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| PLENARY MEETING | Addendum 2 toDocument 43-E |
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| Arab States Administrations |
| Proposals for the work of the conference |
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| **Abstract:** | This contribution contains an Arab Common Proposal for the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA-16), which proposes to amend Resolution 18 Principles and procedures for the allocation of work to, and coordination between, the ITU Radiocommunication to maintain the framework of cooperation between ITU-T, ITU-R, and ITU-D in one resolution. Amend Resolution 29 Alternative Calling Procedures reflecting the changes happened in Resolution 21 of the Plenipotentiary Conference and the changes in International Telecommunication calling procedures. Amend Resolution 44 Bridging the Standardization Gap reflecting the changes happened in Resolution 123 and 139 of the Plenipotentiary Conference 2014 and Resolution 37 of the World Telecommunication Development Conference 2014, and maintaining minimum cost reference for this resolution. And amend Resolution 72 addressing the measurement issues related to exposure to electromagnetic fields to guarantee the protection and the health of people without blocking the expansion of telecommunication networks |

MOD ARB/4251/1

RESOLUTION 18 (REV. Hammamet, 2016)

Principles and procedures for the allocation of work to, and
strengthening coordination between, the ITU Radiocommunication, ITU Telecommunication Standardization and ITU Development Sectors

(Helsinki, 1993; Geneva, 1996; Montreal, 2000; Florianópolis, 2004; Johannesburg, 2008; Dubai, 2012; Hammamet, 2016)

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Hammamet, 2016),

Recalling

*a)* Resolution 59 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on "Strengthening coordination and cooperation among the three ITU Sectors on matters of mutual interest"

b) Resolution 17, 26, 44 and 45 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on mutual cooperation and integration of activities between ITU-T and ITU-D

c) Resolution 169 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference on Admission of academia to participate in the work of the union;

considering

*a)* the responsibilities of the Radiocommunication Sector (ITU‑R) the Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU‑T) and the Development Sector (ITU-D) according to the principles laid down in the ITU Constitution and Convention, i.e.:

• that the ITU‑R study groups are charged (Nos. 151 to 154 of the Convention) to focus on the following in the study of Questions assigned to them:

i) use of the radio-frequency spectrum in terrestrial and space radiocommunication (and of the geostationary-satellite orbit);

ii) characteristics and performance of radio systems;

iii) operation of radio stations;

iv) radiocommunication aspects of distress and safety matters;

• that the ITU‑T study groups are charged (No. 193 of the Convention) to study technical, operating and tariff questions and prepare Recommendations on them with a view to standardizing telecommunications on a worldwide basis, including Recommendations on interconnection of radio systems in public telecommunication networks and on the performance required for these interconnections;

* that the ITU-D study groups shall deal (No. 214 of the Convention) with specific telecommunication questions of general interest to developing countries, including the matters enumerated in No. 211 of the Convention. Such study groups shall be limited in number and created for a limited period of time, subject to the availability of resources, shall have specific terms of reference on questions and matters of priority to developing countries and shall be task-oriented.

*b)* that joint meetings of the Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG) Telecommunication Standardization (TSAG) Advisory Groups and Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) shall review the distribution of new and existing work between the Sectors, subject to confirmation by the applicable procedures of each Sector, the objective being to:

• minimize the duplication of activities of the Sectors;

• group the standardization activities in order to foster cooperation and coordination of the work of ITU‑T with regional standardization bodies,

*c)* that there is a growing number of issues of mutual interest and concern to all Sectors including the following: electromagnetic compatibility (EMC); International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT); middleware; audiovisual delivery; accessibility for persons with disabilities; emergency communications; ICTs and climate change; and cybersecurity,

recognizing

*a)* that there is a need to improve the participation of developing countries in the work of ITU, as outlined in Resolution 5 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference;

*b)* that one such mechanism – the Inter-Sectoral Emergency Telecommunication Team – has been established to ensure close collaboration within the Union as a whole, as well as with interested entities and organizations outside ITU, on this key priority issue for the Union;

*c)* that all advisory groups are collaborating in the implementation of Resolution 123 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries,

recognizing further

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;

taking into account

*a)* that mechanisms for cooperation, beyond those already established, need to be identified to address a growing number of subjects of mutual interest and concern in ITU‑R, ITU‑T and ITU‑D;

