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| PLENARY MEETING | **Addendum 15 toDocument WTDC-17/23-E** |
|  | **4 September 2017** |
|  | **Original: Russian** |
| ITU Member States, members of the Regional Commonwealthin the field of Communications (RCC) |
| DRAFT Revision to WTDC Resolution 30 - Role of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society |
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| **Priority area:**–**Summary:**The present document contains a draft revision to Resolution 30, on the role of ITU in implementing the outcomes of WSIS and the overall review by the United Nations General Assembly of their implementation.The proposed modifications are based on UNGA Resolutions 70/1 and 70/125, Council-16 Resolution 1332 and material from the WSIS Forums.**Expected results:**WTDC-17 is invited to consider the proposed document and take the appropriate decisions.**References:**PP-14 Resolution 140, Council-16 Resolution 1332 |

# I Introduction

The Telecommunication Development Sector, and indeed the entire ITU, is actively involved in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). Particular attention is being paid to Action Lines C2 (Information and communication infrastructure), C5 (Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs) and C6 (Enabling environment) of the WSIS Plan of Action, for which ITU is sole facilitator and responsible for implementing the corresponding WSIS outcomes, as well as C3 (Access to information and knowledge), C7 (ICT applications: advantages in all aspects of life), C8 (Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content) and C9 (Media). Work on WSIS implementation in ITU is being conducted in accordance with Resolution 140 (Rev. Busan, 2014) and other relevant resolutions of the Plenipotentiary Conference, and with Council Resolutions 1332 and 1336.

The WSIS+10 High-Level Event coordinated by ITU (Geneva, 2014) adopted by consensus the WWIS+10 Statement on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes and the WSIS Vision Beyond 2015. These documents were also approved by PP-14. In September 2015 the UN Summit adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of WSIS in December 2015 adopted the corresponding Resolution A/70/125, reaffirming the undertakings of Geneva in 2003 and Tunis in 2005 and recognizing the need for governments, the private sector, civil society, international organizations and all other WSIS stakeholders to continue to work together to implement the World Summit on the Information Society Vision beyond 2015, as well as the role of the WSIS process in achieving sustainable development goals.

ITU’s objectives, including those of ITU-D, were reflected in the relevant resolutions of PP‑14 and Council-16.

ITU actively participates in the preparations for and holding of the WSIS Forums with the involvement of all stakeholders. Regional cooperation also plays a significant role, including with the UN Economic Regional Commissions.

Resolution 30 should accordingly be brought into line with the above texts and outcomes of the international and regional meetings reviewing their implementation.

# II Proposal

Resolution 30 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), on the role of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, should be amended as follows:

**MOD** RCC/23A15/1

RESOLUTION 30 (Rev. BUENOS AIRES, 2017)

Role of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector in
implementing the outcomes of the World Summit
on the Information Society

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

recalling

*a)* the relevant outcomes of both phases of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS);

*b)* United Nations General Assembly (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 A/70/1, on transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

*d)* the WSIS+10 Statement on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes and the WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015, adopted at the ITU-coordinated WSIS+10 High-Level Event (Geneva, 2014) and endorsed by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Busan, 2014), which were submitted as an input into the Overall Review on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes by the UNGA;

*e)* Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the strategic plan for the Union for 2012-2015;

*f)* Resolution 130 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on strengthening the role of ITU in building confidence and security in the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs);

*g)* Resolution 131 (Rev. Busan, 2014), on measuring information and communication technologies to build an integrating and inclusive information society;

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

*i)* Resolution 140 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on ITU's role in implementing the outcomes of WSIS and the overall review by the United Nations General Assembly of their implementation;

*j)* Resolution 200 (Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the Connect 2020 Agenda for global telecommunication/information and communication technology development,

recognizing

*a)* that WSIS stated that the core competencies of ITU are of crucial importance for building the information society, and identified ITU as a moderator/facilitator for implementing Action Lines C2 and C5, and as a partner in Action Lines C1, C3, C4, C6, C7 and C11, as well as Action Line C8 as stated in Resolution 140 (Rev. Busan, 2014);

*b)* that it was agreed among the parties to follow up the Summit outcomes to appoint ITU as moderator/facilitator for the implementation of Action Line C6, in which it was previously only a partner;

