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| Member States of European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) |
| Proposed new Resolution [ECP-1] - Importance of industry engagement in the work of ITU-T |
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| **Abstract:** | To fulfil the purposes of the ITU, as defined in Article 1 of the Constitution, to promote constructive cooperation and partnership between Member States and Sector Members, the recognition of industry in the technical work of ITU-T is of prime importance. The proposed draft Resolution is intended to highlight that the work of ITU-T is most relevant when industry, in partnership with governments and all other stakeholders, is fully engaged. |

Introduction

The proposed draft new Resolution is intended for consideration by the WTSA as an extension of discussions in the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) on the need to maintain and attract more industry participants in the activities of ITU-T at both global and regional level. It is technological evolution driven also by industry and substantial private sector investment that needs to provide the impetus and substance for much of the work of ITU-T study groups. While the ITU is recognized primarily as an inter-governmental organization, recent analyses have shown the need for it to strengthen and promote the active participation of industry in its global standardization work generally, thereby ensuring that the outputs of ITU-T reflect business operations and can be applied practically.

Proposal

We propose the following draft Resolution to WTSA-20.

ADD EUR/38A25/1

DRAFT NEW RESOLUTION [ECP-1]

Proposed new WTSA Resolution on the Importance of Industry Engagement in the Work of ITU-T

(Geneva, 2022)

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Geneva, 2022),

considering

*a)* Article 1 of the ITU Constitution to promote and enhance participation of entities and organizations in the activities of the Union and foster fruitful cooperation and partnership between them and Member States for the fulfilment of the overall objectives as embodied in the purposes of the Union;

*b)* Article 3 of the Constitution concerning the rights and obligations of Member States and Sector Members which states, in No. 28A, that “Sector Members shall be entitled to participate fully in the activities of the Sector of which they are members”;

*c)* Article 19 of the ITU Convention with regard to the participation of entities and organizations other than Administrations in the Union’s activities;

*d)* Resolution 14 (Rev. Antalya, 2006) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on recognizing the rights and obligations of all Sector Members of the Union which provides further details regarding the rights and obligations of Sector Members, noting that these entities “may participate in all activities of the Sector concerned, with the exception of formal votes and some treaty-making conferences”;

*e)* Resolution 122 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) on the evolving role of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, underlined the critical importance for Member States and ITU-T Sector Members working closely together, in a proactive, cooperative and forward-looking way, taking into account their respective responsibilities and objectives, in order to the promote the continued evolution of ITU-T;

*f)* Resolution 208 (Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on appointment and maximum term of office of chairmen and vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups, which places considerable emphasis on selecting chairs in particular on the basis of equitable geographic distribution and competence, including relevant professional knowledge and experience, as well as managerial skills,

bearing in mind

*a)* Goal 5 of the Strategic Plan of the Union 2020-2023 (Resolution 71, Rev. Dubai, 2019) of the Plenipotentiary Conference on the importance of partnerships and on the need to foster engagement and cooperation among governments, the private sector, civil society, intergovernmental and international organizations, and the academic and technical communities;

*b)* Part 4 of the Strategic Plan (Implementation and Evaluation), Annex 1 to Resolution 71, which highlights the advantages of defining specific criteria for prioritizing among different activities and initiatives that the Union is willing to undertake, such as involvement in work in which ITU adds significant value;

*c)* that the unprecedented rate of development of new telecommunication/ICT technologies with the need for standards to keep pace, and the convergence of telecommunication, computer, broadcasting and information technologies to create an expanding number of value-added and integrated communication systems has placed at premium on the role of the private sector in ensuring that ITU keeps pace with changes in the broader telecommunication/ICT landscape;

*d)* that in ITU-T, industry has offered its expertise to areas of work in which high value has been achieved,

recognizing

*a)* that since 2009 CTO and CxO meetings of high-level, private-sector executives have been organized by the TSB Director to discuss the standardization landscape, identify and coordinate standards priorities and ways to best address the needs of the private sector, the reports of which have been reviewed by TSAG;

*b)* that, in carrying out its mandate to advise TSAG and the study groups on evolving strategic issues and performing a gap analysis for industry processes, RG-StdsStrat has identified metrics and criteria that can be used to guide a strategy such as review the engagement of industry in terms of contributions/attendance/leadership;

*c)* that, in order to measure industry’s impact to the overall achievement of the Strategic Goals of the Union in specific areas of ITU-T activity where significant added value has been achieved, the use of statistical analyses and metrics can be employed to monitor and assess progress of work in various ITU-T study groups;

*d)* that such analyses can be leveraged to focus resources into high priority activities;

*e)* that the metrics and correlations show that industry participation has a clear impact on the value of ITU-T Recommendations in the market,”

*f)* that there are other important Standards Development Organisations carrying out work in similar areas and industry participants already devote resources to other Standards Development Organisations;

*g)* that a duplication of activities is to be avoided as far as possible (overlaps are feasible due to the complex character of ICT-topics)

noting

that these data-driven insights will be essential to form a strategy to ensure that the structure of ITU-T is optimized for current and new work,

resolves

that within the mandate, roles and responsibilities of the WTSA, as a broad and inclusive forum where Member States and ITU-T Sector Members are able to discuss the future of ITU-T and consider the Sector’s overall structure and functioning and set goals for ITU-T, the engagement and participation of industry should be enhanced through implementation of measures which include, but are not limited to the following:

1 to ensure that Sector Members are able to engage in all global and regional matters which fall within the purview of ITU-T including the WTSA in accordance with the conditions set forth in the relevant provisions of Article 3 of the Constitution and Resolution 14 of the Plenipotentiary Conference, as noted above;

2 to recognize that the engagement and participation of industry in leadership positions in areas where technical expertise is essential is a key component for the sustainability of ITU-T in a highly competitive and diverse standardization ecosystem,

invites the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group

1 to study how to create a structural environment that would improve industry engagement and participation across the areas of ITU-T expertise, including the options for facilitating a systematic gap analysis procedure in relation to similar activities being undertaken in other Standards Development organisations;

2 to continue the analysis of the metrics of industry participation and outputs at the level of, not only the study groups, but also the rapporteur groups and in joint meetings with other international organizations;

3 to identify options for the establishment, under the auspices of TSAG, of an industry-led group whose objective is to identify key issues and actions to ensure the continued and increased industry engagement in the work of ITU-T at the global and regional level,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

to organize and expand meetings for industry executives that represent a diverse stakeholder view other than the current CTO/CXO group meetings, in order to assist in identifying and coordinating standardization priorities and subjects and to report to TSAG,

invites the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

to assist the study groups and TSAG in the identification of further measures to enhance the participation of industry in the work of ITU-T,

invites Member States, Sector Members, Associates and other participants in the work of ITU-T

to provide contributions and proposals on how the engagement and participation of industry can be enhanced.