*b)* the ongoing consultation among representatives of the three advisory bodies in the discussion of modalities for enhancing cooperation among the advisory groups,

c) No. 119 of the Constitution, the Radiocommunication, Telecommunication Standardization and Telecommunication Development Sectors shall keep the matters under study under continuing review with a view to reaching agreement on the distribution of work, avoiding duplication of effort and improving coordination. The Sectors shall adopt procedures to conduct such reviews and reach such agreement in a timely and effective manner.

resolves

1 that TSAG , TDAG and RAG, meeting jointly as necessary, shall continue the review of new and existing work and its distribution between ITU‑T, ITU-D and ITU‑R, for approval in accordance with the procedures laid down for the approval of new and/or revised Questions;

2 that, if considerable responsibilities in the three Sectors in a particular subject are identified:

i) the procedure as given in Annex A to this resolution should be applied; or

ii*)* the matter should be studied by relevant study groups of the three Sectors, with appropriate coordination (see Annexes B and C to this resolution); or

iii) a joint group should be established.

3 to invite the Directors of the Radiocommunication (BR), Telecommunication Standardization (TSB) and Telecommunication Development (BDT) Bureaux to collaborate and report to the respective Sector advisory bodies on options for improving cooperation at the secretariat level to ensure that close coordination is maximized.

4 to invite the Director of the Telecommunication standardization (TSB) Bureaux in cooperation with Directors of the Radiocommunication (BR) and Telecommunication Development (BDT) Bureaux to continue organizing the Kaleidoscope event annually and on the basis of rotation between the six regions, to the greatest extent possible, and to cooperate with ITU-TELECOM in order to spread awareness of the value of academia membership in ITU.

Annex A
(to Resolution 18)

Procedural method of cooperation

With respect to *resolves* 2 i), the following procedure should be applied:

*a)* The joint meeting, as indicated in *resolves* 1, will nominate the Sector which will lead the work and will finally approve the deliverable.

*b)* The lead Sector will request the other Sectors to indicate those requirements which it considers essential for integration in the deliverable.

*c)* The lead Sector will base its work on these essential requirements and integrate them in its draft deliverable.

*d)* During the process of development of the required deliverable the lead Sector shall consult with the other Sectors in case it has difficulties with these essential requirements. In case of agreement on revised essential requirements the revised requirements shall be the basis for further work.

*e)* When the deliverable concerned comes to maturity, the lead Sector shall once more seek the views of the other Sectors.

Annex B
(to Resolution 18)

Coordination of radiocommunication , standardization and development activities
through intersector coordination groups

With respect to *resolves* 2 iii), the following procedure shall be applied:

*a)* The joint meeting of the advisory groups as indicated in *resolves* 1, may, in exceptional cases, establish an intersector coordination group (ICG) to coordinate the work of two or the three Sectors and to assist the advisory groups in coordinating the related activity of their respective study groups.

*b)* The joint meeting shall, at the same time, nominate the Sector which will lead the work.

*c)* The mandate of each ICG shall be clearly defined by the joint meeting, based on the particular circumstances and issues at the time the group is established; the joint meeting shall also establish a target date for termination of the ICG.

*d)* The ICG shall designate a chairman and a vice‑chairman, one representing each Sector.

*e)* The ICG shall be open to members of the engaged Sectors in accordance with Nos. 86 and 110 of the Constitution.

*f)* The ICG shall not develop Recommendations.

*g)* The ICG shall prepare reports on its coordinating activities to be presented to each Sector's advisory group; these reports shall be submitted by the Directors to the engaged Sectors.

*h)* An ICG may also be established by the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly or by the Radiocommunication Assembly or by the World Telecommunication Development Conference following a recommendation by the advisory group of the other two Sectors.

*i)* The cost of an ICG shall be supported by the engaged Sectors on an equal basis and each Director shall include budgetary provisions for such meetings in the budget of their Sector.

Annex C
(to Resolution 18)

Coordination of radiocommunication, telecommunication standardization, and development activities through intersector rapporteur groups

With respect to *resolves* 2 iii), the following procedure shall be applied when work on a specific subject could be best performed by bringing together technology experts from the study groups or working parties concerned of two or the three Sectors to cooperate on a peer-to-peer basis in a technical group:

*a)* the study groups concerned in each Sector may, in special cases, agree by mutual consultation to establish an Intersector Rapporteur Group (IRG) to coordinate their work on a specific technical subject, informing TSAG, TDAG and RAG of this action through a liaison statement;

*b)* the study groups concerned in each Sector shall, at the same time, agree on clearly defined terms of reference for the IRG, and establish a target date for completion of the work and termination of the IRG;