*c)* that the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU‑D) – in view of its purposes and objectives; the nature of the existing partnership among Member States and ITU‑D Sector Members; its experience over many years in dealing with different development needs and implementing a range of projects, including infrastructure projects and specifically telecommunication/ICT infrastructure projects, financed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and various funds and through possible partnerships; the nature of its five existing objectives, adopted at this conference to meet the needs of the telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, including building confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs and fostering an enabling environment, and to achieve the WSIS goals; and the presence of its authorized regional offices – is a key partner in the implementation of WSIS outcomes, in respect of Action Lines C2, C5 and C6, which are the cornerstone of the Sector's work pursuant to the ITU Constitution and Convention, and also participates with other stakeholders, as appropriate, in the implementation of Action Lines C1, C3, C4, C7, C8, C9 and C11 and all other relevant action lines and other WSIS outcomes, within the financial limits set by the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*d)* that UNGA Resolution A/70/125 calls for close alignment between the WSIS process and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, highlighting the crosscutting contribution of ICTs to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and poverty eradication, and noting that access to ICTs has also become a development indicator and aspiration in and of itself,

recognizing further

*a)* the commitment of ITU to implement relevant WSIS outcomes as one of the most important goals for the Union;

*b)* that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has substantial implications on the activities of the ITU;

*c)* the potential of information and communications technologies to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other internationally agreed development goals;

*d)* that Council 2016 resolved to use the WSIS framework as the foundation through which the ITU helps achieve the 2030 Agenda, within the ITU's mandate and within the allocated resources in the financial plan and biennial budget, noting the WSIS-SDG Matrix developed by UN Agencies,

taking into account

*a)* Resolution 75 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, on the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector's contribution in implementing the WSIS outcomes, taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

*b)* Resolution 61 (Geneva, 2015) of the Radiocommunication Assembly, on the ITU Radiocommunication Sector's contribution in implementing the WSIS outcomes;

*c)* the programmes, activities and regional initiatives being carried out in accordance with the decisions of this conference for bridging the digital divide;

*d)* the relevant work already accomplished and/or to be carried out by ITU and reported to the ITU Council through the Council Working Group on WSIS (CWG‑WSIS),

noting

*a)* Resolution 1332 of Council 2016, on ITU's role in the implementation of the WSIS outcomes taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which among other things, *instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux* to continue to integrate the implementation of the ITU-D Action Plan, and in particular Resolution 30, as well as put special efforts towards the development of an appropriate measurement methodology taking into account the ITU leadership in the Partnership on Measuring the ICTs for Development;

*b)* Resolution 1336 of Council 2015, on the Council Working Group on international Internet-related public policy issues,

noting further

that the ITU Secretary-General created the ITU WSIS/SDG Task Force to formulate strategies and coordinate ITU's policies and activities in relation to WSIS, taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and that this Task Force is chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General,

resolves to invite the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector

1 to continue working in cooperation with the other ITU Sectors and with development partners (governments, specialized agencies of the United Nations, relevant international and regional organizations, etc.), through a clear plan and appropriate mechanisms for coordination among the different partners concerned at the national, regional, interregional and global levels, having particular regard to the needs of the developing countries[[1]](#footnote-1)1, including in the field of building the telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, building confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs, and implementation of the other WSIS goals, as well as the realization of the WSIS Vision beyond 2015 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development within the terms of its mandate;

2 to continue to encourage the principle of non-exclusion from the information society and to devise appropriate mechanisms to this end (§§ 20-25 of the Tunis Commitment);

3 to continue to facilitate an enabling environment encouraging ITU‑D Sector Members to give priority to investing in the development of the telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, encompassing rural, isolated and remote regions, through different technologies;

4 to assist Member States in finding and/or improving innovative financial mechanisms to develop telecommunication/ICT infrastructure (such as the Digital Solidarity Fund and others mentioned in § 27 of the Tunis Agenda, and partnerships);

5 to continue to assist developing countries in advancing their legal and regulatory frameworks in order to further the goal of building the telecommunication/ICT infrastructure and achieve the other WSIS goals, as well as realizing the WSIS Vision beyond 2015 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, within the terms of its mandate;

6 to promote international cooperation and capacity building in issues related to cyberthreats and building confidence and security in the use of ICTs consistent with Action Line C5, in which ITU is sole facilitator;

7 to pursue its activities in the field of statistical work for telecommunication development, using the indicators required to evaluate progress in this area with a view to bridging the digital divide, *inter alia*, within the framework of the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development and consistent with §§ 113‑118 of the Tunis Agenda, acting on the content of Resolution 8 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of this conference;

