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| **Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-18) Dubai, 29 October – 16 November 2018** |  |
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| PLENARY MEETING | **Addendum 3 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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| **AFCP/55A3/1** | Revision of the Resolution 64: Non-discriminatory access to modern telecommunication/ information and communication technology facilities, services and applications, including applied research and transfer of technology, and e‑meetings, on mutually agreed terms |
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| **AFCP/55A3/9** | New draft Resolution [AFCP-3]: ITU’s role in fostering ICT-centric innovation to accelerate digital transformation of society |
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MOD AFCP/55A3/1

RESOLUTION 64 (Rev. DUBAI, 2018)

Non-discriminatory access to modern telecommunication/information and communication technology facilities, services and applications

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

recalling

*a)* the outcomes of the Geneva (2003) and Tunis (2005) phases of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), especially §§ 15, 18 and 19 of the Tunis Commitment, and §§ 90 and 107 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society;

*b)* Resolution 64 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*c)* the outcomes of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), especially Resolution 15 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), on applied research and transfer of technology, Resolution 20 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), on non-discriminatory access to modern telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) facilities, services and related applications and Resolution 37 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), on bridging the digital divide;

*d)* the WSIS+10 High-Level Event outcomes (Geneva, 2014), especially those related to transfer of know-how and technology and non-discriminatory access by conducting the needed activities in that regard;

*e)* Resolution 167 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on strengthening ITU capabilities for electronic meetings and means to advance the work of the Union, which emphasizes that there is a need for procedures to ensure fair and equitable participation by all;

*f)* Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference,

recalling also

*a)* the decisions of the two phases of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) concerning non-discriminatory access, in particular §§ 15 of the Tunis Commitment which recognizes the principles of universal and non-discriminatory access to ICTs for all nations;

*b)* the United Nations General Assembly resolution on "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" (A/RES/70/1),

taking into account

*a)* the importance of telecommunications/ICTs for political, economic, social and cultural progress;

*b)* the preamble and challenges chapters of the Statement adopted by the WSIS+10 High-Level Event (Geneva, 2014), especially §§ 4 and 8 thereof,

taking into account also

*a)* that ITU plays an essential role in the promotion of global development of telecommunications/ICTs and ICT applications, within the mandate of ITU, specifically with respect to Action Lines C2, C5 and C6 of the Tunis Agenda, in addition to participating in the implementation of other action lines, particularly Action Lines C7 and C8 of the Tunis Agenda;

*b)* that, to this end, the Union coordinates efforts aimed at securing harmonious development of telecommunication/ICT facilities, permitting non-discriminatory access to these facilities and to modern telecommunication services and applications;

*c)* that this access will help to bridge the digital divide,

taking into account further

the need to draw up proposals on issues determining a worldwide strategy for the development of telecommunications/ICTs and ICT applications, within the mandate of ITU, and to facilitate mobilization of the necessary resources to that end,

emphasizing

that fair and equitable e‑participation of Member States in ITU meetings will bring considerable benefits by facilitating and widening the scope for participation in ITU work and meetings,

noting

*a)* that modern telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and applications are established, in the main, on the basis of recommendations of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU‑T) and the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU‑R);

*b)* that ITU‑T and ITU‑R recommendations are the result of the collective efforts of all those taking part in the standardization process within ITU, and are adopted by consensus by the members of the Union;

*c)* that limitations on the access to telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and applications on which national telecommunication development depends, constitute an obstacle to the harmonious development and compatibility of telecommunications worldwide;

*d)* Resolution 20 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010), on non-discriminatory access to modern telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and related applications;

*e)* the strategic plan for the Union set out in Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference,

recognizing

*a)* that full harmonization of telecommunication networks is impossible unless all countries participating in the work of the Union, without exception, have non-discriminatory access to new telecommunication technologies and modern telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and related applications, including applied research and transfer of technology, on mutually agreed terms, without prejudice to national regulations and international commitments within the competence of other international organizations,

*b)* that the need to ensure the access of Member States to international telecommunication services should be reaffirmed;

*c)* Resolution 69 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly;

*d)* that the Buenos Aires Declaration adopted by WTDC-17 emphasizes on the need of exploiting the opportunities provided by telecommunications/ICTs with the aim of ensuring equitable access to telecommunications/ICTs,

resolves

1 to continue, within the mandate of ITU, fulfilling the need to endeavour to ensure non-discriminatory access to telecommunication and information technologies, facilities, services and related applications;

2 that ITU should facilitate non-discriminatory access to telecommunication and information technologies, facilities, services and applications;

3 that ITU should encourage to the greatest extent possible cooperation among the members of the Union on the question of non-discriminatory access to telecommunication and information technologies, facilities, services and applications with a view to satisfying user demand for modern telecommunication/ICT services and applications,

instructs the Directors of the three Bureaux

within their respective spheres of competence, to implement this resolution and achieve its goals,

invites Member States

1 to refrain from taking any unilateral and/or discriminatory actions that could impede technically another Member State from having full access to the Internet, within the spirit of Article 1 of the ITU Constitution and the WSIS principles;

2 to help telecommunication/ICT equipment manufacturers and providers of services and applications in ensuring that telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and applications may be generally available to the public without any discrimination, and in facilitating applied research and technology transfer, considering where relevant the WSIS+10 High-Level Event outcomes (Geneva, 2014);

3 to explore ways and means for greater collaboration and coordination with one another in the implementation of this resolution,

instructs the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with the Directors of the three Bureaux

1 to compile and distribute a list of available online services and applications relevant to ITU activities and identify those that cannot be accessed, based on information received from ITU Member States;

2 to take appropriate measures and steps to promote broad participation, as far as practical, to ensure the fair and equitable participation of all members in ITU online services and applications;

3 to cooperate and coordinate with the relevant organizations to take the appropriate measures to promote access to ITU online services and materials for all ITU members;

4 to report to the ITU Council on the implementation of this resolution,

further instructs the Secretary-General

to transmit the text of this resolution, including its recommendations, to the Secretary-General of the United Nations with a view to bringing to the attention of the world community the viewpoint of ITU, as a specialized agency of the United Nations, on the issue of non-discriminatory access to new telecommunication and information technologies and modern telecommunication/ICT, services and related applications, within the mandate of ITU, as an important factor for world technological progress, and on applied research and technology transfer between Member States, on mutually agreed terms, as a factor that may help to bridge the digital divide.

**Reasons:** to enhance the Resolution 64 and to concentrate its objective in refraining non-discriminatory from Member States or Sector Members.

MOD AFCP/55A3/2

RESOLUTION 102 (Rev. dubai, 2018)

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

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

recalling

*a)* relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA);

*b)* the outcome documents of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event;

*c)* the results of the World Telecommunication/Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Policy Forum in regard to issues related to Resolutions 101, 102 and 133 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference;

*d)* Resolutions 47, 48, 49, 50, 52, 64, 69 and 75 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA);

*e)* the report of the secretary-General from the eleventh meeting of the CWG-Internet on ITU activities on Resolutions 101, 102, 133 and 180,

recognizing

*a)* all relevant resolutions of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*b)* all relevant outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS);

*c)* Internet-related activities of ITU, undertaken within its mandate with respect to the implementation of this resolution and other relevant ITU resolutions,

considering

*a)* that the purposes of the Union are, *inter alia*, to promote, at the international level, the adoption of a broad approach to the issues of telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) in the global information economy and society, to promote the extension of the benefits of new telecommunication technologies to all the world's inhabitants and to harmonize the efforts of Member States and Sector Members in the attainment of those ends;

*b)* the need for preserving and promoting multilingualism on the Internet for an integrating and inclusive information society;

*c)* that advances in the global information infrastructure, including the development of Internet Protocol (IP)-based networks and the Internet, taking into account the requirements, features and interoperability of next-generation networks (NGN) and future networks, are of crucial importance as an important engine for growth in the world economy in the twenty-first century;

*d)* that the development of the Internet is essentially market-led and driven by private and government initiatives;

*e)* that the private sector continues to play a very important role in the expansion and development of the Internet, for example through investments in infrastructures and services;

*f)* that the public sector and public-private and regional initiatives continue to play a very important role in the expansion and development of the Internet, for example through investments in infrastructures and services;

*g)* that management of the registration and allocation of Internet domain names and addresses must fully reflect the geographical nature of the Internet, taking into account an equitable balance of interests of all stakeholders;

*h)* the role played by ITU in the successful organization of the two phases of WSIS, and that 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, have been endorsed by UNGA;

*i)* that the management of the Internet is a subject of valid international interest and must flow from full international and multistakeholder cooperation on the basis of the outcomes of the two phases of WSIS;

*j)* that, as stated in the WSIS outcomes, all governments should have an equal role and responsibility for international Internet governance and for ensuring the stability, security and continuity of the existing Internet and its future development and of the future Internet, and that the need for development of public policy by governments in consultation with all stakeholders is also recognized;