*c)* the study groups concerned in each Sector shall also designate the chairman (or co-chairmen) of the IRG, taking into account the requested specific expertise and ensuring equitable representation of each Sector;

*d)* an IRG shall be regulated by the provisions applicable to rapporteur groups, given in Resolution ITU-R 1-6 and in Recommendation ITU-T A.1 and in Resolution ITU-D 1-2; participation is limited to members of ITU-T, ITU-D and ITU-R;

*e)* in fulfilling its mandate, an IRG may develop draft new Recommendations or draft revisions to Recommendations, as well as draft technical reports, to be submitted to its parent study groups for further processing as appropriate;

*f)* the results of an IRG's work should represent the agreed consensus of the IRG or reflect the diversity of views of the participants in the IRG;

*g)* an IRG shall also prepare reports on its activities, to be submitted to each meeting of its parent study groups;

*h)* an IRG shall normally work by correspondence and/or by teleconference; however, it may occasionally hold short face-to-face meetings, preferably collocated with meetings of the parent study groups.

MOD ARB/4251/2

RESOLUTION 29 (REV. Hammamet, 2016)

Alternative calling procedures on international telecommunication networks

(Geneva, 1996; Montreal, 2000; Florianópolis, 2004; Johannesburg, 2008; Dubai, 2012; Hammamet, 2016)

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Hammamet, 2016),

recalling

*a)* Resolution 1099, adopted by the Council at its 1996 session, concerning alternative calling procedures on international telecommunication networks, which urged the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU‑T) to develop, as soon as possible, the appropriate Recommendations concerning alternative calling procedures;

*b)* Resolution 22 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on alternative calling procedures on international telecommunication networks, identification of origin and apportionment of revenues in providing international telecommunication services;

*c)* Resolution 21 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on measures concerning alternative calling procedures on international telecommunication networks,

recognizing

*a)* that the alternative calling procedures, which may be potentially harmful, are not permitted in many countries and permitted in some others;

*b)* that although the alternative calling procedures, which may be potentially harmful, they may be attractive for users;

*c)* that the alternative calling procedures, which may be potentially harmful and may impact the revenue of operating agencies authorized by Member States, which may seriously hamper, in particular, the efforts of developing countries[[1]](#footnote-2)2, for the sound development of their telecommunication networks and services;

*d)* that distortions in traffic patterns resulting from some forms of the alternative calling procedures, which may be potentially harmful, may impact traffic management and network planning;

*e)* that some forms the alternative calling procedures seriously degrade the performance and quality of the telecommunication networks,

*f)* that the major role of Internet networks in the international arena, which impact the calling procedures format and reform the structure and technology of calling procedures

considering

1. the results of the ITU workshop on alternative calling procedures and origin identification,
2. that calling procedures should maintain acceptable quality of service (QoS) levels , quality of experience (QoE), calling line identification (CLI), and origin identification (OI)

reaffirming

*a)* that it is the sovereign right of each country to regulate its telecommunications and as such it may permit, prohibit or otherwise regulate matters related to caller identification in its territory;

*b)* that the ITU Constitution, in its Preamble, gave regard to "the growing importance of telecommunication for the preservation of peace and the economic and social development of all States", and that Member States agreed in the Constitution with "the object of facilitating peaceful relations, international cooperation among peoples and economic and social development by means of efficient telecommunication services",

noting

that in order to minimize the effect of alternative calling procedures:

i) Administrations and operating agencies authorized by Member States should, within their national law, follow the guidelines, developed by Member States, on the measures that can be considered to address the impact of alternative calling procedures make every effort to establish the level of collection charges on a cost-oriented basis, taking into account Article 6.1.1 of the International Telecommunication Regulations and Recommendation ITU‑T D.5;

ii)

resolves

1 to continue identifying and defining all forms of alternative calling procedures and study their impact on all parties, and developing Recommendations concerning alternative calling procedures that administrations and operating agencies authorized by Member States should take, to the furthest extent practicable, all measures to suspend the methods and practices of any alternative calling procedures which seriously degrade the quality of service (QoS), quality of experience (QoE) of telecommunications Network or hinder calling line identification (CLI), and origin identification (OI );

2 that administrations and operating agencies authorized by Member States should take a cooperative approach to respecting the national sovereignty of others, and suggested guidelines for this collaboration are attached; and to provide an acceptable level of QoS and QoE, in order to ensure the delivery of international calling line identification (CLI) and origin identification (OI)information

3 3 to instruct ITU-T Study Group 2 to study other aspects and forms of alternative calling procedures, to cooperate with ITU-D SG1 and SG2 on issues related to alternative calling procedures, telecommunication origin identification (OI), and calling line identification (CLI);

4 to instruct ITU-T Study Group 3 to study the economic effects of forms of alternative calling procedures, as well as origin non-identification or spoofing, on the effort of developing countries for sound development of their local telecommunication networks and services,

5 to instruct Study Group 12 to define the minimum threshold of QoS and QoE to be fulfilled during the use of alternative calling procedures,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

to continue to cooperate with the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau in order to facilitate the participation of developing countries in these studies and to make use of the results of the studies, and in the implementation of this resolution.

