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|  | **Second Inter-Regional Meeting (IRM-2) to prepare for the WTDC-21 Virtual, 13-14 December 2021** | | A close up of a sign  Description automatically generated |
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|  | | **Document** **IRM21-2/53-E** | |
|  | | **28 April 2021** | |
|  | | **Original: English and Russian** | |
| Regional Commonwealth in the field of Communications (RCC) | | | |
| Proposals suppression of Resolution 81 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017),  Further development of electronic working methods for the work of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector | | | |
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| **Agenda item:**  Item 6.c  **Summary:**  This contribution proposes to suppress the WTDC Resolution 81 due to duplication of its operation part with the provisions of PP Resolution 167 and WTDC Resolution 1.  **Expected output:**  This document, contained a draft RCC Common proposal, has been submitted to the RPM-CIS (April 2021) for information.  **Reference:**  Resolution 167 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference  Resolution 1 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) | | | |

1. **Introduction**

The 2018 ITU Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-18) encouraged WTDC, as well as WTSA and RA, to work on streamlining of PP and Sectoral Resolutions.

Regarding electronic working methods, PP-18 revised Resolution 167 Strengthening and developing ITU capabilities for electronic meetings and means to advance the work of the Union, which contains a number of instructions on electronic working methods (EWM) related to the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, namely :

*…*

*resolves,*

1 that ITU should continue to develop its facilities and capabilities for remote participation by electronic means in appropriate meetings of the Union, including working groups created by the Council; – duplicates by Resolves 1 of WTDC Resolution 81;

2 that ITU should continue to develop its EWM in relation to the elaboration, distribution and approval of documents and the promotion of paperless meetings;

3 that the Union continue to develop EWM, within budget availability, for the participation of persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs, which may include, inter alia, captioning for the hearing-impaired, audioconferencing for the visually impaired, and webconferencing for persons with restricted mobility, as well as solutions and facilities to address other similar challenges; – duplicates by Instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau paragraph 10 of WTDC Resolution 81;

4 that the Union further study the impact of remote participation on existing rules of procedure;

5 that ITU should provide facilities and capabilities for EWM at ITU meetings, workshops and training courses, particularly to assist developing countries that have bandwidth limitations and other constraints; – duplicates by Resolves 3 bullet 2 of WTDC Resolution 81;

6 to encourage e-participation of developing countries in meetings, workshops and training by providing simplified facilities and guidelines, and by waiving, within the appropriations that the Council is empowered to authorize, any expenses for those participants, other than the local call or Internet connectivity charges, – duplicates by Resolves 3 bullet 3 of WTDC Resolution 81.

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

1 to take action regarding the EWM measures in Annex 1 to this resolution, addressing the legal, technical, security and financial implications of increasing the EWM capability of ITU;

2 to build upon trials for electronic meetings, in collaboration with the Directors of the Bureaux, such that their subsequent implementation is technology neutral, to the greatest extent possible, and cost effective, in order to allow as broad participation as possible, satisfying the necessary security requirements; – duplicates by Resolves 2 of WTDC Resolution 81;

3 to identify and review the costs and benefits of the action items on a regular basis; – duplicates by Instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau paragraph 6 of WTDC Resolution 81;

4 to involve the advisory groups in the evaluation of the use of electronic meetings and to develop further procedures and rules associated with electronic meetings, including the legal aspects; – partially duplicates by Instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau paragraphs 1 and 7 of WTDC Resolution 81;

5 to report to the Council on an ongoing basis on the developments made with regard to electronic meetings, in order to assess progress in their use within ITU; – duplicates by Instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau paragraph 13 of WTDC Resolution 81

6 to report to the Council on the feasibility of extending the use of languages in electronic meetings,

*instructs the Directors of the Bureaux*

to continue taking action, in consultation with the Sector advisory groups, in order to provide appropriate electronic participation or observation facilities in Sector meetings for delegates unable to attend face-to-face meetings, – partially duplicates by Instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau paragraphs 1 and 2 of WTDC Resolution 81

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

to take all necessary measures to implement, in the shortest possible time-frame and according to budgetary availability, a suitable technological platform that makes it possible for all the regional offices to host electronic meetings with their respective ITU Member States,

…

The above analysis allows us to conclude that the main instructions of WTDC Resolution 81 duplicate similar ones for the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector set out in PP Resolution 167. In addition, other provisions of the operation part of Resolution 81 duplicate or partially duplicate the provisions of Resolution 1 of WTDC, in particular: paragraphs 2.1.2.1 on electronic publications of texts in Sector, 13.2.9 on cooperation between Study Group members in electronic form and Section 16 on electronic access.

1. **Proposal**

Considering the sufficiency of the provisions of Resolution 167 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference on Strengthening and developing ITU capabilities for electronic meetings and means to advance the work of the Union, and duplicating most of the necessary provisions on electronic working methods in the text of Resolution 1 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) on the rules of procedure of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector, it is proposed to suppress the Resolution 81 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) “Further development of electronic working methods for the work of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector” (see Annex).

ANNEX

**SUP**

Resolution 81 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017)

Further development of electronic working methods for the work of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector

(Suppressed by WTDC-21)

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