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| PLENARY MEETING | **Addendum 2 toDocument 79-E** |
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| Arab States Administrations |
| ARAB STATES COMMON PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE |
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PART 10

**Amendments to Decision 12 (Guadalajara, 2010)**

MOD ARB/79A2/1

DECISION 12 (Rev. Busan, 2014)

Free online access to ITU publications

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

considering

*a)* that Article 4 of the ITU Constitution defines the Administrative Regulations (i.e. the International Telecommunication Regulations and the Radio Regulations) as instruments of the Union, and that Member States are bound to abide by the provisions of those texts;

*b)* Resolution 123 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of this conference, on bridging the standardization gap between developing[[1]](#footnote-1)1 and developed countries, which recognizes that the implementation of recommendations of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) and the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) is a basic step towards bridging the standardization gap between developed and developing countries;

*c)* Resolution 64 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of this conference, and Resolution 20 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on non‑discriminatory access to modern telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) facilities and services, which notes that:

– modern telecommunication/ICT facilities and services are established, in the main, on the basis of ITU-R and ITU-T recommendations;

– 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;

– limitations on the access to telecommunication/ICT facilities and services 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;

*d)* Resolution 9 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010) of WTDC, on the participation of countries, particularly developing countries, in spectrum management, which recognizes the importance of facilitating access to radiocommunication-related documentation in order to facilitate the task of radio-frequency spectrum managers;

*e)* Resolution 47 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010) of WTDC, on enhancement of knowledge and effective application of ITU recommendations in developing countries, which resolved to invite Member States and Sector Members to engage in activities to enhance knowledge and effective application of ITU-T and ITU-R recommendations in developing countries;

*f)* Council Decision 571 (modified 2014) on free online access to the Administrative Regulations, Council resolutions and decisions and other publications of the Union;

*g)* the results of the Council Working Group on Human Resources, pursuant to Council Resolution 563 of 2012, addressing free access to the Union's publications, which emphasized in Document CWG-FHR-3/15 that ITU does not follow the same policy as other UN agencies in regard to access to their publications;

*h)* that, according to Document C13/81, during the open free online access trial period, income from sales of the Radio Regulations in paper and DVD format in 2012 increased by more than 60 per cent compared with sales in all formats (including online purchases) during the same time interval in 2008 – the year when the previous edition of the Radio Regulations was published;

*i)* that free online access to the Radio Regulations for the general public as indicated in Documents C13/21, C13/81 and C14/21 had no negative financial impact in 2012 and 2013;

*j)* that free access to the basic texts of the Union helps to fulfil the core purposes of the Union, as defined in Article 1 of the Constitution,

recognizing

*a)* the difficulty faced by many countries, particularly developing countries, in participating in the activities of ITU-R study groups;

*b)* the various actions taken by the Council since 2000 to allow some level of free online access to ITU recommendations and to the basic texts of the Union;

*c)* numerous requests made by Member States and Sector Members with respect to free online access to ITU-R and ITU-T recommendations and to the basic texts of the Union;

*d)* that, following Council Decision 542, which approved a trial period of free online access to ITU-T recommendations, there was an increase in downloads of more than 7 000 per cent, according to Document C07/32;

*e)* that the Council approved, at its 2008 session, a trial period of free online access to ITU-R recommendations and the basic texts of the Union from January 2009 through June 2009;

*f)* that, due to the success in increasing the number of downloads of ITU-R recommendations and the manageable financial implications in respect of the trial period mentioned in *recognizing d)* above, the Council approved, at its 2009 session, the extension of the free trial period until the 2010 plenipotentiary conference, and the Plenipotentiary Conference (Guadalajara, 2010) extended the trial period and postponed the decision on providing free access to ITU-R recommendations to the next plenipotentiary conference;

*g)* that the extension of the trial period of free online access to ITU-R recommendations until the 2010 plenipotentiary conference, approved by the Council at its 2009 session, and the positive results deriving from that decision indicate that providing free online access to ITU-R recommendations was successful in increasing the quantity of downloads of these recommendations and in improving awareness of and participation in the work carried out in ITU‑R;

*h)* that the Administrative Regulations, as legally binding instruments discussed and elaborated by the Member States of the Union, may be made available free of charge online,

recognizing further

*a)* that there is a general trend towards free online access to ICT-related standards;

*b)* the strategic need to increase the visibility and availability of ITU outputs;

*c)* that both of the objectives sought by the trial periods and the policies of free online access to ITU recommendations and the basic texts of the Union have been met, namely: ITU has achieved a great improvement in outreach, and the financial implications for ITU revenues were less than initially forecast;

*d)* that free online access to the basic texts of the Union has a limited financial impact;

*e)* that providing free online access to ITU-R recommendations facilitates awareness and participation of developing countries in the work of ITU-R;

*f)* that, regarding the instruments of ITU that are intended to be incorporated in national law, Member States have *de facto* freedom to reproduce, translate and publish such texts on official government department websites as well as in official journals or equivalent publications, in accordance with their respective national law,

noting

*a)* that increased involvement in ITU activities is a fundamental step towards enhanced capacity-building and ICT development potential in developing countries, which will lead to a reduction of the digital divide;

*b)* that, in order to increase, improve and facilitate the participation of Member States and Sector Members from developing countries in ITU activities, these members need to be capable of interpreting and implementing ITU technical publications, the basic texts of the Union and the instruments of the Union;

*c)* that an efficient way to ensure that developing countries have access to ITU publications is to provide them free of charge online,

noting further

that providing free online access to ITU publications will reduce the demand for paper copies of these documents, which converges with the current ITU trend of soft format and of organizing paperless meetings, and with the overall goal of the United Nations to reduce paper usage and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions,

decides

1 to provide free online access for the general public to ITU-R recommendations, ITU-R reports, the Radio Regulations and ITU-R handbooks on radio-frequency spectrum management;

2 to provide free online access for the general public to the basic texts of the Union (Constitution, Convention and General Rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union) and the final acts of plenipotentiary conferences;

3 to provide free online access for the general public to the International Telecommunication Regulations;

4 to provide free online access for the general public to the Rules of Procedure;

5 to provide free online access for the general public to Council resolutions and decisions;

6 to provide free online access for the general public to ITU publications concerning the use of telecommunications/ICTs for ensuring disaster preparedness, early warning, rescue, mitigation, relief and response;

7 to confirm the current policy on free online access to ITU-T recommendations;

8 that paper copies of ITU-R recommendations, ITU-R reports, the basic texts of the Union and the final acts of plenipotentiary conferences will continue to be charged for on the basis of a two-tier pricing policy, whereby Member States, Sector Members and Associates pay a price based on cost recovery, whereas all others, i.e. non-members, pay a "market price"[[2]](#footnote-2)2;

9 that paper copies of the ITU-R handbooks on radio-frequency spectrum management and ITU publications concerning the use of telecommunications/ICTs for ensuring disaster preparedness, early warning, rescue, mitigation, relief and response will continue to be charged for on the basis of a two-tier pricing policy, whereby Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia pay a price based on cost recovery, whereas all others, i.e. non-members, pay a market price;

10 to establish a working group of the Council, open to Member States of the Union, to discuss and study issues related to free online access to ITU documents, reporting to the Council and to the next plenipotentiary conference,

instructs the Secretary-General

to submit a report to the Council at its 2015 session on the impact of implementation of the proposals relating to free online access to ITU publications and ways of balancing the financial implications, if any, with the assistance of the Directors of the Bureaux and the Sector advisory groups.

PART 11

**Amendments to Resolution 21 (Rev. Antalya, 2006)**

Proposal

The Arab States group proposes amendments to Resolution 21 (Rev. Antalya, 2006)

MOD ARB/79A2/2

RESOLUTION 21 (Rev. Busan, 2014)

Appropriate measures concerning alternative
calling procedures on international
telecommunication networks

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

recognizing

*a)* that each Member State has the sovereign right to allow or prohibit certain alternative calling procedures that may have negative effects on or harm its national telecommunication networks;

*b)* the interests of developing countries;

*c)* the interests of consumers and users of telecommunication services;

*d)* the importance of identifying the origin of calls as one of the needs of national security, as well as for proper charging;

*e)* that some alternative calling procedures may degrade the quality of service (QoS), quality of experience (QoE) and the performance of telecommunication networks,

considering

*a)* that the use of some alternative calling procedures may adversely affect the economies of developing countries and may seriously hamper the efforts made by those countries to ensure the sound development of their telecommunication/information and communication technology networks and services;

*b)* that some forms of alternative calling procedures may have an impact on traffic management and network planning and degrade the quality and performance of telecommunication networks;

*c)* that the use of certain alternative calling procedures that are not harmful to networks may contribute to competition in the interests of consumers;

*d)* that a number of relevant Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) recommendations, particularly those of ITU-T Study Groups 2 and 3, specifically address, from several points of view, including technical and financial, the effects of alternative calling procedures (including call-back and refile) on the performance and development of telecommunication networks,

recalling

*a)* Resolution 21 (Rev. Antalya, 2006) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on alternative calling procedures on telecommunication networks, which:

– urged Member States to cooperate among themselves to resolve difficulties in order to ensure that national laws and regulations of ITU Member States are respected;

– instructed ITU‑T to accelerate its studies with a view to developing appropriate solutions and recommendations;

*b)* Resolution 29 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), in particular *resolves* 1 and 2 thereof, which stipulate that:

– administrations and operating agencies authorized by Member States should take, to the furthest extent practicable, all measures, to suspend the methods and practices of call-back which seriously degrade the quality and the performance of the PSTN, such as constant calling (or bombardment or polling) and answer suppression;

– administrations and operating agencies authorized by Member States should take a cooperative approach to respecting the national sovereignty of others, and suggest guidelines for this collaboration;

*c)* Resolution 22 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), which is based on amendments to Resolutions 20 and 29 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of WTSA,

noting

the outputs of WTDC-14 with respect of actions to be taken by the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau to support joint activities with ITU-T Study Group 3 for assisting developing countries with accounting-rate reform and with ITU-T Study Group 2 for determining international call origins and limiting misuse of international telecommunication numbering, addressing, naming and call-origin identification systems,

aware

*a)* that ITU‑T has concluded that certain alternative calling procedures such as constant calling (or bombardment or polling) and answer suppression seriously degrade the quality and the performance of telecommunication networks;

*b)* that appropriate ITU-T and ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) study groups are cooperating on issues related to alternative calling procedures, including refile, call-back, and telecommunication origin identification,

resolves

1 to encourage administrations and operating agencies authorized by Member States to implement the ITU-T recommendations referred to in *considering d)* in order to limit the negative effects that, in some cases, some alternative calling procedures have on developing countries;

2 to encourage administrations and operating agencies authorized by Member States to take the appropriate measures to ensure an acceptable level of QoS and QoE, the delivery of international calling-line identification (CLI) and origin identification (OI) information and the proper charging taking into account the relevant ITU recommendations;

3 to request administrations and operating agencies authorized by Member States which permit the use of alternative calling procedures on their territory in accordance with their national regulations to pay due regard to the decisions of other administrations and operating agencies authorized by Member States whose regulations do not permit such services;

4 to request the appropriate ITU-T study groups, particularly ITU-T Study Groups 2 and 3, and the ITU-D study groups, through contributions of Member States and Sector Members, to continue to study alternative calling procedures, such as refile and call-back, and issues related to OI and CLI, in order to take into account the importance of these studies as they relate to next-generation networks and network degradation,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau and the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

1 to collaborate in the effective implementation of this resolution;

2 to collaborate so as to avoid overlap and duplication of effort in studying issues related to the different forms of alternative calling procedures.

PART 12

**Amendments to Resolution 64 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010)**

Introduction

The Arab group proposes amendments to Resolution 64 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) in order to affirm the importance of fair and non-discriminatory access to telecommunication/ICT facilities. Several Member States of the Union have faced a number of difficulties accessing telecommunication/ICT services and applications. Furthermore, these States have been unable to participate remotely in ITU meetings or to benefit from the remote workshops and training courses run by ITU, because the applications are inaccessible to them.