Invites Member States

To encourage their administrations and operating agencies authorized by Member States to follow the instructions, within their national laws, in order to ensure providing the good QoS and QoE and the respect of International Calling Line Identification (CLI) and Origin Identification (OI)

To contribute to this work

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| Country X (location of call-back user) | Country Y (location of call-back provider) |
|  | Administration Y and/or operating agencies authorized by Member States in Y should seek to ensure that call-back providers establishing an operation in their territory are aware that:*a)* call-back should not be provided in a country where it is expressly prohibited, and*b)* the call-back configuration must be of a type which will not degrade the quality and performance of the international PSTN |
| Administration X should take all reasonable steps within its jurisdiction and responsibility to stop the offering and/or usage of call-back in its territory which is:*a)* prohibited; and/or*b)* harmful to the network.Operating agencies authorized by Member States in country X will cooperate in the implementation of such steps. | Administration Y and operating agencies authorized by Member States in Y should take all reasonable measures to stop call-back providers in its territory offering call-back:*a)* in other countries where it is prohibited; and/or*b)* which is harmful to the networks involved. |
| NOTE – For relations between countries who regard call-back as an "international telecommunication service" as defined in the International Telecommunication Regulations, bilateral operating agreements should be required between the operating agencies authorized by Member States concerned as to the conditions under which call-back will be operated. |

MOD ARB/4251/3

RESOLUTION 44 (REV. Hammamet, 2016)

Bridging the standardization gap between developing[[2]](#footnote-3)1
and developed countries

(Florianópolis, 2004; Johannesburg, 2008; Dubai, 2012; Hammamet, 2016)

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Hammamet, 2016),

considering

*a)* that Resolution 123 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries, instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the three Bureaux to work closely with each other in pursuing initiatives that assist in bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries on follow-up and implementation of the operative paragraphs of that resolution supporting coordination in this respect at the regional level through regional offices and organizations;

*b)* that Resolution 139 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference invites Member States to rapidly implement Resolution 37 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference on bridging the digital divide;

*c)* that Resolution 154 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the use of the six official languages of the Union on an equal footing, resolves to continue to take all necessary measures to ensure use of the six official languages of the Union on an equal footing,

*d)* that Resolution 166 (Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the number of vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups and other groups, seeks to promote more effective participation of developing countries;

*e)* that Resolution 169 (Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference allowed the admission of the academia, universities and their associated research establishments from the developing countries to participate in the work of the three Sectors of the Union for 1/16 of the Sector Member contributory unit,

recognizing

*a)* that the harmonious and balanced development of the worldwide telecommunication facilities and services is of mutual advantage to the developing as well as the developed countries;

*b)* that the disparity between developing and developed countries in standardization has five components: disparity of voluntary standardization, disparity of mandatory technical regulations, disparity of conformity assessment, disparity in human resources skilled in standardization and disparity in effective participation in ITU-T activities;

*c)* that it is of high importance for developing countries to increase their participation in the establishment of telecommunication standards; and to improve their contribution in ITU-T study groups

*d*) that coordination at national level in many developing countries to handle ICT standardization activities in order to contribute to work in ITU-T needs to be developed,

*e)* that development of guidelines and the establishment of national standardization secretariats could enhance the standardization activities at national level, the participation and the contribution of developing countries in ITU-T study groups;

*f)* that Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019, lists enablers of the strategic goals and the objectives of the Union, among these enablers is to ensure efficient and accessible conferences, meetings, documentation, publications and information infrastructures, and one of support processes to that enabler is the organization of conferences, assemblies, seminars and workshops (including translation and interpretation).

recognizing also

*a)* that Decision 12 (Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference confirmed free-of-charge online access for the general public to ITU-T Recommendations, Recommendations of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R), ITU-R reports, the basic texts of the Union (Constitution, Convention and General Regulations of the conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union), and the final acts of plenipotentiary conferences;

