entities to enhance cooperation and collaboration, regionally and globally, to strengthen building confidence and security in the use of ICTs of Member States, in particular developing countries, taking into account any information provided by Member States, including information on situations within their own jurisdiction that could affect this cooperation;

3 consistent with Resolution 45 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), to report on memoranda of understanding (MoU) between countries, as well as existing forms of cooperation, providing analysis of their status, scope and how these cooperative mechanisms can be applied to strengthen cybersecurity and combat cyberthreats, with a view to enabling Member States to identify whether additional memoranda or mechanisms are required;

4 to facilitate access to tools and resources, within the available budget, required for enhancing confidence and security in the use of ICTs for all Member States, consistent with WSIS provisions on universal and non-discriminatory access to ICTs for all nations;

5 to continue to maintain the cybersecurity gateway as a way to share information on national, regional and international cybersecurity-related initiatives worldwide;

6 to report annually to the Council on these activities and to make proposals as appropriate;

7 to further enhance coordination between the study groups and programmes concerned,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

1 to intensify work within existing ITU‑T study groups in order to:

i) address existing and future threats and vulnerabilities affecting efforts to build confidence and security in the use of ICTs, by developing reports or recommendations, as appropriate, with the goal of implementing the resolutions of WTSA‑12, particularly Resolutions 50 and 52 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) and 58 (Rev. Dubai, 2012), allowing work to begin before a question is approved;

ii) seek ways to enhance the exchange of technical information in these fields, promote the adoption of protocols and standards that enhance security, and promote international cooperation among appropriate entities;

iii) facilitate projects deriving from the outcomes of WTSA‑12, in particular:

• Resolution 50 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016), on cybersecurity;

• Resolution 52 (Rev.  Hammamet, 2016), on countering and combating spam;

2 to continue collaboration with relevant organizations with a view to exchanging best practices and disseminating information through, for example, joint workshops and training sessions and joint coordination activity groups, and, by invitation, through written contributions from relevant organizations,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 consistent with the results of WTDC‑17 and pursuant to Resolutions 45 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) and Resolution 69 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), Resolution 80 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) and Objective 2 of the Buenos Aires Action Plan, to support ongoing regional and global cybersecurity projects, and to encourage all countries to take part in these activities;

2 upon request, to support ITU Member States in their efforts to build capacity, by facilitating Member States' access to resources developed by other relevant international organizations that are working on national legislation to combat cybercrime; supporting ITU Member States' national and regional efforts to build capacity to protect against cyberthreats/cybercrime, in collaboration with one another; consistent with the national legislation of Member States referred to above, assisting Member States, in particular developing countries, in the elaboration of appropriate and workable legal measures relating to protection against cyberthreats at national, regional and international levels; establishing technical and procedural measures, aimed at securing national ICT infrastructures, taking into the account the work of the relevant ITU‑T study groups and, as appropriate, other relevant organizations; establishing organizational structures, such as CIRTs, to identify, manage and respond to cyberthreats, and cooperation mechanisms at the regional and international level;

3 to provide the necessary financial and administrative support for these projects within existing resources, and to seek additional resources (in cash and in kind) for the implementation of these projects through partnership agreements;

4 to ensure coordination of the work of these projects within the context of ITU's overall activities in its role as moderator/facilitator for WSIS Action Line C5, and to eliminate any duplication regarding this important subject with the General Secretariat and ITU‑T;

5 to coordinate the work of these projects with that of the ITU‑D study groups on this topic, and with the relevant programme activities and the General Secretariat;

6 to continue collaboration with relevant organizations with a view to exchanging best practices and disseminating information through, for example, joint workshops and training sessions;

7 to support the work of SG17 and other ITU-T Study Groups by promoting and encouraging ITU Member States and Sector Members especially from developing countries to deploy approved security related ITU-T Recommendations;

8 to support ITU Member States in the development of their national and/or regional cybersecurity strategies toward building national capabilities for dealing with cyberthreats in accordance with the principles of international cooperation, consistent with Objective  2 of the Buenos Aires Action Plan;

9 to report annually to the Council on these activities and make proposals as appropriate,

further instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

each within the scope of their responsibilities:

1 to implement relevant resolutions of both WTSA‑16 and WTDC‑17, including the programme described in Objective 2 of the Buenos Aires Action Plan, on providing support and assistance to developing countries in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

2 to identify and promote the availability of information on building confidence and security in the use of ICTs, specifically related to the ICT infrastructure, for Member States, Sector Members and relevant organizations;

3 without duplicating the work under ITU‑D Question 3/2, to identify best practices in establishing CIRTs, to prepare a reference guide for the Member States and, where appropriate, to contribute to Question 3/2;

4 to cooperate with relevant organizations and other relevant international and national experts, as appropriate, in order to identify best practices in the establishment of CIRTs;

5 to take action with a view to new questions being examined by the study groups within the Sectors on the establishment of confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

6 to identify and document practical steps to strengthen security in the use of ICTs internationally, based on widely accepted practices, guidelines and recommendations that Member States can choose to apply to improve their ability to combat cyberthreats and attacks and to strengthen international cooperation in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs, taking into account the ITU Global Cybersecurity Agenda (GCA) and within the available financial resources;

7 to support strategy, organization, awareness-raising, cooperation, evaluation and skills development;

8 to provide the necessary technical and financial support, within the constraints of existing budgetary resources, in accordance with Resolution 58 (Rev. Dubai, 2012);

9 to mobilize appropriate extrabudgetary resources, outside the regular budget of the Union, for the implementation of this resolution, to help developing countries,

instructs the Secretary-General

pursuant to his initiative on this matter:

1 to report to the Council, taking into account the activities of the three Sectors, on the implementation and effectiveness of the action plan to strengthen the role of ITU in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

2 to cooperate with relevant international organizations, including through the adoption of MoUs, subject to the approval of the Council in this regard, in accordance with Resolution 100 (Minneapolis, 1998) of the Plenipotentiary Conference,

requests the Council

to include the report of the Secretary-General in the documents sent to Member States in accordance with No. 81 of the Convention,

invites Member States

1 to consider joining appropriate competent international and regional initiatives for enhancing national legislative frameworks relevant to the security of information and communication networks;

2 to closely collaborate in strengthening regional and international cooperation, taking into account Resolution 45 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), with a view to enhancing confidence and security in the use of ICTs, in order to mitigate risks and threats;

3 to support ITU initiatives on cybersecurity, including the Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI), in order to promote government strategies and the sharing of information on efforts across industries and sectors;

4 to inform the Secretary-General of relevant activities related to this resolution regarding confidence and security in the use of ICTs,

invites Member States, Sector Members and Associates

1 to contribute on this subject to the relevant ITU study groups and to any other activities for which the Union is responsible;

2 to contribute to building confidence and security in the use of ICTs at the national, regional and international levels, by undertaking activities as outlined in § 12 of the Geneva Plan of Action, and to contribute to the preparation of studies in these areas;

3 to promote the development of educational and training programmes to enhance user awareness of risks in cyberspace;

4 to collaborate, as appropriate, in order to address and prevent problems that undermine confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs.

**Reasons:** to harmonize with WTSA-16 and WTDC-17 revised resolutions on the same topic and to continue to maintain, in building upon the information base associated with the "ICT Security Standards Roadmap" and the ITU‑D efforts on cybersecurity, and with the assistance of other relevant organizations and stakeholders.

MOD AFCP/55A1/4

RESOLUTION 131 (Rev. DUBAI, 2018)

Measuring information and communication technologies to build an integrating and inclusive information society

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

aware

*a)* that technological innovation, digitization and telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) have the potential to achieve sustainability, while contributing to enhancing socio-economic development and quality of life;

*b)* that there is still an ongoing need to call for the promotion of knowledge and the development of skills in all populations in order to achieve greater economic, social and cultural development and to raise the standard of living of the world's citizens;

*c)* that each Member State is seeking to establish its own policies and regulatory frameworks based on ICT statistical data in order to narrow as effectively as possible the digital divide between those who have access to communication and information and those who do not,

recognizing

*a)* that the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) represented an opportunity to identify a global strategy for narrowing the digital divide from the development standpoint;

*b)* that the outcome of the global Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development has resulted in agreement on the identification of a set of basic indicators and a methodological framework for producing internationally comparable data for the measurement of ICT for development, as called for by § 115 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society;

*c)* that the WSIS+10 High-Level Event, in its WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015, highlights that: "*ICTs will play a critical role in achieving the sustainable development goals. Taking into account the ongoing dialogue on the Post-2015 Development Agenda (MDG review process) and the WSIS implementation process, all stakeholders have indicated the necessity of increased interaction between both processes in order to ensure that efforts across the UN system are coherent and coordinated to achieve maximum and sustainable impact"*,

considering

*a)* that the Geneva Plan of Action adopted by WSIS provides for the following: "*In cooperation with each country concerned, develop and launch a composite ICT Development (Digital Opportunity) Index. It could be published annually, or every two years, in an ICT Development Report. The index could show the statistics while the report would present analytical work on policies and their implementation, depending on national circumstances, including gender analysis*";

*b)* that key stakeholders, among which ITU (represented by the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D)), involved in the production of ICT statistics for measurement of the information society, joined forces to create a global Partnership for Measuring ICT for Development;

*c)* the contents of Resolution 8 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) as well as the Buenos Aires Action Plan, on collection and dissemination of telecommunication/ICT information and statistics, with particular emphasis on consolidation of information and statistical data by the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), in order to avoid duplication in this field;