*k)* work being carried out by the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) relevant to this resolution;

*l)* work being carried out by the BDT to develop its capacity building activities in the field of Internet governance and publishing comprehensive reports related to the topic,

recognizing further

*a)* that ITU is dealing with technical and policy issues related to IP-based networks, including the existing Internet and evolution to NGN as well as studies into the future Internet;

*b)* that ITU performs worldwide coordination of a number of radiocommunication-related and telecommunication-related resource allocation systems and acts as a forum for policy discussion in this area;

*c)* that significant effort has been put in by ITU, among others, to update information on ENUM, ".int", internationalized domain name (IDN), and country code top-level domain (ccTLD) issues through workshops and standardization activities;

*d)* that ITU has published a comprehensive and useful Handbook on Internet Protocol (IP)-based networks and related topics and Issues;

*e)* §§ 71 and 78a) of the Tunis Agenda with regard to the establishment of enhanced cooperation on Internet governance and the establishment of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF), as two distinct processes;

*f)* the relevant WSIS outcomes in §§ 29-82 of the Tunis Agenda concerning Internet governance;

*g)* that ITU should be encouraged to facilitate cooperation with all stakeholders as referred to in § 35 of the Tunis Agenda;

*h)* that Member States represent the interests of the population of the country or territory for which a ccTLD has been delegated;

*i)* that countries should not be involved in decisions regarding another country's ccTLD;

*j)* that ITU continue to participate in the meetings of the working group on Enhanced Cooperation on public policy issues pertaining to the internet (WGEC),

taking into account

the concerns raised by allegations of mass surveillance and violations of the right to privacy in the digital environment and reaffirming the commitments made in UN General Assembly resolutions 68/167 and 69/166 to respect and protect the right to privacy, including in the context of digital communication,

remaining committed

to facilitating a resilient, unique, universal and interoperable Internet that is accessible to all and will strive to ensure universal and affordable internet access for all citizens including people with specific needs,

emphasizing

*a)* that the management of the Internet encompasses both technical and public policy issues and should involve all stakeholders and relevant intergovernmental and international organizations in accordance with §§ 35a) – e) of the Tunis Agenda;

*b)* that the role of governments includes providing a clear, consistent and predictable legal framework, in order to promote a favourable environment in which global ICT networks are interoperable with Internet networks and widely accessible to all citizens without any discrimination and to ensure adequate protection of public interests in the management of Internet resources, including domain names and addresses;

*c)* that WSIS recognized the need for enhanced cooperation in the future, to enable governments, on an equal footing, to carry out their roles and responsibilities, in international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet, but not in the day-to-day technical and operational matters that do not impact on international public policy issues;

*d)* that ITU, for its part, has started the process towards enhanced cooperation as one of the relevant organizations referred to in § 71 of the Tunis Agenda, and that the Council Working Group on international Internet-related public policy issues (CWG-Internet) should continue its work on Internet-related public policy issues;

*e)* that ITU can play a positive role by offering all interested parties a platform for encouraging discussions and for the dissemination of information on the management of Internet domain names and addresses and other Internet resources within the mandate of ITU,

noting

*a)* that CWG-Internet has furthered the objectives of Resolution 75 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) regarding public policy issues pertaining to the Internet;

*b)* Resolutions 1305, 1336 and 1344 adopted by the ITU Council;

*c)* that CWG-Internet shall include in its work all relevant decisions of this conference and all other resolutions relevant to the work of the group as stated in Council Resolution 1305 and the annex thereto;

*d)* the continued importance of openness and transparency in the development of international Internet public policy issues in line with § 35 of the Tunis Agenda;

*e)* the need for development of international Internet public policy by governments in consultation with all stakeholders;

*f)* ongoing activities in relevant ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU‑T) and ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU‑D) study groups relevant to this resolution;

*g)* that the World Telecommunication/ Information and Communication Technology (ICT) policy Forum gives special attention to the interests and needs of developing countries, where modern technologies and services can contribute significantly to telecommunication infrastructure development,

resolves

1 to explore ways and means for greater collaboration and coordination between ITU and relevant organizations[[1]](#footnote-1)1involved in the development of IP‑based networks and the future Internet, as envisioned in the Tunis agenda of information society, on the identified international public policy issues pertaining to the internet through cooperation agreements, as appropriate, in order to increase the role of ITU in Internet governance so as to ensure maximum benefits to the global community;

2 to invite ITU to identify additional areas on international internet public policy issues that require further studies and considerations;

3 that the sovereign and legitimate interests, as expressed and defined by each country, in diverse ways, regarding decisions affecting their ccTLDs, need to be respected and ensured, upheld and addressed via flexible and improved frameworks and mechanisms;

4 to continue to undertake activities on international Internet related public policy issues within ITU's mandate, including in CWG-Internet, in collaboration and cooperation with relevant organizations and stakeholders, as appropriate, with special attention to the needs of developing countries[[2]](#footnote-2)2;

5 to continue the CWG-Internet activities as listed in the relevant Council resolutions,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to continue to take a significant role in international discussions and initiatives on the management of Internet domain names and addresses and other Internet resources within the mandate of ITU, taking into account future developments of the Internet, the purposes of the Union and the interests of its membership as expressed in its instruments, resolutions and decisions;

2 to take the necessary steps for ITU to continue to play a facilitating role in the coordination of international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet, as expressed in §35d) of the Tunis Agenda, interacting as necessary with other intergovernmental organizations in these domains;

3 in line with § 78a) of the Tunis Agenda, to continue to contribute as appropriate to the work of IGF, should the mandate of the IGF be extended by UNGA;

4 to continue to take the necessary steps for ITU to play an active and constructive role in the process towards enhanced cooperation as expressed in § 71 of the Tunis Agenda;

5 to continue to take the necessary steps in ITU's own internal process towards enhanced cooperation on international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet as expressed in § 71 of the Tunis Agenda, involving all stakeholders, in their respective roles and responsibilities;

6 to report annually to the Council on the activities undertaken on these subjects and to submit proposals as appropriate, and, after the endorsement of this report by Member States through consultation procedures in force, to submit the report to the Secretary-General of the United Nations;

7 to continue to disseminate, as appropriate, the reports of CWG-Internet to all relevant international organizations and stakeholders actively involved in such matters for their consideration in their policy-making processes;

8 to continue considering the outcomes of the World Telecommunication/Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Policy Forum in regard to issues related to Resolutions 101, 102 and 133 and continue to invite member states and sector members to submit views on the possible theme, dates, and place for the next WTPF,

instructs the Directors of the Bureaux

1 to contribute to CWG-Internet concerning the activities undertaken by their Bureaux which are relevant to the work of the group;

2 to provide assistance, within the Union's expertise, and within available resources, as appropriate, in cooperation with relevant organizations, to Member States, if so requested, in order to achieve their stated policy objectives with respect to the management of Internet domain names and addresses, other Internet resources and international Internet connectivity, within the remit of ITU, such as capacity building, availability and costs related to infrastructure, and with respect to Internet-related public policy issues, as stated in the annex to Council Resolution 1305, which identifies the role of CWG-Internet, within their mandate;

3 to liaise and to cooperate with the regional telecommunication organizations pursuant to this resolution,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

1 to ensure that ITU‑T performs its role in technical issues, and to continue to contribute ITU‑T expertise and to liaise and cooperate with appropriate entities on issues related to the management of Internet domain names and addresses and other Internet resources within the mandate of ITU, such as IP version 6 (IPv6), ENUM and IDNs, as well as any other related technological developments and issues, including facilitating appropriate studies on these issues by relevant ITU‑T study groups and other groups;

2 in accordance with ITU rules and procedures, and calling upon contributions from the ITU membership, to continue to play a facilitating role in coordination and assistance in the development of public policy issues pertaining to Internet domain names and addresses and other Internet resources within the mandate of ITU and their possible evolution;

3 to work with Member States, Sector Members and relevant international organizations, as appropriate, on issues concerning Member States' ccTLDs and related experiences;

4 to report annually to the Council, and also to WTSA, on the activities undertaken and achievements on these subjects, including proposals for further consideration as appropriate,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to organize international and regional forums and carry out necessary activities, in conjunction with appropriate entities, to discuss policy, operational and technical issues on the Internet in general, and on the management of Internet domain names and addresses and other Internet resources within the mandate of ITU in particular, including with regard to multilingualism, for the benefit of Member States, especially for developing countries, taking into consideration the content of the relevant resolutions of this conference, including this resolution, in addition to the content of the relevant resolutions of the world telecommunication development conference (WTDC);

2 to continue promoting, through ITU‑D programmes and study groups, the exchange of information, fostering debate and the development of best practices on Internet issues, and to continue to play a key role in outreach by contributing to capacity building, providing technical assistance and encouraging the involvement of developing countries in international Internet forums and issues;