*b)* that annual reports presented at the ITU Council regarding policies of free on-line access to ITU publications indicate that said policies have been able to raise the level of awareness regarding standardization activities carried out at the ITU and to promote greater participation of developing countries in these activities;

*c)* that, under the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019, ITU-T is to work to "provide support and assistance to developing countries in bridging the standardization gap in relation with standardization matters, information and communication network infrastructure and applications, and relevant training materials for capacity building, taking into account the characteristics of the telecommunication environment of the developing countries",

1. that the interpretation in some ITU-T meetings needs to be provided so as to contribute in bridging the standardization gap and to ensure maximum involvement of all delegates in particular those from developing countries.
2. that interpretation is very essential to help all delegates, especially those from developing countries, to be fully aware and engaged on standardization decisions that take place on ITU-T meetings;
3. that TSAG plays a vital role and take decisions that impact the work of all study groups,

taking into account

*a)* that while ITU has made significant progress in defining and bridging the standardization gap, the developing countries are still encountering multifarious difficulties in ensuring their efficient participation in the work of ITU-T, especially the budgetary limitations, thus the actual participation by developing countries, where it exists, is usually limited to the final approval and implementation stages, rather than in the preparation of proposals prepared in the various working groups;

*b)* that the biennial budget structure now includes a separate expenditure line item for bridging the standardization gap activities, while at the same time voluntary contributions are being encouraged, and a management mechanism for this line item has been implemented by the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB) in close coordination with the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT);

*c)* that ITU's programmes for fostering partnerships, under the patronage of ITU‑T, continue to strengthen and expand the assistance ITU provides to its members, particularly developing countries;

*d)* the importance of having appropriate consultative frameworks for developing countries for the formulation and study of Questions, the preparation of contributions and capacity building;

*e)* that the organizational set-up and working methods of ITU-T Study Groups could serve to improve the level of developing-country participation in standardization activities;

*f)* that joint meetings of regional groups of different ITU-T study groups, in particular if concatenated with a regional workshop and/or a meeting of a regional standardization body, will encourage the participation of developing countries in these meetings and increase the effectiveness of such meetings;

*g)* that ITU can further improve both the quality and quantity of developing-country active participation in standardization work of ITU-T through the role of (TSAG) and ITU-T study groups vice-chairmen and chairmen who are appointed on a regional representation basis, and can be charged with specific responsibility in mobilizing participation from their regions,

*h)* that TSAG agreed to create a mentor role in ITU-T study groups for coordination with representatives from developed and developing countries with the objective of sharing information and best practices with regard to the application of ITU-T Recommendations in order to enhance standardization activities in developing countries and in the regional groups,

recalling

a) that Resolution 1353 of the ITU Council recognizes that telecommunications and ICT are essential components for developed and developing countries for achieve 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 the developing countries to achieve sustainable development through telecommunications and ICT,

b) the relevant conclusions of the Global Standardization Symposium;

resolves

1 that the action plan annexed to this resolution, having the objective of bridging the standardization gap between developed and developing countries, should be continued and be reviewed on an annual basis to take into account the requirements of developing countries;

2 that ITU-T, in collaboration with the other Sectors, as appropriate, shall develop a programme to

 assist developing countries in developing methods that facilitate the process of linking innovations to the standardization process;

3 that, subject to Council approval, there should be free online access to the manuals, handbooks, directives and other ITU material related to understanding and implementation of ITU‑T Recommendations, particularly in the area of developing, planning, operation and maintenance of telecommunications equipment and networks;

4 to support, within available or otherwise contributed resources, and on a case-by-case basis, the coordinated creation of regional groups of ITU-T study groups, and encourage cooperation and collaboration of these groups with other regional standardization entities;

5 to maintain in the annual budget of the Union a separate expenditure line item for bridging the standardization gap activities, while at the same time voluntary contributions should be further encouraged;

6 to study the possibility of generating additional revenue for ITU-T , through identifying new financial resources not related to the voluntary contributory units mentioned above

7 that interpretation shall be provided, based on the requests of participants, at the opening plenary of the study groups, closing plenary of working parties, the closing plenary of study groups, and the whole meeting of TSAG.

