

RESOLUTION 15 (Rev. Kigali, 2022)

Applied research and transfer of technology

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Kigali, 2022),

recalling

- a)* No. 19 in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution, on the purposes of the Union, and No. 124 in Article 21, on the functions and structure of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D);
- b)* the Tunis Commitment of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), recognizing the principles of universal, non-discriminatory, equitable and affordable access to information and communication technology (ICT) for all nations and all persons everywhere (see §§ 15, 18 and 19);
- c)* Resolution 64 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on non-discriminatory access to modern telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and applications, including applied research and transfer of technology, and e-meetings, on mutually agreed terms;
- d)* the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the third International Conference on Financing for Development, endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in Resolution 69/313, which recognizes the transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms as a powerful driver of economic growth and sustainable development;
- e)* the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, endorsed by UNGA in Resolution 64/222, which emphasizes the need to promote, including through South-South cooperation, access to and the transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms,

recognizing

- a)* that many countries would benefit from technology transfer;
- b)* that joint ventures can be effective means of technology transfer;

- c) that seminars and training conducted by various countries as well as by international and regional organizations have contributed to the transfer of technology, and hence to the development of telecommunication/ICT networks in the regions;
- d) that providers of telecommunication/ICT equipment and services are important partners in ensuring the flow of technology to developing countries¹ and that they are ready to enter freely into such arrangements;
- e) that applied research is a promising activity for developing countries;
- f) that a great number of engineers originally from developing countries contribute to applied research in developed countries;
- g) that research institutes in developed countries have substantial human and material resources compared to those in developing countries;
- h) that a relationship of partnership and cooperation between applied research centres and laboratories improves technology transfer;
- i) that cooperation among developing countries, including South-South cooperation, holds enormous potential for effective technology transfer on mutually agreed terms,

resolves

1 that, based on agreement among parties concerned, transfer of technology in the area of telecommunications/ICTs should be supported as much as possible, in respect of both conventional technology and new technologies and services;

2 that developing and developed countries should continue to cooperate through exchanges of experts, the organization of seminars, specialized workshops and meetings, and the establishment of contacts between telecommunication/ICT applied research institutions, including by means of teleconferencing, etc.,

¹ These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, in collaboration with the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau and the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

- 1 to continue to hold specialized seminars, workshops or training in the field of telecommunications/ICTs in order to raise the technological level in developing countries, including the involvement of academia and research and development institutions from both developed and developing countries;
- 2 to continue to promote the exchange of information among international organizations, donor countries and recipient countries on transfer of technology, including by assisting them in setting up cooperative networks between telecommunication/ICT research institutes in developing and developed countries;
- 3 to assist in the elaboration of terms of reference guaranteeing technology transfer;
- 4 to continue to develop handbooks addressing the issue of technology transfer, and ensure that these handbooks are disseminated to developing countries and that users are properly initiated in their use;
- 5 to give financial support to research institutes in developing countries so as to enable them to attend ITU research meetings, workshops and programmes within available resources;
- 6 to encourage the admission of academic institutions, universities and their associated research establishments in the work of ITU-D as Sector Members or Associates, at a reduced level of financial contribution, particularly academic institutions of developing countries,

invites developing countries

- 1 to continue establishing new telecommunication/ICT research projects and to submit them to existing applied research institutes in order to facilitate cooperation with other research institutes;
- 2 to participate in the activities of standards development organizations;
- 3 to participate in joint activities and telecommunication/ICT technology transfer between developing countries,

invites telecommunication equipment and service providers

pursuant to the Geneva Declaration of Principles of the first phase of WSIS and the Tunis Commitment of the second phase, to make relevant new technologies and know-how available to their customers in developing countries on a voluntary basis and/or in accordance with sound commercial principles,

appeals to international organizations and donor countries

to assist the developing countries in exploring ways and means of improving technology transfer and developing telecommunication/ICT applied research centres and laboratories, including technical and financial assistance.