3 to continue reporting annually to the Council and the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group, and also to WTDC, on the activities undertaken and achievements on these subjects, including proposals for further consideration as appropriate;

4 to liaise with the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau and to collaborate with other relevant organizations involved in the development and deployment of IP-based networks and the growth of the Internet, aiming to make available to Member States widely accepted best practices for the design, installation and operation of Internet exchange points (IXPs),

instructs the Council Working Group on international Internet-related public policy issues

1 to consider and discuss the activities of the Secretary-General and Directors of the Bureaux in relation to the implementation of this resolution;

2 to prepare ITU inputs into the above-mentioned activities as appropriate;

3 to continue to identify, study and develop matters on international Internet-related public policy issues, taking into account relevant ITU resolutions;

4 to produce guidelines and reports on issues related to international internet public policy issues pertaining the Internet,

instructs the Council

1 to revise its Resolution 1344 to direct the CWG-Internet, limited to Member States, with open consultation to all stakeholders, and to conduct such open consultation according to the following guidelines:

• CWG-Internet will decide on the international Internet-related public policy issues for open consultation, drawing primarily from Council Resolution 1305;

• CWG-Internet should generally hold both open online consultation and physical open consultation meetings, with remote participation, within a reasonable period, prior to each CWG-Internet meeting;

• relevant inputs received from stakeholders will be submitted to CWG-Internet for consideration of the issues chosen for its next meeting;

2 taking into account annual reports presented by the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux, to take appropriate measures in order to contribute actively to international discussions and initiatives related to issues on international management of Internet domain names and addresses and other Internet resources within the mandate of ITU;

3 to consider the reports of CWG-Internet and take actions as appropriate;

4 to report to the 2018 plenipotentiary conference on the activities undertaken and achievements on the objectives of this resolution, including proposals for further consideration as appropriate,

invites Member States

1 to participate in the discussions on international management of Internet resources, including domain names and addresses, and in the process towards enhanced cooperation on Internet governance and international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet, so that worldwide representation in the debates can be ensured;

2 to continue to participate actively in the discussions and development of public policy issues related to Internet resources, including international Internet connectivity, within the remit of ITU, such as capacity building, availability and costs related to infrastructure, domain names and addresses, their possible evolution and the impact of new usages and applications, cooperating with the relevant organizations, and to contribute to CWG-Internet and ITU study groups on related matters,

3 to develop mechanisms and channels that allow global debate on Internet Governance to be translated and interpreted into local context;

4 to promote the use of ccTLDs as elements of national and continental branding and to ensure that ccTLD registries are operated as public- benefit institutions that can create, nurture and support local critical infrastructure and a local community able to attract investments;

5 to work in collaboration with concerned institutions to reach agreements with ccTLD registries operated by private individuals or operated by entities outside of national jurisdiction to transfer the registries and enable them to operate as public benefit bodies,

invites Member States and Sector Members

to seek the appropriate means to contribute to enhanced cooperation on international public policy issues relating to the Internet, in their respective roles and responsibilities.

**Reasons:** to invite ITU to identify additional areas on international internet public policy issues that require further studies and considerations and encourage Members to develop mechanisms and channels that allow global debate on Internet Governance to be translated and interpreted into local context and strengthen cooperation with the relevant stakeholders.

MOD AFCP/55A3/3

RESOLUTION 123 (Rev. DUBAI, 2018)

Bridging the standardization gap between developing[[3]](#footnote-3)1 and developed countries

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

noting

*a)* that "the Union shall in particular facilitate the worldwide standardization of telecommunications, with a satisfactory quality of service" (No. 13 in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution);

*b)* that, in connection with the functions and structure of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T), in Article 17, the Constitution indicates that those functions shall be "..., bearing in mind the particular concerns of the developing countries, to fulfil the purposes of the Union...";

*c)* that the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019, approved by means of Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) , and its annexes, includes under the objectives of ITU-T to "*promote the active participation of the membership, in particular developing countries, in the definition and adoption of non-discriminatory international standards (ITU-T recommendations) with a view to bridging the standardization gap";*

*d)* that one of the strategic goals of the Union for 2016-2019 is "Inclusiveness – Bridge the digital divide and provide broadband for all",

noting further

*a)* that the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) adopted Resolution 54 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) to assist in bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries;

*b)* that the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) adopted Resolution 47 (Rev.  Buenos Aires, 2017), which calls for activities to enhance knowledge and effective application of recommendations of ITU-T and of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) in developing countries, and Resolution 37 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), which recognizes the ongoing need to create digital opportunities in developing countries,

recalling

that the Geneva Plan of Action and Tunis Agenda for the Information Society of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) emphasize efforts to overcome the digital divide and development divides,

considering

the following outcome for ITU-T in the strategic plan for the Union for 2016‑2019, adopted in Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014):

• increased participation in the ITU-T standardization process, including attendance of meetings, submission of contributions, taking leadership positions and hosting of meetings/workshops, especially from developing countries,

considering further

that focus on the following activities is still needed:

• to develop interoperable, non-discriminatory international standards (ITU‑T recommendations);

• to assist in bridging the standardization gap between developed and developing countries;

• to extend and facilitate international cooperation among international and regional standardization bodies;

• to provide assistance to developing countries in bridging the digital divide by achieving broader telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT)-enabled socio-economic development,

recognizing

*a)* the continued shortage of skilled human resources in the standardization field in developing countries, resulting in a low level of developing-country participation in ITU-T and ITU-R meetings, in spite of the improvement observed in such participation lately, and, consequently, in the standards-making process, leading to difficulties when interpreting ITU-T and ITU-R recommendations;

*b)* ongoing challenges relating to capacity building, in particular for developing countries, in the light of rapid technological innovation and increased convergence of services;

*c)* the moderate level of participation by representatives of developing countries in ITU standardization activities, whether through lack of awareness of these activities, difficulties in accessing information, lack of training for human talent in standardization-related matters, or lack of financial resources to travel to meeting sites, which are factors with impact in terms of widening the existing knowledge gap;

*d)* that technological needs and realities vary from country to country and region to region, and in many cases developing countries do not have opportunities or mechanisms to make them known;

*e)* that, for developing countries at the initial stage of introducing and/or switching to a new technology, it is important to have guidelines for the new technology in question that can be used to develop a national standard, which would make it possible to introduce or switch to the new technology in a timely manner;

*f)* that, in implementation of the provisions of the Annex to Resolution 44 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) and of Resolution 54 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of WTSA, ITU actions have been carried out through ITU-T to assist in reducing the standardization gap between developing and developed countries;

*g)* the importance for developing countries of developing guidelines regarding the implementation of ITU recommendations pursuant to Resolution 44 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of WTSA and Resolution 47 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC;

*h)* the need for high-quality, demand-driven international standards, which should be developed rapidly in line with the principles of global connectivity, openness, affordability, reliability, interoperability and security;

*i)* the emergence of key technologies, enabling new services and applications and promoting the building of the information society, which must be taken into account in the work of ITU-T;

*j)* cooperation and collaboration with other standardization bodies and relevant consortia and forums are key to avoiding duplication of work and achieving efficient use of resources,

taking into account

*a)* that developing countries could benefit from improved capability in the application and development of standards;

*b)* that ITU-T and ITU-R activities and the telecommunication/ICT market could also benefit from better involvement of developing countries in standards-making and standards application;

*c)* that initiatives to assist in bridging the standardization gap are intrinsic to, and are a high priority task of, the Union;

*d)* that although ITU is making efforts to reduce the standardization gap, major disparities in knowledge and management of standards remain between developing and developed countries;

*e)* Resolution ITU-R 7 (Rev. Geneva, 2012) of the Radiocommunication Assembly (RA), on telecommunication development, including liaison and collaboration with ITU-D, which resolves that the Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG) and the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau shall continue to cooperate actively with the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) in identifying and implementing means of facilitating the participation of developing countries in study group activities;

*f)* that Resolutions 32, 44 and 54 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of WTSA, which share the clear objective of contributing to bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries by means of:

i) providing installations, facilities and capacities in electronic working methods (EWM) in ITU-T meetings, workshops and training courses, especially for developing countries in order to promote their participation;

ii) intensifying the participation of the ITU regional offices in the activities of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB), in order to promote and coordinate standardization activities in their regions, to apply the relevant parts of the resolution, and to initiate campaigns aimed at encouraging the affiliation to ITU of new Sector Members, Associates and Academia from developing countries;

iii) inviting the new regions and Member States to create regional groups within the sphere of the ITU-T study groups, and to create corresponding regional standardization bodies in order to work closely with the ITU-D study groups and TDAG;

*g)* Resolution 37 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC, on bridging the digital divide, which aims at the establishment of international methods and mechanisms that strengthen international cooperation to bridge the digital divide by means of studies, projects and joint activities with ITU-R which seek to build capacities in efficient use of the satellite orbit/spectrum resource for the provision of satellite services, with a view to achieving affordable access to satellite broadband and facilitating network connectivity between different areas, countries and regions, especially in the developing countries, in accordance with the WSIS Geneva Action Plan and Tunis Agenda;

