RESOLUTION 88 (Kigali, 2022)

The ITU Partner2Connect Digital Coalition

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Kigali, 2022),

recalling

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

b)   Resolution 135 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on ITU's role in the durable and sustainable development of telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs), in providing technical assistance and advice to developing countries[1] and in implementing relevant national, regional and interregional projects;

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

d)   Resolution 140 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on ITU's role in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

e)   Resolution 200 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the Connect 2030 Agenda for global telecommunication/ICT, including broadband, for sustainable development;

f)   Resolution 16 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on special actions and measures for the least developed countries (LDCs), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs), small island developing states (SIDS) and countries with economies in transition;

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

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

h)   Resolution 71 (Rev. Kigali, 2022) of this conference, on strengthening cooperation between Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector and the evolving role of the private sector in the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector,

considering

a)   that, while it is widely recognized that ICTs form the backbone of today's digital economy, and have potential to accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), 2.9 billion people are still totally offline in 2022, while hundreds of millions more lack the affordable, accessible and reliable connectivity that would meaningfully change their lives;

b)   that, the coronavirus disease (COVID–19) pandemic spotlighted that having access to the Internet and ICTs is essential, and that access and adoption and creating value though digital ecosystems is fundamental for individuals to work, learn, trade and communicate and to foster the digital economy;

c)   the importance of engaging all stakeholders to mobilize resources, partnerships and commitments in order to foster meaningful connectivity and digital transformation in the hardest-to-connect communities,

noting

a)   the Partner2Connect Digital Coalition (P2C), a multistakeholder alliance launched by ITU in close cooperation with the Office of the United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Technology, and in line with the United Nations Secretary-General's Roadmap for Digital Cooperation, to foster meaningful connectivity and digital transformation globally, with a focus on, but not limited to, hardest-to-connect communities in LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS;

b)   the P2C Action Framework, developed through a multistakeholder consultative process in alignment with the WSIS action lines and the SDGs, and based on four focus areas: access, adoption, value creation and accelerating investments,

resolves to request the Secretary-General and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1   to continue to follow up on the work of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) pursuant to Resolution 37 (Rev. Kigali, 2022), on bridging the digital divide, and Resolution 71 (Rev. Kigali, 2022), by catalysing concrete joint efforts to accelerate connectivity and mobilizing resources across the four focus areas through the P2C Coalition and the multistakeholder partnership model it represents;

2   to ensure that BDT continues to play a central role in this initiative and actively monitors and tracks commitments and engagements, and reports over time against the overall objective of achieving universal connectivity, in addition to maintaining an active communication channel among strategic stakeholders;

3   to ensure that the necessary resources, within the budgetary limits, are allocated to the above actions,

invites international financial institutions, donor agencies and private-sector entities

to make, implement and report on pledges and commitments to P2C to foster meaningful connectivity and digital transformation,

invites Member States and Sector Members

1   to advance progress towards meaningful connectivity and digital transformation by defining, implementing and scaling pledges and mobilizing new resources and partnerships, in alignment with the SDGs, the WSIS action lines, and the United Nations Secretary General's Roadmap for Digital Cooperation;

2   to participate actively in reporting and sharing experiences and best practices in the implementation of P2C pledges and commitments.