*d)* that, through the Buenos Aires Action Plan, WTDC called upon ITU-D to:

– collect, harmonize and disseminate data and official statistics in the area of telecommunications/ICTs using a variety of data sources and dissemination tools, such as the World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators (WTI) database, the ICT Eye ITU online portal, the UN Data portal and others;

– analyse telecommunication/ICT trends and produce regional and global research reports, such as the Measuring the Information Society (MIS) report as well as statistical and analytical briefs;

– benchmark telecommunication/ICT developments and clarify the magnitude of the digital divide (using tools such as the ICT Development Index and the ICT Price Basket) and measuring the impact of ICTs on development and the gender digital divide;

– develop international standards, definitions and methodologies on telecommunication/ICT statistics, in close cooperation with other regional and international organizations, including the United Nations, Eurostat, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development, for consideration by the United Nations Statistical Commission;

– provide a global forum for discussing information society measurements for ITU members and other national and international stakeholders, by organizing the World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium and its related statistical expert groups;

– encourage Members States to bring together different stakeholders in government, academia and civil society in raising national awareness about the importance of production and dissemination of high-quality data for policy purposes;

– contribute to the monitoring of internationally agreed goals and targets, including the Millenium Development Goals (MDGs) and WSIS targets as well as the targets set by the Broadband Commission for Digital Development, and developing related measurement frameworks;

– maintain a leading role in the global Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development and its relevant task groups;

– provide capacity building and technical assistance to Member States for the collection of telecommunication/ICT statistics, in particular by means of national surveys, through the delivery of training workshops and the production of methodological manuals and handbooks;

*e)* the WSIS outcomes in relation to ICT indicators, especially the following paragraphs in the Tunis Agenda:

– § 113, which called for formulating appropriate indicators and benchmarking, among them indicators of ICT access and use, including community connectivity indicators, to clarify the magnitude of the digital divide, in both its domestic and international dimensions, and keep it under regular assessment, and track global progress in the use of ICTs to achieve internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including the MDGs;

– § 114, which recognized the importance of the development of ICT indicators for measuring the digital divide and noted the launch of the Partnership for Measuring ICT for Development;

– § 115, which noted the launch of the ICT Opportunity Index and the Digital Opportunity Index, based on the core indicators defined by the global Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development;

– § 116, which stressed the need to take into account different levels of development and national circumstances;

– § 117, which called for further development of these indicators, in collaboration with the global partnership, in order to ensure cost-effectiveness and non-duplication in this field;

– § 118, which invited the international community to strengthen the statistical capacity of developing countries[[7]](#footnote-7)1 by giving appropriate support at national and regional levels;

– § 119, in which a commitment is made to review and follow up progress in bridging the digital divide, taking into account the different levels of development among nations, so as to achieve the internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including the MDGs, assessing the effectiveness of investment and international cooperation efforts in building the information society, identifying gaps as well as deficits in investment and devising strategies to address them;

– § 120, which indicates that the sharing of information related to the implementation of WSIS outcomes is an important element of evaluation,

highlighting

*a)* the responsibilities that ITU-D had to assume as a result of the Tunis Agenda, especially its §§ 112 to 120 thereof;

*b)* that the Buenos Aires Declaration adopted by WTDC-17 declares that: "that measuring the information society and elaborating proper and comparable indicators/statistics, in sex-disaggregated form, as well as analysing ICT trends, is important for both Member States and the private sector with the former being able to identify gaps that need public policy intervention, and the latter, in identifying and finding investment opportunities, and that particular attention should be focused on tools for monitoring the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development";

*c)* that the WSIS+10 High-Level Event, in its WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015, states that: "*The evolution of the information society over the past 10 years is contributing towards, inter alia, the development of knowledge societies around the world that are based on principles of freedom of expression, quality education for all, universal and non-discriminatory access to information and knowledge, and respect for cultural and linguistic diversity and cultural heritage. When mentioning the information society, we also refer to the above-mentioned evolution and to the vision of inclusive knowledge societies*",

recognizing further

*a)* that, with a view to providing their populations with faster access to telecommunication/ICT services, many countries have continued to implement public policies for digital inclusion, including community connectivity in those communities that are poorly served with telecommunication facilities;

*b)* that the approach of achieving universal service through community connectivity and broadband access instead of seeking in the short term to ensure that all households have a telephone line has become one of the main goals of ITU;

*c)* that the ICT Development Index is considered as the most important indicator of the digital divide,

bearing in mind

*a)* that, in order to keep each country's public policy makers properly informed, ITU-D shall continue to strive to gather and periodically publish a variety of ICT statistics which provide some indication of the degree of progress in and penetration of telecommunication/ICT services in the different regions of the world;

*b)* that, according to the guidelines of the Plenipotentiary Conference, it is necessary to ensure as far as possible that the policies and strategies of the Union are fully in tune with the constantly changing telecommunication environment,

noting

*a)* that the Geneva Plan of Action adopted by WSIS identifies indicators and appropriate reference points, including indicators of ICT access and use, as elements for the follow-up and evaluation thereof;

*b)* that the single ICT Development Index (IDI) was developed by ITU-D and has been published annually since 2009;

*c)* that Resolution 8 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) instructs the Director of BDT, among other actions, to prepare and compile community connectivity indicators and to participate in the establishment of core indicators to measure efforts to build the information society and, by doing so, to illustrate the scale of the digital divide and efforts made by developing countries to reduce it,

resolves

1 that ITU, as a specialized agency of the United Nations, should spearhead the tasks of compiling information and statistical data on telecommunications/ICTs; data for evaluating ICT trends; and data for measuring the impact of ICTs in narrowing the digital divide, showing, to the extent possible, their impact on matters related to gender, persons with disabilities and the different social sectors, as well as social inclusion, resulting from access in the areas of education, health, and e-government, etc., including their influence on the development and quality of life of all persons, highlighting their contribution to progress and sustainable development;

2 that ITU should strengthen its coordination with other relevant international organizations involved in the collection of ICT data, and establish a standardized set of indicators through the Partnership for Measuring ICT for Development, improving the availability and quality of ICT data and indicators and fostering the development of strategies and national, regional and international public policy,

resolves to instruct the Secretary-General and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to take the measures necessary to enable ITU to carry out the tasks described in *resolves* 1 and 2 above;

2 to continue to promote the adoption of measures necessary to ensure that indicators of community connectivity and ICT access and use are taken into account in regional and world meetings convened for the purpose of evaluating and following up the Geneva Plan of Action and Tunis Agenda, also considering the WSIS+10 Statement on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes and the emergence of new challenges in achieving the development of an inclusive information society in the wider context of the Post-2015 Development Agenda;

3 to ensure that projects, while having highly different goals and scopes, take account of the data, indicators and indices for measuring ICTs for their comparative analysis and for measurement of their results, such as for example in the implementation of Resolution 17 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to continue to promote the adoption of the ICT statistics developed by ITU based primarily on official data provided by Member States, and to publish them regularly;

2 to promote the activities required to define and adopt new indicators, including e‑application indicators, for the purpose of measuring the real impact of ICTs on countries' development;

3 to promote efforts to disseminate the internationally agreed ICT methodologies and indicators;

4 in order to give full effect to Resolution 8 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), to maintain a group of experts on ICT indicators and statistics so that Member States develop existing indicators and systematically review their methodologies and definitions, commencing this review in accordance with Resolution 8 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), and, as appropriate, to formulate any other ICT indicators that may be required;

5 to continue to hold the World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium and expert meetings, periodically, with participation by all Member States, Sector Members, experts on ICT indicators and statistics, and others interested in measuring ICTs and the information society;

6 to give the necessary support for the implementation of Resolution 8 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), stress the importance of implementing the WSIS outcomes in relation to the indicators mentioned, and continue to avoid duplication in statistical work in this field;

7 to continue to work to promote an ICT Development Index using available internationally recognized methodologies and to rely primarily on official data provided by Member States based on internationally recognized methodologies; only in the absence of such information, could other sources be used and after informing the concerned Member States in advance of the other sources used to obtain the information as the means by which ITU responds to *considering a)* above;

8 to cooperate with relevant international bodies, in particular those involved in the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development, for the implementation of this resolution;

9 to work on the development of indicators of community connectivity and ICT access and use and forward the results on an annual basis;

10 to adapt the data collection and the ICT Development Index in order to reflect the changing access to and use of ICTs, and to invite Member States to participate in such processes,

instructs the Secretary-General

to submit a report to the next plenipotentiary conference on progress in the implementation of this resolution,

invites Member States

1 to participate in the submission to ITU-D of their national statistics on ICT access and use and community connectivity;

2 to participate actively in these endeavours, by providing the requested information to ITU-D so as to produce telecommunication/ICT benchmarks, in particular the ICT Development Index.

**Reasons:** The WTDC-17 has adopted the revision of Resolution 8 on *Collection and dissemination of information and statistics* with important updates and amendments, reflecting better the role of ICTs and ICT statistical data in achieving and measuring sustainable developments.

Regarding the collection of information to produce analytical reports, including the ICT Development Index, the revised Resolution emphasizes the need of collaborating more closely with Member States in collecting input data by informing them in advance of the use of any information sources other than those provided by Member States.