*h)* Resolution 47 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC, on enhancement of knowledge and effective application of ITU recommendations in developing countries, including conformance and interoperability testing of systems manufactured on the basis of ITU recommendations, which invited Member States and Sector Members to continue to engage in activities to enhance the application of ITU‑R and ITU-T recommendations in developing countries, and instructs the Directors of TSB and BDT, in close collaboration, to encourage the participation of developing countries in training courses, workshops and seminars by means of fellowships,

resolves to instruct the Secretary-General and the Directors of the three Bureaux

1 to work closely with each other on the follow-up and implementation of this resolution, as well as Resolutions 32, 44 and 54 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of WTSA, Resolutions 37 and 47 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC and Resolution ITU‑R 7 (Rev. Geneva, 2015) of RA, in order to step up actions intended and to reduce the standardization gap between developing and developed countries;

2 to maintain a close coordination mechanism among the three Sectors at the regional level for bridging the digital divide, through activities carried out by the ITU regional offices to that end;

3 to provide developing countries with assistance to enhance capacity building in the standardization field, including through collaboration with the relevant academia;

4 to identify ways and means to support the participation of representatives of developing countries in the meetings of the three Sectors of ITU and the dissemination of information on standardization;

5to further collaborate with the relevant regional organizations and support their work in this area;

6 to strengthen the mechanisms for preparing and submitting reports on the implementation of the action plan associated with Resolution 44 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of WTSA, taking into account the four-year rolling operational plans of each Bureau;

7 to continue collaboration with regional organizations to lend further impetus to the development of ITU-T’s ‘Bridging the Standardization Gap’ programme (BSG) in these regions;

8 to guarantee an equal access to the ITU electronic meetings by making toll free numbers available for all the developing countries;

9 to encourage the study groups of the three ITU sectors to hold their meetings in developing countries in each study period;

10 to promote the timely development of guidelines for developing countries on the basis of ITU-R and ITU-T recommendations, particularly those related to priority standardization issues, including the introduction of and switchover to new technologies, as well as the preparation and application of ITU recommendations,

invites Member States and Sector Members

to make voluntary contributions (financial and in-kind) to the fund for bridging the standardization gap, as well as to undertake concrete actions to support ITU's actions and the initiatives of its three Sectors and its regional offices in this matter.

*invites Member States from Developing Countries*

1 to study the possibility of implementing National Standardization Secretariats taking into account the guidelines provided by ITU-T under the BSG programme;

2 to propose candidates to the study groups’ chairmanship and vice-chairmanship positions of the three ITU sectors;

3 to continue the creation of national and regional standardization bodies, as appropriate, and encourage the involvement of these entities in the ITU standardization work and the coordination of meetings with ITU-T regional groups, mainly to enable developing countries to communicate about their standardization priorities and requirements;

4 to support the hosting of regional groups and study groups’ meetings as well as international or regional events (forums, workshops, etc.) related to ITU standardization activities in developing countries;

5 to encourage national industry and academia actors, to join ITU as members and participate to its standardization activities.

**Reasons:** ITU to foster Developing countries to actively participate in standardization sector activities and continue to assist them in developing and implementation of national and regional ICT standardization frameworks.

MOD AFCP/55A3/4

RESOLUTION 133 (Rev. dubai, 2018)

Role of administrations of Member States in the management of internationalized (multilingual) domain names

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

considering

the provisions of Resolutions 101 and 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,

recalling

*a)* the role of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU‑T), as defined in resolutions adopted at the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, including, *inter alia*, Resolution 47 (Rev. Dubai, 2012), on country code top-level domain names, and Resolution 48 (Rev. Dubai, 2012), on internationalized domain names, and ongoing activities in ITU‑T Study Group 16 in this regard;

*b)* the commitment of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) to advance the process for the introduction of multilingualism in a number of areas including domain names, e-mail, Internet addresses and keyword look-up;

*c)* the need to promote regional root servers and the use of internationalized domain names in order to overcome linguistic barriers to Internet access;

*d)* past successful standardization activities undertaken by ITU‑T with regard to the adoption of recommendations pertaining to non-Latin character sets for telex (five-character code) and data transfer (seven-character code), allowing the use of non-Latin character sets for national and regional telex and for data transfer at global, regional and international level,

aware

*a)* of the continuing progress towards integration of telecommunications and the Internet;

*b)* that Internet users are generally more comfortable reading or browsing through texts in their own language and that, for the Internet to become more widely available to a large number of users, it is necessary to make the Internet (domain name system – DNS) available in non-Latin based scripts, taking into account the progress recently made in this regard;

*c)* that, recalling the results of WSIS and resolutions of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006), there should be a continuing commitment to working earnestly towards multilingualization of the Internet, as part of the multilateral, transparent and democratic process, involving governments and all other stakeholders, in their respective roles in implementation of this resolution;

*d)* of the progress made by all stakeholders, in particular through relevant organizations and entities, in the introduction of internationalized domain names (IDNs);

*e)* of the significant progress made towards the provisions of IDNs and the benefits of using non-Latin character sets available on the Internet;

*f)* the progress made in providing multilingualism on the Internet;

*g)* that, the continuing progress in the usage of internationalized domain names (IDNs) added security challenges , that should be addressed and considered without effecting the implementation and usability of (IDNs ),

emphasizing

*a)* that the current DNS has made progress in reflecting the diverse and growing language needs of all users, while recognizing that more remains to be done;

*b)* that internationalized Internet domain names, and more generally information and communication technologies (ICTs) and the Internet, must be widely accessible to all citizens without regard to gender, race, religion, country of residence or language;

*c)* that Internet domain names should not privilege any country or region of the world to the detriment of others, and should take into account the global diversity of languages;

*d)* the role of ITU to assist its membership in promoting the use of their language scripts for domain names;

*e)* that, recalling the results of WSIS and the needs of linguistic groups, there is an urgent need to:

• advance the process for the introduction of multilingualism in a number of areas, including domain names, e-mail addresses and keyword look-up;

• implement programmes that allow for the presence of multilingual domain names and content on the Internet and the use of various software models in order to fight against the linguistic digital divide and to ensure that everyone can participate in the emerging new society;

• strengthen cooperation between relevant bodies for the further development of technical standards and to foster their global deployment,

recognizing

*a)* the existing role and sovereignty of ITU Member States with respect to allocation and management of their country code numbering resources as enshrined in Recommendation ITU‑T E.164;

*b)* that there are a number of challenges with regard to intellectual property and the deployment of IDNs, and adequate solutions should be explored;

*c)* the role played by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) with regard to dispute resolution for domain names;

*d)* the role played by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) with regard to promoting cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content;

*e)* that ITU enjoys close cooperation with both WIPO and UNESCO;

*f)* that it is paramount to maintain global interoperability as domain names expand to include non-Latin character sets,

resolves

to explore ways and means for greater collaboration and coordination between ITU and relevant organizations[[4]](#footnote-4)1 involved in the development of IP-based networks and the future Internet, through cooperation agreements, as appropriate, in order to increase the role of ITU in Internet governance so as to ensure maximum benefits to the global community,

instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux

1 to take an active part in all international discussions, initiatives and activities on the deployment and management of internationalized Internet domain names, in cooperation with relevant organizations, including WIPO and UNESCO;

2 to take any necessary action to ensure the sovereignty of ITU Member States with regard to Recommendation ITU‑T E.164 numbering plans whatever the application in which they are used;

3 to encourage the ITU members, as appropriate, to develop and deploy the internationalized domain names in their respective language scripts using their specific character sets;

4 to support Member States in meeting the commitments of the Geneva Plan of Action and the Tunis Agenda in respect of internationalized domain names;

5 to make proposals, where appropriate, for achieving the aims of this resolution;

6 to bring this resolution to the attention of WIPO and UNESCO, which is facilitator for the implementation of WSIS Action Line C8, stressing the concerns and requests for assistance of Member States, in particular the developing countries[[5]](#footnote-5)2, with regard to internationalized (multilingual) domain names, and their insistence on help from the Union in this field, in order to ensure Internet use and advancement across language barriers, thereby increasing the international use of the Internet;

7 to report annually to the ITU Council on the activities undertaken and achievements attained on this subject,

instructs the Council

to consider the activities of the Secretary-General and Directors of the Bureaux with regard to the implementation of this resolution and to take necessary actions, as appropriate,

invites Member States and Sector Members

1 to take an active part in all international discussions and initiatives on the further development and deployment of internationalized Internet domain names, including the initiatives of relevant language groups, and to submit written contributions to ITU‑T in order to help implement this resolution;

2 to urge all relevant entities working to develop and implement internationalized domain names in order to expedite their activities in this domain;

3 to encourage Member States including Sector Members to consider the issues and obstacles of Universal Acceptance regarding Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs) and to collaborate and coordinate in enabling the usage of IDNs in applications and software in the Internet.