MOD ARB/79A2/3

RESOLUTION 64 (Rev. Busan, 2014)

Non-discriminatory access to modern
 telecommunication/information and communication technology
 facilities, services and applications, including e-meetings, applied research and
 transfer of technology, on mutually agreed terms

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

recalling

*a)* the outcomes of the Geneva (2003) and Tunis (2005) phases of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), especially §§ 15, 18 and 19 of the Tunis Commitment, and §§ 90 and 107 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society;

*b)* Resolution 64 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*c)* the outcomes of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, especially Resolutions 15 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010), on applied research and transfer of technology, 20 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010), on non-discriminatory access to modern telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and related applications and 37 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), on bridging the digital divide;

*d)* Resolution 167 (Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on strengthening ITU capabilities for electronic meetings and means to advance the work of the Union, which emphasizes that that there is a need for procedures to ensure fair and equitable participation by all;

*e)* that the International Telecommunication Regulations adopted by the World Conference on International Telecommunications (Dubai, 2012) recognize the right of access of Member States to international telecommunication services;

*f)* Resolution 69 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, on non-discriminatory access and use of Internet resources, which invites Member States to refrain from taking any unilateral and/or discriminatory actions that could impede another Member State from accessing public Internet sites and using resources, within the spirit of Article 1 of the ITU Constitution and the WSIS principles;

*g)* Resolution 71 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference,

taking into account

*a)* the Preamble to the Statement and Vision of the WSIS+10 High Level Event to review implementation of the WSIS outcomes (Geneva, 2014), §8: "The evolution of the information society over the past 10 years is contributing towards, *inter alia*, the development of knowledge societies around the world that are based on principles of freedom of expression, quality education for all, universal and non-discriminatory access to information and knowledge, and respect for cultural and linguistic diversity and cultural heritage. When mentioning the information society, we also refer to the above mentioned evolution and to the vision of inclusive knowledge societies";

*b)* the importance of telecommunications/information and communication technology (ICT) for political, economic, social and cultural progress,

taking into account also

*a)* that ITU plays an essential role in the promotion of global development of telecommunications/ICTs and ICT applications, within the mandate of ITU, specifically with respect to Action Lines C2, C5 and C6 of the Tunis Agenda, in addition to participating in the implementation of other action lines, particularly Action Lines C7 and C8 of the Tunis Agenda;

*b)* that, to this end, the Union coordinates efforts aimed at securing harmonious development of telecommunication/ICT facilities, permitting non-discriminatory access to these facilities and to modern telecommunication services and applications;

*c)* that this access will help to bridge the digital divide,

taking into account further

the need to draw up proposals on issues determining a worldwide strategy for development of telecommunications/ICTs and ICT applications, within the mandate of ITU, and to facilitate the mobilization of the necessary resources to that end,

emphasizing

that fair and equitable e-participation of Member States in ITU meetings will bring considerable benefits by facilitating and widening the scope for participation in ITU work and meetings,

noting

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

*b)* that ITU-T and ITU-R 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 the access to telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and applications on which national telecommunication development depends and which are established on the basis of ITU-T and ITU-R recommendations constitute an obstacle to the harmonious development and compatibility of telecommunications worldwide;

*d)* Resolution 15 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010), on applied research and transfer of technology;

*e)* Resolution 20 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010), on non-discriminatory access to modern telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and related applications,

recognizing

that full harmonization of telecommunication networks is impossible unless all countries participating in the work of the Union, without exception, have non-discriminatory access to new telecommunication technologies and modern telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and related applications, including applied research and transfer of technology, on mutually agreed terms, without prejudice to national regulations and international commitments within the competence of other international organizations,

resolves

1 to continue, within the mandate of ITU, fulfilling the need to promote non-discriminatory access to telecommunication and information technologies, facilities, services and related applications, including applied research and transfer of technology, on mutually agreed terms, established on the basis of ITU-T and ITU-R recommendations;

2 that ITU should facilitate non-discriminatory access to telecommunication and information technologies, facilities, services and applications established on the basis of ITU-T and ITU-R recommendations;

3 that ITU should encourage to the greatest extent possible cooperation among the members of the Union on the question of non-discriminatory access to telecommunication and information technologies, facilities, services and applications established on the basis of ITU-T and ITU-R recommendations with a view to satisfying user demand for modern telecommunication/ICT services and applications,

invites Member States

1 to refrain from taking any unilateral and/or discriminatory actions that could impede another Member State from accessing public Internet sites and using resources, within the spirit of Article 1 of the Constitution and the WSIS principles;

2 to adopt national policies that promote the exchange of regional traffic and prevent discriminatory access;

3 to help telecommunication/ICT equipment manufacturers and providers of services and applications in ensuring that telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and applications established on the basis of ITU-T and ITU-R recommendations may be generally available to the public without any discrimination, and in facilitating applied research and technology transfer, in line with the work of the WSIS+10 High Level Event to review implementation of the WSIS outcomes (Geneva, 2014);

4 to cooperate with one another in the implementation of this resolution,

instructs the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with the Directors of the three Bureaux

1 to compile and distribute a list of the online services and applications which cannot be accessed, based on complaints received from ITU Member States;

2 to take appropriate measures and steps to ensure the fair and equitable participation of all in ITU online services and applications;

3 to collaborate and coordinate with United Nations agencies, other organizations and all concerned parties in taking the necessary measures to adopt telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and applications that are accessible to all without ethnic, geographic, political or other form of discrimination;

4 to take into account implementation of the outputs of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event (Geneva, 2014) to review the implementation of WSIS outcomes, especially those relating to the transfer of technology and knowledge and provision of non-discriminatory access, through the various ITU activities in this field;

5 to submit an annual report to the Council on the implementation of this resolution,

further instructs the Secretary-General

to transmit the measures taken by ITU to implement this resolution to the Secretary-General of the United Nations with a view to bringing to the attention of the world community the viewpoint of ITU, as a specialized agency of the United Nations, on the issue of non-discriminatory access to new telecommunication and information technologies and modern telecommunication/ICT, services and related applications, within the mandate of ITU, as an important factor for world technological progress, and on applied research and technology transfer between Member States, on mutually agreed terms, as a factor that may help to bridge the digital divide.

PART 13

**Amendments to Resolution 70 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010)**

MOD ARB/79A2/4

RESOLUTION 70 (Rev. Busan, 2014)

Gender mainstreaming in ITU and promotion of gender equality
and the empowerment of women through information
and communication technologies

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

recalling

*a)* the initiative taken by the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) at the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) in adopting Resolution 7 (Valletta, 1998), transmitted to the Plenipotentiary Conference (Minneapolis, 1998), which resolved that a task force on gender issues be established;

*b)* the endorsement of that resolution by the Plenipotentiary Conference in its Resolution 70 (Minneapolis, 1998), in which the conference resolved, *inter alia*, to incorporate a gender perspective in the implementation of all programmes and plans of ITU;

*c)* Resolution 44 (Istanbul, 2002) of WTDC, converting the task force on gender issues into a working group on gender issues;

*d)* Resolution 1187 adopted by the ITU Council at its 2001 session, on gender perspective[[3]](#footnote-3)1 in ITU human resources management, policy and practice, in which the Council requested the Secretary-General to allocate appropriate resources, within existing budgetary limits, to establish a gender perspective full-time dedicated staff;

*e)* Resolution 2001/41 of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), in which ECOSOC decided to establish, under the regular agenda item "Coordination, programme and other questions", the regular sub-item "Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes of the United Nations system" in order to, *inter alia*, monitor and evaluate achievements made and obstacles encountered by the United Nations system, and to consider further measures to strengthen the implementation and monitoring of gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system;

*f)* Resolution 55 (Florianópolis, 2004) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, which encourages gender mainstreaming in the activities of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T);

*g)* Resolution 55 (Doha, 2006) of WTDC, endorsing a specific action plan for the promotion of gender equality towards all-inclusive information societies;

*h)* United Nations General Assembly Resolution 64/289, on system-wide coherence, adopted on 21 July 2010, establishing the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, which will be known as "UN Women", with the mandate to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women;

*i)* Resolution 1327 adopted by the Council at its 2011 session, on ITU's role in ICTs and the empowerment of women and girls;

*j)* ECOSOC Resolution 2012/24, on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system, which welcomed the development of the UN System-Wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UNSWAP);

*k)* Resolution 55 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of WTSA, on mainstreaming a gender perspective in ITU-T activities;

*l)* Resolution 55 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on mainstreaming a gender perspective for an inclusive and egalitarian information society;

*m)* the Preamble to the WSIS+10 Statement on implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), which reaffirmed the importance of promoting and maintaining gender equality and women's empowerment, guaranteeing the inclusion of women in the emerging global ICT society and taking into account the mandate of the newly established agency UN-WOMEN,

recognizing

*a)* that society as a whole, particularly in the context of the information and knowledge society, will benefit from equal participation of women and men in policy-making and decision-making and equal access to communication services for both women and men;

*b)* that information and communication technologies (ICTs) are tools through which gender equality and women's empowerment can be advanced, and are integral to the creation of societies in which both women and men can substantively contribute and participate;

*c)* that the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, namely the Geneva Declaration of Principles, the Geneva Plan of Action, the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, outlined the concept of the information society and that continued efforts must be undertaken in this context to bridge the gender digital divide;

*d)* the WSIS+10 Statement on implementation of the WSIS outcomes states the need to ensure that the information society enables women's empowerment and their full participation on the basis of equality in all spheres of society and in all decision-making processes;

*e)* that there are a growing number of women in the ICT field with decision-making power, including in relevant ministries, national regulatory authorities and industry, who could promote the work of ITU so as to encourage girls to choose a career in the field of ICT and foster the use of ICTs for the social and economic empowerment of women and girls;

*f)* that there is a growing need to close the digital divide in order to empower women in rural and marginalized areas that are subject to traditional constraints which reinforce discrimination,

recognizing further

*a)* the progress achieved in raising awareness, both within ITU and among Member States, of the importance of integrating a gender perspective in all ITU work programmes and of increasing the number of women professionals in ITU, especially at the senior management level, while at the same time working towards the equal access of women and men to posts in the General Service category;

*b)* the success of international “Girls in ICT day” organized by ITU, which is held every year on the fourth Thursday of April;

*c)* the considerable recognition given to the work of ITU in gender and ICT within the United Nations family of organizations, including the award for outstanding achievement in gender equality mainstreaming in the area of ICTs (GEM-TECH award), awarded jointly by the United Nations and the Union to role models in the area of gender equality,

considering

*a)* the progress made by ITU, and in particular the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), in the development and implementation of actions and projects that use ICTs for the economic and social empowerment of women and girls, as well as in increasing awareness of the links between gender issues and ICTs within the Union and among Member States and Sector Members;

*b)* the results achieved by the Working Group on Gender Issues in promoting gender equality;

*c)* the study conducted by ITU-T on women in telecommunication standardization, exploring perspectives and activities related to gender mainstreaming in ITU-T and determining the degree to which women are active participants in all ITU-T activities,

noting

*a)* that there is a need for ITU to investigate, analyse and further understand the impact of telecommunication/ICT technologies on women and men;

*b)* that ITU should take the lead in establishing gender-relevant indicators for the telecommunication/ICT sector;

*c)* that more work needs to be done to ensure that the gender perspective is included in all ITU policies, work programmes, information dissemination activities, publications, study groups, seminars, workshops and conferences;

*d)* that there is a need to foster participation of women and girls in the ICT domain at an early age and to provide input for further policy developments;

*e)* the need for ICT tools and applications to empower women and facilitate their access to the job market in non-traditional fields,

encourages Member States and Sector Members

1 to review and revise, as appropriate, their respective policies and practices to ensure that recruitment, employment, training and advancement of women and men alike are undertaken on a fair and equitable basis;

2 to facilitate the capacity building and employment of women and men equally in the telecommunication/ICT field including at senior levels of responsibility in telecommunication/ICT administrations, government and regulatory bodies and intergovernmental organizations and in the private sector;

3 to review their policies related to the information society to ensure the inclusion of a gender perspective in all activities,

4 to promote and increase the interest of, and opportunities for, women and girls in ICT careers, with special focus on rural women and girls, during elementary, secondary and higher education and in continuing education;

5 to attract more women and girls to study computer science, and acknowledge the achievements of leading women in relevant areas, particularly in innovation;

6 to encourage more women to take advantage of the opportunities offered by ICTs to develop their business and to foster potential contributions to bring about economic regeneration,

resolves

1 to endorse Resolution 55 (Doha, 2006), on promoting gender equality towards all-inclusive information societies;

2 to continue the work being done at ITU, and particularly in BDT, to promote gender equality in ICTs by recommending measures at the international, regional and national level on policies and programmes that improve socio-economic conditions for women, particularly in developing countries;

3 to accord high priority to the incorporation of gender policies in the management, staffing and operation of ITU;

4 to incorporate a gender perspective in the implementation of the ITU strategic plan and financial plan for 2016-2019 as well as in the operational plans of the Bureaux and the General Secretariat,

instructs the Council

1 to continue and expand on the initiatives carried out over the past four years and to accelerate the gender mainstreaming process in ITU as a whole, within existing budgetary resources, so as to ensure capacity building and the promotion of women to senior-level positions;

2 to examine the possibility of ITU, in close collaboration with relevant regional organizations, taking appropriate measures to establish a regional platform for women, devoted to using ICT to expedite the promotion of gender equality and empowerment of women and girls, whereby each commission may determine specific measures annually in the fields of employment, economic activity, education and health,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to continue to ensure that the gender perspective is incorporated in the work programmes, management approaches and human resource development activities of ITU, and to submit an annual written report to the Council on progress made on gender mainstreaming in ITU, including statistics on gender by grade of ITU staff and participation of women and men in ITU conferences and meetings;

2 to ensure the inclusion of a gender perspective in all ITU contributions to the implementation of WSIS action lines;