8 that interpretation shall be provided, based on the requests of participants, at the opening plenary of the study groups, closing plenary of working parties, the closing plenary of study groups, and the whole meeting of TSAG.

further resolves that ITU regional offices

1 be engaged in the activities of TSB in order to promote and coordinate standardization activities in their regions to support the implementation of the relevant parts of this resolution and to carry out the objectives of the action plan, and launch campaigns to attract new Sector Members, Associates and Academia from developing countries to join ITU-T; and to provide the necessary assistance to the regional groups of ITU-T study groups;

2 assist the vice-chairmen, within the offices' budgets, appointed with specific responsibilities include among others the following:

i) closely work with ITU members in the region in order to mobilize them to participate in ITU standardization activities to assist in bridging the standardization gap;

ii) make mobilization and participation reports to the ITU body concerning the region;

iii) prepare and submit a mobilization programme for the regions that they represent at the first meeting of TSAG or a study group and send a report to TSAG,

3 organize and coordinate the activities of the regional groups of ITU-T study groups;

invites the Council

 In view of the above resolves, in particular resolve 8, to increase the ITU-T budgetary provisions for fellowships, interpretation and translation of documents for meetings of TSAG, ITU-T study groups and regional groups of ITU-T study groups;

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, in collaboration with the Directors of Telecommunication Development Bureau and the Radiocommunication Bureau, within available resources

1. to encourage the formation of partnerships under the patronage of ITU-T as one of the means for financing and implementing the objectives of the action plan annexed to this resolution ;
2. to consider, whenever possible, holding workshops concurrently with meetings of the ITU-T regional groups, in coordination and collaboration with the Director of BDT,

3 to assist developing countries with their studies, particularly in respect of their priority questions and towards developing and implementing ITU-T Recommendations;

4 to continue the activities of the implementation group established within TSB to organize, mobilize resources, coordinate efforts and monitor work related to this resolution and the associated action plan;

5 to carry out the necessary studies on the role of innovation management and innovation stimulation programmes on bridging the standardization gap between the developed and developing countries;

6 to include in the TSB budget proposal to the ITU Council funds identified for the implementation of this resolution, taking into account financial constraints and existing and planned BDT activities;

7 to report on the implementation of this plan to future world telecommunication standardization assemblies and plenipotentiary conferences, with a view to reviewing this resolution and introducing the appropriate amendments in the light of implementation outcomes, as well as the budgetary adjustments needed to implement this resolution;

8 to provide support and assistance to developing countries, in drafting/developing a set of guidelines on the application of ITU Recommendations at the national level of the requesting country in order to enhance their participation in ITU-T study groups, with the assistance of the ITU regional offices, for bridging the standardization gap;

9 to enhance use of electronic channels such as webinars or e-learning for education and training on implementation of ITU-T Recommendations;

10 to provide all necessary support and measures for creating and ensuring the smooth functioning of the regional groups; and to facilitate the organization of their meetings and workshops to disseminate information and increase understanding of new Recommendations, in particular for developing countries,

11 to report on the effectiveness of the regional groups to the ITU Council;

instructs ITU-T study groups and the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group

1 to be actively involved in the implementation of the programmes set forth in the action plan annexed to this resolution;

2 to coordinate joint meetings of regional groups of ITU-T study groups,

further instructs the study groups

1 to take account of the specific characteristics of the telecommunication environment of the developing countries in the process of establishing standards in the fields of planning, services, systems, operation, tariffs and maintenance, and to provide solutions/options relevant to developing countries wherever possible;

2 to take appropriate steps to have studies carried out on questions connected with standardization which are identified by world telecommunication development conferences;

3 to continue liaising with study groups of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector, where appropriate, when developing new or revised ITU-T Recommendations, on the specific needs and requirements of developing countries, in order to broaden the appeal and applicability of the Recommendations in those countries,

encourages Member States and Sector Members

to take the objectives set out in the action plan in the annex to this resolution into account in their participation in ITU‑T.

Annex
(to Resolution 44)

Action plan for the implementation of Resolution 123 (Rev. Busan, 2014)
of the Plenipotentiary Conference

# I Programme 1: Strengthening standard-making capabilities

1) Objective

• To improve the standard-making capabilities of developing countries.

2) Activities

• Developing guidelines to assist developing countries in their involvement in ITU‑T activities, covering, but not limited to, ITU-T working methods, formulating draft Questions and making proposals.

• Creating methods to increase the access of developing countries to essential technical information in order to enhance their knowledge and capacity (i) to implement global standards, (ii) to effectively contribute to the work of ITU-T, (iii) to include their own specificities and necessities in the global standard-making process, and (iv) to influence global standard-making discussions by having active roles in ITU-T study groups.