**Reasons:** The modification aims to encourage Community and ITU to consider accepting the Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs).

MOD AFCP/55A3/5

RESOLUTION 146 (Rev. dubai, 2018)

Periodic review and revision of the International Telecommunication Regulations

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

recalling

*a)* Article 25 of the ITU Constitution, on world conferences on international telecommunications (WCIT);

*b)* No. 48 in Article 3 of the ITU Convention, on other conferences and assemblies;

*c)* that *recognizing e)* of Resolution 4 (Dubai, 2012) of WCIT, on periodic review of the International Telecommunication Regulations, 2012 states that "the International Telecommunication Regulations consist of high-level guiding principles that should not require frequent amendment, but in the fast moving sector of telecommunications/ICTs may need to be periodically reviewed";

*d)* pursuant to Resolution 146 (Rev. Busan, 2014) the 2016 ITU Council passed Resolution 1379 establishing the Terms of reference and working method of the Expert Group on ITRs open to Members States and Sector Members,

considering

*a)* the report of the Expert Group on ITRs that highlighted the divergent points of view on the applicability and the usefulness of the ITRs regarding the evolving telecommunication/ICT environment;

*b)* that the international telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) environment has significantly evolved, especially with the emerging of trends, including Internet of Things, Artificial Intelligence, Machine to Machine, Machine learning and that it continues to evolve rapidly;

*c)* that, as technology evolves, Member States are evaluating their policy and regulatory approaches to ensure an enabling environment that fosters supportive, transparent, pro-competition and predictable policies that provide appropriate incentives for investment in, and development of, the information society;

*d)* that ITU must play an important role in resolving trends and emerging issues in telecommunications/ICT, including those arising from the changing international telecommunication/ICT environment;

*e)* that it is important to ensure that the ITRs are reviewed and, if deemed appropriate, revised and updated in a timely manner in order to facilitate cooperation and coordination among Member States and to reflect accurately the relations between Member States, Sector Members and recognized operating agencies;

*f)* that treaty-level provisions are required with respect to international telecommunication networks and services,

bearing in mind

*a)* the importance of ITRs for harmonized development of international telecommunication/ICT services and networks;

*b)* that the current situation of the existence of two versions of the ITRs need to be resolved in order to maintain the status of ITU , as a UN agency striving for consensus between the membership;

*c)* that there is a need to minimize the divergence of views and positions and provide one single consolidated treaty,

resolves

1 that a periodic review of the International Telecommunication Regulations shall normally be carried out every eight years;

2 that the review process of the International Telecommunication Regulations which commenced in 2017 shall continue in line with terms of references as agreed in annex 1 and shall include, but not limited to, the topics in annex 2,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to convene a Working Group on the International Telecommunication Regulations, open to the ITU Member States and Sector Members, with terms of reference and working methods as agreed in annex 1 to review the ITR including, but not limited the topics in annex 2;

2 to submit the report of the Working Group to the 2022 session of the Council for consideration, publication and subsequent submission to the 2022 plenipotentiary conference,

instructs the Council

to examine the report of the Working Group at its 2022 session and submit it to the 2022 plenipotentiary conference with the Council's comments,

instructs the Directors of the Bureaux

1 recognizing that the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector has most of the work relevant to the International Telecommunication Regulations, to provide a report on trends and emerging issues in telecommunication/ICT that could affect ITR, and submit it to the Working Group at its 2019 session;

2 with advice from the relevant advisory group, to provide inputs to the Working Group from the study groups regarding their work on the topics in annex 2

3 to submit the results of their work to Working Group;

4 to consider providing fellowships, where resources are available, for developing and least developed countries according to the list established by the United Nations, in order to widen their participation in the Working Group,

invites Member States and Sector Members

1 to participate and contribute to the Working Group on the review of the International Telecommunication Regulations;

2 to carry out studies on the telecommunication/ICT environment including trends and emerging issues that need to be addressed at a global level,

invites the 2022 plenipotentiary conference

to consider the Working Group report on the review of the International Telecommunication Regulations and take actions, as appropriate.

Annex 1

Terms of Reference

The Working Group shall provide a report on proposals that could be included in a global treaty, not limited to the topics in annex 2. Therefore, the Working Group will:

1. Identify the articles and provisions of the 2012 ITRs which can be improved taking into account new trends and emerging services;
2. Having identified the concerns in 1 above, come up with common proposals on those concerns;
3. With regards to proposals that are not common, list advantages and disadvantages for each of those proposals;
4. Examine the current operating environment and identify   telecommunication/ICT International policy concerns of member states;
5. Recommend  proposals that can be included  in a global;
6. Consider as appropriate, relevant work regarding the ITRs that took place prior to the beginning of the ITR review process;
7. Examine contributions and note information documents submitted to it, including the contributions presented to Council 2018 and PP-18;
8. Provide a report on the outcomes of all discussions including those on trends and emerging issues;
9. Establish an effective and efficient working methods of the Group.

ANNEX 2

Topics

1. International connectivity
2. International numbering resources
3. International telecommunication Fraud
4. Security
5. Emergency telecommunication
6. International telecommunication tariffs and taxation
7. Future Networks and international telecommunication/ICT services (IoT, Cloud Computing, etc.)
8. OTT’s
9. Accessibility and Internet access
10. ICT environment and Climate change.

**Reasons:** Amendments of Resolution 146 have the objective to maintain the ITR expert group with a new mandate as defined in Annex 1.

MOD AFCP/55A3/6

RESOLUTION 169 (Rev. dubai, 2018)

Admission of academia[[6]](#footnote-6)1 to participate in the work of the Union

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

recalling

*a)* Resolution 71 (Rev.  Buenos Aires, 2017) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on strengthening cooperation between Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector and the evolving role of the private sector in the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector;

*b)* the outcome T2-2 of the Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference on the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019, which highlights the need to attract new members from industry and academia to participate in the work of ITU-T,

considering

*a)* that the trial period for the participation of academia in the Union has proven to benefit the work of the Sectors, particularly as academia address the research, study and follow-up of developments in modern technology within ITU's field of competence, while having a perspective and future vision allowing modern technologies and applications to be addressed in a timely manner;

*b)* that the intellectual and scientific contributions of these bodies far outweigh their financial contributions;

*c)* that these entities also contribute to disseminating information about the activities of the Union in academic fields related to telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) around the world,

recognizing

*a)* that Kaleidoscope, held annually since 2008, is an ITU initiative to strengthen cooperation with academia that has been highly successful and brought about cooperation between ITU-T and academia, thereby helping to foster dialogue between academia and experts working in the field of ICT standardization;

*b)* the outcomes of the ITU’s Secretary-General’s Academia Consultation (Bangkok, 13 November 2016) which provided a platform to have an open discussion with Academia and other stakeholders on three topics: a new ITU Journal/Magazine; an Advisory Board of Academia to the Secretary-General; and, a platform/consultation mechanism to strengthen cooperation between ITU and Academia,

noting

that a comprehensive analysis of the current methodologies for the participation of Sector Members, Associates and Academia has been initiated in ITU pursuant to relevant resolutions of the Plenipotentiary Conference: Resolution 158 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010), Resolution 158 (Rev. Busan, 2014) and Resolution 187 (Busan, 2014),

resolves

1 to continue to admit academia to participate in the work of the Union, pursuant to the provisions of this resolution, without the need for any amendment to Articles 2 and 3 of the ITU Constitution and Article 19 of the ITU Convention or any other provision of the Convention;

2 to set the level of the financial contribution for participation in the Union at one-sixteenth of the value of a contributory unit for Sector Members in the case of organizations from developed countries, and one-thirty second of the value of the contributory unit for Sector Members in the case of organizations from developing countries[[7]](#footnote-7)2 for defraying Union expenses, and to apply this level of financial contribution to academia that are already participating in the Union as well as those which join in the future. One year membership free of charge, may be considered for some particular cases of Academia from developing countries and could be renewed if the concerned Academia member was very active during that year of membership;

3 that payment of the level of financial contribution specified in *resolves* 2 entitles academia to participate in the work of all three Sectors;

4 to implement more significant discounts on ITU publications, reports, databases and reduce the costsof access to ITU publications and reports for Academia members, especially from developing countries;

5 that academia also be invited to participate in other global and regional conferences, workshops and activities of the Union, with the exception of plenipotentiary conferences, world radiocommunication conferences, world conferences on international telecommunications and the ITU Council, in conformity with the rules of procedure of the respective Sectors, and taking into account the outcome of the review pursuant to Resolution 187 (Rev. Dubai, 2018);

6 that academia should not have a role in decision-making, including the adoption of resolutions or recommendations regardless of the approval procedure;

