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| **Regional Preparatory Meeting for WTDC-17 for Europe (RPM-EUR)** | P:\SUP\Logos\Post-150th Anniv\ITU-logo-UNblue.jpg | |
| **Vilnius, Lithuania, 27-28 April 2017** | | |
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|  | **Document RPM-EUR17****/****29-E** | |
| **19 April 2017** | |
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| **Sweden** | | |
| SUPpRESSION OF RESOLUTION 67 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) The role of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector in child online protection | | |
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| **Priority area:**  Streamlining WTDC resolutions  **Summary:**  Sweden has reviewed a number of Resolutions (55, 58, 64, 67, 68 and 76) from the last WTDC in order to identify possible overlap with resolutions from the Plenipotentiary Conferences.  One resolution that may be supressed is Resolution 67 (Rev. Dubai, 2014). The subject, child online protection, is important but the operative parts of the resolution are almost completely covered by Resolution 179 (Rev. Busan, 2014) on ITU's role in child online protection.  If Resolution 67 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) is not supressed there may be a need to amend it to reflect the latest developments.  This proposal has also been submitted to the regional preparations in CEPT and will be discussed at the meeting on 24-25 April 2017 of Com-ITU PT WTDC.  **Expected results:**  Suppression of Resolution 67 (Rev. Dubai, 2014).  **References:**  WTDC Resolution 67 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) | | |

RESOLUTION 67 (rev. Buenos AIRES, 2017)

**The role of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector   
in child online protection**

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Buenos Aires, 2017),

*recognizing*

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

*b)* that many of them will participate in the youth programmes of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) and will become active members in the development of coordination mechanisms with youth forums,

*recalling*

*a)* the memorandum of understanding between the secretariat of the Union and Child Helpline International (CHI);

*b)* Resolution 1306 adopted by the ITU Council at its 2009 session and modified by the ITU Council at its 2015 session, under which a child online protection working group was set up, with the participation of Member States and Sector Members, and the group's mandate defined by the ITU members in close collaboration with the secretariat of the Union;*c)* Resolution 179 (Rev Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on ITU's role in child online protection;

*d)* the outcomes of the work accomplished by the ITU Council Working Group on Child Online Protection (CWG‑COP), and the description of BDT's activity in this regard, given that it is part of the initiatives of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU‑D);

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*i)* that, by Resolution 45 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of this conference, on the establishment of mechanisms for enhancing cooperation on cybersecurity, including countering and combating spam, the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) recognized the role of telecommunication/ICTs in the protection of children and in enhancing their development and that action to protect children from abuse and defend their rights in the context of telecommunication/ICTs should be strengthened, emphasizing that the best interests of the child are a key consideration;

*j)* that, during the 2012 WSIS Forum in Geneva, a meeting was organized with partners in the Child Online Protection (COP) initiative, which achieved an important outcome, namely the agreement to work closely with the Family Online Safety Institute (FOSI) and the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) in order to provide the necessary assistance to Member States;

*k)* ;

*l)* Resolution 17 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of this conference, which invites nations to pursue regional initiatives;

*)* the related work under way in ITU-D and ITU-T;

) the United Nations General Assembly A/RES/70/1 Sustainable Development Goals 4.5 and 4.a;

*taking into account*

*a)* that there are threats that children are exposed to on the Internet and/or telecommunications/ICTs, which have diversified and multiplied with the rapid development of information technology and telecommunication devices;

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

*c)* the importance of empowering children in the use of Telecommunication/ICTs so as to improve their capacity and skills to stay safe and secure online;

*d)* the need for children to use telecommunication/ICT tools, with emphasis on the importance of protecting them online;

*e)* the requirement for a multistakeholder approach, as envisaged by WSIS, in order to promote social responsibility in the ICT sector so as to effectively make use of the variety of tools available to build confidence and security in the use of telecommunication/ICTs, reducing the risks identified for children;

*f)* that, in order to address the issue of cybersecurity for children, it is critical that proactive measures be taken in order to protect children online at an international level;

*g)* the technical difficulties involved in establishing a single harmonized global child helpline number;

*h)* that, in 2016, there were almost as many mobile‑cellular subscriptions as people in the world, and cellular-mobile penetration rates stood at 127 per cent in the developed countries and 94 per cent in the developing countries[[1]](#footnote-1)1;

*i)* that the number of children between the ages of eight and eighteen who possess mobile phones is constantly increasing;

*j)* the need to continue working at global and regional levels to find available technological and other solutions to protect children online, as well as innovative applications to make it easier for children to communicate with child online protection helplines;

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

*l)* the activities undertaken by many countries in recent years,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

1 to continue encouraging collaboration with relevant study group Questions, with a view to providing guidance to Member States on strategies, best practices and cooperative efforts that can be promoted for the benefit of children, taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

2 to collaborate closely with CWG-COP, as well as relevant study group Questions, and encourage coordination among them, with the aim of avoiding duplication of efforts and maximizing outputs relevant to protecting children online;

3

4 to encourage regional coordination in addressing the issue of child online protection, by, developing and disseminating guiding principles, in cooperation with ITU regional offices and relevant entities;

6 to investigate suitable ways of encouraging developing[[2]](#footnote-2) countries to participate in the work of CWG-COP;

7 to coordinate with the ITU regional offices on the submission of quarterly reports to CWG-COP and on ways of progressing work on child online protection;

8 to support the work of CWG-COP by organizing orientation sessions for experts in connection with meetings of the group;

9 to identify the most appropriate opportunities for ITU to ensure that as much attention as possible is drawn to the issue of child online protection in developing countries;

10 to submit a report on the results of implementation of this resolution to the next WTDC,

*invites Member States*

1 to join and continue participating actively in CWG-COP and in related ITU activities, for the purposes of comprehensive discussion and exchange of information on legal, technical, organizational and procedural issues as well as capacity building and international cooperation for protecting children online, taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals 4.a, 17.9, 17.16, 17.17;

2 to develop information, to educate and to create consumer-awareness campaigns targeting parents, teachers, industry and the population in general in order to make children aware of the risks to be found online;

3 to promote the allocation of regional telephone numbers for child online protection;

4 to foster the development of tools that contribute to enhancing child online protection;

5 to support the collection and analysis of data and statistics on child online protection that will contribute to public policy design and implementation, as well as enabling cross-country comparisons;

6 to consider establishing national child online protection frameworks;

7 to work closely with CHI and relevant non-governmental organizations;

8 to develop self-regulatory approaches in cooperation with the private sector, academia and non-governmental organizations,

*invites Sector Members*

to participate actively in all relevant ITU activities, including CWG-COP and ITU-D, with the aim of informing the ITU membership about technological solutions for protecting children online;

2 to develop innovative solutions and applications to make it easier for children to communicate with child online protection helplines;

3 to formulate guiding principles for informing Member States of modern technological solutions for protecting children online, taking into account best practices for industry and other relevant interested parties.

1. 1 Source: "ICT Facts and Figures 2016", ITU, 2016. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

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