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| PLENARY MEETING | Addendum 17 to Document 39-E |
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| Member States of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL) | |
| Proposed new Resolution [IAP-2] - The importance of industry engagement in the work of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector | |
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| **Abstract:** | CITEL proposes a draft new Resolution that highlights that the work of ITU-T is most relevant when industry, in partnership with governments, is fully engaged. |

Introduction

CITEL proposes a draft new Resolution on the importance of the engagement of industry in the work of ITU-T which reflects the contribution that industry has made to enriching the Sector as a key part of the global standardization ecosystem. The extent and breadth of industry’s contribution can be measured in part through its participation in the work of the ITU-T study groups and other groups, and in the number of contributions, which have provided substance to the work of the Sector.

The strength of ITU-T, however, lies in the many constructive partnerships between industry and Member States, without which the important work of the Sector could not progress. The proposed Resolution is not intended to undermine that partnership, but to ensure that Member States and industry can continue to work together, on both technical and regulatory matters, to further strengthen this relationship through recognition of the roles and contributions that each can bring to ensure the sustainability of ITU-T in the future.

The proposed draft new Resolution is intended for consideration by the WTSA as an extension of discussions in the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group on the critical need to maintain and attract industry participants in selected activities of ITU-T. It is industry that provides the impetus and substance for the work of several ITU-T study groups, including Study Group 15 on transport, access and home networks and Study Group 16 on multimedia and related activities. While ITU is recognized as an inter-governmental organization, recent analyses have shown that the recognized need to strengthen and promote industry/government partnerships in global standardization work would generally ensure that ITU-T benefits from the engagement of industry for years to come.

Proposal

CITEL Member States propose this new draft Resolution on the importance of the engagement of industry in the work of ITU-T 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.

ADD IAP/39A17/1

DRAFT NEW RESOLUTION [IAP-2]

The importance of industry engagement in the work of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector

(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 170 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference on the admission of Sector Members from developing countries to participate in the work of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector and the Telecommunication Standardization Sector;

*f)* Resolution 122 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference on the evolving role of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, underlining 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;

*g)* 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, 2018) 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 a 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 TSAG, in advising the membership and the study groups on evolving strategic issues and performing a gap analysis for industry processes, has identified metrics and criteria that can be used to guide a strategic review of the engagement of industry in terms of contributions/attendance/leadership;

*c)* that, in order to measure industry’s impact on 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 to the value of ITU-T Recommendations in the market,

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 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 of industry should be enhanced through implementation of measures that include, but are not limited to, the following:

i) to ensure that industry participants, including those representatives from developing countries, are able to engage fully in all matters which fall within the purview of ITU-T;

ii) to encourage the participation of industry in the preparatory processes for WTSAs, particularly in discussions which reflect industry priorities such as the chairpersons and vice-chairpersons of selected study groups;

iii) to recognize that the engagement 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, including those representatives from developing countries, across the areas of ITU-T expertise;

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, an industry-led group whose objective is to identify key issues and actions to ensure the continued and increased engagement in the work of ITU-T,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

to continue to organize meetings for industry executives, e.g., 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 of industry can be enhanced.