7 that academia shall be allowed to participate and make their proposals and interventions remotely, as appropriate, in accordance with the provisions of Resolution 167 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on strengthening ITU capabilities for electronic meetings and means to advance the work of the Union;

8 that acceptance of applications for the participation of academia shall be conditional on the support of the Member States of the Union to which the bodies belong, on the condition that this shall not constitute an alternative for those bodies currently listed with the Union as Sector Members or Associates;

9 to continue with the Kaleidoscope events on an annual basis rotating between the six regions, to the greatest extent possible, in order to encourage participation of Academia members from all regions,

instructs the Council

1 to add any additional conditions, remedial measures or detailed procedures to this resolution, if it deems appropriate;

2 to further implement this resolution and set the annual fee for academia participation, as in *resolves* 2 above;

3 to review the financial contributions and the conditions for admission and participation pursuant to Resolution 187 (Busan, 2014), and report to the next plenipotentiary conference,

instructs the Radiocommunication Assembly, the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly and the World Telecommunication Development Conference

to mandate their respective Sector advisory groups to continue to study whether there is a need for any additional measures and/or arrangements to facilitate such participation that are not covered by Resolution 169 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of this conference and adopt such modalities, if they deem it necessary or required, and report the results through the Directors of the Bureaux to the Council,

*instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the three Bureaux*

1 to take necessary and appropriate action in order to implement this resolution;

2 to continue their successful efforts to explore and recommend, taking into account the advice of the Council, various mechanisms such as the use of voluntary financial and in-kind contributions from Member States and other stakeholders to encourage increased participation of academia;

3 to encourage the participation of academia in various open events and activities organized or co-organized by ITU, such as ITU Telecom World, ITU Kaleidoscope, World Summit on the Information Society forums and other workshops and forums;

4 to set up the criteria (KPI) for academia from developing countries to benefit of the one year membership free of charge as well as the criteria for the renewing;

5 to encourage the participation of Academia in the elaboration of technical reports and the publications of the Union,

*invites ITU Member States*

to inform their academia of this resolution, and encourage and support them to participate in the Union.

**Reasons:** These amendments are done to encourage ITU to take new measures for supporting Academia from developing countries to easily access to ITU reports and participate to ITU activities as much as possible.

MOD AFCP/55A3/7

RESOLUTION 176 (Rev.dubai, 2018)

Human exposure to and measurement and assessment of electromagnetic fields

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

recalling

*a)* Resolution 72 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on measurement and assessment concerns related to human exposure to electromagnetic fields (EMF);

*b)* Resolution 62 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on assessment and measurement of human exposure to electromagnetic field ;

*c)* relevant resolutions and recommendations of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) and ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T);

*d)* that there is ongoing work in the three Sectors relating to human exposure to EMF, and that liaison and collaboration between the Sectors and with other expert organizations are important, in order to avoid duplication of effort,

considering

*a)* that the World Health Organization (WHO) has the specialized health expertise and competence to assess the impact of radio waves on the human body;

*b)* that WHO recommends exposure limits from international organizations such as the International Commission on Non‑Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP);

*c)* that ITU has expertise in a mechanism to verify compliance with levels of radio signals by calculating and measuring field strength and power density;

*d)* the high cost of advanced equipment used for measuring, assessing and monitoring human exposure to EMF lead to the difficulty of developing countries’ affordability;

*e)* that the considerable development in radio spectrum use and increasing installation of mobile base stations has resulted in multiple sources of EMF emissions within any given geographic area;

*f)* the urgent need for regulatory bodies in many developing countries[[8]](#footnote-8)1 to obtain information on EMF measurement and assessment methodologies in regard to human exposure to radio-frequency energy, in order to establish national regulations to protect their citizens;

*g)* that without adequate information, public awareness and/or appropriate regulation, people, particularly in developing countries, may have concerns about the effect of EMF on their health, which may result in increasing opposition to the deployment of radio installations;

*h)* that guidelines on limits of exposure to EMF have been established by ICNIRP[[9]](#footnote-9)2, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)[[10]](#footnote-10)3 and the International Organization for Standardization/International Electrotechnical Commission (ISO/IEC), and that many administrations have adopted national regulations based on these guidelines; however there is a need to harmonize EMF guidelines for regulators and policy-makers to help them formulate national standards;

*i)* that most of the developing countries do not have the necessary tools to measure and evaluate the impact of radiowaves on the human body,

resolves to instruct the Directors of the three Bureaux

1 to collect and disseminate information concerning exposure to EMF, including on EMF measurement methodologies, in order to assist national administrations, particularly in developing countries, to develop appropriate national regulations;

2 to work closely with all relevant organizations in the implementation of this resolution, as well as Resolution 72 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016), Resolution 62 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), in order to continue and enhance the technical assistance provided to Member States especially developing countries,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, in collaboration with the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau and the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

1 to conduct regional seminars and workshops in order to identify the needs of developing countries and to build human capacity in regard to measurement of EMF related to human exposure to these fields;

2 to encourage Member States in the various regions to cooperate in sharing expertise and resources and identify a focal point or regional cooperation mechanism, including if required a regional centre, so as to assist all Member States in the region in measurement and training;

3 to encourage relevant organizations to continue undertaking necessary scientific studies to investigate possible health effects of EMF radiation on the human body;

4 to formulate necessary measures and guidelines in order to help mitigate possible health effects of EMF radiation on human body;

5 to encourage Member States to conduct periodic reviews to ensure that ITU recommendations and other relevant international standards related to the exposure to EMF are followed,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, in collaboration with the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to participate in the Electromagnetic Field Project, conducted by WHO, as part of collaborative efforts with other international organizations to encourage the development of international standards for EMF exposure,

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

1 to prepare a report on the implementation of this resolution for submission to the ITU Council at each annual session for evaluation;

2 to provide a report to the next plenipotentiary conference on measures taken to implement this resolution,

invites Member States

1 to take the appropriate measures and assessments to ascertain compliance with guidelines produced by ITU and other relevant international organizations with respect to exposure to EMF;

2 to implement subregional cooperation mechanisms for acquisition of the requisite equipment to measure EMF;

3 to conduct a periodic review to ascertain compliance with levels of radio signals by relevant entities, in accordance with ITU-R and ITU‑T recommendations;

4 to raise public awareness of the health effects of human exposure to non-ionizing EMF, by conducting awareness-raising campaigns, holding workshops publishing brochures and developing portals on the subject.

**Reasons:** To include the lacking assessment methods that will help to take appropriate measures and to avoid any harmful exposure.

MOD AFCP/55A3/8

RESOLUTION 197 (rev. dubai, 2018)

Facilitating the Internet of Things and Smart Sustainable Cities for a globally connected world

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

recalling

*a)* Resolution 85 (Buenos Aires, 2017) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on Facilitating the Internet of Things and smart cities and communities for global development;

*b)* Resolution 98 (Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, on enhancing standardization of the Internet of Things and smart cities and communities for global development;

*c)* Resolution 66 (Geneva, 2015) of the Radiocommunication Assembly, on studies related to wireless systems and applications for the development of the Internet of Things;

*d)* relevant goals defined by Resolution 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

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

*f)* Resolution 200 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference on Connect [2020] Agenda for global telecommunication/information and communication technology development;

[g) Resolution XX (Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference on Artificial Intelligence for Sustainable Development;]

*h)* Resolution 90 (Hammamet, 2016)of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, on open source in the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector;

*i)* relevant WSIS Action Lines and relevant UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) particularly Goal 9 on Building resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation, and Goal 11 on Sustainable Cities and communities,

taking into account

*a)* the work and outcomes of ITU-T relevant Study Group, particularly Study Group 20 which is the lead Study Group on IoT and its applications, Smart Cities and communities (SSC) including its e-services and smart services, and IoT identifications;

*b)* the work of United for Smart and Sustainable Cities (U4SSC) initiative which is a global platform for smart city stakeholders that advocates for public policy to encourage the use of ICTs to facilitate the transition to smart sustainable cities;

*c)* the work of the ITU-T Focus Group on Data Processing and Management to support IoT and Smart Cities & Communities,

*d)* the current studies carried out by relevant ITU-R Study groups particularly those related to frequency requirements for IoT;

*e)* the ongoing work of relevant Questions under ITU-D Study Groups;

*f)* Buenos Aires Declaration adopted by the World Telecommunication Development Conference 2017 particularly Regional Initiates related to IoT;

*g)* that the implementation of advanced addressing and identification technologies will contribute to the future development of IoT;

*h)* the ongoing collaboration between ITU-T Study Group 20 and other relevant organizations and SDOs, considering

*a)* that a globally connected "Internet of Things" (IoT) world will be built on the connectivity and functionality made possible by telecommunication networks, including IMT-2020 networks and future networks;

*b)* that the global connected world also requires considerable enhancement of transmission speed, device connectivity and energy efficiency in addition to lower latency, to accommodate the significant volume, velocity, variety and veracity of data exchanged among a plethora of devices;