• Improving procedures and electronic tools for remote participation, in order to enable experts in developing countries to participate actively in ITU-T meetings (including TSAG, study groups, joint coordination activities, global standardization initiatives, among others), workshops and training, from their own countries.

• Conducting consultancy projects designed to support developing countries in the development of standardization plans, strategies, policies, etc. The outputs should be further transformed into best practices.

• Developing methods, tools and indicators for accurate measurement of the results and the level of effectiveness of the efforts and activities applied in bridging the standardization gap.

• Working with Sector Members, and in particular manufacturers, academia, and research and development organizations, on exchanging information on new technologies and requirements of developing countries, and on providing technical assistance to encourage the establishment of standardization programmes in academia and research and development organizations in the
field of ICT.

# II Programme 2: Assisting developing countries with respect to the application of standards

1) Objective

• Assisting developing countries in:

• Ensuring that developing countries have a clear understanding of ITU‑T Recommendations.

• Enhancing the application of ITU‑T Recommendations in developing countries.

2) Activities

• To assist developing countries in:

• Establishing a standardization secretariat to coordinate standardization activities and participation in ITU-T study groups.

• Determining whether their existing national standards are consistent and in accordance with the current ITU‑T Recommendations.

• Actions to be performed by TSB with BDT cooperation:

• Developing a set of guidelines on how to apply ITU-T Recommendations, in particular on manufactured products and interconnection, with emphasis on Recommendations having regulatory and policy implications.

• Providing advice and assistance on how to better utilize and adopt ITU-T Recommendations in national standards.

• Compiling and maintaining a database containing information on new technologies that are standardized, as well as products that are compliant with ITU-T Recommendations.

• Organizing capacity-building events on the application of specific Recommendations and on methods of examining compliance of manufactured products with these Recommendations.

• Improving and promoting the use of an electronic forum for “questions and answers on standards” where developing countries can raise questions concerning their understanding and application of Recommendations and seek advice from study group experts.

# III Programme 3: Human resources capacity building

1) Objective

• To increase the human resources capacity of developing countries in ITU-T and national standardization activities.

2) Activities

• Promoting events, seminars, workshops and study group meetings at the regional and global levels to build capacities regarding matters relevant to standardization and the development of telecommunications and ICT in developing countries.

• In close collaboration with BDT and BR, providing training courses on standardization to developing countries.

• Providing more internship, secondment and short-term employment, etc., opportunities for developing countries at ITU.

• Encouraging the election of more candidates from developing countries to ITU‑T study groups chairmanship and vice-chairmanship positions.

• Encouraging secondment and short-term employment opportunities for experts from developing countries in test laboratories of international standards development organizations (SDOs) and manufacturers, in particular in the area of conformance and interoperability testing.

• Organizing in-depth tutorials on understanding and implementation of ITU-T Recommendations.

* Provide guidance and supportive material to developing countries to assist them in developing and providing undergraduate and post graduate courses on standardization in their universities.

• Providing, through TSB, fellowships to eligible countries to attend relevant ITU-T meetings.

# IV Programme 4: Fundraising for bridging the standardization gap

*a)* Contributions to the action plan through the following forms of partnerships and other means:

• Partnership contributions

• Additional budget allocated by ITU

• Voluntary contributions by developed countries

• Voluntary contributions by the private sector

• Voluntary contributions by others.

*b)* Management of funds by TSB:

• The Director of TSB, in close coordination with the Director of BDT, shall be responsible for the management of funds raised as above, which shall be used principally for achieving the objectives of these programmes.

*c)* Principles for the use of funds:

• Funds are to be used for ITU‑related activities including, but not limited to, assistance and consultation, training of representatives of developing countries in ITU-T activities, as well as studying compliance examination, interconnection and interoperability programmes for developing countries (but not for the purchase of equipment).

MOD ARB/4251/4

RESOLUTION 72 (REV. Hammamet, 2016)

Measurement concerns related to human exposure to electromagnetic fields

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

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Hammamet, 2016),

considering

*a)* the importance of telecommunications and information and communication technologies (ICT) for political, economic, social and cultural progress;

*b)* that a significant part of the infrastructure needed to help bridge the digital divide between developed and developing countries[[3]](#footnote-4)1 involves various wireless technologies;

*c)* that there is a need to inform the public of the potential effects of exposure to electromagnetic fields (EMF);

*d)* that an enormous amount of research has been carried out regarding wireless systems and health, and many independent expert committees have reviewed this research;