3 to give particular attention to gender balance for posts at the professional and particularly the higher levels in ITU and, when choosing between candidates who have equal qualifications for a post, taking into account geographical distribution (No. 154 of the ITU Constitution) and the balance between female and male staff, to give appropriate priority to gender balance;

4 to report to the next plenipotentiary conference on the results and progress made on the inclusion of a gender perspective in the work of ITU, and on the implementation of this resolution;

5 to make efforts to mobilize voluntary contributions from Member States, Sector Members and others for this purpose;

6 to encourage administrations to give equal opportunities to male and female candidatures for elected official posts and for membership of the Radio Regulations Board;

7 to continue to support the "Global Network of women ICT decision-makers";

8 to announce a year-long call to action, with a focus on the theme "Women and girls in ICT",

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to bring to the attention of other United Nations agencies the need to promote and increase the interest of, and opportunities for, women and girls in ICT careers during elementary, secondary and higher education, including by continuing to organize an international "Girls in ICT" day, to be held every year on the fourth Thursday of April, when ICT companies, other companies with ICT departments, ICT training institutions, universities, research centres and all ICT-related institutions are invited to organize an open day for girls;

2 to continue the work of BDT in promoting the use of ICTs for the economic and social empowerment of women and girls,

invites Member States and Sector Members

1 to make voluntary contributions to ITU to facilitate the implementation of this resolution to the fullest extent possible;

2 to observe annually the international "Girls in ICT" day, to be held on the fourth Thursday of April, when ICT companies, other companies with ICT departments, ICT training institutions, universities, research centres and all ICT-related institutions are invited to organize an open day for girls;

3 to actively support and participate in the work of BDT in promoting the use of ICTs for the economic and social empowerment of women and girls;

4 to actively support and participate in the work of the "Global Network of women ICT decision-makers" aimed at promoting the work of ITU in using ICTs for the social and economic empowerment of women and girls, including by building partnerships and building synergies between existing networks at national, regional and international levels, as well as fostering successful strategies to improve gender balance at senior-level positions in telecommunication/ICT administrations, government, regulatory bodies and intergovernmental organizations, including ITU, and in the private sector;

5 to highlight the gender perspective in the Questions under study in the ITU-D study groups and the five programmes of the Hyderabad Action Plan;

6 to continue to develop internal software tools and guidelines;

7 to collaborate with relevant international organizations that have significant experience in mainstreaming gender equality in projects and programmes.

PART 14

**Amendments to Resolution 99 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010)**

Introduction

The Arab States group proposes to amend Resolution 99 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) in order to reflect recent developments and the UNGA resolution.

MOD ARB/79A2/5

RESOLUTION 99 (Rev. Busan, 2014)

Status of Palestine in ITU

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

recalling

*a)* the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

*b)* Resolution 67/19 of the United Nations General Assembly,which decides to accord to Palestine non-member observer State status in the United Nations;

*c)* Resolutions 32 (Kyoto, 1994) and 125 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*d)* Resolution 18 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference;

*e)* that Nos 6 and 7 of Article 1 of the ITU Constitution provide "*to promote the extension of the benefits of the new telecommunication technologies to all the world's inhabitants" and "to promote the use of telecommunication services with the objective of facilitating peaceful relations*",

considering

*a)* that the basic instruments of the Union have as a purpose to strengthen peace and security in the world by means of international cooperation and better understanding among peoples;

*b)* that, to achieve the above purpose, ITU needs to have a universal character,

considering further

*a)* the outcomes of both the Geneva (2003) and Tunis (2005) phases of the World Summit on the Information Society;

*b)* the participation of the State of Palestine in the Regional Radiocommunication Conference (Geneva, 2006), and the acceptance of Palestinian requirements in the digital broadcasting plan, subject to its notifying the ITU Secretary-General that it accepts the rights and commits to observe the obligations arising therefrom;

*c)* successive developments and changes in the information and communication technology sector under the responsibility of the State of Palestine, towards restructuring and liberalization of the sector and competition;

*d)* that Palestine is a member of the League of Arab States, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, the Non-Aligned Movement, the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO);

*e)* that many, but not all, ITU Member States recognize the State of Palestine,

bearing in mind

the basic principles in the preamble to the Constitution,

resolves

that, pending any further change in the current status of Palestine as observer in ITU, the following shall apply:

1 the State of Palestine shall be granted all the rights of a Member State except the right to vote, and the provisions of the Administrative Regulations, and related resolutions and recommendations, shall be applied to it in the same manner as they are applied to administrations, and the General Secretariat and the three Bureaux shall act accordingly, in particular in relation to international access code;

2 the Palestinian delegation shall be seated according to alphabetical order;

3 Palestinian operating agencies, scientific or industrial organizations and financial and development institutions dealing with telecommunication matters may apply directly to the Secretary-General to participate in the activities of the Union as Sector Members or Associates, and said requests will be duly acted upon; the provisions of the latter pertain to the adoption of questions and recommendations having policy or regulatory implications, and decisions relating to the working methods and procedures of the Sector concerned,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to ensure the implementation of this resolution and all other resolutions adopted by plenipotentiary conferences on Palestine, particularly decisions relating to international access code and processing of frequency assignment notifications, and to report periodically to the Council on progress in these matters;

2 to coordinate activities of the three Sectors of the Union in accordance with *resolves* above in order to ensure maximum effectiveness of actions taken by the Union in favour of the State of Palestine and to report progress in these matters to the next session of the Council and the next plenipotentiary conference.

PART 15

**Amendments to Resolution 125 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2102)**

Proposal

The Arab States group proposes amendments to Resolution 125 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2102).

MOD ARB/79A2/6

RESOLUTION 125 (Rev. Busan, 2014)

Assistance and support to Palestine
for rebuilding its telecommunication networks

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

recalling

*a)* Resolutions 125 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010), 125 (Rev. Antalya, 2006), 125 (Marrakesh, 2002), 99 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) and 32 (Kyoto, 1994) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*b)* Resolutions 18 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), 18 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010), 18 (Rev. Doha, 2006), 18 (Rev. Istanbul, 2002) and 18 (Valletta, 1998) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC);

*c)* the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

*d)* Nos 6 and 7 of the ITU Constitution indicating among the purposes of the Union "*to promote the extension of the benefits of the new telecommunication technologies to all the world's inhabitants*" and "*to promote the use of telecommunication services with the objective of facilitating peaceful relations*";

*e)* the terms of Resolution 67/19 of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), under which it was decided to accord to Palestine non-member observer State status in the United Nations;

*f)* UNGA Resolution 67/229, which recognizes the right to permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem,

considering

*a)* that the ITU Constitution and Convention are designed to strengthen peace and security in the world for the development of international cooperation and better understanding among the peoples concerned;

*b)* that ITU's policy of assistance to Palestine for the development of its telecommunication sector has been efficient but has not yet fulfilled its goals, due to the prevailing situation;

*c)* that, for Palestine to take an effective part in the new information society, it has to build its information society;

*d)* Resolution 9 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, which recognizes that it is the sovereign right of every State to manage spectrum use within its territories,

considering further

*a)* that the establishment of a reliable and modern telecommunication network is an essential part of economic and social development and is of the utmost importance to the future of the Palestinian people;

*b)* that the international community has an important role in assisting Palestine to develop a modern and reliable telecommunication network;

*c)* that the Palestinian telecommunication network has been destroyed several times by repeated Israeli strikes on Palestinian territory;

*d)* that Palestine at present does not have international telecommunication networks on account of difficulties for their establishment,

mindful

of the fundamental principles contained in the Preamble of the Constitution,

noting

the Telecommunication Development Bureau's (BDT) long-term technical assistance to Palestine for the development of its telecommunications in implementation of Resolution 32 (Kyoto, 1994) of the Plenipotentiary Conference and the urgent need for assistance to be provided in the various fields of communication and information,

noting with grave concern

the restrictions, difficulties and measures imposed by Israel, the occupying power, which prevent Palestine from being able to access ICT means in Palestine,

resolves

1 that the plan of action initiated after the Plenipotentiary Conference (Kyoto, 1994) within the framework of the activities of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector, with the specialized assistance of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector and the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector, shall be continued and enhanced in order to provide assistance and support to Palestine for rebuilding and developing its telecommunication infrastructure, re-establishing institutions in this sector, developing telecommunication legislation and a regulatory framework including a numbering plan, radio-frequency spectrum management, tariff and human resource development and all other forms of assistance;

2 to place the frequency spectrum for Palestine under the mandate of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), in collaboration with the Radiocommunication Bureau (BR), with spectrum planning and management to be exclusively in the interests of Palestine, and to prepare and implement an urgent plan, to commence immediately, to assist Palestine in completing the process of transition and migration to digital terrestrial broadcasting in the frequency band 470-694 MHz and in exploiting the 694-862 MHz frequency band resulting from the digital transition for broadband mobile service uses and applications for the benefit of Palestine;

3 until such time as the current situation changes, the causes and obstacles are removed and the State of Palestine is able to manage, oversee and plan its own frequency spectrum, and without prejudice to any of its sovereign rights, the State of Palestine shall have the right to request the lifting of the mandate, by addressing a letter to the Secretary-General at the time it deems appropriate,

calls upon Member States

to make every effort with a view to:

i) preserving the Palestinian telecommunication infrastructure;

ii) facilitating the establishment of Palestine's own international gateway networks, including satellite earth stations, submarine cables, optical fibres and microwave systems;

iii) providing all forms of assistance and support to Palestine, bilaterally or through executive measures taken by ITU, in rebuilding, restoring and developing the Palestinian telecommunication network;

iv) assisting Palestine in recovering its entitlements accruing from incoming and outgoing international traffic;

v) providing assistance to Palestine in support of the implementation of BDT projects, including human resources capacity building,

invites the Council

to allocate the necessary funds within available resources for the implementation of this resolution,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to continue and enhance the technical assistance provided to Palestine for the development of its telecommunications, taking into consideration the need to overcome the increasing and escalating difficulties encountered in the provision of this assistance during the previous cycle since 2002;

2 to take appropriate measures within the mandate of BDT aimed at facilitating the establishment of international access networks, including terrestrial and satellite stations, submarine cables, optical fibre and microwave systems;

3 to implement e-health, e-education, e-government, spectrum planning and management and human resources development projects and all other forms of assistance;

4 to submit an annual report to the ITU Council on progress made in implementing this resolution and similar resolutions and the mechanisms employed to deal with the increasing difficulties arising,

invites the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau

to ensure that ITU‑R continues the collaboration with ITU‑D in the implementation of this resolution,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to ensure that this resolution and all other resolutions adopted by the Plenipotentiary Conference on Palestine, in particular in relation to the international access code and the processing of frequency assignment notifications, are implemented, and to submit periodic reports to the Council on progress on these questions;

2 to coordinate the activities carried out by the three ITU Sectors in accordance with *resolves* above, to ensure that the Union's action in favour of Palestine is as effective as possible, and to report on the matter to the Council and to the next plenipotentiary conference on the progress achieved on these issues.

PART 16

**Amendments to Resolution 140 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010)**

MOD ARB/79A2/7

RESOLUTION 140 (Rev. Busan, 2014)

ITU's role in implementing the outcomes of the
World Summit on the Information Society

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

recalling

*a)* Resolution 73 (Minneapolis, 1998) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, which achieved its aims in regard to the holding of both phases of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS);

*b)* Resolution 113 (Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on WSIS;

*c)* Decision 8 (Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on ITU input to the WSIS Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action and the information document on ITU activities related to the Summit;

*d)* Resolution 172 (Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on overall review of implementation of the WSIS outcomes,

recalling further

*a)* the Geneva Declaration of Principles and the Geneva Plan of Action, adopted in 2003, and the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, adopted in 2005, all of which were endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly;

*b)* the WSIS+10 Statement on implementation of WSIS outcomes and Vision for WSIS beyond 2015, adopted at the ITU High-Level Event (Geneva, 2014);

*c)* Resolution 68/302 of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), on modalities for the overall review by the General Assembly of the implementation of the WSIS outcomes,

considering

*a)* that ITU has an important and leading role to play in building the inclusive information society to which we aspire for the world;

*b)* the leading role played by ITU in the successful organization of the two phases of WSIS and, likewise, its organization and patronage of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event to review implementation of WSIS outcomes, in collaboration with United Nations agencies and in partnership with stakeholders;

*c)* that the core competences of ITU in the fields of information and communication technologies (ICTs) – assistance in bridging the digital divide, international and regional cooperation, radio spectrum management, standards development and the dissemination of information – are of crucial importance for building the information society, as stated in § 64 of the Geneva Declaration of Principles;

*d)* all the responsibilities entrusted to ITU under various paragraphs of the Tunis Agenda;

e) that the Tunis Agenda stated that "*each UN agency should act according to its mandate and competencies, and pursuant to decisions of their respective governing bodies, and within existing approved resources*" (§ 102 (b));