*c)* that the rapid development of related technology could cause the globally connected world to be realized faster and broader than expected;

*d)* that IoT is playing a fundamental role in various fields including, energy, transportation, health, urban and rural spaces and smart and sustainable cities and communities management, agriculture, emergencies, crisis and disaster management, public safety and home networks, and benefits developing countries[[11]](#footnote-11)1 as well as developed countries;

*e)* that the impact of IoT is becoming more pervasive and far-reaching thanks to the wide range of applications in information and communication technology (ICT) sectors and non-ICT sectors;

*f)* that, considering the limited financial and human resources in developing countries, special attention should be given to developing countries, in order to help them to deploy necessary infrastructures to facilitate the interconnectivity of things,bearing in mind

*a)* that interoperability is required in order to develop services enabled by IoT (hereinafter "IoT services") at the global level, to the extent practicable with mutual collaboration among relevant organizations and entities, including other standards-development organizations (SDOs) involved in developing and using open standards to the extent practicable;

*b)* that industry forums are developing technical specifications for IoT;

*c)* that the application of IoT is expected to encompass all sectors, including but not limited to energy, transportation, health, agriculture, etc.;

*d)* that IoT-related activities will encourage the participation of all relevant organizations or entities around the world to promote the early establishment and expansion of IoT;

*e)* that the globally connected world through IoT will contribute to achieving the goals of 2030 Agenda of the Sustainable Development goals;

*f)* that IoT could redefine the relationship between people and physical things and information (virtual) world,

resolves

to continue and further develop studies and activities on IoT and Smart Sustainable Cities and Communities, in order to contribute to the global efforts being made by Member States and other relevant stakeholders,

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

1 to coordinate the activities of the Union to implement the resolution;

2 to facilitate the exchange of experiences and information with all relevant organizations and entities involved in IoT and SCC, with the aim of creating opportunities for cooperative efforts to support the deployment of IoT at a larger scale;

3 to facilitate the exchange of experiences and information with all relevant organizations and entities involved in IoT and SCC, with the aim of creating opportunities for cooperative efforts to support large scale IoT pilots specifically in Smart Cities and Communities;

4 to submit an annual report on the results of implementation of this resolution to the ITU Council sessions;

5 to submit a report to the next plenipotentiary conference in 2018,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

1 to continue the work of relevant ITU-T study groups in particular Study Group 20, related to IoT and Smart Cities and Communities tackling studies on important areas including Blockchain, identification, AI, semantic description and interoperability;

2 to invite the relevant ITU-T Study Groups to carry out studies on the potential impacts of non-ionizing radiation from "IoT" on people;

3 to continue cooperation with relevant organizations, including SDOs, for exchanging best practices and disseminating information to increase interoperability of IoT services, through joint workshops, training sessions, joint coordination activity groups and any other appropriate means;

4 to strengthen cooperation with relevant Open-source communities,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau in close collaboration with the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

to encourage and assist those countries which need support in adopting IoT and SCC, by providing relevant information, capacity building, technical expertise and best practices to enable the adoption of IoTand SCC,

instructs the Council

1 to consider the reports of the Secretary-General referred to in *instructs the Secretary-General* 3 above and take necessary measures so as to contribute to achieving the objectives of this resolution;

2 to report to the next plenipotentiary conference on the progress made with respect to this resolution based on the report of the Secretary-General,

invites Member States

1 to develop national guidelines for deployment, planning, technical management, capacity building in the field of IoT and SCC;

2 to cooperate in order to promote IoT by encouraging the active participation of relevant stakeholders including private sector, Academia, [SMEs], and open-source communities,

invites Member States, Sector Members, Associates, [SMEs] and Academia

1 contribute to the implementation of this resolution;

2 to consider developing best practices to enhance the development of IoT;

3 to participate actively in IoT-related studies in the Union through contributions and by other appropriate means.

**Reasons:** ITU to continue its efforts promoting emerging technologies and to assist its Members in developing national guidelines for deployment, planning, technical management, capacity building especially in the field of IoT and Smart Cities services.

To foster cooperation between relevant stakeholders including private sector, Academia, [SMEs], and open-source communities.

ADD AFCP/55A3/9

Draft New Resolution [AFCP-3]

ITU’s role in fostering telecommunications/ICT-centric innovation that accelerates digital transformation of society

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

recalling

*a)* Resolution 11 (Rev.) on ITU Telecom Events;

*b)* Resolution 123 (Rev.) on bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries;

*c)* Resolution 140 (Rev.) on ITU's role in implementing the outcomes of the WSIS and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

*d)* Resolution 195 (Rev.) on implementation of Smart Africa Manifesto;

*e)* Resolution 198 (Rev.) on empowerment of youth through telecommunication/ information and communication technology;

*f)* Resolution 200 (Rev.) on the Connect 2020 Agenda on global telecommunication/ICT development,

recalling further

*a)* UNGA Resolution A/70/1 on Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

*b)* UNGA Resolution A/70/125 on the outcome document of the High-Level Meeting of UNGA on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of WSIS;

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

taking into account

that innovation is essential to strengthening ITU’s result based, people-centered and service oriented delivery,

considering

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

*b)* that the strategic plan for the Union for 2020-2023 set out in Resolution 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of this conference identifies innovation as one of five ITU goals aiming at enabling innovation in telecommunication/ICT in support of the digital transformation of society;

*c)* that Resolution 200 (Rev.) endorsed the Connect 2020 global communication/ICT goals and targets, including target on innovation, calling all countries to have policies/strategies fostering telecommunication/ICT-centric innovation by 2023;

*d)* that ITU promote innovation, entrepreneurship and skills development, in order to provide tools for self-empowerment of youth and their satisfactory participation in the digital economy and all aspects of society,

noting

ITU’s role in the organization of dedicated annual events addressing innovation dynamics at the regional and international level, including Regional Innovation Forums, Transform Africa Summits, innovation track of WSIS Forum, TELECOM World, Artificial Intelligence Global Summit, Global ICT Capacity Building Symposium, Global Symposium for Regulators, etc.,

recognizing

that the UNGA Resolution 70/1 on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has substantial implications on the activities of the ITU especially those fostering innovation, for advancement of Sustainable Development Goal 9,

resolves

1 that innovation is a key element in the transformation of the telecommunication/ICT environment and that ITU considers collaboration with open source community in this regard;

2 that ITU should play a leading role in driving digital transformation, through building protecting ICT-centric innovation ecosystems in unserved and underserved regions;

3 that ITU should continue supporting WSIS action lines through responding to the global need to foster telecommunication/ICT-centric innovation that accelerates the digital transformation of society in the developing countries;

4 that ITU should continue to contribute significantly to foster telecommunication/ICT centric innovation initiatives of digital economy and achievement of SDGs;

5 that ITU should continue to coordinate with other UN agencies, on the scope of action and activities related to ICT-centric innovation ecosystem that supports entrepreneurship, SMEs, starter ups and incubation centers, particularly in the achievement of African Union vision 2063;

6 that ITU should submit a progress report on the implementation of this resolution to the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in 2022,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to support ITU's role in building ICT-centric innovation ecosystems worldwide and in particular Africa’s STI strategy 2024within the context of ITU Strategic Plan Goal 4 on Innovation and SDG9 of 2030 Agendas for Sustainable Development;

2 to ensure that ITU activities related to building ICT-centric Innovation ecosystems within allocated resources support SMEs, starter ups and small-scale entrepreneurs;

3 in coordination with all Sectors of the Union, to ensure appropriate coordination with other UN agencies on the scope of action and activities related to ICT-centric innovation ecosystem at national and regional level;

4 to apply mechanisms established by UNGA Resolution A/70/1 in fostering telecommunication/ICT innovation in order to achieve objectives of SDG9;

5 to use, to the extent possible, the TELECOM World as global platform for inclusion of SMEs, Start-ups, incubation centers and small entrepreneurs in the unserved and underserved regions for marketing and sharing best practices on telecommunication/ICT innovation;

6 to consider within the mandate of ITU possibilities of giving free membership and participation of SMEs, starter ups and open source community, particularly from developing countries to ITU activities of the Union related to telecommunication/ICT innovation;

7 to provide annually to the ITU Council a comprehensive report detailing the activities, actions, and engagements that the Union is undertaking in response to this resolution;

8 to prepare and submit a progress report on the ITU activities related to this resolution to the next plenipotentiary conference in 2022;

invites Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia

1 to participate actively in collaboration with other stakeholders in the innovation related activities of the Union, while facilitating participation of SMEs, Start-ups and small entrepreneurs;

2 to collaborate with ITU on activities related to the implementation of SDG9;

3 to establish by 2023 policies/strategies in their countries/regions that foster telecommunication/ICT-centric innovation in their countries and regions.

