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| **Informal Experts Group on WTPF-21Second meeting - Geneva, 10-11 February 2020** |  |
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| **Contribution submitted by Egypt and Ghana** |
| possible DRAFT OPINIONS for wtpf-21 |

[**Opinion X**](#OP1) **on addressing challenges of new and emerging technologies, in particular AI and IoT**

[**Opinion Y**](#OP2) **– Policy Challenges related to OTTs**

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**OPINION X on addressing challenges of new and emerging technologies, in particular AI and IoT**

The sixth World Telecommunication/ICT Policy Forum (Geneva, 2021),

recalling

*a)* Resolution 70/1 of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on transforming our world: the 2030 agenda for Sustainable Development;

*b)* Resolution 70/125 of the UNGA on the outcome document of the High level meeting on UNGA in the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of WSIS;

*c)* Resolution 197 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference on IoT and Smart and Sustainable Cities;

*d)* relevant WSIS Action Lines and relevant UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) particularly Goal 9 on building the resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation, and Goal 11 on Sustainable Cities and Communities,

bearing in mind

*a)* the purposes of the Union are, inter alia, to promote the extension of the benefits of the new telecommunication technologies to all the world's inhabitants and to harmonize the actions of Member States and Sector Members in the attainment of those ends;

*b)* that 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognizes that “The spread of information and communication technology and global interconnectedness has great potential to accelerate human progress, to bridge the digital divide and to develop knowledge societies”,

recognizing

*a)* that ITU, being the UN specialized Agency for Telecommunication/ICT, plays an important leading role in the implementation of WSIS and achieving the SDGs;

*b)* the ongoing work in ITU and ITU study groups related new and emerging technologies, including AI, IoT, Big Data, cloud computing, IMT-2020, Distributed ledger technologies and machine learning,

is of the view that

1Policy challenges related to new and emerging technologies need to be addressed at the regional and international levels, with the full involvement of developing countries;

2Member States, Sector Members, and other interested stakeholders need to work closely together to address common challenges in Artificial Intelligence, such as trust, transparency, bias, accountability and representativeness;

3While new and emerging technologies can foster innovation, policy makers need to work together to guarantee and safe and secure technological environment and sustainable future for all;

4Member States, Sector Members and interested stakeholders need to collaborate to harness the benefits of AI for developing countries and overcome the challenges;

5Member States, Sector Members, and interested stakeholders need to cooperate in addressing the critical issues of interoperability, security, trust, identification, and standardization in IoT,

invites

Member States and Sector Members to collaborate accordingly.

**OPINION Y – Policy Challenges related to OTTs**

The sixth World Telecommunication/ICT Policy Forum (Geneva, 2021),

recalling

1. Resolution 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) on the Strategic Plan of the Union;
2. Resolution 206 (Dubai, 2018) on OTTs,

considering

a) the need to discuss policy issues, as well as the economic implications of OTTs, including issues relating to benefits for consumers, including persons with disabilities and specific needs, competition and innovation;

b) that the mutual cooperation between OTTs and telecommunication operators can be an element to foster innovative, sustainable, viable business models and their positive roles in fostering socio-economic benefits;

c) that, given the global nature of many OTTs, collaboration across multiple Member States and Sector Members should be strongly encouraged;

d) the policy aspects of OTT, some of which may have international considerations,

is of the view that

1 studies on OTTs should be done at a regional and international level with the involvement of all countries, including developing countries;

2 It is important to create approaches on OTTs that help the creation of an environment in which all stakeholders are able to prosper and thrive;

3 Member States, Sector Members and interested stakeholders need to collaborate in addressing the challenges related to OTTs;

4 more studies are needed on how telecom regulators could ensure fair and competitive environment between OTTs and traditional telecom operators;

5 Member States, Sector Members, and interested stakeholders need to work together to discuss aspects related to the security, safety and trust of the consumer;

6 Member States, Sector Members, and interested stakeholders need to collaborate in the discussion of the taxation matter of OTTs,

invites

Member States and Sector Members to collaborate accordingly.

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