*f)* that the Vision of the ITU High-Level Event (Geneva, 2014) states in its Preamble that: "*A number of issues and challenges that existed and a number of those that have emerged during the implementation of the outcomes of WSIS are still valid. Hence, UN agencies together with all relevant stakeholders, in their respective roles and responsibilities, are to collaborate to address those challenges*";

*g)* the establishment of a United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS) by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, at the request of the Summit, with the main objective of coordinating substantive and policy issues facing the United Nations' implementation of the WSIS outcomes, and that ITU is a permanent member of UNGIS, and shares a rotating chairmanship thereof;

*h)* that ITU, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) are playing lead facilitation roles in the multistakeholder implementation of the Geneva Plan of Action and Tunis Agenda, as called upon by WSIS;

*i)* that ITU is the moderator/facilitator for Action Lines C2 (Information and communication infrastructure) and C5 (Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs) of the Tunis Agenda, and a potential partner for a number of other action lines, as identified by WSIS;

*j)* that the parties involved in implementing the Summit outcomes agreed, in 2008, to designate ITU as the moderator/facilitator for Action Line C6 (Enabling environment), for which it had previously acted only as a co-facilitator;

*k)* that the ITU is given specific responsibility for maintaining the WSIS stocktaking database (§ 120 of the Tunis Agenda);

*l)* that ITU is capable of providing expertise relevant to the Internet Governance Forum as demonstrated during the WSIS process (§ 78a of the Tunis Agenda);

*m)* that ITU has, *inter alia*, specific responsibility to study and report on international Internet connectivity (§§ 27 and 50 of the Tunis Agenda);

*n)* that ITU has a specific responsibility to ensure rational, efficient and economic use of, and equitable access to, the radio-frequency spectrum by all countries, based on relevant international agreements (§ 96 of the Tunis Agenda);

*o)* the results of the meeting of the 69th session of the United Nations General Assembly (2014), on review of the Summit in 2015;

*p)* that "*building an inclusive development-oriented information society will require unremitting multistakeholder effort… Taking into account the multifaceted nature of building the Information Society, effective cooperation among governments, private sector, civil society and United Nations and other international organizations, according to their roles and responsibilities and leveraging on their expertise, is essential*" (§ 83 of the Tunis Agenda),

considering further

*a)* that ITU plays a fundamental and leading role in providing global perspectives on the development of the information society;

*b)* the need for ITU to evolve constantly in response to changes in the telecommunication/ICT environment and, in particular, in respect of evolving technologies and new regulatory challenges;

*c)* the needs of developing countries, including in the areas of building telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, strengthening confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICT and implementation of the other WSIS goals;

*d)* the desirability of using ITU's resources and expertise in a way which takes account of the rapid changes in the telecommunication environment and of the WSIS+10 outcomes, particularly in relation to the review of the Geneva Declaration of Principles at the ITU High-Level Event (Geneva, 2014) and the UNGA overall review of implementation of the WSIS outcomes in 2015, to avoid duplication among the Bureaux and the General Secretariat;

*e)* that the full involvement of the membership, including Sector Members, as well as other stakeholders, within their respective roles and responsibilities, is critical to successful ITU implementation of relevant WSIS+10 outcomes;

*f)* that the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019 set out in Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference contains a commitment to the implementation of the relevant WSIS outcomes, in response to the changing telecommunication/ICT environment and its effects on the Union, as well as the priority areas to be addressed in implementing the WSIS outcomes beyond 2015, in accordance with the outcomes of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event to review implementation of WSIS outcomes and the outcomes of the UNGA overall review of implementation of the WSIS outcomes in 2015;

*g)* that the Council Working Group on WSIS (WG-WSIS) has proven to be an effective mechanism for facilitating Member State inputs on the role of ITU in implementing WSIS outcomes, as envisaged by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006);

*h)* that the ITU Council has approved roadmaps for Action Lines C2, C5 and C6;

*i)* that the international community is invited to make voluntary contributions to the special trust fund set up by ITU to support activities relating to the implementation of WSIS outcomes;

*j)* that ITU is capable of providing expertise in the field of statistical work by developing ICT indicators, using appropriate indicators and benchmarking to track global progress, and measuring the digital divide (§§ 113-118 of the Tunis Agenda),

taking into account

*a)* that WSIS acknowledged that multistakeholder participation is essential to the successful building of a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented information society;

*b)* the nexus between issues of telecommunication development and those of economic, social and cultural development, as well as its impact on social and economic structures in all Member States;

*c)* § 98 of the Tunis Agenda, which encourages strengthened and continuing cooperation between and among stakeholders and welcomes, in that respect, the ITU-led Connect the World initiative;

*d)* Section C of the WSIS+10 Statement of the ITU High-Level Event to review implementation of WSIS outcomes, relating to the challenges that have arisen during implementation of action lines and new challenges to implementing the action lines beyond 2015;

*e)* that, in recent decades, progress in natural science, mathematics, engineering and technology has formed the basis for ICT innovations and convergence that are bringing the benefits of the information society to an increasing number of people around the world;

*f)* that the ITU Secretary-General created the ITU WSIS Task Force, chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General, in order to fulfil, among others, the instructions handed down to the Secretary-General in Resolution 140 (Antalya, 2006) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*g)* the outcomes of the two WSIS forums hosted by ITU in May 2013 and June 2014;

*h)* theWSIS+10 Statement and Vision of the ITU WSIS+10 High-Level Event to review implementation of the outcomes of the Geneva phase of WSIS,

noting

that there is currently no definition of the term "information and communication technologies (ICT)", which is widely used in documents of the United Nations, ITU and other organizations, including the WSIS outcomes,

endorsing

*a)* Resolution 30 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC);

*b)* Resolution 139 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference;

*c)* the relevant results of the 2014 session of the ITU Council, including Resolutions 1282 (Rev. 2008) and 1332 (Rev. 2012);

*d)* programmes, activities and regional activities established by WTDC‑14 with the objective of bridging the digital divide;

*e)* the relevant work already undertaken and/or to be carried out by ITU to complete implementation of the WSIS outcomes, the outcomes of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event to review implementation of WSIS outcomes and the outcomes of the UNGA overall review of implementation of the WSIS outcomes in 2015, under the aegis of WG-WSIS;

*f)* Resolution 75 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on ITU-T's contribution in implementing the outcomes of WSIS, and the establishment of a Dedicated Group on international Internet-related public policy issues as an integral part of WG‑WSIS,

bearing in mind

the relevant work already undertaken and/or to be carried out by ITU in implementing the WSIS outcomes, under the aegis of WG-WSIS and the WSIS Task Force,

recognizing

*a)* the importance of ITU's role and participation in UNGIS, as a permanent member, and sharing a rotating chairmanship;

*b)* ITU's commitment to the implementation of the goals and objectives of WSIS, as one of the most important goals for the Union;

*c)* that the United Nations General Assembly, in accordance with its Resolution 68/302, will conduct an overall review of the implementation of the Summit outcomes in 2015,

resolves

1 that ITU should play a leading facilitating role in the implementation process, along with UNESCO and UNDP, as stated in § 109 of the Tunis Agenda;

2 that ITU should continue to play a lead facilitation role in the WSIS implementation process, as a moderator/facilitator for implementing Action Lines C2, C5 and C6;

3 that ITU should continue carrying out those activities that come within its mandate, and participate with other stakeholders, as appropriate, in the implementation of Action Lines C1, C3, C4, C7, C8, C9 and C11 and all other relevant action lines, in addition to what is stated in the Vision of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event to review implementation of WSIS outcomes, and the outcomes of the UNGA overall review of implementation of the WSIS outcomes in 2015, within the financial limits set by the Plenipotentiary Conference;

4 that, when continuing its WSIS-related activity, ITU should take into consideration the outcomes of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event to review implementation of WSIS outcomes and the outcomes of the UNGA overall review of implementation of the outcomes of WSIS in 2015;

5 that ITU should continue to adapt itself, taking into account technological developments and its potential to contribute significantly to building an inclusive information society;

6 to express its satisfaction with the successful outcomes of the Summit, in which the expertise and core competence of ITU were noted several times;

7 to express its satisfaction with the successful outcomes of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event to review implementation of WSIS outcomes, at which the importance of collaboration between United Nations agencies, governments and relevant stakeholders, within their respective roles and responsibilities, was noted several times;

8 to express its thanks to the staff of the Union, the host countries and WG-WSIS for their efforts in the preparation of both phases of WSIS, as well as all members of ITU actively involved in implementing the WSIS outcomes;

9 to express its thanks to the staff of the Union and WG-WSIS for their efforts in the preparation of the High-Level Event, as well as all members of ITU actively involved;

10 that there is a need to integrate the implementation of the Dubai Action Plan, and in particular Resolution 30 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), and relevant resolutions of plenipotentiary conferences, with the multistakeholder implementation of the WSIS outcomes;

11 that ITU should, within available resources, continue to maintain the current public WSIS stocktaking database, as one of the valuable tools for assisting with the follow-up of WSIS, as instructed in § 120 of the Tunis Agenda;

12 that the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) shall give high priority to building information and communication infrastructure (WSIS Action Line C2), this being the physical backbone for all e‑applications, calling also upon Programme 1 and the ITU-D study groups to do the same;

13 to encourage all WSIS stakeholders to continue to contribute information on their activities to the public WSIS stocktaking database maintained by ITU, in which this regard all countries are invited to gather information at the national level with the involvement of all stakeholders, to contribute to the stocktaking;

14 to continue the WSIS Project Prizes initiative that has been launched by ITU with involvement of all action line facilitators as a competition that recognizes excellence in the implementation of projects and initiatives which further the WSIS goals;

15 that effective cooperation among governments, private sector, civil society and the United Nations and other international organizations, according to their different roles and responsibilities and leveraging on their expertise, is essential, taking into account the multifaceted nature of building the information society;

16 welcome holding of the annual WSIS Forum, which has become a key forum for multistakeholder debate on pertinent issues related to WSIS and note that the Forum's inclusiveness, openness, and thematic focus have strengthened responsiveness to stakeholders and contributed to increased physical and remote participation,

instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux

1 to take all necessary measures for ITU to fulfil its role, as outlined in *resolves*1, 2, 3, 10 and 12 above, in accordance with the appropriate roadmaps;

2 to continue to coordinate, with the Coordination Committee, the activities related to WSIS implementation for implementing *resolves* 1, 2, and 3 above, with the aim of avoiding duplication of work among the ITU Bureaux and the ITU General Secretariat;

3 to continue to raise public awareness of the Union's mandate, role and activities and provide broader access to the Union's resources for the general public and other actors involved in the emerging information society;

4 to formulate specific tasks and deadlines for implementing the action lines referred to above, and incorporate them in the operational plans of the General Secretariat and the Sectors;

5 to report annually to the Council on the activities undertaken on these subjects, including their financial implications;

6 to prepare a final and comprehensive report on the ITU activities for WSIS implementation, the WSIS+10 High-Level Event to review implementation of WSIS outcomes, the outcomes of the UNGA overall review of implementation of the WSIS outcomes in 2015 and any developments, for submission to the next plenipotentiary conference in 2018,

instructs the Directors of the Bureaux

to ensure that concrete objectives and deadlines for WSIS activities, the outcomes of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event to review implementation of WSIS outcomes and the outcomes of the UNGA overall review of implementation of the WSIS outcomes in 2015 are developed and reflected in the operational plans of each Sector,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to follow, as soon as possible and in accordance with Resolution 30 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), a partnership approach in ITU‑D activities related to its roles in the implementation and follow-up of the WSIS outcomes, in accordance with the provisions of the ITU Constitution and ITU Convention, and to report annually, as appropriate, to the Council,

requests the Council

1 to oversee ITU's implementation of the outcomes of WSIS, of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event to review implementation of WSIS outcomes and of the UNGA overall review of implementation of the WSIS outcomes in 2015 and, within the financial limits set by the Plenipotentiary Conference, to make resources available as appropriate;

2 to oversee ITU's adaptation to the information society, in line with *resolves* 2 and 3 above;

3 to maintain WG-WSIS, in order to facilitate membership input and guidance on the ITU implementation of relevant WSIS+10 outcomes in the light of the Statement and Vision of the High-Level Event (Geneva, 2014), and to elaborate, in collaboration with other Council working groups, proposals to the Council that may be necessary for adapting ITU to its role in building the information society, with the assistance of the WSIS Task Force, these proposals possibly including amendments to the Constitution and the Convention;

4 to elaborate through the Sector study groups and submit a working definition of the term "ICT" to the Council and working groups of the Council, for possible transmission to the next plenipotentiary conference;

5 to take into account the relevant decisions of the United Nations General Assembly with regard to mid-term assessment of implementation of the WSIS outcomes;

6 to modify Resolution 1282 adopted by the Council at its 2008 session to establish a working group of the Council for the Dedicated Group on international Internet-related public policy issues, open only to Member States with open consultation to all stakeholders;

7 to take into account the relevant UNGA resolutions with regard to assessment of implementation of the WSIS outcomes;

8 to include the report of the Secretary-General in the documents sent to Member States in accordance with No. 81 of the Convention;

9 to instruct the Secretary-General of the Union to prepare a report on the UNGA resolution on review of WSIS at the first Council session after the latter's adoption and to take all necessary measures in this regard,

invites Member States, Sector Members and Associates

1 to participate actively in implementing the outcomes of WSIS, of the High-Level Event and of the UNGA overall review of implementation of the WSIS outcomes in 2015, contribute to the WSIS stocktaking database maintained by ITU, and participate actively in the activities of WG-WSIS and in ITU's further adaptation to the information society;

2 to make voluntary contributions to the special trust fund set up by ITU to support activities relating to the implementation of the outcomes of WSIS, of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event to review implementation of WSIS outcomes and of the UNGA overall review of implementation of the WSIS outcomes in 2015;

3 to continue to contribute information on their activities to the public WSIS stocktaking database maintained by ITU

resolves to express

its warmest thanks and deepest gratitude to the Governments of Switzerland and Tunisia for having hosted the two phases of the Summit in close collaboration with ITU, UNESCO, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and other relevant United Nations agencies.

