RESOLUTION 130 (Rev. Antalya, 2006)

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

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Antalya, 2006),

considering

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

b)   that, with the application and development of information and communication technologies (ICTs), new threats from various sources have emerged that may have an impact on confidence and security in the use of ICTs by all Member States, Sector Members and other stakeholders, including all users of ICTs, and on the preservation of peace and the economic and social development of all Member States, and that threats to and vulnerabilities of networks continue to give rise to ever-growing security challenges across national borders for all countries, in particular developing countries, including least developed countries, small island developing states and countries with economies in transition, while noting in this context the need to further enhance international cooperation and develop and adapt appropriate existing national, regional and international mechanisms (for example agreements, best practices, memorandums of understanding, etc);

c)   that, in order to protect these infrastructures and address these challenges and threats, coordinated national action is required for prevention, preparation, response and recovery from an incident, on the part of government authorities at the national, state/provincial and local levels, the private sector and citizens and users, in addition to international cooperation and coordination,

recognizing

a) that the application and development of ICTs have been and continue to be instrumental for the growth and development of the global economy, underpinned by security and trust;

b) that the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) recognized the need to build confidence and security in the use of ICTs and the great importance of multistakeholder implementation at the international level, and established action line C5, "Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs", with ITU identified in the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society as moderator/facilitator for that WSIS action line;

c) that the World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006) (WTDC-06) has adopted the Doha Action Plan and its programme 3 on e-strategies and ICT applications that identifies cybersecurity as a priority activity of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) and defines activities to be undertaken by BDT, and in particular the adoption of Resolution 45 (Doha, 2006) of WTDC entitled "Mechanisms for enhancing cooperation on cyber-security, including combating spam";

d) § 15 of the Tunis Commitment, which states that: "Recognizing the principles of universal and non-discriminatory access to ICTs for all nations, the need to take into account the level of social and economic development of each country, and respecting the development-oriented aspects of the information society, we underscore that ICTs are effective tools to promote peace, security and stability, to enhance democracy, social cohesion, good governance and the rule of law, at national, regional and international levels. ICTs can be used to promote economic growth and enterprise development. Infrastructure development, human capacity building, information security and network security are critical to achieve these goals. We further recognize the need to effectively confront challenges and threats resulting from use of ICTs for purposes that are inconsistent with objectives of maintaining international stability and security and may adversely affect the integrity of the infrastructure within States, to the detriment of their security. It is necessary to prevent the abuse of information resources and technologies for criminal and terrorist purposes, while respecting human rights",

aware

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

b)   that Study Group 17 of the Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) and other relevant ITU study groups continue to work on technical means for the security of information and communication networks, in accordance with Resolutions 50, 51 and 52 (Florianópolis, 2004) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly,

noting

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

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

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

resolves

to give this work high priority within ITU, in accordance with its competences and expertise,

instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux

1   to review:

i)   the work done so far by ITU and other relevant organizations, and initiatives to address existing and future threats in order to build confidence and security in the use of ICTs, such as the issue of countering spam;

ii)   the progress achieved in the implementation of this resolution and in the role of ITU as moderator/facilitator for WSIS action line C5, with the help of the advisory groups, consistent with the ITU Constitution and Convention;

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

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

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

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

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

i)   address existing and future threats and vulnerabilities affecting efforts to build confidence and security in the use of ICTs, by developing recom- mendations, as appropriate;

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

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

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to develop, consistent with the results of WTDC-06 and the subsequent meeting held pursuant to Resolution 45 (Doha, 2006), the projects for enhancing cooperation on cybersecurity and combating spam responding to the needs of developing countries, in close collaboration with the relevant partners;

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

3 to ensure coordination of these projects within the context of ITU's overall activities in its role as moderator/facilitator for WSIS action line C5;

4 to coordinate these projects with the activities and programmes of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) study groups on this topic;

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

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

requests the Council

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

invites Member States, Sector Members and Associates

1   to participate actively in the ongoing work of the relevant ITU study groups;

2   to develop, as appropriate, the necessary relevant legislation, noting in particular regional initiatives including, but not limited to, the Council of Europe's Convention on Cybercrime;

3   to make contributions on this subject in ITU-D Study Group 1 and participate in the ongoing activities of the BDT projects;

4   to contribute to building confidence and security in the use of ICTs at the national, regional and international levels, by undertaking activities as outlined in § 12 of the Geneva Plan of Action.

(Marrakesh, 2002) – (Rev. Antalya, 2006)