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| **TSAG** | |
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| **Title:** | | | Implementation of WTSA-16 Resolution 44 | | |
| **Purpose:** | | | Proposal | | |
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| **Keywords:** | WTSA-16 Resolution 44; |
| **Abstract:** | The spirit of Resolution 44 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) is to help mostly developing countries who may not have sufficient capacity to implement ITU-T recommendation. However it should be understood that some developed countries may also be finding it difficult to understand Resolution 44 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) because it is not well understood as not all ITU-T recommendations are well crafted. It is therefore believed that the lack of capacity to understand these recommendations contributes to low implementations of the recommendations. |

**Rationale**: It is a fact that ITU-T recommendations are used by a number of players, mostly manufacturers, policy makers, regulators, and Network operators. Manufacturers and Network operators have capacity to comprehend recommendations easily. It is the other remaining groups that have limited capacity to comprehend these recommendations. It is a fact that today there are several thousand recommendations which have been approved, and writing guide lines for each of them is too much work and may be costly. Therefore, in responding to Resolution 44 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016), it is important to consider the importance of the resolution to member states and the cost of implementing the resolution. Experience shows that a top-down approach will be necessary for developing countries in the implementation of some, if not most, ITU-T resolutions.

**Purpose of contribution:** WTSA (Hammamet, 2016) recalled that: Resolution 1353 of the Council recognizes that telecommunications and ICT are essential components for developed and developing countries for 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 the developing countries to achieve sustainable development through telecommunications and ICT. Hence in the understanding of Resolution 44 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016), two parts has to be considered – the implementation part and the creation of awareness at Administrations level need.

Things to be considered as the appropriate mechanism to ensure effective implementation of a recommendation include: 1. That the Recommendations which are for the use of manufacturers should not be considered for the production of guidelines; 2. There should be a cutoff date for the production of guidelines for recommendations to be written; 3. Considerations should be made at what point guide lines should be written. Therefore, is it during discussion and deliberation on the adoption of the recommendation, or after approval by member states, or by the members or editors writing it that guidelines should be written. Hence the need to involve the High level delegates of Africa Administrations and other developing countries where the need arises, to be part of team to be involved in the creation of awareness of the implementation of these important resolutions of the ITU-T.

**Proposal:** The University of Nigeria therefore proposes

1. that a new work item be introduced in the TSAG Work plan on production of guidelines on which ICT issues can be best championed by the High Level delegates;
2. to conduct survey on the implementation by administrations in adopting the age long guidelines and establishment of national Standardization secretariat for ITU-T;
3. call for proposals on how to reduce the cost of equipment and of rolling out networks and facilities taking into account the needs and requirements of developing countries;
4. conduct gap analysis on participation in the establishment and widespread use of telecommunication standards, and enhancing contribution in ITU-T study groups by developing countries in order to contribute to work in ITU-T;
5. to call for contributions on the cause of low participation in ITU-T study group activities from developing countries;
6. that the Regional office for ITU in Africa should have a very strong link with the Africa Union (AU). A permanent office in the AU on ICT/Telecommunications has to be created in the AU and maned by personnel approved and or appointed by ITU. The role of the ITU office in AU for instance, should be to hold and host constant conferences, workshops seminars, etc. for the High Level delegate on ICT (Head of States inclusive) on a regular basis on developments in ITU; Hence it is anticipated that ITU-T or ITU generally will be using these dedicated officers at these regional offices to hold regular meetings, workshops, seminars, etc to engage these High level delegates on prevailing resolutions made by ITU-T for implementations at their various administrations. Experience shows that directive on the implementations of these resolutions will achieve faster result through High level delegates than when a delegate from the administrations comes back to now start the rigour of raising memos through his ministry, up to the Executive council before accent will be granted for that administration to adopt it, and behold this may take years, whereas if it is the other way it will just require days or months.
7. ITU-T to call for contributions for the creation of sub-regional offices, for sub-regional group activities on ITU–T issues by experts both within the ITU and beyond.

* This office can be integrated into the sub-regional bodies, for example for Africa, ECOWAS, SADEC, EAST AFRICA NORTH AFRICA.

1. ITU-T to call for contributions by experts both within the ITU and beyond to ascertain the relevance of according fellowship to those contributing to ITU-T work from the Academia that may be handicapped to attend ITU meetings.

**Conclusion:**

The University ofNigeria propose to establish a new work item under TSAG

* on need to create awareness of the implementation, benefits and impact both to ITU-T and member states of Resolution 44 through, for instance, the establishment of offices at the regional entities like AU in Africa and sub-regional levels in Africa as well at the other continents;
* invite ITU-T to identify, particularly training needs to be required at ITU-T RGs meetings to support, particular in capacity building, towards effective contributions of proposal that is of interest to each region, and the provision of more fellowship awards.
* to ascertain the relevance of according fellowship to those contributing to ITU-T work from the Academia that may be handicapped to attend ITU meetings.

**Reference**: Resolution 44 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016).

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