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Note by the Secretary-General

CONTRIBUTION FROM THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA

Comprehensive Report to Council on Internet Activities

I have the honour to transmit to the Member States of the Council a contribution submitted by **the Republic of India**.

 Houlin ZHAO
 Secretary-General

India (Republic of)

Comprehensive Report to Council on Internet Activities

**A. Introduction**

1. The ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2014 (PP-14) Resolution 101, on Internet protocol based networks, elaborates on ITU’s role on the subject and its engagement including on cooperation with other international organizations working on the subject. Apart from presenting various mandates, opportunities and needs for a continuous engagement and updates for the Member States in the context of importance of internet protocol-based networks, the resolution recognizes the continuous need to identify the global and regional activities.

2. It resolves to explore ways and means for greater collaboration and coordination between ITU and relevant organizations[[1]](#footnote-1) involved in the development of IP-based networks and the future Internet, in order to increase the role of ITU in Internet governance so as to ensure maximum benefits to the global community as elaborated in the WSIS[[2]](#footnote-2) process.

3. One of the outcomes of the resolution is that an annual report would be submitted by the Secretary General (SG), ITU to the ITU Council containing a comprehensive summary of activities in this domain from members, ITU and other relevant international organizations.

**B. Discussion**

4. The footnote 2 of the Resolution mentions other relevant international organizations working on this front including ICANN, RIRs, IETF, ISOC, W3C[[3]](#footnote-3) etc. The Resolution recognizes the fact that the IP-based networks have evolved to a widely accessible medium used for global commerce and communication, and there is a need to continue to identify the global and regional activities on this front.

5. As multiple organizations are involved in its development, it is essential to build suitable and sustainable capacities in the membership especially in developing countries, LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS[[4]](#footnote-4) on various activities happening on this front to enable them take part in technical, policy and relevant discussions on various platforms.

The Indian administration acknowledges the significant efforts put in SG report C17/33, which provides a summary of ITU internet activities vide various resolutions. However, there is a significant scope to enhance this document and provide more details as exhorted in its mandate under the PP Resolution 101. The mandate includes a comprehensive scope of activities to be covered in the SG’s annual report as briefly mentioned below.

1. comprehensive summary of the activities that ITU is already undertaking in regard to IP-based networks and any changes thereto, including the development of NGNs and future networks
2. of the roles and activities of other relevant international organizations, describing their involvement in IP-based network issues
3. indicate the degree of cooperation between ITU and these organizations
4. concrete proposals on improving ITU activities and such cooperation
5. and be distributed widely among the Member States and Sector Members

6. The current report C17/33 covers a good summary of ITU activities including in standardization, study group activities, new recommendations, development programs and projects, and IMT-related activities. It also includes ITU’s efforts for protecting intergovernmental organization names and acronyms in new gTLD[[5]](#footnote-5) and engagement with CNRI. There are brief details about ‘engagement with TELNIC’[[6]](#footnote-6), ENUM[[7]](#footnote-7), IGF[[8]](#footnote-8) and CSTD[[9]](#footnote-9) working group on enhanced cooperation (WGEC).

7. It is apt to mention that there are several activities taking place on Internet protocol based networks in the domains of public policy issues, technical aspects, management of internet resources in other relevant international organizations including ICANN. The working structures in the other international organizations are so huge and complex, it poses challenges and is difficult for the membership to follow the proceedings and opportunities for contribution. Considering ITU’s important role on the subject, capacity building on this front is necessary for the membership to understand the issues, take part in the deliberations through contributions and physical participation to bridge the knowledge divide. The SG report could play an important role in bridging this knowledge and “opportunity to contribute” gap especially for the benefit of developing countries.

SG’s report on Roles, activities, involvement, degree of cooperation, Concrete proposals

Fig. A limited glimpse of some of the international platforms and activity domains

**C. Proposal**

8 While acknowledging the important role being played by the ITU in the development of Internet Protocol based networks, the Indian Administration proposes that as provided in the mandate of PP-14 Resolution 101, the SG report could play an important role in building necessary capacities in the membership to bridge knowledge and ‘opportunity to contribute’ gap especially for the benefit of developing countries by comprehensively elaborating the following:

1. development of NGNs and future networks
2. roles and activities of other relevant international organizations, describing their involvement in IP-based network issues
3. degree of cooperation between ITU and these organizations

9 Considering constant and quick transformation in telecommunication / ICT technologies, services and respective emerging challenges, as mandated in the Resolution, the ITU report should include concrete proposals on improving ITU activities and such cooperation.

1. Including, but not limited to, the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), the regional Internet registries (RIRs), the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), the Internet Society (ISOC) and the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C), on the basis of reciprocity. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. World Summit for Information Society [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. ###  ITU: International Telecommunication Union

### ICANN: Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers

### ISOC: Internet Society

### IETF: Internet Engineering Task Force

### W3C: World Wide Web Consortium

### ISO: International Standards Organization

### UN CSTD: UN Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)

### UNODC: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

UNGGE: United Nations Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. LDCs: Least Developed Countries

 LLDC: Landlocked Developing Countries

 SIDS: Small Island Developing States [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Global Top Level Domain [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Telnic serves as the Registry Operator and Sponsoring Organization for .tel, [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Electronic Number Mapping System [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Internet Governance Forum [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. ###  UN Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)

 [↑](#footnote-ref-9)