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RESOLUTION 73 (Rev. Kigali, 2022)

ITU Academy training centres

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The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Kigali, 2022),

recalling

a)   Resolution 139 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on use of telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) to bridge the digital divide and build an inclusive information society;

b)   Resolution 123 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on bridging the standardization gap between developing[1] and developed countries;

c)   the terms of the Kigali Declaration;

d)   Resolution 15 (Rev. Kigali, 2022) of this conference, on applied research and transfer of technology;

e)   Resolution 37 (Rev. Kigali, 2022) of this conference, on bridging the digital divide;

f)   Resolution 40 (Rev. Kigali, 2022) of this conference, on the Group on capacity-building initiatives (GCBI);

g)   Resolution 47 (Rev. Kigali, 2022) of this conference, on enhancement of knowledge and effective application of ITU Recommendations in developing countries, including conformance and interoperability testing of systems manufactured on the basis of ITU Recommendations;

h)   Resolution 70/125 of the United Nations General Assembly, on the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society,

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

considering

a)   that ITU centres of excellence (CoEs) have been operating since 2001 in several languages, including English, Arabic, Chinese, Spanish, French, Russian and Portuguese, in different regions of the world;

b)   that, in every country, specialists in the field of telecommunications/ICTs hold great potential for development of the sector;

c)   that there is a need for constant upgrading of the qualifications of all stakeholders, and especially telecommunication/ICT specialists;

d)   that key ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) projects in regard to the training of telecommunication/ICT staff, including the work of the ITU CoEs, make a significant contribution to upgrading the qualifications of telecommunication/ICT specialists;

e)   that a broad strategic review of the CoE Programme was carried out during the 2019-2022 cycle, as provided for in Resolution 73 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference;

f)   that this strategic review recommended a rebranding of the CoE programme as the ITU Academy training centres (ATC) programme;

g)   that the ATCs would continue to be financially self-sustaining,

recognizing

a)   that telecommunication/ICT staff training and capacity building and development, taking into account gender equality, youth and persons with disabilities, as well as the population as a whole, should be constantly developed and improved;

b)   that the ITU ATCs fulfil an important role in the ITU capacity-building and development scheme, under the ITU Academy activities;

c)   that partnerships and cooperation between ATCs and other relevant stakeholders contribute to effective training of specialists;

d)   the sovereign right of each State to formulate its own policy in regard to the licensing of services for capacity building and development;

e)   the need to attract, first and foremost, qualified experts from academia to the work of the ATCs;

f)   that activities in the field of human capacity building and development are being organized and held in parallel in the ATCs and in the regional/area offices under the operational plan of ITU-D,

resolves

1   that this ITU capacity-building and development activity should be continued and executed in accordance with this resolution, while cognizant of the results of the major strategic review;

2   that the current CoEs be rebranded as ITU ATCs, as recommended by the major strategic review;

3   that the programme's themes be agreed by the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) and constitute a high priority for the ITU members and other stakeholders, in accordance with a prior assessment of needs conducted at the global and regional levels in consultation with regional organizations in the telecommunication/ICT sector and regional offices, and in accordance with the ITU strategic plan;

4   when setting priorities for the work of the ITU ATCs, to proceed from the current needs of the region, which are to be identified based on needs assessment using, *inter alia*, the Kigali Action Plan and regional initiatives, regional organizations or associations in the telecommunication/ICT sector, as well as through consultations with ITU members;

5   to consider that human capacity-building and development efforts should be concentrated in the ITU ATCs, whose activities should be included in the operational plans;

6   that a biennial regular assessment of the activities of ATCs shall be conducted and reported to TDAG for TDAG's evaluation and recommendations, and application by the Telecommunication Development Bureau;

7   that in establishing the new ITU ATCs, ITU shall take into consideration regional balance while also taking into consideration the capacity needs or challenges of each region;

8   that ITU and the ATCs actively engage in seeking programme partners, in order to engage additional sources of support and expertise, including sponsorship for courses and students in order to extend the programme's reach to those who would otherwise be unable to attend, while maintaining the highest quality of the training,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1   to provide assistance for the work of the ITU ATCs, according it the necessary priority attention;

2   to facilitate the implementation of the results of the strategic review of the ITU CoE programme after the termination of the current cycle in consultation with regional organizations, starting in 2023, and to make appropriate changes to the document entitled "Operational processes and procedures for a new ITU centres of excellence strategy", including the new programme name ''ITU Academy training centres'';

3   in drawing up ITU-D operational plans, to incorporate therein activities prepared and carried out by the ITU ATCs under the corresponding ITU-D action plans;

4   to make the necessary organizational arrangements for the formulation of standards for ITU human capacity-building and development activities;

5   to facilitate the work of the ITU ATCs, providing them with the necessary support;

6   to make the necessary organizational arrangements for setting up, within the ITU regional/area offices, a database of experts and participants in ITU ATC activities, for exchanges of experts in the field;

7   to establish mechanisms for the ITU ATCs to have contact with designated focal points in regional offices and area offices, so that emerging demands and new priorities in each region can be known, allowing the ITU ATCs to make adjustments in their offers,

calls upon Member States, Sector Members and Academia of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector

1   to participate actively in the ITU ATC programme, including through the provision of recognized experts, training materials, promotion of training courses and also financial support;

2   to seek to adopt strategies so that entities within the ITU membership related to telecommunications/ICTs, whenever possible, have the ITU ATCs as a preferred training provider.