PART 17

**Amendments to Resolution 146 (Antalya, 2006)**

Aim of the proposal

The Arab States group proposes amendments to Resolution 146 (Antalya, 2006). From the technical, policy and regulatory perspectives, the international telecommunication environment is developing rapidly and the fast-moving nature of the telecommunication/ICT sector calls for regular review of the International Telecommunication Regulations (ITRs). Accordingly, the Arab States group proposes that the ITRs be reviewed regularly, every eight years, and that world conferences on international telecommunications (WCIT) be preceded by a conference preparatory platform (CPP), designed to formulate items for the conference agenda.

MOD ARB/79A2/8

RESOLUTION 146 (Rev. Busan, 2014)

Review of the International Telecommunication Regulations

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

considering

*a)* that the International Telecommunication Regulations (ITRs) are one of the instruments of the Union under Article 4 of the ITU Constitution;

*b)* that Article 25 of the Constitution provides, *inter alia*, that a world conference on international telecommunications (WCIT) may partially or, in exceptional cases, completely revise the ITRs, and may deal with any question of a worldwide character within its competence and related to its agenda;

*c)* that the ITRs were amended at WCIT (Dubai, 2014), 24 years after the last revision of the ITRs (Melbourne, 1988);

*d)* Resolution 4 (Dubai, 2012) of WCIT, on periodic review of the ITRs, which invites the 2014 plenipotentiary conference to consider the resolution and to take necessary action, as appropriate, to convene periodically (for example every eight years) a WCIT to revise the ITRs, taking into account the financial implications for the Union;

*e)* that treaty-level provisions are required with respect to international telecommunication networks and services;

*f)* that the ITRs consist of high-level guiding principles that should not require frequent amendments, yet the international telecommunication environment is evolving rapidly from a technical, policy and regulatory perspective, and in the fast-moving telecommunication/ICT sector the ITRs need to be periodically reviewed;

*g)* that advances in technology have resulted in an increased use of IP-enabled infrastructure and relevant applications, presenting both opportunities and challenges for ITU Member States and Sector Members;

*h)* that as technology evolves, Member States are evaluating their policy and regulatory approaches to ensure an enabling environment that fosters supportive, transparent, pro-competitive, and predictable policies, as well as legal and regulatory frameworks that provide appropriate incentives for investment in, and development of, the information society;

*i)* that ITU can play an important role in facilitating a discussion of new and emerging issues, including those arising from the changing international telecommunication environment;

*j)* that the six principal regional telecommunication organizations[[4]](#footnote-4)1, namely the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT), the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT), the Inter-American Telecommunications Commission (CITEL), the African Telecommunications Union (ATU), the Council of Arab Ministers of Telecommunication and Information represented by the Secretariat-General of the League of Arab States (LAS) and the Regional Commonwealth in the field of Communications (RCC), seek close cooperation with the Union;

*k)* that there were wide consultations in all ITU regions prior to WCIT‑12, showing great interest in the revision of the ITRs,

believing

*a)* that, in order for ITU to maintain its pre-eminent role in global telecommunications, it must continue to demonstrate its capacity to respond adequately to the rapidly changing telecommunication environment;

*b)* that there is a need to build broad consensus on what could appropriately be covered in the ITU treaty framework, within its standardization activities, and within its development activities;

*c)* that it is important to ensure that the ITRs are periodically reviewed and, if deemed appropriate, revised and updated in a timely manner in order to facilitate cooperation and coordination among Member States and to reflect accurately the relations between Member States, Sector Members, administrations and authorized or recognized operating agencies[[5]](#footnote-5)2,

resolves

1 that a review of the ITRs should be carried out periodically;

2 that ITU-T should act as the focal point for WCITs;

3 that a WCIT be convened periodically every eight years, starting from WCIT (Dubai, 2012);

4 that ITU shall convene a CPP in 2017 to discuss the agenda of WCIT‑20, with the results of the CPP to be submitted to the next plenipotentiary conference in 2018 for adoption;

5 that ITU, in collaboration with the six principal regional organizations, and within available financial resources, shall organize six regional preparatory meetings, one for each region, to prepare for WCITs,

instructs the Council

to take all the necessary measures to implement this resolution,

instructs the Secretary-General

to undertake the necessary preparatory arrangements for WCIT‑20, in accordance with the applicable rules and procedures of ITU,

invites the membership

to contribute to the review of the ITRs and to the preparatory process of WCIT, including the regional meetings, as appropriate.

PART 18

**Amendments to Resolution 167 (Guadalajara, 2010)**

Introduction

The Arab States group proposes amendments to Resolution 167 (Guadalajara, 2010) to reflect the importance of equitable access for all, as well as to focus on the needs of developing countries.

MOD ARB/79A2/9

RESOLUTION 167 (rev. Busan, 2014)

Strengthening and developing ITU capabilities for electronic meetings and means
to advance the work of the Union

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

considering

*a)* the rapid technological change in the field of telecommunications and the associated policy, regulatory and infrastructure adaptations required at national, regional and global levels;

*b)* the consequent need for the widest possible engagement of the ITU membership from around the world to address these matters in the work of the Union;

*c)* that developments in technologies and facilities for the holding of electronic meetings and the further development of electronic working methods (EWM) will enable more open, rapid and easy collaboration between participants in the activities of ITU, which may be paperless,

recalling

*a)* Resolution 66 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on documents and publications of the Union, regarding the electronic availability of documents;

*b)* Resolution 32 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on strengthening electronic working methods in the work of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) and the implementation of EWM capabilities and associated arrangements in the work of ITU-T;

*c)* Resolution 73 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of WTSA, on information and communication technologies (ICTs) and climate change and, in particular, *recognizing* *g)* thereof concerning energy-efficient working methods,

*d)* Resolution 81 (Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on further development of EWM for the work of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector;

*e)* Resolution 64 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on non-discriminatory access to modern telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and applications, including applied research and transfer of technology, on mutually agreed terms;

*f)* Resolution 175 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on telecommunication/ICT accessibility for persons with disabilities, including age-related disabilities,

recognizing

*a)* the budgetary difficulty that delegates from many countries and, in particular developing countries, have in travelling to participate in face-to-face ITU meetings;

*b)* that electronic participation will have significant benefits for the Union's membership, by reducing travel costs, and will facilitate wider participation in both the work of the Union and in meetings that require attendance;

*c)* that numerous ITU meetings are already available as audio and video webcasts and that use of videoconferencing, audioconference calls, real-time captioning and web-based collaboration tools for electronic participation in certain types of meetings have been advanced in meetings of the Sectors and the General Secretariat;

*d)* that the present situation of remote participation in meetings can only be described as remote intervention, not remote participation, insofar as a remote participant cannot intervene in decision-making,

recognizing further

*a)* the key role of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau in providing support for EWM capabilities for ITU meetings;

*b)* that the difficulties in ensuring infrastructure and broadband, as well as other constraints, in developing countries[[6]](#footnote-6)1 constitute an obstacle to the participation of many developing countries in electronic meetings and to the implementation of EWM;

*c)* that the time difference between regions complicates remote participation in meetings;

*d)*

considering further

the important contribution of the use of ICTs and reduced travel to climate neutrality,

noting

*a)* that, as an alternative to face-to-face meetings, there are benefits in utilizing electronic meetings to progress discussions;

*b)* that the existence of electronic meetings, with well-documented rules and procedures, will help ITU in widening the involvement of potential stakeholders, both member and non-member experts, particularly from developing countries, who are unable to participate in face-to-face meetings;

*c)* that electronic meetings may lead to increased efficiency of the activities of ITU and reduction of costs for all parties,for example by reducing the need for travel and reducing the need for printed copies of documents;

*d)* that there needs to be a coordinated and harmonized approach to the technology used,

noting further

*a)* that electronic working methods have made important contributions to the work of Sector groups, such as rapporteur groups, and of Council working groups, and that work, such as the development of texts, has been progressed in various parts of the Union through electronic communications;

*b)* that different modes of participation are suitable for different types of meetings;

*c)* the need to establish the role of hyperlinks, in particular in documents submitted to executive or deliberative organs for approval, and the related decision of the 2009 session of the Council[[7]](#footnote-7)2;

*d)* the importance of having complete texts available at the time of approval,

emphasizing

*a)* that there is a need for procedures to ensure fair and equitable participation by all;

*b)* that electronic meetings can contribute to bridging the digital divide;

*c)* that the implementation of electronic meetings is beneficial to ITU's role in leading the coordination on ICTs and climate change, and on accessibility,

resolves

1 that ITU should further develop its facilities and capabilities for remote participation by electronic means in appropriate meetings of the Union, including working groups created by the Council;

2 that final documents submitted for approval shall not contain hyperlinks other than, where appropriate, internal hyperlinks to documents or parts of documents that are stable and have already been approved by the competent organ of the Union, and that the inclusion of an internal hyperlink in a document submitted for approval should not result in implicit approval of the content of the hyperlink's target; rather, any approval must be explicit (this procedure is not applicable to study groups);

3 that ITU should continue to develop its electronic working methods concerning an electronic meeting registration mechanism, the development, distribution and approval of documents and the promotion of paperless meetings;

4 that the Union continue to develop EWM for the participation of persons with disabilities and persons with special needs, which may include, *inter alia*, captioning for the hearing-impaired, audioconferences for the sight-impaired, webconferences for persons with restricted mobility, as well as other solutions and facilities;

5 to build upon trials for electronic meetings, such that their subsequent implementation is technologically neutral, to the greatest extent possible, and cost effective, in order to allow broad participation, satisfying the necessary security requirements;

6 that the Union should provide facilities and capabilities for EWM at meetings, workshops and training courses, particularly to assist developing countries that have bandwidth limitations and other constraints;

7 to encourage electronic participation of developing countries in meetings, workshops and training by providing simplified facilities and guidelines, and by waiving any expenses on those participants, other than the local call or Internet connectivity charges,

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

1 to develop an EWM action plan to address the legal, technical, security and financial aspects of increasing the Union's EWM capability, taking into consideration all observations and proposals from members of the Union;

2 to build upon trials for electronic meetings, in collaboration with the Directors of the Bureaux, such that their subsequent implementation is technologically neutral, to the greatest extent possible, and cost effective, in order to allow broad participation, equitable for all, and satisfying the necessary security requirements;

3 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;

4 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;

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

instructs the Directors of the Bureaux

to take 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.

PART 19

**Amendments to Resolution 175 (Guadalajara, 2010)**

Introduction

Amendments from the Arab States group to Resolution 175 (Guadalajara, 2010) to emphasize the importance of telecommunication/ICT accessibility for persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs.