MOD AFCP/55A1/5

RESOLUTION 140 (Rev. DUBAI, 2018)

ITU's role in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society and in the overall review by United Nations General Assembly of their implementation

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

recalling

*a)* Resolution 73 (Minneapolis, 1998) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, which achieved its aims in regard to the holding of both phases of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS);

*b)* Resolution 113 (Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on WSIS;

*c)* Decision 8 (Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on ITU input to the WSIS Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action and the information document on ITU activities related to the Summit;

*d)* Resolution 172 (Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on overall review of implementation of the WSIS outcomes;

*e)* Resolution 200 (Busan, 2014) of this conference, on the Connect 2020 Agenda on global telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) development,

recalling further

*a)* the Geneva Declaration of Principles and the Geneva Plan of Action, adopted in 2003, and the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, adopted in 2005, all of which were endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA);

*b)* the outcomes of the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), referring to the role of ICTs for sustainable development;

*c)* the Ministerial Round Table held at the WSIS Forum 2013;

*d)* the WSIS+10 Statement on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes and Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015, adopted at the ITU‑coordinated WSIS+10 High-Level Event (Geneva, 2014);

*e)* UNGA Resolution 68/302, on modalities for the overall review by the General Assembly of the implementation of the WSIS outcomes,

considering

*a)* that ITU plays a fundamental role in providing global perspectives on the development of the information society;

*b)* the role played by ITU in the successful organization of the two phases of WSIS and its coordination of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event;

*c)* that the core competences of ITU in the field of ICTs – assistance in bridging the digital divide, international and regional cooperation, radio-spectrum management, standards development and the dissemination of information – are of crucial importance for building the information society, as stated in § 64 of the Geneva Declaration of Principles;

*d)* that the Tunis Agenda stated that "*each UN agency should act according to its mandate and competencies, and pursuant to decisions of their respective governing bodies, and within existing approved resources*" (§ 102b));

*e)* the establishment of a United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS) by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, at the request of the Summit, with the main objective of coordinating substantive and policy issues facing the United Nations' implementation of the WSIS outcomes, and that ITU is a permanent member of UNGIS, and shares a rotating chairmanship thereof;

*f)* that ITU, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) are playing lead facilitation roles in the multistakeholder implementation of the Geneva Plan of Action and Tunis Agenda, as called upon by WSIS;

*g)* that ITU is the moderator/facilitator for Action Lines C2 (Information and communication infrastructure), C5 (Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs) and C6 (Enabling environment) of the Tunis Agenda, and a potential partner for a number of other action lines, as identified by WSIS;

*h)* that Resolution 200 (Busan, 2014) endorsed the Connect 2020 global telecommunication/ICT goals and targets;

*i)* that ITU is given specific responsibility for maintaining the WSIS stocktaking database (§ 120 of the Tunis Agenda);

*j)* that ITU is capable of providing expertise relevant to the Internet Governance Forum as demonstrated during the WSIS process (§ 78a) of the Tunis Agenda);

*k)* that ITU has, *inter alia*, specific responsibility to study and report on international Internet connectivity (§§ 27 and 50 of the Tunis Agenda);

*l)* that ITU has a specific responsibility to ensure rational, efficient and economic use of, and equitable access to, the radio-frequency spectrum by all countries, based on relevant international agreements (§ 96 of the Tunis Agenda);

*m)* that UNGA, in its Resolution 60/252, decided to conduct an overall review of the implementation of the Summit outcomes in 2015,

*n)* the results of the meeting of the 68th session of UNGA (2014), on overall review of the implementation of WSIS outcomes in December 2015 (UNGA Resolution 68/302);

*o)* that "*building an inclusive development-oriented information society will require unremitting multistakeholder effort … Taking into account the multifaceted nature of building the Information Society, effective cooperation among governments, private sector, civil society and United Nations and other international organizations, according to their roles and responsibilities and leveraging on their expertise, is essential*" (§ 83 of the Tunis Agenda),

considering further

*a)* that ITU and other international organizations should continue to cooperate and coordinate their activities where necessary for the global good;

*b)* the need for ITU to evolve constantly in response to changes in the telecommunication/ICT environment and, in particular, in respect of evolving technologies and new regulatory challenges;

*c)* the needs of developing countries[[8]](#footnote-8)1, including in the areas of building telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, strengthening confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs and implementation of the other WSIS goals;

*d)* the desirability of using ITU's resources and expertise in a way which takes account of the rapid changes in the telecommunication environment and of the WSIS outcomes, taking into account the outcomes of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event, which will be reviewed under the UNGA overall review to take place in December 2015;

*e)* the need to carefully deploy the Union's human and financial resources in a manner consistent with the priorities of the membership and cognizant of budgetary constraints, and the need to avoid duplication among the Bureaux and the General Secretariat;

*f)* that the full involvement of the membership, including Sector Members, as well as other stakeholders, is critical to successful ITU implementation of relevant WSIS outcomes;

*g)* that the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019 set out in Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference contains a commitment to implementation of the relevant WSIS outcomes in response to the changing telecommunication/ICT environment and its effects on the Union, as well as the priority areas to be addressed in implementing the WSIS outcomes beyond 2015, subject to the outcomes of the UNGA overall review;

*h)* that the ITU Council Working Group on WSIS (CWG-WSIS) constitutes an effective mechanism for facilitating Member State inputs on the role of ITU in implementing WSIS outcomes, as envisaged by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006 and Guadalajara, 2010);

*i)* that the Council has approved roadmaps for Action Lines C2, C5 and C6, which have been updated and made available on the web, as well as WSIS-related activities, which have been included in the ITU operational plans for 2015-2018;

*j)* that the international community is invited to make voluntary contributions to the special trust fund set up by ITU to support activities relating to the implementation of WSIS outcomes;

*k)* that ITU is capable of providing expertise in the field of statistical work by developing ICT indicators, using appropriate indicators and benchmarking to track global progress, and measuring the digital divide (§§ 113-118 of the Tunis Agenda),

noting

*a)* the holding of the WSIS Forum, organized annually by ITU in collaboration with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), UNESCO and UNDP, and the holding of the 10-year WSIS review event entitled "Towards Knowledge Societies for Peace and Sustainable Development", coordinated by UNESCO in Paris in 2013;

*b)* the establishment of the Broadband Commission for Digital Development at the invitation of the Secretary-General of ITU and the Director-General of UNESCO, taking note of the Broadband targets for 2015, which aim to make broadband policy universal and to increase affordability and uptake in support of internationally agreed development goals, including the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs),

taking into account

*a)* that WSIS acknowledged that multistakeholder participation is essential to the successful building of a people‑centred, inclusive and development-oriented information society;

*b)* the nexus between issues of telecommunication development and those of economic, social and cultural development, as well as its impact on social and economic structures in all Member States;

*c)* § 98 of the Tunis Agenda, which encourages strengthened and continuing cooperation between and among stakeholders and welcomes, in that respect, the ITU‑led Connect the World initiative;

*d)* that, in recent decades, the ICT landscape has dramatically changed progress in natural science, mathematics, engineering and technology: rapid innovation, diffusion and uptake of mobile technologies and improved access to the Internet have greatly expanded the gamut of opportunities that ICTs offer to promote inclusive development and bring the benefits of the information society to an increasing number of people around the world;

*e)* that UNGIS proposes that "*in collaboration with other stakeholders, the UN system should seek to take full advantage of ICTs in addressing the development challenges of the 21st century and to recognize them as cross-cutting enablers for the achievement of all three pillars of sustainable development*" and states that "*the potential of ICTs as key enablers of development, and as critical components of innovative development solutions, is fully recognized in the Post-2015 Development Agenda*";

*f)* the outcomes of the ITU‑coordinated WSIS+10 High-Level Event, based on the Multistakeholder Preparatory Platform (MPP), together with other United Nations agencies and inclusive of all WSIS stakeholders, which was conducted as an extended version of the WSIS Forum, under the mandates of the participating agencies and on a consensus basis;

*g)* that the ITU Secretary-General created the ITU WSIS Task Force, chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General, in order to fulfil, among others, the instructions handed down to the Secretary-General in Resolution 140 (Antalya, 2006) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*h)* the outcomes of the WSIS Forums held in 2011, 2012 and 2013, as well as the WSIS+10 High-Level Event (as an extended version of the WSIS Forum 2014) coordinated by ITU, held in Geneva in June 2014;

*i)* the ITU report entitled "*WSIS+10 Report: ITU's Ten Year Contribution to the WSIS implementation and follow-up (2005-2014)*", outlining WSIS‑related activities of the Union,

endorsing

*a)* Resolution 30 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on the role of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU‑D) in implementing the WSIS outcomes;

*b)* Resolution 139 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference;

*c)* the relevant results of the 2011-2014 sessions of the ITU Council, including Resolution 1332 (Rev. 2011) and 1334 (Rev. 2013);

*d)* programmes, activities and regional activities established by WTDC‑14 with the objective of bridging the digital divide;

*e)* the relevant work already undertaken and/or to be carried out by ITU in implementing the WSIS outcomes, under the aegis of CWG-WSIS and the WSIS Task Force;

*f)* Resolution 75 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on ITU‑T's contribution in implementing the outcomes of WSIS,

recognizing

*a)* the importance of ITU's role and participation in UNGIS, as a permanent member, and sharing a rotating chairmanship;

*b)* ITU's commitment to the implementation of the goals and objectives of WSIS, as one of the most important goals for the Union;

*c)* that UNGA, in its Resolution 68/302, on the modalities for the overall review of WSIS outcomes, decided to conduct an overall review of the implementation of the WSIS outcomes in December 2015,

resolves

1 that ITU should play a leading facilitating role in the implementation process, along with UNESCO and UNDP, as stated in § 109 of the Tunis Agenda;