**Reasons:** The proposal is anchored on the growing role of innovation and the potential Science, technology and Innovation has to grow the economies in many countries, and particularly in the African region. It recognizes the leading role that ITU can potentially play in driving digital transformation and inclusion, through building ICT-centric innovation ecosystems.

ADD AFCP/55A3/10

Draft New Resolution [AFCP-4]

Use of information and communication technologies to bridge the financial inclusion gap

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

recalling

*a)* that financial inclusion is a key enabler for reducing poverty and boosting prosperity: around two billion people globally do not have access to formal financial services and more than 50 per cent of adults in the poorest households are unbanked;

*b)* that one way to bridge this financial inclusion gap is through information communication technology (ICT), particularly mobile phone technologies:.

*c)* that the purposes of the Union include to foster collaboration among the membership for the harmonious development of telecommunications, sharing of best practices and enabling services to be offered at lowest possible cost;

*d)* Resolution 1353 (Geneva, 2012) of the ITU Council, which recognizes that telecommunications and ICTs are essential components for developed and developing countries in achieving sustainable development, and instructs the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the Directors of the Bureaux, to identify new activities to be undertaken by ITU to support developing countries in achieving sustainable development through telecommunications and ICTs;

*e)* WTSA Resolution 89 (Hammamet, 2016) on promoting the use of information and communication technologies to bridge the financial inclusion gap,

recognizing

*a)* the studies and ongoing work in the study of mobile financial services in ITU-T SG3, and in particular Question 12/3;

*b)* that, according to the Global Findex Study of the World Bank, more than half of adults in the poorest 40 per cent of households in developing countries[[12]](#footnote-12)1 were still without accounts in 2014 [and, moreover, the gender gap in bank-account ownership is not significantly narrowing: in 2011, 47 per cent of women and 54 per cent of men had an account; in 2014, 58 per cent of women had an account, compared to 65 per cent of men, while at the regional level the gender gap is largest in South Asia, where 37 per cent of women have an account compared to 55 per cent of men;]

*c)* the establishment of the ITU‑T Focus Group on digital financial services (FG DFS) by the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) at its meeting in Geneva, 17‑20 June 2014, whose mandate focused on innovations in payments and delivery of financial services via mobile technologies occurring in both developed and developing countries;

*d)* ITU-T SG3 Technical report on DFS Glossary (2018);

*e)* the establishment of the ITU‑T Focus Group on digital fiat currency (FG DFC) by the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) at its meeting in Geneva, 2017, whose mandate focuses on studying the economic impact, ecosystem & regulatory implications of Digital Fiat Currency;

*f)* the Global Initiative for Financial inclusion (FIGI) which is a collaborative initiative among the World Bank Group, the BMGF, the Committee on Payments and Market Infrastructures (CPMI), and the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) with broad participation from public and private sector partners in its activities;

*g)* the work done by ITU‑T Study Group 2 on telecommunication finance during the last study period;

*h)* the work done by the development sector through Study group 2 on the issue of Digital financial services;

*i)* the ongoing work in the Development sector through the Arab states regional initiative on digital financial inclusion to support and enable access to and use of digital financial services, using telecommunications and information technology, and achieve high levels of digital financial inclusion;

*j)* the activities run through the Global Initiative for Financial Inclusion (FIGI)

considering

*a)* that the issue of access to financial services is one of global concern and requires global collaboration;

*b)* United Nations General Assembly Resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, on transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, recognizing that it builds on the Millennium Development Goals and seeks to complete their unfinished business, and stressing the importance of the implementation of this new ambitious agenda, which has poverty eradication at its core and aims at promoting the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development;

*c)* that this new agenda, *inter alia*, undertakes the adoption and implementation of policies to increase financial inclusion and therefore integrates financial inclusion into several targets associated with the Sustainable Development Goals and their means of implementation;

*d)* the need for regulators from the telecommunication and financial services sectors to collaborate with one another and with, *inter alia,* their finance ministries and other stakeholders, and to share best practices, since digital financial services encompass areas which fall under the purview of all parties,

noting

*a)* the target of universal financial access by 2020 set by the World Bank, and that this goal will be achieved globally by providing access to a transaction account or electronic instrument to store money and send and receive payments, as the basic building block for people to manage their financial lives;

*b)* that the World Bank group has committed to enabling one billion people to gain access to a transaction account through targeted interventions;

*c)* that interoperability is, *inter alia*, an important element to enable electronic payments in a convenient, affordable, fast, seamless and secure way through a transaction account; indeed the need for interoperability was also one of the findings of the Committee on Payments and Market Infrastructures (CPMI) - World Bank group Task Force on payment aspects of financial inclusion (PAFI), which identified required improvements to existing payment systems and services in order to increase further financial inclusion, recognizing that implementation of existing standards and best practices should be a priority;

*d)* that, despite the huge success of mobile-money services in countries such as Kenya, Tanzania, Paraguay and Uganda and Zimbabwe, mobile financial services have not had the same success and scale of usage in many other emerging economies, and efforts to roll out standards and systems to support digital financial services will thus need to be continued and accelerated;

*e)* the importance of affordability of digital financial services, especially for people in low-income households, for achieving financial inclusion;

*f)* the work of FG DFS which was delivered to TSAG in 2017;

*g)* the increased interest in using mobile financial services in developing countries,

resolves

1 to continue studying the topic of digital financial services in order to increase the financial inclusion in developing countries;

2 to encourage collaboration between telecommunication regulators and financial services authorities to develop and implement standards and guidelines;

3 to encourage the use of innovative digital tools and technologies, as appropriate, to advance financial inclusion,

instructs ITU-T SG3

1 to continue studying and developing standards, regulations and guidelines in the area of digital financial services within Question 12/3;

2 to continue studying the areas of interoperability, digitization of payments, consumer protection, quality of service, big data and agents, where such studies, standards and guidelines do not duplicate efforts taking place in other institutions and relate to the mandate of the Union;

3 to continue its efforts in the area of the collaboration between Telecom regulators and Central banks;

4 to coordinate and collaborate with other relevant Standard Development Organizations (SDOs) and institutions with primary responsibility for financial services standards development, implementation and capacity‑building, and with other groups within ITU,

instructs ITU-D

1 to continue the regional studies related to digital financial inclusion;

2 to encourage regions to sponsor new initiatives for digital financial inclusion;

3 to continue its effort in supporting the membership in the awareness of digital financial inclusion,

instructs the Directors of Telecommunication Standardization and Development Bureaux

1to collaborate closely and provide information and support on the matters of this Resolution;

2 to report on the progress of the implementation of this resolution annually to the Council;

3 to support the development of reports and best practices on digital financial inclusion, taking into consideration relevant studies, where clearly within the mandate of the Union and not duplicative of work for which other SDOs and institutions are responsible;

4 to establish a platform or, where possible, connect to those already existing, for peer learning, dialogue and experience-sharing in digital financial services among countries and regions, regulators from telecommunication and financial services sectors, industry experts and international and regional organizations;

5 to organize workshops and seminars for the ITU membership in collaboration with other relevant SDOs and institutions in order to raise awareness and identify regulators' particular needs and challenges in enhancing financial inclusion,

invites the Secretary-General

to continue to cooperate and collaborate with other entities within the United Nations and other relevant entities in formulating future international efforts for effectively addressing financial inclusion,

invites Member States, Sector Members and Associates

1 to continue to contribute actively to ITU‑T& ITU-D study groups on issues related to use of ICTs to enhance financial inclusion, within the mandate of the Union;

2 to promote the integration of ICT, financial services and consumer-protection policies in order to enhance usage of digital financial services with the objective of increasing financial inclusion,

invites Member States

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

2 to develop and implement national strategies to address financial inclusion as a matter of priority and to leverage ICTs to bring financial services to the unbanked;

3 to undertake reforms that will leverage ICTs to achieve gender equality within the objectives of this resolution.

**Reasons:** As the financial inclusion is a key driver of poverty reduction and the ICT has boosted growth of Digital Financial Services (DFS), ITU should play a key role in promoting uses of DFS and encourage collaboration between telecommunication regulators and financial services authorities. ITU should also support Member States particularly developing countries in developing of financial innovative digital tools and technologies standards and guidelines as well as their implementation.

1. 1 Including, but not limited to, the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), the regional Internet registries (RIRs), the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), the Internet Society(ISOC) and the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C), on the basis of reciprocity. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. 2 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. 1 Including, but not limited to, the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), the regional Internet registries (RIRs), the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), the Internet Society (ISOC) and the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C), on the basis of reciprocity. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. 2 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. 1 This includes colleges, institutes, universities and their associated research establishments concerned with the development of telecommunications/ICT. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. 2 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. 2 Guidelines for limiting exposure to time-varying electric, magnetic and electromagnetic fields (up to 300 GHz). Health Physics 74(4): 494-522; 1998. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. 3 IEEE Std C95.1™-2005, IEEE standard for safety levels with respect to human exposure to radio frequency electromagnetic fields, 3 kHz to 300 GHz. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)