*e)* that the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP), the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) are three among a number of pre-eminent international bodies in establishing measurement methodologies for assessing human exposure to EMF, and they already cooperate with many standards bodies and industry forums;

*f)* that the World Health Organization (WHO) has issued fact sheets regarding EMF issues, including mobile terminals, base stations and wireless networks, referencing ICNIRP standards;

*g)* Resolution 176 (Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on human exposure to and measurement of electromagnetic fields;

*h)* Resolution 62 (Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on measurement concerns related to human exposure to electromagnetic fields,

e) that there is ongoing work in the three sectors relating to human exposure to EMF, and that liaison and collaboration between the sectors with other specialized organizations is important, in order to avoid duplication of efforts,

recognizing

*a)* the work done within ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU‑R) study groups on radiowave propagation, electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) and related aspects, including measurement methods;

*b)* the work done within Study Group 5 of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU‑T) on techniques for taking radio-frequency (RF) measurements;

*c)* that Study Group 5, in establishing measurement methodologies for assessing human exposure to RF energy, already cooperates with many participating standards organizations (PSOs),

recognizing further

*a)* that some publications about EMF effects on health create doubt among the population, in particular in developing countries;

*b)* that, in the absence of regulation, people, in particular in developing countries, become more and more doubtful and are increasingly opposing the deployment of radio installations in their neighbourhoods;

*c)* that the cost of the equipment used for assessing human exposure to RF energy is very high, and that the equipment is more likely to be affordable only in developed countries;

*d)* that implementing such measurement is essential for many regulatory authorities, in particular in developing countries, in order to monitor the limits for human exposure to RF energy, and that they are called upon to ensure those limits are met in order to license different services,

noting

the similar activities carried out by other national, regional and international standards development organizations (SDOs),

the urgent need for regulatory bodies in many developing countries to obtain information on EMF measurement methodologies in regard to human exposure to radio-frequency energy, in order to establish national regulations to protect their citizens;

resolves

to instruct ITU‑T, in particular Study Group 5, to cooperate with ITU-R Study Group 1 and 6, and with ITU-D Study Group 1 in order to expand and continue its work and support in this domain, including but not limited to:

i) disseminating information related to this topic through organizing workshops and seminars for regulators, operators and any interested stakeholders from developing countries;

ii) continuing to cooperate and collaborate with other organizations working on this topic and to leverage their work, in particular with a view to assisting the developing countries in the establishment of standards and in monitoring compliance with these standards, especially on telecommunication terminals;

iii) cooperating on these issues in the framework of Question 23/1;

iv) strengthening coordination and cooperation with WHO so that any fact sheet relating to human exposure to electromagnetic fields is circulated to Member States as soon as it is issued,

v) considering the needs of developing countries regarding the measurement of electromagnetic fields related to human exposure.

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, in close collaboration with the Directors of the other two Bureaux, and within the available financial resources

1 to support the development of reports identifying the needs of developing countries on the issue of assessing human exposure to EMF, and submit the reports as soon as possible to ITU-T Study Group 5 for its consideration and action in accordance with its mandate;

2 to hold workshops in developing countries with presentations and training on the use of equipment employed in assessing human exposure to RF energy;

3 to support developing countries while they establish their regional centres equipped with test benches for monitoring conformance of telecommunication terminal equipment and human exposure to electromagnetic waves using, among other things, the modalities listed in Resolutions 44 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) and 76 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of this assembly, in the context of the development of the regional test centres and of Resolution 177 (Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference,

requests the Secretary-General

To coordinate the activities carried out by the three ITU Sectors in accordance with the above

To bring this resolution to the attention of the Plenipotentiary Conference (2018) for consideration and required action, as appropriate, when reviewing Resolution 176 (Rev. Busan, 2014)

invites Member States and Sector Members

1. to contribute actively to the work of Study Group 5 in providing relevant and timely information in order to assist developing countries in providing information and addressing measurement concerns related to RF exposure and electromagnetic fields,
2. to conduct periodic reviews to ensure that ITU recommendations and other relevant international standards related to the exposure to EMF are followed
3. to raise public awareness of the health effects of human exposure to nonionizing EMF, by conducting different types of awareness-raising campaigns
4. to cooperate and share expertise and resources between developed and developing countries in order to help governmental administrations, especially in developing countries, to establish an appropriate regulatory framework for protecting people and environment from non-ionizing radiation,

further invites Member States

to adopt suitable measures in order to ensure compliance with relevant international recommendations to protect health against the adverse effect of EMF.

1. 2 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)