2 that ITU should continue to coordinate WSIS Forums, World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD) and WSIS Project Prizes and maintain the WSIS Stocktaking database, subject to the outcomes of the UNGA overall review in December 2015;

3 that ITU should continue to play a lead facilitation role in the WSIS implementation process, as a moderator/facilitator for implementing Action Lines C2, C5 and C6;

4 that ITU should continue carrying out those activities that come within its mandate, and participate with other stakeholders, as appropriate, in the implementation of Action Lines C1, C3, C4, C7, C8, C9 and C11 and all other relevant action lines and other WSIS outcomes, within the financial limits set by the Plenipotentiary Conference;

5 that ITU should continue to adapt itself, taking into account technological developments and its potential to contribute significantly to building an inclusive information society and to the Post-2015 Development Agenda;

6 that, when continuing its WSIS-related activity, ITU should take into consideration the outcomes of the UNGA overall review of implementation of the WSIS outcomes in 2015;

7 to express its satisfaction with the successful outcomes of the Summit, in which the expertise and core competence of ITU were noted several times;

8 to express its satisfaction with the successful outcomes of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event to review implementation of WSIS outcomes, at which the importance of collaboration among United Nations agencies, governments and relevant stakeholders was noted several times;

9 to express its satisfaction and appreciation for ITU's efforts to initiate and coordinate the WSIS+10 (MPP and WSIS+10 High-Level Event in close collaboration with other relevant United Nations agencies and relevant stakeholders;

10 to express its satisfaction and appreciation for the efforts and contributions of other relevant United Nations agencies and all other stakeholders during the WSIS+10 MPP and the WSIS+10 High-Level Event;

11 to endorse the following outcome documents of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event:

– WSIS+10 Statement on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes;

– WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015;

12 to submit to the December 2015 UNGA overall review the successful outcomes of the ITU‑coordinated WSIS+10 High-Level Event elaborated through its MPP;

13 to express its thanks to the staff of the Union, the host countries and CWG-WSIS for their efforts in the preparation of both phases of WSIS (Geneva, 2003 and Tunis, 2005) and the WSIS+10 High-Level Event (Geneva, 2014), as well as all members of ITU actively involved in implementing the WSIS outcomes;

14 that ITU, in coordination with UNESCO, UNCTAD and UNDP, contribute on the issue of ICT for development in the debate on the Post-2015 Development Agenda arranged by UNGA, taking into consideration the WSIS+10 High-Level Event outcome documents, with a focus on bridging the digital divide through sustainable development;

15 that there is a need to integrate the implementation of the Dubai Action Plan, and in particular Resolution 30 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), and relevant resolutions of plenipotentiary conferences, with the multistakeholder implementation of the WSIS outcomes;

16 that ITU should, within available resources, continue to maintain the current public WSIS Stocktaking database, as one of the valuable tools for assisting with the follow-up of WSIS, as instructed in § 120 of the Tunis Agenda;

17 that ITU‑D shall give high priority to building information and communication infrastructure (WSIS Action Line C2), this being the physical backbone for all e‑applications, having regard to the Dubai Declaration and Objective 2 of the Dubai Action Plan and calling upon the ITU‑D study groups to do the same;

18 to endorse the WSIS+10 Report: *ITU's Ten Year Contribution to the WSIS Implementation and Follow-up (2005-2014)*;

19 that UNGA be encouraged to consider the WSIS+10 High-Level Event outcome documents, which were developed through the MPP, which takes stock of the progress made in the implementation of the Geneva 2003 outcomes and addresses potential ICT gaps and areas for continued focus, as well as addressing challenges, including bridging the digital divide, and harnessing ICTs for development;

20 that ITU should submit a progress report on the implementation of WSIS outcomes concerning ITU to the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in 2018,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to present to UNGA, within the modalities established by UNGA Resolution 68/302, the WSIS+10 Report: *ITU's Ten Year Contribution to the WSIS Implementation and Follow-up (2005-2014)*, which was provided as an input to the Committee on Science and Technology Development (CSTD) review;

2 to support ITU's role in implementing the WSIS outcomes and the Post-2015 Development Agenda, as established by Member States;

3 to submit the WSIS+10 High-Level Event outcome documents as a contribution to the UNGA overall review in 2015;

4 to prepare a report on the UNGA overall review of WSIS at the first Council session after the latter's adoption,

instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux

1 to take all necessary measures for ITU to fulfil its role, as outlined in *resolves* 1, 2, 3, and 4 above, in accordance with the appropriate roadmaps;

2 to continue to coordinate, with the WSIS Task Force, the activities related to WSIS implementation for implementing *resolves* 1, 2, 3, and 4 above, with the aim of avoiding duplication of work among the ITU Bureaux and General Secretariat;

3 to continue to raise public awareness of the Union's mandate, role and activities and provide broader access to the Union's resources for the general public and other actors involved in the emerging information society;

4 to formulate specific tasks and deadlines for implementing the action lines referred to above, and incorporate them in the operational plans of the General Secretariat and the Sectors;

5 to report annually to the Council on the activities undertaken on these subjects, including their financial implications;

6 to prepare and submit a progress report on the ITU activities for WSIS implementation to the next plenipotentiary conference in 2018, taking into account the UNGA overall review in December 2015;

7 to ensure that ITU participates actively, through the provision of its expertise and competency, in the UNGA overall review, in accordance with the modalities established by UNGA Resolution 68/302;

8 to take account of the impact of the ITU’s work related to digital transformation, which fosters sustainable growth of digital economy, in line with the WSIS stock-taking process, and provide assistance to membership upon request,

instructs the Directors of the Bureaux

to ensure that concrete objectives and deadlines (using results-based management processes) are developed for WSIS activities and reflected in the operational plans of each Sector,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to follow, as soon as possible and in accordance with Resolution 30 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), a partnership approach in ITU‑D activities related to its roles in the implementation and follow-up of the WSIS outcomes, in accordance with the provisions of the ITU Constitution and ITU Convention, and to report annually, as appropriate, to the Council,

requests the Council

1 to oversee, consider and discuss, as appropriate, ITU's implementation of the WSIS outcomes and related ITU activities, and, within the financial limits set by the Plenipotentiary Conference, to make resources available as appropriate;

2 to oversee ITU's adaptation to the information society, in line with *resolves* 5 above;

3 to maintain CWG-WSIS, in order to facilitate membership input and guidance on the ITU implementation of relevant WSIS outcomes and to elaborate, in collaboration with other Council working groups, proposals to the Council that may be necessary for adapting ITU to its role in building the information society, with the assistance of the WSIS Task Force, these proposals possibly including amendments to the Constitution and the Convention;

4 to take into account the relevant UNGA decisions with regard to the overall review of implementation of the WSIS outcomes;

5 to include the report of the Secretary-General in the documents sent to Member States in accordance with No. 81 of the Convention;

6 to take all necessary measures, as appropriate, in follow-up to the results of the UNGA overall review of the implementation of the WSIS outcomes, within the financial limits set by the Plenipotentiary Conference;

7 to encourage the participation of the ITU membership and other relevant stakeholders in ITU's activities that support WSIS implementation, as appropriate,

invites Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia

1 to participate actively in implementing WSIS outcomes, contribute to the WSIS Forum and WSIS Stocktaking database maintained by ITU and the WSIS Project Prizes, and participate actively in the activities of CWG-WSIS and in ITU's further adaptation to the information society;

2 to participate actively in the preparatory process for the UNGA overall review of the WSIS outcomes, according to the rules and procedures of UNGA, and to promote ITU's activities in this regard and the outcomes of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event;

3 to support, through relevant United Nations processes, the creation of synergies and institutional linkages between WSIS and the Post-2015 Development Agenda, so as to continue strengthening the impact of ICT for sustainable development;

4 to make voluntary contributions to the special trust fund set up by ITU to support activities relating to the implementation of WSIS outcomes;

5 to continue to contribute information on their activities to the public WSIS Stocktaking database maintained by ITU;

6 to contribute to and closely collaborate with the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development as an international, multistakeholder initiative to improve the availability and quality of ICT data and indicators, particularly in developing countries,

resolves to express

1 its warmest thanks and deepest gratitude to the Governments of Switzerland and Tunisia for having hosted the two phases of the Summit in close collaboration with ITU, UNESCO, UNCTAD and other relevant United Nations agencies;

2 its appreciation for the WSIS+10 High-Level Event, coordinated and hosted by ITU and co‑organized by ITU, UNESCO, UNCTAD and UNDP with the engagement of other United Nations agencies.

**Reasons:** to take account of the impact of the ITU’s work related to digital transformation, which fosters sustainable growth of digital economy, in line with the WSIS stock-taking process, and provide assistance to membership as needed.