MOD ARB/79A2/10

RESOLUTION 175 (Rev. Busan, 2014)

Telecommunication/information and communication technology
 accessibility for persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

recalling

*a)* Resolution 70 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, on telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) accessibility for persons with disabilities, and the current studies, initiatives and events on this issue undertaken by the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) and its study groups, in particular Study Group 2 and Study Group 16, in collaboration with the Joint Coordination Activity on Accessibility and Human Factors (JCA-AHF);

*b)* Resolution 58 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on access to ICT for persons with disabilities, including age-related disabilities, based on the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) special initiative work carried out through studies conducted within the framework of Question 20/1 of ITU-D Study Group 1, commencing in September 2006 and proposing the wording of that resolution and, likewise, the ITU-D initiative on development of an e-accessibility toolkit for persons with disabilities, in collaboration and partnership with the Global Initiative for Inclusive ICTs (G3ict);

*c)* Article 12 of the International Telecommunication Regulations (ITR), adopted by the World Conference on International Telecommunications (Dubai, 2012) (WCIT), which states that Member States should promote access for persons with disabilities to international telecommunication services, taking into account the relevant ITU‑T Recommendations;

*d)* ongoing work in, the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R), ITU-T and ITU-D to bridge the digital disability divide;

*e)* the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), calling for special attention to be given to persons with disabilities, including age-related disabilities;

*f)* the report of the High-Level Meeting on Disability and Development (HLMDD) convened by the United Nations General Assembly at the level of heads of State and government on 23 September 2013, under the theme "The ICT Opportunity for a Disability-Inclusive Development Framework", which stressed the need for inclusive development in which persons with disabilities are both agents and beneficiaries;

*g)* the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which entered into force on 3 May 2008 and which requires for States Parties to take appropriate measures for access for persons with disabilities on an equal basis with others to ICT, emergency services and Internet services;

*h)* ITU's accessibility policy for persons with disabilities adopted by the ITU Council in 2013,

considering

*a)* that the World Health Organization estimates that ten per cent of the world's population (more than 650 million people) are persons with disabilities, and that this percentage may increase due to factors such as the growing unavailability of medical treatment and longer life expectancy, and also because people may acquire disability through aging, accidents, wars and circumstances of poverty;

*b)* that 80 per cent of persons with disabilities live in developing countries, according to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP);

*c)* that over the past 60 years, the approach to disability adopted by United Nations agencies, and by many Member States (through a changed emphasis in their laws, regulations, policies and programmes), has moved from a health and welfare perspective to an approach based on human‑rights, which recognizes that persons with disabilities are people first, and that societal actions have, in certain instances, placed barriers upon them as opposed to their disabilities, and which includes the goal of full participation in society by persons with disabilities;

*d)* that the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which entered into force on 3 May 2008, requires States Parties, under Article 9 on accessibility, to take appropriate measures including:

i) 9(2)(g) "*to promote access for persons with disabilities to new information and communications technologies and systems, including the Internet*";

ii) 9(2)(h) "*to promote the design, development, production and distribution of accessible information and communications technologies and systems at an early stage, so that these technologies and systems become accessible at minimum cost*";

*e)* the importance of cooperation between governments, the private sector and relevant organizations to provide possibilities for low-cost access;

*f)* that women and girls with disabilities suffer from multiple manifestations of deprivation, whereby they are excluded on the basis of their gender and disability,

recalling

*a)* § 18 of the Tunis Commitment, made at the second phase of WSIS (Tunis, 2005): "*We shall strive unremittingly, therefore, to promote universal, ubiquitous, equitable and affordable access to ICTs, including universal design and assistive technologies, for all people, especially those with disabilities, everywhere, to ensure that the benefits are more evenly distributed between and within societies, and to bridge the digital divide in order to create digital opportunities for all and benefit from the potential offered by ICTs for development*";

*b)* the Phuket Declaration on Tsunami Preparedness for Persons with Disabilities (Phuket, 2007), which emphasizes the need for inclusive emergency warning and disaster management systems using telecommunication/ICT facilities based on open, non-proprietary, global standards;

*c)* Resolution GSC-14/27 agreed at the 14th Global Standards Collaboration meeting (Geneva 2009), which encouraged greater collaboration among global regional and national standardization bodies as a basis for establishing and/or strengthening activities and initiatives concerning the use of telecommunication/ICT accessibility for persons with disabilities,

resolves

to take account of persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs in the work of ITU, and to collaborate in adopting a comprehensive action plan in order to extend access to telecommunications/ICTs to persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs, in collaboration with external entities and bodies concerned with this subject,

instructs the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Directors of the Bureaux

1 to coordinate accessibility-related activities between ITU‑R, ITU‑T and ITU‑D, in collaboration with other relevant organizations and entities where appropriate, in order to avoid duplication and to ensure that the needs of persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs are taken into account;

2 that the Union should work, within available resources, to provide facilities, services and programmes for participants with visual, hearing or physical disabilities and persons with specific needs, including captioning at meetings, access to print information and the ITU website, access to ITU buildings and meeting facilities, and the adoption of accessible ITU recruitment practices and employment;

3 to encourage and promote representation by persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs so as to ensure that their experiences, views and opinions are taken into account when developing and progressing ITU work;

4 to consider expanding the fellowship programme in order to enable delegates with disabilities and delegates with specific needs, within existing budgetary constraints, to participate in the work of ITU;

5 to identify, document and disseminate examples of best practices for accessibility in the field of telecommunications/ICTs among ITU Member States and Sector Members;

6 to work collaboratively on accessibility-related activities with ITU‑R, ITU‑T and ITU‑D, in particular concerning awareness and mainstreaming of telecommunication/ICT accessibility standards and in developing programmes that enable developing countries to introduce services that allow persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs to utilize telecommunication/ICT services effectively;

7 to work collaboratively and cooperatively with other relevant organizations and entities, in particular in the interest of ensuring that ongoing work in the field of accessibility is taken into account;

8 to work collaboratively and cooperatively with disability organizations in all regions to ensure that the needs of persons with disabilities are taken into account;

9 to review the current ITU services and facilities, including meetings and events, in order to make them available to persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs, and to endeavour to make the necessary changes to improve accessibility, where appropriate and economically feasible, pursuant to United Nations General Assembly Resolution 61/106;

10 to direct the regional offices, within their available resources, to organize regional competitions for the development of assistive technologies to enable persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs, having due regard for environmental conditions, such as language and culture (and taking into account the existence of developers with disabilities);

11 to work on the establishment of an information system of persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs (in terms of numbers and type of disability), thereby helping to identify their needs so as to assist in formulating future plans to support and empower persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs, especially in developing countries, in the ICT field;

12 to direct the regional offices, within their available resources, to ensure the participation of concerned stakeholders in the Member States to build the capacity of technology developers in order to make the technology available;

13 to consider accessibility standards and guidelines whenever undertaking renovations or changing the use of space at a facility, so that accessibility features are maintained and additional barriers are not inadvertently implemented;

14 to prepare a report for submission to each annual session of the Council on implementation of this resolution having regard to the budget allocated for this purpose;

15 to submit a report to the next plenipotentiary conference on measures taken to implement this resolution,

invites Member States and Sector Members

1 to consider developing, within their national legal frameworks, guidelines or other mechanisms to enhance the accessibility, compatibility and usability of telecommunication/ICT services, products and terminals, and to offer support to regional initiatives related to this issue;

2 to consider introducing appropriate telecommunication/ICT services in order to enable persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs to utilize these services on an equal basis with others, and to promote international cooperation in this regard;

3 to participate actively in accessibility-related activities/studies in ITU‑R, ITU‑T and ITU‑D, including participating actively in the work of the study groups concerned, and to encourage and promote representation by persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs so as to ensure that their experiences, views and opinions are taken into account;

4 to take into account *considering* *c)* ii) and *d)* above, and the benefits of cost affordability for equipment and services for persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs, including universal design;

5 to encourage the international community to make voluntary contributions to the special trust fund set up by ITU to support activities relating to the implementation of this resolution.

PART 20

**Amendments to Resolution 176 (Guadalajara, 2010)**

Introduction

The Arab States group proposes amendments to Resolution 176 (Guadalajara, 2010), it being important that ITU develop a neutral global measurement system for levels of human exposure to electromagnetic fields, through cooperation with the relevant United Nations organizations.

MOD ARB/79A2/11

RESOLUTION 176 (Rev. Busan, 2014)

Human exposure to and measurement of electromagnetic fields

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

recalling

*a)* Resolution 72 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, on measurement concerns related to human exposure to electromagnetic fields (EMF);

*b)* Resolution 62 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on measurement concerns related to human exposure to EMF;

*c)* relevant resolutions and recommendations of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) and ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T);

*d)* that there is ongoing work in the three Sectors relating to human exposure to electromagnetic fields, and that liaison and collaboration between the Sectors and with other expert organizations are important, in order to avoid duplication of effort,

considering

*a)* that the World Health Organization (WHO) has the specialized health expertise and competence to assess the impact of radio waves on the human body;

*b)* that ITU has expertise in a mechanism to verify compliance with levels of radio signals by calculating and measuring field strength and power density;

*c)* the high cost of equipment used for measuring and assessing human exposure to EMF;

*d)* that the considerable development in radio spectrum use has resulted in multiple sources of EMF emissions within any given geographic area;

*e)* the urgent need for regulatory bodies in many developing countries to obtain information on EMF measurement methodologies in regard to human exposure to radio-frequency energy, in order to establish national regulations to protect their citizens;

*f)* that, while a number of non-governmental bodies have developed guidelines or criteria for protection against exposure to non-ionizing radiation, including EMF, light rays and ultrasound, there are some gaps in these efforts in terms of a lack of internal consistency between the guidelines in several areas, thus creating a challenge for regulators, policy-makers and advisers in formulating national standards;

*g)* the importance of developing a neutral global measurement of levels of human exposure to EMF through collaboration between the relevant United Nations organizations,

resolves to instruct the Directors of the three Bureaux

to collect and disseminate information concerning exposure to EMF, including on EMF measurement methodologies, in order to assist national administrations, particularly in developing countries, to develop appropriate national regulations,

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 ascertain the requirement for, and as appropriate conduct, regional seminars and workshops in order to identify the needs of developing countries and to build human capacity in regard to measurement of EMF related to human exposure to these fields;

2 to encourage Member States in the various regions to cooperate in sharing expertise and resources and identify a focal point or regional cooperation mechanism, including if required a regional centre, so as to assist all Member States in the region in measurement and training,

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

to formulate a high-priority programme, in coordination and collaboration with WHO and the relevant United Nations organizations, to work on the development of a global standard for levels and limits of human exposure to non-ionizing EMF, for the protection of the public and workers, and that this standard be developed in neutral manner,

invites Member States

1 to conduct a periodic review to ascertain compliance with levels of radio signals by relevant entities and authorized or recognized operating agencies[[8]](#footnote-10)1, in accordance with ITU‑T recommendations;

2 to raise public awareness of the health effects of human exposure to non-ionizing EMF, by conducting awareness-raising campaigns, holding workshops and publishing brochures on the subject,

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

1 to prepare a report on the implementation of this resolution for submission to the ITU Council at each annual session;

2 to provide a report to the next plenipotentiary conference on measures taken to implement this resolution.

PART 21

**Amendments to Resolution 182 (Guadalajara, 2010)**

MOD ARB/79A2/12

RESOLUTION 182 (Rev. Busan, 2014)

The role of telecommunications/information and communication
 technologies in protection of the environment and climate change

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

recognizing

*a)* Resolution 136 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on the use of telecommunications and information and communication technologies (ICTs) for monitoring and management in emergency and disaster situations for early warning, prevention, mitigation and relief;

*b)* relevant resolutions of world radiocommunication conferences and radiocommunication assemblies, such as Resolution 646 (WRC‑12), on public protection and disaster relief; Resolution 644 (Rev. WRC-07), on radiocommunication resources for early warning, disaster mitigation and relief operation; or Resolution 673 (WRC‑12), on the use of radiocommunication for Earth observation, in collaboration with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO);

*c)* Resolution 73 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on ICTs, environment and climate change;

*d)* Resolution 66 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on ICT and climate change;

*e)* Resolution 54 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on ICT applications;

*f)* Resolution 1307 adopted by the ITU Council at its 2009 session, on ICTs and climate change;

*g)* Resolution 1353 adopted by the 2012 session of the ITU Council, which recognizes that telecommunications and ICTs are essential components for developed and developing countries[[9]](#footnote-11)1 in achieving sustainable development, and instructs the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the Directors of the Bureaux, to identify new activities to be undertaken by ITU to support developing countries in achieving sustainable development through telecommunications and ICTs;

*h)* Resolution 79 (Dubai, 2012) of WTSA, on the role of telecommunications/ICTs in handling and controlling e‑waste from telecommunication and information technology equipment and methods of treating it;

*i)* Article 11 of the International Telecommunication Regulations, on energy efficiency/e‑waste,

recognizing further

*a)* § 20 of Action Line C7 (E-environment) of the Geneva Plan of Action of the World Summit on the Information Society (Geneva, 2003), calling for the establishment of monitoring systems using ICTs to forecast and monitor the impact of natural and man-made disasters, particularly in developing countries;

*b)* Opinion 3 of the 2009 World Telecommunication Policy Forum, on ICT and the environment, which recognizes that telecommunications/ICTs can make a substantial contribution to mitigating and adapting to the effects of climate change, and calls for formulating future inventions and efforts for effectively addressing climate change;

*c)* the outcomes of the United Nations Climate Change conferences held in Indonesia in December 2007 and in Copenhagen in December 2009;

*d)* the Nairobi Declaration on the Environmentally Sound Management of Electrical and Electronic Waste, and the adoption by the Ninth Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention of the Work Plan for the Environmentally Sound Management of E-waste, focusing on the needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition,

considering

*a)* that the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) estimated that global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions had risen by more than 70 per cent since 1970, having an effect on global warming, changing weather patterns, rising sea-levels, desertification, shrinking ice cover and other long-term effects;

*b)* that climate change is acknowledged as a potential threat to all countries and needs a global response;

*c)* that the consequences of developing countries' lack of preparation in the past have recently come to light, and that these countries will be exposed to incalculable dangers and considerable losses, including the consequences of rising sea levels for many coastal areas in developing countries;

