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| Member States of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL) |
| Proposed new Resolution [IAP-5] - Combating mobile telecommunication device theft |
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| **Abstract:** | This contribution presents a proposal for a new Resolution on the combat of mobile telecommunication device theft, recognizing the importance of the ongoing work in this field and, based on the progress made on Resolution 189 from ITU Plenipotentiary, proposing how the studies should be conducted in the next ITU-T study period. |

Introduction

In view of the problem of theft and traffic in stolen mobile devices, efforts have been stepped up for the adoption of joint measures, in forums such as the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL) and the Andean Community (CAN), and through bilateral agreements between the Member States.

The ITU Resolution 189 (Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, resolves to explore all ways and means to combat and deter mobile device theft and instructs the Director of the Development Bureau, in coordination with the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau and the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau: (i) to compile information on best practices developed by industry or governments in combating mobile device theft; (ii) to consult with the relevant ITU-R and ITU-T study groups, manufacturers of mobile devices, manufacturers of telecommunication network components, operators and other telecommunication standards development organizations in order to identify existing and future technological measures to mitigate the use of stolen mobile devices; and (iii) to provide assistance to Member States in order to reduce mobile device theft and the use of stolen mobile devices in their countries.

In implementation of the above-mentioned resolution, CITEL and ITU held the online Joint Workshop “Global Strategies against Mobile Device Theft,” on March 16, 2016, where there was frank discussion of aspects that can benefit from improvement, with a view to increasing global efforts to combat this serious problem, and gaps were identified, and there was consensus regarding the need for a joint CITEL-ITU study on this subject.

On the other hand, the ITU Resolution 188 (Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, invites Member States to take all necessary measures to combat counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices, point that conformance and interoperability testing could be one of the solutions to combat counterfeiting and that unique and persistent identifiers could allow the recognition of genuine products and help on the combat of counterfeit and tampered (changed without authorization) ICT devices.

ITU-T SG11 today is responsible for conducting studies and producing technical recommendation of measures and providing a framework in the fight against counterfeit and use of devices that have had their identities changed without authorization as a means to circumvent controls and to re-introduce to the market stolen devices.

In view of the above, this new WTSA Resolution proposes that ITU should assist all members in the use of relevant ITU recommendations and play a positive role by offering all interested parties a platform for encouraging discussions, the exchange of best practices, industry cooperation to define technical guidelines and the dissemination of information on combating mobile device theft.

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DRAFT NEW RESOLUTION [IAP-5]

Combating mobile telecommunication device theft

(Hammamet, 2016)

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Hammamet, 2016),

recalling

*a)* Resolution 189 (Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference on assisting Member States to combat and deter mobile device theft;

*b)* Resolution 188 (Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference on Combating counterfeit telecommunication/information and communication technology devices;

*c)* Resolution 174 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference on ITU's role with regard to international public policy issues relating to the risk of illicit use of information and communication technologies;

*d)* Resolution 79 (Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) on the role of telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) in combating and dealing with counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices;

considering

*a)* that technological innovation driven by information and communication technologies (ICTs) has significantly modified the ways in which people access telecommunications;

*b)* that the positive impact of mobile telecommunications and the development generated by all related services have increased the penetration of mobile telecommunication/ICT devices;

*c)* that the widespread use of mobile telecommunications in the world has also been accompanied by a rise in the problem of mobile device theft;

*d)* that the crime of mobile device theft can sometimes have a negative impact on the health and safety of citizens and on their sense of security;

*e)* that problems related to mobile device theft have become a cross border issue, as stolen devices are often resold abroad;

*f)* that the illicit trading of stolen mobile devices constitutes a risk to consumers and causes loss of revenue and reputational damage for the industry;

*g)* that some governments and industry have implemented actions to prevent and combat mobile device theft;

*h)* that mobile device theft remains a problem in some countries, despite efforts made in recent years,

recognizing

*a)* that governments and industry have implemented actions to prevent and combat mobile device theft;

*b)* that manufacturers, operators and industry associations have been developing a range of technological solutions and governments have been developing policies to address mobile device theft problem;

*c)* that mobile telecommunicationdevices include not only mobile phones but also any telecommunication/ICT device connected to the mobile networks;

*d)* that mobile device theft can result in economic loss for the legitimate owner and user;

*e)* that measures to combat mobile device theft adopted by some countries rely on unique device identifiers, such as International Mobile Equipment Identity, and therefore tampering (changing without authorization) with unique identifiers can diminish the effectiveness of these solutions;

*f)* that some solutions to combat counterfeit telecommunication /ICT devices can also be used to combat the use of stolen telecommunication /ICT devices, in particular those devices whose unique identifier have been tampered with the purpose of re-introduce them to the market.

resolves

1 that ITU-T should assist all members combating mobile device theft, offering all interested parties a forum for encouraging discussions, member cooperation, exchange of best practices and guidelines, and dissemination of information on the combat of mobile device theft;

2 that ITU-Т study groups, within their terms of reference, should identify and review applicable solutions and develop the necessary ITU-Т Recommendations, where gaps exist in cooperation with relevant organizations, to combat mobile device theft and its negative effects;

3 that ITU-T should study and develop the necessary ITU-Т Recommendations, where gaps exist, in cooperation with relevant organizations, to prevent the tampering (changing without authorization) of unique mobile telecommunication device identifiers.

4 that ITU-Т Study Group 11 should be the leading study group at ITU-T on activities relating to the combat against mobile telecommunication device theft,

resolves to instruct the Director of Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, in collaboration with the Director of Radiocommunication Bureau and the Director of Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to compile information on best practices developed by industry or governments and promising trends in combating mobile device theft;

2 to facilitate , in collaboration with industry organizations and SDOs, the dissemination of recommendations, technical reports and guidelines to combat mobile device theft and its negative effects, specifically regarding the exchange of mobile device identifiers reported stolen/lost , and to prevent lost/stolen mobile devices from accessing the mobile networks.

3 to provide assistance, within the ITU-T expertise and available resources, as appropriate, in cooperation with relevant organizations, to Member States, if so requested, in order to reduce mobile device theft and the use of stolen mobile devices in their countries,

instructs Study Group 11 of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector in collaboration with other interested study groups

1 to develop recommendations, technical reports and guidelines to address the problem of mobile telecommunications device theft and its negative effects;

2 to study any possible solutions to combat the use of stolen mobile telecommunication devices with tampered (changed without authorization) identities;

3 to study any technologies that can be used as a tool for combating mobile telecommunication device theft;

invites Member States and Sector Members

1 to take all necessary measures to combat mobile telecommunication device theft and its negative effects;

2 to work with industry to encourage the exchange of lists of mobile telecommunication device identifiers reported as lost/stolen with other countries and regions and prevent these lost/stolen devices from accessing the mobile networks.

3 to cooperate and exchange expertise among themselves in this area;

4 to participate actively in ITU studies relating to implementation of this Resolution by submitting contributions;

5 to take the necessary actions to prevent or discover and control tampering the unauthorized changing of unique mobile telecommunication device identifiers.