NOC AFCP/55A1/6

RESOLUTION 174 (Rev. Busan, 2014)

ITU's role with regard to international public policy issues relating to the risk of illicit use of information and communication technologies

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

MOD AFCP/55A1/7

RESOLUTION 175 (Rev. DUBAI, 2018)

Telecommunication/information and communication technology accessibility for persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

recalling

*a)* Article 12 of the International Telecommunication Regulations (ITR), adopted by the World Conference on International Telecommunications (WCIT) (Dubai, 2012), which states that Member States should promote access for persons with disabilities to international telecommunication services, taking into account the relevant ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU‑T) recommendations;

*b)* the outcome document of the High-Level Meeting on Disability and Development (HLMDD) convened by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) at the level of Heads of State and Government on 23 September 2013, under the theme "The ICT Opportunity for a Disability-Inclusive Development Framework", which stresses the need for inclusive development in which persons with disabilities are both agents and beneficiaries;

*c)* Resolution 70 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, on telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) accessibility for persons with disabilities, the current regulatory framework and the studies, initiatives and events on this issue undertaken by ITU‑T and its study groups, in particular Study Group 2 and Study Group 16, in collaboration with the Joint Coordination Activity on Accessibility and Human Factors (JCA-AHF);

*d)* the ITU‑T Focus Group on Audiovisual Media Accessibility (FG‑AVA), which is working on broadcasting and Internet television in order to include audio description for the visually impaired and captioning/subtitles for the deaf and hearing impaired, as well as accessible remote Internet participation;

*e)* the Phuket Declaration on Tsunami Preparedness for Persons with Disabilities (Phuket, 2007), which emphasizes the need for inclusive emergency warning and disaster management systems using telecommunication/ICT facilities based on open, non-proprietary, global standards;

*f)* Resolution GSC-14/27 of the 14th Global Standards Collaboration meeting (Geneva, 2009), which encourages greater collaboration among global, regional and national standardization bodies as a basis for establishing and/or strengthening activities and initiatives concerning the use of telecommunications/ICTs accessible to persons with disabilities;

*g)* the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU‑D) special initiative work carried out through studies conducted within the framework of Question 20/1 of ITU‑D Study Group 1, commencing in September 2006 and proposing the wording of Resolution 58 (Hyderabad, 2010) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) and, likewise, the ITU‑D initiative on the development of an e‑accessibility toolkit for persons with disabilities, in collaboration and partnership with the Global Initiative for Inclusive ICTs (G3ict),

recognizing

*a)* the Dubai Declaration (WTDC‑14), which lists a series of measures to promote equitable, affordable, inclusive and sustainable development of telecommunication/ICT networks, applications and services;

*b)* Resolution 58 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC, on accessibility to telecommunications/ICTs for persons with disabilities, including age‑related disabilities;

*c)* ongoing work in the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU‑R):

i) Recommendation ITU‑R M.1076, entitled "Wireless communication systems for persons with impaired hearing";

ii) relevant parts of the ITU‑R Handbook entitled "Digital terrestrial television broadcasting in the VHF/UHF bands", providing guidance on techniques to be used for delivering programmes for people with hearing difficulties;

iii) work to bridge the digital disability divide, including work in ITU‑R Study Group 6 on broadcasting and the creation of the new Intersector Rapporteur Group on Audiovisual Media Accessibility (IRG-AVA) between ITU‑R and ITU‑T;

iv) work in ITU‑R Study Group 4 Working Parties 4A and 4B and Study Group 5 Working Party 5A with regard to improving access to digital hearing aids on a global basis;

*d)* ongoing work in ITU‑T:

i) studies under Question 4/2, on human factors related issues for improvement of the quality of life through international telecommunications, and Question 26/16, on accessibility to multimedia systems and services, including Recommendation ITU‑T F.790 on telecommunication accessibility guidelines for older persons and persons with disabilities;

ii) publication by the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group of the guide for ITU‑T study groups entitled "Considering end-user needs in developing recommendations";

iii) JCA‑AHF for the purposes of awareness-raising, advice, assistance, collaboration, coordination and networking;

*e)* ongoing work in ITU‑D:

i) studies under Question 7/1, on access to telecommunication/ICT services by persons with disabilities and other persons with specific needs;

ii) the Buenos Aires Action Plan (WTDC‑17);

*f)* that the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019, as approved by this conference, includes intersectoral objective I.5: "Enhance access to telecommunications/ICTs for persons with disabilities and specific needs" and related outcomes and outputs;

*g)* the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), calling for special attention to be given to persons with disabilities, including age‑related disabilities;

*h)* that the ITU-coordinated WSIS+10 High-Level Event on the WSIS vision beyond 2015 identified accessibility among the priority areas that must be tackled in the application of the post-2015 WSIS outcomes;

*i)* § 13 of the Geneva Declaration of Principles and § 18 of the Tunis Commitment, reaffirming the commitment to providing equitable and affordable access to ICTs, especially for persons with disabilities and specific needs;

*j)* various regional and national efforts to develop or revise guidelines and standards for telecommunications/ICT;

*k)* ITU's accessibility policy for persons with disabilities, adopted by the ITU Council in 2013;

*l)* that webcasting and captioning are invaluable tools, which benefit persons with disabilities and specific needs,

considering

*a)* that the World Health Organization estimates that there are one billion persons with varying degrees of physical, sensory or cognitive disabilities in the world, meaning 15 per cent of the world's population, and 80 per cent of them live in developing countries[[9]](#footnote-9)1;

*b)* that ICTs can provide opportunities and benefits for women and girls with disabilities to overcome exclusion on the basis of their gender and disability;

*c)* that the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which entered into force on 3 May 2008, requires States Parties, under Article 9 on accessibility, to take appropriate measures including:

i) 9(2g) "*To promote access for persons with disabilities to new information and communications technologies and systems, including the Internet"*;

ii) 9(2h) "*To promote the design, development, production and distribution of accessible information and communications technologies and systems at an early stage, so that these technologies and systems become accessible at minimum cost"*;

*d)* that the United Nations Human Rights Council established the Special Rapporteurship on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to allow identification of the barriers and obstacles still faced by persons with disabilities in achieving their full, effective participation in society, whose mandate will be to work in close coordination with all mechanisms and entities of the United Nations system, regional mechanisms, civil society and organizations of and for persons with disabilities, and will incorporate the perspectives of gender, international cooperation and capacity building in all its activities, in accordance with the principles of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;

*e)* the importance of cooperation between governments, the private sector and relevant organizations to provide possibilities for low-cost access;

*f)* that it is necessary for governments and multiple stakeholders to pay attention to the outcomes in the report jointly prepared by G3ict and Disabled People's International (DPI), given that the accessibility of the information infrastructure, considered an essential area of ICT accessibility that has an enormous impact on the greatest number of users, falls short of the level of progress called for by the provisions in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in terms of general compliance on the part of the countries that have ratified it,

resolves

1 to involve persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs in the work of ITU so that they may collaborate in the adoption of a comprehensive action plan in order to extend access to telecommunications/ICTs, in collaboration with external entities and bodies concerned with this topic;

2 to foster dialogue between those who prepare statistics on telecommunications/ICTs and users with disabilities, in order to obtain better information and knowledge about which data to collect and analyse at the national level using international standards and methods;

3 to boost a call to action promoting cooperation with regional and global organizations and institutions that deal with accessibility for persons with disabilities, including age‑related disabilities, in order to include accessibility to telecommunications/ICTs in their agendas and take into account its cross-cutting nature with other topics;

4 to maximize use of webcasting facilities and captioning (including transcripts of the captioning) and, if possible, considering the financial and technical limitations of the Union, provide it in all six official languages of the Union both during and after the conclusion of any session when convening conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union as articulated in Chapter II, Section 12 "Setting up of committees” of the General rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union;

5 to build on and consolidate past accomplishments by providing the necessary financial and human resources for the effective and sustained integration of ICT accessibility for persons with disabilities in the development activities,

instructs the Secretary-General

to bring Resolution 58 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) to the attention of the UN SG, in an effort to promote increased coordination and cooperation for development polices, programmes and project for achieving ICT’s accessibility for persons with disabilities in line with principles of equitable access, functional equivalence, affordability and universal design, and fully enhancing the available tools, guidelines and standards, to eliminate obstacles and discrimination,

instructs the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Directors of the Bureaux

1 to coordinate accessibility-related activities between ITU‑R, ITU‑T and ITU‑D, in collaboration with other relevant organizations and entities where appropriate, in order to avoid duplication and to ensure that the needs of persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs, including age‑related disabilities, are taken into account;

2 to consider the financial implications for ITU of providing, within the available resources, accessible information through ICTs and access to ITU facilities, services and programmes for participants with visual, hearing or physical disabilities and persons with specific needs, including captioning at meetings, sign language interpretation, access to print information and the ITU website, access to ITU buildings and meeting facilities, and the adoption of accessible ITU recruitment practices and employment;

3 pursuant to UNGA Resolution 61/106, to consider accessibility standards and guidelines whenever undertaking renovations or changing the use of space at a facility, so that accessibility features are maintained and additional barriers are not inadvertently implemented;

4 to encourage and promote representation by persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs so as to ensure that their experiences, views and opinions are taken into account when developing and progressing ITU work;

5 to consider expanding the fellowship programme in order to enable delegates with disabilities and delegates with specific needs, within existing budgetary constraints, to participate in the work of ITU;

6 to identify, document and disseminate examples of best practices for accessibility in the field of telecommunications/ICTs among ITU Member States and Sector Members;

7 to work collaboratively on accessibility-related activities with ITU‑R, ITU‑T and ITU‑D, in particular concerning awareness and mainstreaming of telecommunication/ICT accessibility standards and in developing programmes that enable developing countries to introduce services that allow persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs, including age‑related disabilities, to utilize telecommunication/ICT services effectively;

8 to work collaboratively and cooperatively with other relevant regional and global organizations and entities, in particular in the interest of ensuring that ongoing work in the field of accessibility is taken into account;

9 to work collaboratively and cooperatively with disability organizations in all regions to ensure that the needs of persons with disabilities are taken into account;

