RESOLUTION 20 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017)

Non‑discriminatory access to modern telecommunication/
information and communication technology facilities,
services and related applications

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

recalling

*a)* Resolution 102 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*b)* Resolution 64 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on non-discriminatory access to modern telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) facilities, services and applications, including applied research and transfer of technology, and e‑meetings, on mutually agreed terms;

*c)* Resolution 69 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, on non-discriminatory access and use of Internet resources and telecommunications/ICTs,

recalling also

*a)* the decisions of the two phases of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) concerning non-discriminatory access, in particular §§ 15, 18 and 19 of the Tunis Commitment and §§ 90 and 107 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society;

*b)* United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution 70/1, on transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

*c)* UNGA Resolution 70/125, on the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the WSIS outcomes;

*d)* the WSIS+10 Statement on the implementation of WSIS outcomes and 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 was submitted as an input into the UNGA overall review of WSIS,

taking into account

*a)* that ITU plays an important role in the promotion of global telecommunication/ICT standardization and development;

*b)* that, to this end, the Union coordinates efforts aimed at securing harmonious development of telecommunication/ICT facilities in all its Member States,

taking into account further

that this conference, like its predecessors, is required to formulate a viewpoint and draw up proposals on issues determining a worldwide strategy for the development of telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and applications, and facilitate mobilization of the necessary resources to that end,

noting

*a)* that modern telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and applications are established, in the main, on the basis of Recommendations of the ITU Radiocommunication (ITU‑R) and ITU Telecommunication Standardization (ITU‑T) Sectors;

*b)* that ITU‑R and ITU‑T Recommendations are the result of the collective efforts of all those taking part in the standardization process within ITU and are adopted by consensus by the members of the Union;

*c)* that limitations on access to the telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and applications on which national telecommunication/ICT development depends and which are established on the basis of ITU‑R and ITU‑T Recommendations constitute an obstacle to the harmonious development and compatibility of telecommunications/ICTs worldwide,

recognizing

that full harmonization of telecommunication/ICT networks is impossible unless all countries participating in the work of the Union without exception enjoy non-discriminatory access to new telecommunication/ICT technologies and modern telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and applications, without prejudice to national regulations and international commitments within the competence of other international organizations,

resolves

that there should be non-discriminatory access to telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and applications established on the basis of ITU‑R and ITU‑T Recommendations,

encourages the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to engage in partnerships or strategic cooperation with parties which respect access to telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and applications without discrimination,

requests the Secretary-General

to transmit this resolution to the forthcoming plenipotentiary conference for consideration,

invites the Plenipotentiary Conference

to consider this resolution with a view to taking measures to foster global access to modern telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and applications,

invites Member States

1 to refrain from taking any unilateral and/or discriminatory actions that could impede technically another Member State from having full access to the Internet within the spirit of Article 1 of the ITU Constitution and the WSIS principles;

2 to help telecommunication/ICT equipment manufacturersand service providers in ensuring that telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and applications established on the basis of ITU‑R and ITU‑T Recommendations are made available for the use of the public without any discrimination, in accordance with the WSIS outcomes.