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| PLENARY MEETING | Addendum 14 toDocument 44-E |
|  | 3 October 2016 |
|  | Original: English |
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| Asia-Pacific Telecommunity Member Administrations |
| Proposed modification of WTSA-12 Resolution 52 - Countering and combating spam |
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| **Abstract:** | In this document the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity Administrations propose modifications to Resolution 52. |

Introduction

Since the severity of spam differs from region to region, mainly depending on the degree of development, legal and regulation system. Because of the incomplete legal system, developing countries suffer more serious problems from spam, which makes countering and combating spam by technical means very necessary alongside with legal and regulation development at the present stage.

In order to further counter and combat spam in the world by technical means, and enhance the influence of ITU-T to all regions, it is proposed that ITU-T should collaborate with ITU-D to promote more regions and countries, especially developing countries that suffer from spam, to actively participate in the ITU-T standardization framework on countering and combating spam by technical means through training sessions, workshops, etc.

In this proposal, there are some minor additional text proposals with regards to the roles of SG17 and the effectiveness of the current work and plan for future work, direction or roadmap related to countering and combating spam standardization work.

Proposal

APT Member Administrations would like to propose amendments to Resolution 52 on countering and combating spam, as provided in annex.

MOD APT/44A14/1

RESOLUTION 52 (REV. HAMMAMET, 2016)

Countering and combating spam

(Florianópolis, 2004; Johannesburg, 2008; Dubai, 2012; Hammamet, 2016)

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Hammamet, 2016),

recognizing

*a)* relevant provisions of the basic instruments of ITU;

*b)* that the Declaration of Principles of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) states in § 37 that "Spam is a significant and growing problem for users, networks and the Internet as a whole. Spam and cybersecurity should be dealt with at appropriate national and international levels";

*c)* that the WSIS Plan of Action states in § 12 that "Confidence and security are among the main pillars of the information society", and calls for "appropriate action on spam at national and international levels",

recognizing further

*a)* the relevant parts of Resolution 130 (Rev. Busan, 2014) and Resolution 174 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*b)* that developing Recommendations to combat spam falls within Objective 4 of the strategic plan for the Union for 2012-2015 (Part I, § 5) set out in Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*c)* the report of the chairman of the two ITU WSIS thematic meetings on countering and combating spam, which advocated a comprehensive approach to combating spam, namely:

i) strong legislation;

ii) the development of technical measures;

iii) the establishment of industry partnerships to accelerate the studies;

iv) education:

v) international cooperation;

*d)* the relevant parts of Resolution 45 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the WTDC Conference, which advocated a appropriate action to countering and combating spam at the national, regional and international level, namely:

i) to enhance collaboration and cooperation with all relevant international and regional organization;

ii) to take into account the need to assist developing countries,

considering

*a)* that exchanging e-mails and other telecommunications over the Internet has become one of the main means of communication between people around the world;

*b)* that there are currently a variety of definitions for the term “spam”;

*c)* that spam has become a widespread problem causing potential loss of revenue to Internet service providers, telecommunication operators, mobile telecommunication operators and business users;

*d)* that countering spam by technical means burdens affected entities, including network operators and service providers, as well as users who unwillingly receive such spam, with significant investments in networks, facilities, terminal equipments and applications;

*e)* that spam creates problems of information and telecommunication network security, and is increasingly being used as a vehicle for phishing and spreading viruses, worms, spyware and other forms of malware, etc.;

*f)* that spamming is used for criminal, fraudulent or deceptive activities;

*g)* that spam is a global problem that requires international cooperation in order to find solutions;

*h)* that spam has different characteristics in different regions in the world;

*i)* that addressing the issue of spam is a matter of urgency;

*j)* that many countries, in particular developing countries[[1]](#footnote-1)1, need help when it comes to countering spam;

*k)* that relevant Recommendations of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU‑T) and relevant information from other international bodies are available which could provide guidance for future development in this area, particularly with regard to lessons learned;

*l)* that technical measures to counter spam represent one of the approaches mentioned in *recognizing further* *c)* above,

noting

the important technical work carried out to date in ITU-T Study Group 17, and in particular Recommendations ITU‑T X.1231, ITU-T X.1240, ITU-T X.1241, ITU-T X.1242, ITU-T X.1243, ITU-T X.1244,ITU-T X.1245, ITU-T X.1246 and ITU-T X.1247,

resolves to instruct the relevant study groups

1 to continue to support ongoing work, in particular in Study Group 17, related to countering spam (e.g. e-mail) and to accelerate their work on spam in order to address existing and future threats within the remit and expertise of ITU‑T, as appropriate;

2 to continue collaboration with the relevant organizations (e.g. the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF)), in order to continue developing, as a matter of urgency, technical Recommendations with a view to exchanging best practices and disseminating information through joint workshops, training sessions, etc.,

further instructs ITU-T Study Group 17

1 to report regularly to the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group on progress under this resolution;

2 to collaborate with ITU-D on countering and combating spam by providing technical training sessions, workshops activities in different regions;

3 to provide the guideline and continuously evaluate and update the measures in countering spam to address threats and vulnerabilities from spam,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

1 to provide all necessary assistance with a view to expediting such efforts;

2 to initiate a study – including sending a questionnaire to the ITU membership –indicating the volume, types (e.g. e-mail spam, SMS spam, spam in IP-based multimedia applications) and features (e.g. different major routes and sources) of spam traffic, in order to help Member States and relevant operating agencies identify such routes, sources and volumes and estimate the amount of investment in facilities and other technical means to counter and combat such spam, taking into account work that has already been carried out;

3 to continue to cooperate with the Secretary-General's initiative on cybersecurity and with the Telecommunication Development Bureau in relation to any item concerning cybersecurity under Resolution 45 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, and to ensure coordination among these different activities;

4 to publish the progress report of ITU-T Study Group 17 and other related study groups on the implementation of this Resolution, and evaluate theeffectiveness of the current works and plan for future works, direction or roadmap to ITU Council as specified in Resolution 130 (Rev. Busan, 2014),

invites Member States, Sector Members and Associates

to contribute to this work,

further invites Member States

to take appropriate steps to ensure that appropriate and effective measures are taken within their national and legal frameworks to combat spam and its propagation.

1. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)