10 to direct the regional offices, within their available resources, to organize regional competitions for the development of assistive technologies to enable persons with disabilities and specific needs, having due regard to differences in culture and languages and taking into account the presence of developers with disabilities;

11 to make use of and share information regarding the ways in which ICTs can empower persons with a wide range of disabilities and specific needs, for example guidelines, tools and information sources prepared by ITU and other relevant organizations such as G3ict which are of benefit to the work of ITU and the membership;

12 to encourage the regional offices, within their available resources, to cooperate with stakeholders concerned to promote the development of new technologies that enable persons with disabilities and specific needs;

13 to submit a report to the next plenipotentiary conference on measures taken to implement this resolution,

invites Member States and Sector Members

1 to consider developing, within their national legal frameworks, guidelines or other mechanisms to enhance the accessibility, compatibility and usability of telecommunication/ICT services, products and terminals, and to offer support to regional initiatives related to this issue;

2 to consider introducing appropriate telecommunication/ICT services and to encourage the development of applications for telecommunication devices and products in order to enable persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs to utilize these services on an equal basis with others, and to promote international cooperation in this regard;

3 to promote the development of learning opportunities in order to train persons with disabilities to use ICTs for their social and economic development, including through train-the‑trainer courses and distance learning;

4 to participate actively in accessibility-related activities/studies in ITU‑R, ITU‑T and ITU‑D, including participating actively in the work of the study groups concerned, and to include and promote representation by persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs so as to ensure that their experiences, views and opinions are taken into account;

5 to take into account *considering c)* ii) and*e)* above, and the benefits of cost affordability for equipment and services for persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs, including universal design;

6 to encourage the international community to make voluntary contributions to the special trust fund set up by ITU to support activities relating to the implementation of this resolution.

**Reasons:** to promote increased coordination and cooperation with others UN agencies, for development polices, programmes and project for achieving ICT’s accessibility for persons with disabilities and provide the necessary financial and human resources for the effective and sustained integration of ICT accessibility for persons with disabilities in the development activities.

MOD AFCP/55A1/8

RESOLUTION 179 (Rev. DUBAI, 2018)

ITU's role in child online protection

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

recognizing

*a)* Resolution 67 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on the role of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU‑D) in child online protection;

*b)* Resolution 45 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on mechanisms for enhancing cooperation on cybersecurity, including countering and combating spam,

considering

*a)* that the Internet plays a very important role in the provision of education for children, enriching the curriculum and helping to bridge language and other barriers between the children of all nations;

*b)* that the Internet has become a major platform for many different kinds of educational, cultural and entertainment activities for children;

*c)* that children are among the most active participants online;

*d)* that parents, guardians and educators who have responsibility for children's activities may need guidance on protecting children online;

*e)* that child online protection initiatives always consider the empowerment of the child online and have due regard to an equal balancing of children's right to be protected from harm and their civil and political rights;

*f)* that there is an urgent need and global demand for the protection of children from exploitation and exposure to danger and deception when using the Internet or information and communication technology (ICT);

*g)* the growing development, diversification and spread of access to ICTs worldwide, in particular the Internet, and the increasingly widespread use thereof by children, at times with no control or guidance;

*h)* that child bullying and cyber-gangsterism are very much on the rise globally with increased online presence by children;

*i)* that there is an urgent need to mitigate online recruitment of young people for terrorist purposes and spreading extremist ideology;*j)* that, in order to address the issue of cybersecurity for children, it is critical that proactive measures be taken in order to protect children online at national, regional or international level;

*k)* the requirement for international cooperation and continued application of a multistakeholder approach in order to promote social responsibility in the ICT sector so as to effectively make use of the variety of tools available to build confidence in the use of ICT networks and services, reducing the risks for children;

*l)* that WSIS+10 Outcome Document of High Level Events, Section B, paragraphs 27, 28, 29 deal with topics of personal data protection, privacy, culture of responsibility and the culture of online security and safety including children;*m)* that child online protection is a subject of valid international global interest and is listed in the priorities of the world community's global agenda;

*n)* that child online protection involves a national, regional and international collaborative network, in conjunction with other United Nations agencies and partners, for action to promote the online protection of children by providing guidance on safe online behaviour,

recalling

*a)* the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989), the Declaration of the Rights of the Child adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 20 November 1989 and recognized in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and all relevant United Nations resolutions regarding child protection and child online protection;

*b)* that, within the framework of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the States Parties undertook to protect the child from all forms of exploitation and sexual abuse, and for that purpose, in particular, to take all appropriate national, bilateral and multilateral measures to prevent a) the inducement or coercion of a child to engage in any unlawful sexual activity; b) the exploitative use of children in prostitution or other unlawful sexual practices; c) the exploitative use of children in pornographic performances and materials (Article 34);

*c)* that, pursuant to Article 10 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (New York, 2000) on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, the States Parties shall take all necessary steps to strengthen international cooperation by multilateral, regional and bilateral arrangements for the prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution and punishment of those responsible for acts involving the sale of children, child prostitution, child pornography and child sex tourism; and shall also promote international cooperation and coordination between their authorities, national and international non-governmental organizations and international organizations;

*d)* United Nations Human Rights Council Resolution 20/8, adopted on 5 July 2012, which stresses that "the same rights that people have offline must also be protected online";

*e)* that the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), in the Tunis Commitment of 2005 (§ 24), recognized the role of ICTs in the protection of children and in enhancing the development of children, urging Member States to strengthen action to protect children from abuse and defend their rights in the context of ICTs, emphasizing that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration; accordingly, the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society (§ 90q)) set forth the commitment to using ICTs as a tool to achieve the internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals, by, *inter alia*, incorporating regulatory, self-regulatory and other effective policies and frameworks to protect children and young people from abuse and exploitation through ICTs into national plans of action and e‑strategies;

*f)* that the ITU Council Working Group on International Internet-related Public Policy Issues (CWG‑Internet), whose role was established by the 2009 session of the Council, held an open consultation on protecting children and young people from abuse and exploitation in order to understand how, as one of the public policy issues, it will be discussed within the scope of CWG‑Internet;

*g)* Resolution 1306 adopted by the 2009 session of the Council, under which a child online protection working group was set up, with the participation of Member States and Sector Members, and its mandate was defined by the ITU members in close collaboration with the secretariat of the Union;

*h)* that, during the 2012 WSIS Forum held in Geneva, a meeting was held with associates of the Child Online Protection (COP) initiative, at which it was agreed to work closely with the Family Online Safety Institute (FOSI) and the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) to provide necessary assistance to Member States,

recalling further

*a)* that ITU is the moderator/facilitator for Action Line C5 (Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs);

*b)* that the COP initiative was presented to the High-Level Segment of the Council in 2008, where it was endorsed by the Heads of State, ministers and heads of international organizations globally;

*c)* that ITU, in collaboration with its COP members, has created four sets of guidelines for the protection of children in cyberspace, namely: Guidelines for children, Guidelines for parents, guardians and educators, Guidelines for industry and Guidelines for policy-makers;

*d)* that, despite technical difficulties that have made it impossible to establish a single globally harmonized number, as provided for in Supplement 5 to Recommendation ITU‑T E.164 (11/2009), the contributions that the different study groups of the Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU‑T) can make are very important in identifying practical solutions and tools to facilitate access to child online protection hotlines worldwide,

taking into account

*a)* the discussions and observations made at the meetings of the Council Working Group on Child Online Protection (CWG-COP);

*b)* the need to continue working at global, regional and national levels to find available technological, managerial and organizational solutions to protect children online, along with innovative applications to make it easier for children to communicate with child online protection helplines;

*c)* the activities undertaken by ITU in the area of child online protection at the national, regional and international levels;

*d)* the activities undertaken by many countries in recent years;

*e)* the activities and outputs of JCA-COP;

*f)* the call of the world's youth at the BYND2015 Global Youth Summit (San José, Costa Rica, 2013) for Member States to develop policies to make online communities safe and secure,

resolves

1 that ITU should continue the COP initiative as a platform to raise awareness and share best practice on child online safety issues;

2 that ITU should continue providing assistance and support to Member States, especially developing countries[[10]](#footnote-10)1, in developing and implementing roadmaps for the COP initiative;

3 that ITU should harmonise the efforts of all stakeholders involved in child online protection, in order to benefit the member states;

4 that ITU, together with the relevant international organizations, should assist Member States in need, to set up awareness programs for children, parents and educators on child online protection issues;

5 that ITU should continue to coordinate the COP initiative, in cooperation with relevant stakeholders,

requests the Council

1 to maintain CWG‑COP, in order to facilitate the membership's input and guidance on ITU's role in child online protection;

2 to facilitate the contribution and participation of all relevant stakeholders in the work of CWG‑COP to ensure maximum collaboration in implementing this resolution;

3 to encourage CWG‑COP to conduct, at least two weeks online consultations for youth prior to its meetings in order to listen to their views and opinions on different matters related to child online protection;

4 to continue to make output documents related to child online protection issues publicly accessible without password protection,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to continue identifying those activities that are carried out by other United Nations organizations in this domain and to coordinate with them appropriately, with the objective of establishing partnerships to maximize and synergize efforts in this important area;

2 to coordinate ITU efforts with other United Nations agencies and entities concerned with this issue, in order to contribute to existing global repositories with useful information, statistics and tools concerning child online protection;

3 to develop an online repository of country efforts in terms of Child online protection with a specific focus on preventative mechanisms;