8 to develop and implement the ITU‑D strategic plan, taking into account the need to give priority to building the telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, including broadband access, at the national, regional, interregional and global levels, and to achieve the other WSIS goals, the WSIS Vision beyond 2015 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, within its mandate, related to the activities of ITU‑D;

9 to continue to propose at the forthcoming plenipotentiary conference appropriate mechanisms for funding the activities flowing from the WSIS outcomes that are relevant to the core competencies of ITU, specifically those to be adopted in relation to:

i) Action Lines C2, C5 and C6, in which ITU is now identified as the sole facilitator;

ii) Action Lines C1, C3, C4, C6, C7, including its eight sub-action lines, and C11, in which ITU is now identified as a co-facilitator, as well as C8 and C9, in which ITU is identified as a partner;

iii) related Sustainable Development Goals (SDG),

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to continue to provide CWG-WSIS with a comprehensive summary of ITU‑D activities on implementation of the WSIS outcomes and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

2 to ensure that concrete objectives and deadlines for WSIS and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, activities are developed and reflected in the operational plans of ITU‑D, in accordance with Resolution 140 (Rev. Busan, 2014) and with the objectives that will be set for ITU‑D by the Plenipotentiary Conference in 2018 with regard to the implementation by ITU of UNGA Resolutions А/70/125 and А/70/1, as well as the WSIS+10 outcomes;

3 to provide the membership with information on emerging trends based on ITU‑D activities;

4 to take appropriate action to facilitate the activities to implement this resolution,

further instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to act as a catalyst in the development of partnerships among all parties, with a view to ensuring that initiatives and projects attract investment, and to continue to act as a catalyst in the following functions, among others:

– encouraging the implementation of regional telecommunication/ICT initiatives and projects;

– participating in the organization of training seminars;

– signing agreements with national, regional and international partners involved in development, when required;

– collaborating on initiatives and projects with other relevant international, regional and intergovernmental organizations, where appropriate;

2 to promote human capacity building in developing countries relating to various aspects of the telecommunication/ICT sector, consistent with the mandate of ITU‑D;

3 to foster, particularly with the ITU regional offices, the conditions required for a successful knowledge-based enterprise incubator process and other projects for small, medium and micro enterprises (SMMEs) in and among developing countries;

4 in implementing the WSIS outcomes/SDGs within the mandate of the ITU Standardization Sector, to pay particular attention to the needs of developing countries;

5 to encourage the international financial institutions, Member States and Sector Members, in their respective roles, to address, as a priority issue, the building, reconstruction and upgrading of networks and infrastructure in developing countries;

6 to pursue coordination with international bodies, with a view to mobilizing the financial resources needed in the implementation of projects;

7 to take the necessary initiatives to encourage partnerships which have been given high priority pursuant to:

i) the Geneva Plan of Action;

ii) the Tunis Agenda;

iii) the outcomes of the WSIS review process and WSIS Vision beyond 2015;

iv) the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

8 to submit contributions to the annual relevant reports of the ITU Secretary-General on these activities;

9 to strengthen, through means including ITU regional and area offices, in collaboration with the relevant regional organizations, regional coordination with UN Regional Economic Commissions and UN regional groups for development, and with all UN agencies (in particular WSIS Action Line facilitators) in the WSIS outcomes/SDGs implementation process and in order to promote coordination of the WSIS and SDG processes, enhanced impact of ICTs in SDG-related activity through the "Delivering as one UN" approach, the introduction of a UN framework programme of development assistance, implementation of interagency and multitask projects, improvement of regional input to the WSIS Forum, WSIS Prizes and WSIS stocktaking database,

calls upon Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia

1 to continue to give priority to the development of the telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, including in rural, remote and underserved areas, to building confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs, to fostering an enabling environment and to ICT applications, in order to build the information society;

2 to consider the development of principles towards the adoption of strategies in areas such as telecommunication network security, consistent with WSIS Action Line C5;

3 to submit contributions to relevant ITU‑D study groups and to the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group, where appropriate, and contribute to CWG-WSIS on implementing WSIS outcomes within ITU's mandate;

4 to continue to support and collaborate with the Director of BDT in implementing relevant WSIS outcomes and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in ITU‑D;

5 to engage in the WSIS and SDG processes, in order to reaffirm the need to address remaining challenges of ICT for development to be addressed in the implementation of the WSIS Vision beyond 2015 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

requests the Secretary-General

to bring this resolution to the attention of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Dubai, 2018) for consideration and required action, as appropriate, when reviewing Resolution 140 (Rev. Busan, 2014).

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