*d)* Objective 5 of the Dubai Action Plan and its related outputs,

considering

*a)* that telecommunications/ICTs play an important role in protecting the environment and in promoting innovative and sustainable development activities at low risk to the environment;

*b)* that the role of telecommunications/ICTs in tackling the challenge of climate change encompasses a wide array of activities, including, but not limited to: the promotion of telecommunications/ICTs as alternatives to other technologies that consume more energy; the development of energy-efficient devices, applications and networks; the development of energy-efficient working methods; the implementation of satellite and ground-based remote-sensing platforms for environmental observation, including weather monitoring; and the use of telecommunications/ICTs to warn the public of dangerous weather events and provide communication support for governmental and non-governmental organization aid providers to contribute to the reduction of GHG emissions;

*c)* that remote-sensing applications on board satellites and other radiocommunication systems are important tools for climate monitoring, environmental observation, disaster prediction, detection of illegal deforestation, and detection and mitigation of the negative effects of climate change;

*d)* the role ITU can play in promoting the use of ICTs to mitigate climate-change effects, and that the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019 gives clear priority to combating climate change using ICTs;

*e)* that the use of telecommunications/ICTs provides increased opportunities to reduce GHG emissions generated by non-ICT sectors through the utilization of telecommunications/ICTs in ways that replace services or increase efficiency of the sectors concerned,

aware

*a)* that telecommunications/ICTs also contribute to emissions of GHG, a contribution which, although relatively small, will grow with the increased use of telecommunications/ICTs, and that the necessary priority must be given to reducing GHG emissions;

*b)* that developing countries face additional challenges in addressing the effects of climate change, including natural disasters related to climate change,

bearing in mind

*a)* that countries have ratified the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Protocol and have committed to reduce their emission levels of GHG to targets that are mainly set below their 1990 levels;

*b)* that the countries that have submitted plans in response to the Copenhagen Accord have specified which steps they are prepared to take to reduce their carbon intensity in the current decade,

noting

*a)* that the current ITU-T Study Group 5 is the lead ITU-T study group responsible for studies on methodologies for evaluating telecommunication/ICT effects on climate change, for publishing guidelines for using ICTs in an eco-friendly way, for studying energy efficiency of the power feeding systems, for studying ICT environmental aspects of electromagnetic phenomena, and for studying, assessing and analysing safe, low-cost social recirculation of telecommunication/ICT equipment through recycling and reuse;

*b)* Question 6/2 of Study Group 2 of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D), on ICTs and climate change, adopted by WTDC‑14;

*c)* that ITU recommendations that focus on energy-saving systems and applications can play a critical role in the development of telecommunications/ICTs, by promoting the adoption of recommendations for enhancing the use of telecommunications/ICTs to serve as an effective cross-cutting tool to measure and reduce GHG emissions across economic and social activities;

*d)* the leadership of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R), in collaboration with the ITU membership, in continuing to support studies on the use of radiocommunication systems, including remote-sensing applications, to improve climate monitoring and disaster prediction, detection and relief;

*e)* that there are other international bodies that are working on climate-change issues, including UNFCCC, and that ITU should collaborate, within its mandate, with those entities;

*f)* that several countries have committed to a 20 per cent reduction in GHG emissions both in the ICT sector and in the use of ICTs in other sectors by 2020, against 1990 levels,

resolves

that ITU, within its mandate and in collaboration with other organizations, will demonstrate its leadership in applying telecommunications/ICTs to address the causes and effects of climate change through the following:

1 to continue and further develop ITU activities on telecommunications/ICTs and climate change in order to contribute to the wider global efforts being made by the United Nations;

2 to encourage energy efficiency of telecommunications/ICTs in order to reduce the GHG emissions produced by the telecommunication/ICT sector;

3 to encourage the telecommunication/ICT sector to contribute, through its own improvement of energy efficiency and in the use of ICTs in other parts of the economy, to an annual reduction in GHG emissions;

4 to report on the level that the ICT sector has contributed to the reduction of GHG emissions in other sectors through a reduction of their energy consumption by applying ICTs;

5 to promote awareness of the environmental issues associated with telecommunication/ICT equipment design and encourage energy efficiency and the use of materials in the design and fabrication of telecommunication/ICT equipment in order to promote a clean and safe environment;

6 to include, as a priority, assistance to developing countries so as to strengthen their human and institutional capacity in promoting the use of telecommunications/ICTs to tackle climate change, as well as in areas such as the need for communities to adapt to climate change, as a key element of disaster-management planning,

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

1 to review the plan of action relating to the role of ITU, taking into account all relevant ITU resolutions, in conjunction with other relevant expert bodies/groups, and taking into account the specific mandate of the three ITU Sectors;

2 to conduct studies on the recycling of e‑waste and examine best practices in this field, with the aim of helping Member States, particularly developing countries, to set up national or regional e‑waste recycling centres;

3 to encourage the use of renewable energy technologies and systems, and to study and disseminate best practices in the field of renewable energy;

4 to support Member States, particularly developing countries, in adapting to and mitigating the impact of climate change in a number of areas, including smart water management, e‑waste management and treatment methods and the use of ICTs in disaster prediction, early warning, mitigation and relief;

5 to ensure that the relevant ITU study groups responsible for ICTs and climate change continue implementing the plan of action referred to in *instructs the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the Directors of the three Bureaux* 1 above;

6 to continue liaising with other relevant organizations in order to avoid duplication of work and optimize the use of resources;

7 to ensure that ITU organizes workshops, seminars and training courses in developing countries at the regional level for the purpose of raising awareness and identifying key issues in order to generate best-practice guidelines;

8 to continue taking appropriate measures within the Union to contribute to the reduction of the carbon footprint (e.g. paperless meetings, videoconferences, etc.);

9 to report annually to the Council and to the next plenipotentiary conference on the progress made by ITU on implementation of this resolution;

10 to submit this resolution and other appropriate outcomes of the ITU activities to meetings of relevant organizations, including UNFCCC, in order to reiterate the Union's commitment to sustainable global growth; and to ensure recognition of the importance of telecommunications/ICTs in mitigation and adaptation efforts as well as the critical role of ITU in this regard,

instructs the Directors of the three Bureaux, within the purview of their mandates

1 to continue the development of best practices and guidelines that will assist governments in the development of policy measures that could be used to support the ICT sector in reducing GHG emissions and promoting ICTs in other sectors;

2 to help in the promotion of research and development:

– to improve the energy efficiency of ICT equipment

– to measure climate change

– to mitigate the effects of climate change

– to adapt to the effects of climate change,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

1 to assist ITU‑T Study Group 5 on ICTs and climate change, in collaboration with other bodies, in the development of methodologies to assess:

i) the level of energy efficiency in the ICT sector and the application of telecommunications/ICTs in non-ICT sectors;

ii) the complete lifecycle GHG emissions of telecommunication/ICT equipment, in collaboration with other relevant bodies, in order to establish best practice in the sector against an agreed set of metrics to enable the benefits of reuse, refurbishment and recycling to be quantified in order to help achieve reductions in GHG emissions both in the telecommunication/ICT sector and in the use of ICTs in other sectors;

2 to promote the work of ITU and cooperate with United Nations entities and others in activities related to climate change, working towards a progressive and measurable reduction in energy consumption and GHG emissions throughout the lifecycle of telecommunication/ICT equipment;

3 to utilize the current Joint Coordination Activity on ICT and on climate change in specialist and specific discussions with other industries, drawing upon the expertise existing in other forums, industrial sectors (and their relevant forums) and academia in order to:

i) demonstrate ITU leadership in GHG reductions and energy savings in the ICT sector;

ii) ensure that ITU actively leads in the application of ICTs in other industries and contributes to the reduction in GHG emissions;

4 to support the continuing work of the Focus Group on Smart Water Management and the Focus Group on Smart Sustainable Cities,

invites Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia

1 to continue to contribute actively to ITU on ICTs and climate change;

2 to continue or initiate public and private programmes that include ICTs and climate change, giving due consideration to relevant ITU initiatives;

3 to support and contribute to the wider United Nations process on climate change;

4 to take necessary measures to reduce the effects of climate change by developing and using more energy-efficient ICT devices, applications and networks and through the application of ICTs in other fields;

5 to promote recycling and reuse of telecommunication/ICT equipment;

6 to continue to support the work of ITU-R in remote sensing (active and passive) for environmental observation and other radiocommunication systems that can be used to support climate monitoring, disaster prediction, alerting and response in accordance with relevant resolutions adopted by radiocommunication assemblies and world radiocommunication conferences.

PART 22

**Amendments to Resolution 130 (Rev. Antalya, 2006)**

Introduction

The Arab States group proposes amendments to Resolution 130 (Rev. Antalya, 2006), based on the outcomes of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-14) and the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA-12).

MOD ARB/79A2/13

RESOLUTION 130 (Rev. Busan, 2014)

Strengthening the role of ITU in building confidence
and security in the use of information and
communication technologies

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

recalling

*a)* Article 6, on security and robustness of networks, and Article 7, on unsolicited bulk electronic communications, of the International Telecommunication Regulations;

*b)* Resolution 130 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*c)* Resolution 69 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on facilitating the creation of national computer incident response teams (CIRTs), particularly for developing countries, and cooperation between them;

*d)* that ITU Council Resolution 1305, adopted at its 2009 session, identified the security, safety, continuity, sustainability and robustness of the Internet as public policy issues that fall within the scope of ITU;

*e)* that Council Resolution 1336, adopted at its 2011 session, established a working group of the Council on international Internet-related public policy issues (CWG-Internet), whose terms of reference are to identify, study and develop matters related to international Internet-related public policy issues, including those issues identified in Council Resolution 1305 (2009);

*f)* Resolution 68/167 adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2013 emphasized that unlawful or arbitrary surveillance and/or interception of communications, as well as unlawful or arbitrary collection of personal data, as highly intrusive acts, violate the rights to privacy and to freedom of expression and may contradict the tenets of a democratic society, and expressed deep concern at the negative impact that surveillance and/or interception of communications, including extraterritorial surveillance and/or interception of communications, as well as the collection of personal data, in particular when carried out on a mass scale, may have on the exercise and enjoyment of human rights,

considering

*a)* the crucial importance of information and communication infrastructures and their applications to practically all forms of social and economic activity;

*b)* that, with the application and development of information and communication technologies (ICTs), new threats from various sources have emerged that have had an impact on confidence and security in the use of ICTs by all Member States, Sector Members and other stakeholders, including all users of ICTs, and on the preservation of peace and the economic and social development of all Member States, and that threats to and vulnerabilities of networks continue to give rise to ever-growing security challenges across national borders for all countries, in particular developing countries, including the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition, while noting in this context the strengthening of ITU's role in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs and the need to further enhance international cooperation and develop appropriate existing national, regional and international mechanisms (for example, agreements, best practices, memorandums of understanding, etc);

*c)* that the ITU Secretary-General has been invited to support the International Multilateral Partnership Against Cyber-Threats (IMPACT), the Forum for Incident Response and Security Teams (FIRST) and other global or regional cybersecurity projects, as appropriate, and all countries, particularly developing countries, have been invited to take part in their activities;

*d)* the ITU Global Cybersecurity Agenda (GCA);

*e)* that, in order to protect these infrastructures and address these challenges and threats, coordinated national, regional and international action is required for prevention, preparation, response and recovery from computer security incidents, on the part of government authorities, at the national (including the creation of national CIRTs), and sub-national levels, the private sector and citizens and users, in addition to international and regional cooperation and coordination, and that ITU has a lead role to play within its mandate and competencies in this field;

*f)* the need for continual evolution in new technologies to support the early detection of, and coordinated and timely response to, events or incidents compromising computer security, or computer network security incidents that could compromise the availability, integrity and confidentiality of critical infrastructures in ITU Member States, and for strategies that will minimize the impact of such incidents and mitigate the growing risks and threats to which such platforms are exposed*,*

recognizing

*a)* that the development of ICTs has been and continues to be instrumental for the growth and development of the global economy, underpinned by security and trust;

*b)* that the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) affirmed the importance of building confidence and security in the use of ICTs and the great importance of multistakeholder implementation at the international level, and established Action Line C5 (Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs), with ITU identified in the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society as moderator/facilitator for the action line, and that this task has been carried out by the Union in recent years, for example under GCA;

*c)* that WTDC‑14 has adopted the Dubai Action Plan and its Objective 3, on enhancing confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs, and roll-out of relevant applications and services, in particular Output 3.1, which identifies cybersecurity as a priority activity of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) and defines activities to be undertaken by BDT; and has also adopted Resolution 45 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), on mechanisms for enhancing cooperation on cybersecurity, including countering and combating spam, requesting the Secretary-General to bring the resolution to the attention of the next plenipotentiary conference for consideration and required action, as appropriate, and to report the results of these activities to the Council and to the Plenipotentiary Conference in 2018; and Resolution 69 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), on facilitating the creation of national CIRTs, particularly for developing countries, and cooperation between them; and that moreover, a national IP-based public network security centre for developing countries is under study by Study Group 17 of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T), in accordance with the ITU‑T X‑series recommendations;