4 to continue the coordination of ITU activities with other similar initiatives being undertaken at the national, regional and international levels, in order to eliminate possible overlaps;

5 to bring this resolution to the attention of other COP members and of the United Nations Secretary-General, with the aim of increasing the engagement of the United Nations system in child online protection;

6 to submit a progress report on the results of implementation of this resolution to the next plenipotentiary conference;

7 to continue to disseminate the documents and reports of CWG‑COP to all international organizations and stakeholders involved in such matters, so that they can collaborate fully;

8 to encourage Member States and Sector Members to submit best practices on issues of child online protection,

instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux

1 to continue to coordinate those activities that relate to the implementation of child online protection with respect to the effective application of *resolves* 1, 2 and 3 above, in order to avoid overlapping among the activities of the ITU Bureaux and the General Secretariat;

2 to work on enhancing the COP page on the ITU website to make it more informative for all users, within the available resources,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to report to the Council annually, as appropriate, on the implementation of Resolution 67 (Rev. Dubai, 2014);

2 to collaborate closely with CWG‑COP and CWG‑Internet in order to avoid duplication of effort and to gain the best possible outputs through the work on the relevant ITU‑D study questions and the regional initiatives relevant to protecting children online;

3 to coordinate with other similar initiatives being undertaken at national, regional and international level with the objective of establishing partnerships to maximize efforts in this important area;

4 to assist developing countries in drawing the greatest possible attention to the problem of child online protection;

5 to disseminate the guidelines created by ITU, in collaboration with COP partners, through the ITU regional offices and relevant entities;

6 to consider the needs of children with disabilities in current and future awareness campaigns undertaken in coordination with the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau and in cooperation with relevant stakeholders and interested countries;

7 to continue to assist Member States in particular Developing Countries to develop their national COP strategies in collaboration with stakeholders;

8 to provide training programs for all concerned stakeholders, taking into account evolving environment,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

1 to encourage the study groups of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU‑T), within the framework of their specific competencies and considering new technological developments, to explore the possibility of identifying practical solutions and tools that facilitate access to child online protection hotlines worldwide and to encourage Member States, for the time being, to foster the allocation of a telephone number on a regional basis for this purpose;

2 to encourage ITU‑T Study Group 2 to continue exploring the option of introducing a single global telephone number in the future, for child online protection;

3 to encourage ITU-T Study Group 17 to continue exploring technical solutions for protecting children online;

4 to assist ITU‑T study groups in their various activities related to child online protection, to be performed, as appropriate, in collaboration with other relevant bodies,

invites Member States

1 to join and continue participating actively in CWG‑COP and in the related ITU activities, for the purposes of a comprehensive discussion and exchange of best-practice information on legal, technical, organizational and procedural issues, as well as capacity building and international cooperation for protecting children online;

2 to develop information, to educate and to create consumer-awareness campaigns aimed at parents,legal guardians, teachers, children’s professionals industry and the population in general, in order to make children aware of the risks that may be encountered online such measures may include, but not limited to, use of child-friendly and safe search engines and applications;

3 to collaborate on a global effort on curbing child trafficking via use of internet;

4 to exchange information on the current state of legislative, organizational and technical measures in the area of child online protection;

5 to consider establishing frameworks for national child online protection including regulatory, organizational and technical aspects;

6 to foster the allocation of specific numbers to service communications dedicated to child online protection;

7 to support the collection and analysis of data and statistics on child online protection to help design and implement public policies and allow comparisons between countries;

8 to establish mechanisms for collaboration among government offices and institutions working on this issue to gather statistical information on access of students to the Internet;

9 to periodically organize training on child online protection for stakeholders, in view of the evolutionary nature of online risks and threats,

invites Sector Members

1 to participate actively in CWG‑COP and in other ITU activities, with the aim of informing the ITU membership about technological solutions for protecting children online;

2 to develop innovative solutions and applications to facilitate communication between children and child online protection hotlines;

3 to collaborate, within their respective areas of competence, in the dissemination of public policies and initiatives that are implemented for child online protection;

4 to work on developing different programmes and applications to increase parental and school awareness;

5 to inform Member States about modern technological solutions for child online protection, taking into account the best practices of the sector and of other relevant stakeholders,

invites Member States and Sector Members

to exchange information on practical methods of identifying and introducing the most effective technologies to contribute to greater child online protection.

**Reasons:** harmonise the efforts of all stakeholders involved in child online protection, in order to benefit the member states, to provide training programs for all concerned stakeholders and to continue to assist Member States in particular Developing Countries to develop their national COP strategies.

SUP AFCP/55A1/9

RESOLUTION 185 (Busan, 2014)

Global flight tracking for civil aviation

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

**Reasons:** Already implemented.

MOD AFCP/55A1/10

RESOLUTION 186 (REV. DUBAI, 2018)

Strengthening the role of ITU with regard to transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

recalling

Resolution 68/50, on transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 5 December 2013, together with the associated Report A/68/189,

noting

Resolution 37 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on bridging the digital divide,

considering

*a)* that ITU Member States rely, *inter alia*, on reliable space radiocommunication services, such as the Earth exploration-satellite service, radiocommunication satellite services, the radionavigation-satellite service and the space research service;

*b)* that one of the strategic goals of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector is "to ensure interference-free operations of radiocommunication systems by implementing the Radio Regulations and regional agreements, as well as updating these instruments in an efficient and timely manner through the processes of world and regional radiocommunication conferences";

*c)* that the World and Regional Radiocommunication Seminars effective way to provide knowledge on the current regulatory framework for international frequency management and the ITU-R Recommendations and best practices regarding the use of spectrum for both terrestrial and space services;

*d)* that the Radiocommunication Bureau publish the list of satellite network frequency assignments that will help to enhance the transparency of spectrum and satellite orbit resources,

taking into account

Articles 15 and 16 of the Radio Regulations,

resolves

to encourage the dissemination of information, capacity building and the sharing of best practices in the use and development of radiocommunication satellite networks/systems, with the objectives of, *inter alia*, bridging the digital divide and enhancing the reliability and availability of the above-mentioned satellite networks/systems,

invites the ITU Council

to consider and review any proposed cooperation agreements on the use of satellite monitoring facilities consistent with the objectives of this resolution, in light of their strategic and financial implications, within the budgetary limitations of the Union,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to encourage all Member States to consider these matters in the context of Resolution 37 (Rev. Dubai, 2014),

instructs the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau

1 to promote access to information, upon request by administrations concerned, related to satellite-monitoring facilities, in order to address cases of harmful interference in accordance with Article 15 of the Radio Regulations, through cooperation agreements referred to under *invites the ITU Council* above, within the budgetary limitations of the Union, in order to implement the objectives of this resolution;

2 to continue taking action to maintain a database on cases of harmful interference reported in accordance with relevant provisions of the Radio Regulations, in consultation with Member States concerned;

3 to continue the efforts to disseminate information and assist ITU Member States in the application of coordination and notification provisions through ITU world/region Radiocommunication Seminars, workshops, IRU-R publications, software and database;

4 to consider establishing database of real satellites launched based on the RS 49.

5 to coordinate activities, if necessary, with the Directors of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau and the Telecommunication Development Bureau;

6 to report on the implementation of this resolution as appropriate,

invites Member States and Sector Members

1 to actively participate in the ITU radio-communications seminars and share the best practices;

2 to promote the development of training programmes to enhance its operators awareness of spectrum coordination and notification;

3 to consider participating in the cooperation agreements on the use of satellite monitoring system.

**Reasons:** to strengthen the role of ITU with regard to transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities and to assist Member States particularly those from developing countries to follow the coordination and notification provisions of the Radio Regulations.

MOD AFCP/55A1/11

RESOLUTION 196 (REV. Dubai, 2018)

Protecting telecommunication service users/consumers

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union ( Dubai, 2018),

recalling

*a)* Resolution 64 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on protecting and supporting users/consumers of telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) services;

*b)* Article 4 of the International Telecommunication Regulations,

recognizing

*a)* the United Nations Guidelines for Consumer Protection;

*b)* § 13e) of the Geneva Plan of Action of the World Summit on the Information Society, which states that governments should continue to update their domestic consumer-protection laws to respond to the new requirements of the information society,

considering

*a)* that consumer-related protection laws, policies and good practices limit fraudulent, deceitful and unfair business conduct and such protective measures are indispensable for building consumer trust and establishing a more equitable relationship between telecommunication/ICT entrepreneurs and consumers;

*b)* that telecommunications/ICTs can offer new and substantial benefits to consumers, including convenience and access to a broad range of goods and/or services, and the ability to collect and compare information about these goods and/or services;

*c)* that consumer trust in telecommunications/ICTs is bolstered by the continuous development of transparent, effective consumer-protection mechanisms that limit the presence of fraudulent, deceitful or unfair business conducts;

*d)* that education and dissemination of information on the suitable consumption and use of telecommunication/ICT products and services must be encouraged, mainly regarding the inputs of the digital economy, since consumers expect to have access to both the legal content and applications of these services;

*e)* that access to telecommunications/ICTs must be open and affordable;

*f)* that work is currently under way in Study Group 1 of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector on setting guidelines and best practices on consumer protection,

resolves to instruct the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to bring to the attention of decision-makers and national regulatory authorities the importance of keeping users and consumers informed about the basic characteristics, quality, security and rates of the different services offered by operators, and of other protection mechanisms promoting consumer and user rights;

2 to closely collaborate with the Member States in order to identify critical areas for the establishment of policies and regulatory frameworks for the protection of consumers and users;

3 to strengthen relations with other international organizations and bodies that participate in the protection of consumers and users;

4 to support the organization of international and regional forums for the dissemination of telecommunication user rights and for sharing experiences on best practices among member countries,

invites the Member States

1 to encourage the creation and promotion of policies that ensure the timely delivery of free, transparent, up-to-date and accurate information to end users about telecommunication services, including international roaming rates and relevant applicable conditions;

2 to provide inputs that allow the dissemination of best practices and policies that have been implemented in order to increase the ability to develop public policies related to legal, regulatory and technical measures to address the protection of consumers and users, including personal data protection;

3 to promote policies that foster the provision of telecommunication services in a manner that delivers suitable quality to the users;

4 to promote competition in the provision of telecommunication services, encouraging them to formulate policies that drive competitive prices,

invites Sector Members and Associates

to make contributions that allow the dissemination of best practices and policies related to user/consumer protection, service quality and service rates.