*d)* that, to support the creation of national CIRTs in Member States where these are needed and are currently absent, the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) adopted Resolution 58 (Rev. Dubai, 2012), on encouraging the creation of national CIRTs, particularly for developing countries; and WTDC‑14 adopted Resolution 69 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), on facilitating the creation of national CIRTs, particularly for developing countries, and cooperation between them;

*e)* § 15 of the Tunis Commitment, which states that: "*Recognizing the principles of universal and non-discriminatory access to ICTs for all nations, the need to take into account the level of social and economic development of each country, and respecting the development-oriented aspects of the information society, we underscore that ICTs are effective tools to promote peace, security and stability, to enhance democracy, social cohesion, good governance and the rule of law, at national, regional and international levels. ICTs can be used to promote economic growth and enterprise development. Infrastructure development, human capacity building, information security and network security are critical to achieve these goals. We further recognize the need to effectively confront challenges and threats resulting from use of ICTs for purposes that are inconsistent with objectives of maintaining international stability and security and may adversely affect the integrity of the infrastructure within States, to the detriment of their security. It is necessary to prevent the abuse of information resources and technologies for criminal and terrorist purposes, while respecting human rights*", and that the challenges created by this misuse of ICT resources have only continued to increase since WSIS;

*f)* that the establishment of international rules and policies for the exchange of electronic information over reliable and safe networks will serve to build trust between the users of these networks, particularly in the developing countries;

*g)* that Member States, in particular developing countries, in the elaboration of appropriate and workable legal measures relating to protection against cyberthreats at the national, regional and international levels, may require assistance from ITU in establishing technical and procedural measures, aimed at securing national ICT infrastructures, on request from these Member States, while noting that there are a number of regional and international initiatives which may support these countries in elaborating such legal measures;

*h)*  Opinion 4 (Lisbon, 2009) of the World Telecommunication Policy Forum, on collaborative strategies for creating confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

*i)* the relevant outcomes of WTSA‑12, notably:

i) Resolution 50 (Rev. Dubai, 2012), on cybersecurity;

ii) Resolution 52 (Rev. Dubai, 2012), on countering and combating spam;

*j)* that Resolution 69 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) provides for the establishment of CIRTs,

aware

*a)* that ITU and other international organizations, through a variety of activities, are examining issues related to building confidence and security in the use of ICTs, including stability and measures to combat spam, malware, etc., and to protect personal data and privacy;

*b)* that ITU-T Study Group 17, Study Groups 1 and 2 of the Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) and other relevant ITU study groups continue to work on technical means for building confidence and security of information and communication networks, in accordance with Resolutions 50 and 52 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) and with Resolutions 45 and 69 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) and Resolution 80 (Dubai, 2014) of WTDC;

*c)* that ITU has a fundamental role to play in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

*d)* that Opinion 4 (Lisbon, 2009), on collaborative strategies for creating confidence and security in the use of ICTs, invites ITU to pursue, principally on the basis of membership contributions and direction, further initiatives and activities, in close partnership with other concerned national, regional and international entities and organizations, consistent with Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019*,* and all other relevant ITU resolutions;

*e)* that ITU-D Study Group 1 continues to carry out the studies called for in ITU‑D Question 3/2 (Securing information and communications networks: best practices for developing a culture of cybersecurity), which has been reflected in United Nations General Assembly Resolution 64/211,

noting

*a)* that, as an intergovernmental organization with private-sector participation, ITU is well-positioned to play an important role, together with other relevant international bodies and organizations, in addressing threats and vulnerabilities, which affect efforts to build confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

*b)* §§ 35 and 36 of the Geneva Declaration of Principles and § 39 of the Tunis Agenda, on building confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

*c)* that although there are no universally agreed upon definitions of spam and other terms in this sphere, spam was characterized by ITU-T Study Group 2, at its June 2006 session, as a term commonly used to describe unsolicited electronic bulk communications over e-mail or mobile messaging (SMS, MMS), usually with the objective of marketing commercial products or services;

*d)* the Union's initiative concerning IMPACT and FIRST;

*e)* that BDT Programme 2 in the Hyderabad Action Plan was adopted with the understanding of the delegations to WTDC-10 that BDT does not draft laws,

bearing in mind

the work of the ITU established by Resolutions 50, 52 and 58 (Rev. Dubai, 2012); Resolutions 45 and 69 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) and 80 (Dubai, 2014); Objective 3, on enhancing confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs, and roll-out of relevant applications and services, under the Dubai Action Plan; the relevant ITU‑T Questions on technical aspects regarding the security of information and communication networks; and ITU‑D Question 22-1/1,

resolves

1 to continue to give this work high priority within ITU, in accordance with its competences and expertise;

2 to give high priority to the work in ITU described under *bearing in mind* above, in accordance with its competences and areas of expertise, while being mindful of the need to avoid duplicating work among the Bureaux or the General Secretariat or work which more appropriately falls within the mandates of other intergovernmental and relevant international bodies;

3 that ITU shall focus resources and programmes on those areas of cybersecurity within its core mandate and expertise, notably the technical and development spheres, and not including areas related to Member States' application of legal or policy principles related to national defence, national security, content and cybercrime, which are within their sovereign rights, although this does not however exclude ITU from carrying out its mandate to develop technical recommendations designed to reduce vulnerabilities in the ICT infrastructure, nor from providing all the assistance that was agreed upon at WTDC‑14, including Objective 3, on enhancing confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs, and roll-out of relevant applications and services, as well as activities under Question 3/2,

instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux

1 to continue to review:

i) the work done so far in the three Sectors, under the ITU Global Cybersecurity Agenda initiative and in other relevant organizations, and initiatives to address existing and future threats in order to build confidence and security in the use of ICTs, such as the issue of countering spam, which is growing and on the rise;

ii) the progress achieved in the implementation of this resolution, with ITU continuing to play a lead facilitating role as the moderator/facilitator for Action Line C5, with the help of the advisory groups, consistent with the ITU Constitution and the ITU Convention;

iii) the preparation of international rules and policies to maintain confidence and security in the use of ICTs, and the protection of privacy and confidentiality of users' data;

2 consistent with Resolution 45 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) to work towards the preparation of a document relating to a possible memorandum of understanding (MoU), among interested Member States, to report on MoUs between countries, as well as existing forms of cooperation, providing analysis of their status, scope and applications of these cooperative mechanisms to strengthen cybersecurity and combat cyberthreats, with a view to enabling Member States to identify whether additional memoranda or mechanisms are required, to support regional and global cybersecurity projects, such as IMPACT, FIRST, OAS, APCERT, among others, and to invite all countries, particularly developing ones, to take part in these activities;

3 to facilitate access to tools and resources, within the available budget, required for enhancing confidence and security in the use of ICTs for all Member States, consistent with WSIS provisions on universal and non-discriminatory access to ICTs for all nations;

4 to continue to maintain the cybersecurity gateway as a way to share information on national, regional and international cybersecurity-related initiatives worldwide;

5 to report annually to the Council on these activities and to make proposals as appropriate;

6 to further enhance coordination between the study groups and programmes concerned,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

1 to intensify work within existing ITU‑T study groups in order to:

i) address existing and future threats and vulnerabilities affecting efforts to build confidence and security in the use of ICTs, by developing reports or recommendations, as appropriate, with the goal of implementing the resolutions of WTSA‑12, particularly Resolutions 50, 52 and 58 (Rev. Dubai, 2012), allowing work to begin before a Question is approved;

ii) seek ways to enhance the exchange of technical information in these fields, promote the adoption of protocols and standards that enhance security, and promote international cooperation among appropriate entities;

iii) facilitate projects deriving from the outcomes of WTSA‑12, in particular:

a) Resolution 50 (Rev. Dubai, 2012), on cybersecurity;

b) Resolution 52 (Rev. Dubai, 2012), on countering and combating spam;

2 to continue collaboration with relevant organizations with a view to exchanging best practices and disseminating information through, for example, joint workshops and training sessions and joint coordination activity groups, and, by invitation, through written contributions from relevant organizations,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to develop, consistent with the results of WTDC‑14 and pursuant to Resolutions 45 and 69 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) and 80 (Dubai, 2014) and Objective 3 in the Dubai Action Plan, the project for enhancing cooperation on cybersecurity, combating spam and establishing reliable information frameworks in response to the needs of developing countries, in close collaboration with the relevant partners;

2 upon request, to support ITU Member States in their efforts to build capacity, by facilitating Member States' access to resources developed by other relevant international organizations that are working on national legislation to combat cybercrime; supporting ITU Member States' national and regional efforts to build capacity to protect against cyberthreats/cybercrime, in collaboration with one another; consistent with the national legislation of Member States referred to above, assisting Member States, in particular developing countries, in the elaboration of appropriate and workable legal measures relating to protection against cyberthreats at national, regional and international levels; establishing technical and procedural measures, aimed at securing national ICT infrastructures, taking into the account the work of the relevant ITU-T study groups and, as appropriate, other relevant organizations; establishing organizational structures, such as CIRTs, to identify, manage and respond to cyberthreats, and cooperation mechanisms at the regional and international level;

3 to provide the necessary financial and administrative support for this project within existing resources, and to seek additional resources (in cash and in kind) for the implementation of this project through partnership agreements;

4 to ensure coordination of the work of this project within the context of ITU's overall activities in its role as moderator/facilitator for WSIS Action Line C5, and to eliminate any duplication regarding this important subject with the General Secretariat and ITU-T;

5 to coordinate the work of this project with that of the ITU-D study groups on this topic, and with the relevant programme activities and the General Secretariat;

6 to continue collaboration with relevant organizations with a view to exchanging best practices and disseminating information through, for example, joint workshops and training sessions;

7 to report annually to the Council on these activities and make proposals as appropriate,

further instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

each within the scope of his responsibilities:

1 to implement relevant resolutions of both WTSA‑12 and WTDC‑14, including Objective 3 on providing support and assistance to developing countries in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

2 to identify and promote the availability of information on building confidence and security in the use of ICTs, specifically related to the ICT infrastructure, for Member States, Sector Members and relevant organizations;

3 without duplicating the work under ITU-D Question 3/2, to identify best practices in establishing CIRTs, to prepare a reference guide for the Member States and, where appropriate, to contribute to Question 3/2;

4 to cooperate with relevant organizations and other relevant international and national experts, as appropriate, in order to identify best practices in the establishment of CIRTs;

5 to take action with a view to new Questions being examined by the study groups within the Sectors on the establishment of confidence and security in the use of ICT;

6 to support strategy, organization, awareness-raising, cooperation, evaluation and skills development;

7 to provide the necessary technical and financial support, within the constraints of existing budgetary resources, in accordance with Resolution 58 (Rev. Dubai, 2012);

8 to mobilize appropriate extrabudgetary resources, outside the regular budget of the Union, for the implementation of this resolution, to help developing countries,

instructs the Secretary-General

pursuant to his initiative on this matter:

1 to propose to the Council, taking into account the activities of the three Sectors in this regard, an action plan to strengthen the role of ITU in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs;

2 to cooperate with relevant international organizations, including through the adoption of MoUs, subject to the approval of the Council in this regard, in accordance with Resolution 100 (Minneapolis, 1998) of the Plenipotentiary Conference,

requests the Council

to include the report of the Secretary-General in the documents sent to Member States in accordance with No. 81 of the Convention,

invites Member States

to consider joining appropriate competent international and regional initiatives for enhancing national legislative frameworks relevant to the security of information and communication network,

invites Member States, Sector Members and Associates

1 to contribute on this subject to the relevant ITU study groups and to any other activities for which the Union is responsible;

2 to contribute to building confidence and security in the use of ICTs at the national, regional and international levels, by undertaking activities as outlined in § 12 of the Geneva Plan of Action, and to contribute to the preparation of studies in these areas;

3 to promote the development of educational and training programmes to enhance user awareness of risks in cyberspace.

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1. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. 2 The term "market price" is defined as the price determined by the Sales and Marketing Division, which is established to maximize revenues without being so high as to discourage sales. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. 1 "Gender perspective": Mainstreaming a gender perspective is the process of assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policies or programmes in all areas and at all levels. It is a strategy for making women’s as well as men’s concerns and experiences an integral dimension of design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation so that women and men benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated. The ultimate goal is to achieve gender equality. (Source: Report of the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality, third session, New York, 25-27 February 1998). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. 1 It is to be taken into consideration that there are certain Member States of the Union that do not belong to any of the six principal regional organizations but may take part in the preparatory meetings organized by the Union in the region to which they belong. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. 2 Authorized or recognized operating agencies are: operating agencies, authorized or recognized by a Member State, to establish, operate and engage in international telecommunication services to the public. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. 2 Document C09/90, § 12. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. 1 Authorized or recognized operating agencies are: operating agencies, authorized or recognized by a Member State, to establish, operate and engage in international telecommunication services to the public. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
9. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)