**Reasons:** To encourage the implementation of policies for the protection of consumers / users of telecommunications / ICTs

ADD AFCP/55A1/12

Draft New Resolution [AFCP-1]

Strengthening the role of ITU in the use of ICTs in combating global human trafficking

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

recalling

*a)* United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution 68/198, on information and communication technologies (ICTs) for development;

*b)* UNGA Resolution 68/243, on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security,

considering

*a)* the crucial importance of information and communication infrastructures and their applications to practically all forms of social and economic activity;

*b)* the need to curb cross – border criminal activities involving human trafficking, sex trafficking and slave trade and develop appropriate existing national, regional and international tracking mechanisms;

*c)* the need for continuous evolution in new technologies to support the detection of, and coordinated and timely response to, situations of international sex and human trafficking or slave trade and mitigate the growing risks and threats to which such activities expose children, women and other vulnerable people,

recognizing

*a)* that the development of ICTs has been and continues to be instrumental for the growth and development of the global economy, underpinned by security and trust;

b) that Member States, in particular developing countries, have recently been inundated by incidences of global human trafficking leading to loss of life and abuses of various dimensions,

aware

*a)* that ITU and other international organizations, through a series of activities, are examining issues related to building confidence and security in the use of ICT across international borders and to protect and preserve the sanctity of human life;

*b)* that ITU is also assisting Member countries in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs, and the importance of coordination among all relevant organizations,

noting

that, as an intergovernmental organization with private-sector participation, ITU is well-positioned to play an important role, together with other relevant international bodies and organizations, in addressing threats and vulnerabilities, which affect efforts to build confidence and security in the use of ICT globally;

resolves

1 to give high priority within ITU, in accordance with its competences and expertise by promoting the deployment of ICTs and tracking devices and big data analytics for ensuring the safety of international borders from global human trafficking;

2 to work closely, as appropriate, with relevant bodies/agencies within the United Nations and other relevant international and regional bodies, taking into account the specific mandates and areas of expertise of the different agencies, while being mindful of the need to avoid duplicating work between organizations in combating global human trafficking;

3 upon request, to support ITU Member States in their efforts to build capacity, by facilitating Member States' access to resources developed by other relevant international organizations that are working on cross border human trafficking issues,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to report to the Council, taking into account the activities of the ITU on the implementation and effectiveness of the action plan to strengthen the role of ITU in deployment of ICTs for combating cross border human trafficking;

2 to cooperate with relevant international and regional organizations, including through the adoption of MoUs, subject to the approval of the Council in this regard.

**Reasons:** to give high priority within ITU, in accordance with its competences and expertise to develop an action plan to promote the deployment of ICTs and tracking devices and big data analytics for ensuring the safety of international borders from global human trafficking.

ADD AFCP/55A1/13

Draft New Resolution [AFCP-2]

Consideration of OTTs as International Public Policy Issue

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

recalling

*a)* Resolution 22 (Rev. Antalya, 2006) of this conference on apportionment of revenues in providing international telecommunication services;

*b)* that the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019, adopted in Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this Conference, assigns ITU the mission to promote, facilitate and foster affordable and universal access to telecommunication/information and communication technology networks, services and applications and their use for social, economic and environmentally sustainable growth and development;

*c)* Resolution 101 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on “Internet Protocol-based networks”;

*d)* Resolution 102 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on “ITU’s role with regard to international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet and the management of Internet resources, including domain names and addresses”;

*e)* Resolution 133 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on “Roles of administrations of Member States in the management of Internationalized (multilingual) domain names”;

*f)* Resolution 180 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on “Facilitating the transition from IPv4 to IPv6”.

*g)* Resolution 123 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on “Bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries”,

*h)* Resolution 130 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on “Strengthening the role of ITU in building confidence and security in the use of information and communication technologies.

*i)* Resolution 139 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on use of telecommunications/information and communication technologies to bridge the digital divide and build an inclusive information society.

*j)* Resolution 174 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on “ITU's role with regard to international public policy issues relating to the risk of illicit use of information and communication technologies”,

*k)* Resolution 196 (Busan, 2014) of this Conference on “Protecting telecommunication service users/consumers”,

recognizing

*a)* that OTT services have significant impact on national and international telecommunication/ICTs, and public policy considerations related to OTT should be considered as a matter of priority, including aspects of security, confidentiality and personal data protection;

*b)* that continued investments and innovation are needed to further improve roll out of national and international telecommunication networks and facilities taking into account the needs and requirements of developing countries;

*c)* that it is necessary to address both policy and regulatory issues of such services, as well as the economic implications of OTTs, and considerations relating to quality of service;

*d)* that the telecommunication sector must be economically sustainable in order to encourage the affordable provision of services;

*e)* that the harmonious and balanced development of both national and international telecommunication network facilities and services is of mutual advantage to developing as well as developed countries,

considering

*a)* the need for comparative studies of the existing Models of OTT with the objective of determining the relevant and applicable components that can serve to even the existing disparity in revenue distribution between the OTT service providers and traditional telecommunication service providers;

*b)* the need to assess the appropriateness of refocusing the national regulatory framework of the telecommunication sector on to the new paradigm deriving from the evolution of the telecommunication market;

*c)* studies and ongoing work in ITU-T and ITU-D study groups, particularly Study Group 3 and 17 of ITU-T and Study Group 1 of ITU-D,

considering further

that the Preamble of the ITU Constitution fully recognizes the sovereign right of each State to regulate its telecommunication;

the Technical Report of SG 3 ITU-T on “Economic Impact of OTTs”

noting

*a)* existing disparity in revenue distribution between the OTT service providers, the target market’s country, and the Carrier Service Provider;

*b)* that some stakeholders support the need to continue discussions and studies on key issues of OTT services regulation, such as accessibility, consumer rights, licensing, infrastructure development,

taking into account

the work of the Council Working Group on International Internet-related Public Policy Issues (CWG-Internet) on OTT,

resolves

to study the socio-economic, operational security, social and other aspects related to the OTT, including key regulatory issues of OTT services;

instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux

1 to ensure that activities of the various sectors, as appropriate, include studies on protection of OTT services consumers, economic impact of convergence of technologies and services;

2 to direct the relevant study groups to take into account the following, among others, when carrying out their work:

- the applicability of legacy public policies on telecommunications to OTT services and, in general a possibility of its application to innovative services,

- protection of privacy and personal data,

- authentication in OTT messaging services,

- technical analysis of possible measures and implementation mechanisms required for the protection of users rights, because new technological features of OTT services create an unique operational environment (for example, involvement of a large number of providers into service value chain and end-to-end encryption),

- on the identification policy tools to facilitate the availability to consumers at the local and national levels of OTT services and applications,

- on identification of cooperation arrangements with OTT providers, that have been used or may be used to meet growing demand and other changes in the market,

- on identification of methodology and policy issues, which facilitate investments into OTT services and applications,

- on evaluation the challenges and preparation overview of best practices and guidelines regarding legal frameworks concerning OTTs,

3 to report annually to the Council on the activities undertaken on these subjects and submit proposals as appropriate for further decision;

4 to assist ITU Member-States on the issues of the development of public policy related to ОТТ,

instructs the Directors of Telecommunication Standardization and Development Bureaux

1 to collaborate closely with the relevant Council Working Group and provide information on the implementation of this Resolution;

2 to encourage relevant ITU-T study groups to develop definitions of OTT and OTT services and applications,

invites Member States and Sector Members

to contribute to the above activities and take active part in the implementation of this Resolution.

**Reasons:** the need expressed by Member states todiscuss and study on key issues of OTT services regulation, such as accessibility, consumer rights, licensing, infrastructure development.

1. 1 Such as contractual policy, succession planning, human resources training and development, etc. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. 2 No. 154 of the Constitution: "*2 The paramount consideration in the recruitment of staff and in the determination of the conditions of service shall be the necessity of securing for the Union the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity. Due regard shall be paid to the importance of recruiting the staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible.*" [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. 1 "Gender perspective": Mainstreaming a gender perspective is the process of assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policies or programmes in all areas and at all levels. It is a strategy for making women's as well as men's concerns and experiences an integral dimension of design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation so that women and men benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated. The ultimate goal is to achieve gender equality. (Source: Report of the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality, third session, New York, 25‑27 February 1998) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. 2 <http://www.unwomen.org/~/media/Headquarters/Media/Stories/en/unswap-brochure.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. 3 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)