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|  | World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA-24) New Delhi, 15–24 October 2024 | |  |
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| PLENARY MEETING | | Addendum 32 to Document 35-E | |
|  | | 13 September 2024 | |
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| African Telecommunication Union Administrations | | | |
| PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO RESOLUTION 100 | | | |
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| **Abstract:** | Resolution 100 was approved in WTSA-20 held in Geneva, 2022. The main purpose of this Resolution is to agree on a common emergency number across all African countries. The period from the WTSA-20 was relatively short to gather relevant information and then take the decision about the common emergency number and continue to implement other parts of the Resolution. Accordingly, a proposal is made to continue with Resolution 100 for the next study period in addition to choosing 112 as the primary emergency number and 911 as the secondary alternative emergency numbers. | |
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Introduction

The period for implementation of Resolution 100 was made during WTSA-20 held in Geneva, 2022 leaving the Africa countries with only two years within which to implement. ATU proposes to continue the implementation of the Resolution for the next period; to encourage Member States that did not respond to TSB Circular 108 on the implementation of 112 as a common emergency number to provide their responses; to encourage Member States that responded to TSB Circular 108 and indicated that they had not implemented 112 as a common emergency number to share their challenges and proposals on a way forward; to encourage Member States that have not implemented 112 as a common emergency number in line with Recommendation ITU-T E.161.1 to seek technical assistance from the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau; and to encourage Member States to share their updated numbering plan information including emergency numbers according to Recommendation ITU-T E.129.

Proposal

ATU proposes to continue with Resolution 100 for the next study period in addition to choosing 112 as the primary emergency number and 911 as the secondary alternative emergency numbers.

MOD ATU/35A32/1

RESOLUTION 100 (Rev. New Delhi, 2024)

A common emergency number for Africa

(Geneva, 2022; New Delhi, 2024)

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (New Delhi, 2024),

recalling

*a)* that Resolution 136 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of the Plenipotentiary Conference encourages Member States to explore the possibility of introducing a globally harmonized emergency number to supplement existing domestic emergency numbers, taking into account the relevant ITU-T Recommendations;

*b)* that Recommendation ITU-T E.161.1 provides that a Member State that is planning to introduce an emergency number could use either 112 or 911; and that a Member State that is planning to introduce a second alternative emergency number could use either 112 or 911, or both, which should be routed to the existing emergency number;

*c)* that Resolution 34 (Rev. Kigali, 2022) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference invitesMember States to consider introducing, in addition to their existing emergency numbers, a harmonized national/regional number for access to emergency services, taking into account the relevant ITU-T Recommendations,

considering

*a)* the progress made in the implementation of this Resolution during the period 2022-2024, and the report of TSB Director to this assembly which shows;

*b)* that not all Member States in Africa are using 112 as the single emergency number selected for the first time;

*c)* that not all Member States in Africa are using 911 as a secondary alternative emergency number;

*d)* that some Member States in Africa have not implemented Recommendation ITU-T E.161.1;

*e)* that there appears to be a trend to use numbers other than 112 and/or 911 for emergency communication by Member States in Africa;

*f)* that such practices have an unfavourable effect on ease of access to emergency services for citizens of the African continent who move from one country to another;

*g)* that such practices have an unfavourable effect on ease of access to emergency services for citizens from other parts of the world, since the numbers being used to access emergency services are not similar to what they are used to, i.e. 112 or 911,

noting

*a)* relevant ITU-T Recommendations, in particular:

i) Recommendation ITU-T E.161.1: Guidelines to select Emergency Number for public telecommunication networks;

ii) Recommendation ITU-T E.161.1 Amendment 1: Guidelines to select Emergency Number for public telecommunication networks;

iii) Recommendation ITU-T E.101: Definitions of terms used for identifiers (names, numbers, addresses and other identifiers) for public telecommunication services and networks in the ITU-T E-series Recommendations;

iv) ITU-T Q-series Recommendations – Supplement 47: Emergency services for IMT-2000 networks – Requirements for harmonization and convergence;

v) Recommendation ITU-T E.164 – Supplement 6: Guidelines for identifying and selecting globally harmonized numbers;

*b)* relevant resolutions:

i) Resolution 136 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the use of telecommunications/information and communication technologies for humanitarian assistance and for monitoring and management in emergency and disaster situations, including health-related emergencies, for early warning, prevention, mitigation and relief, in particular *encourages Member States* 7;

ii) Resolution 2 (Dubai, 2012) of the World Conference on International Telecommunications, on globally harmonized national number for access to emergency services,

noting further

*a)* that some countries and regions have adopted national laws, directives and recommendations regarding the use of emergency numbers;

*b)* that some mobile devices have been hard-coded with either 112 and/or 911;

*c)* that there is no provision for the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB) to provide assistance to countries trying to implement Recommendation ITU-T E.161.1;

*d)* that there is no provision for TSB to provide technical assistance to countries trying to set up emergency numbers,

reaffirming

that it is the sovereign right of each country to regulate its telecommunications and, as such, regulate the provision of emergency services,

resolves to instruct the Director of Telecommunication Standardization Bureau in cooperation with the Director of the Telecommunications Development Bureau

1 to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States in Africa in the implementation of a common emergency number in line with Recommendation ITU-T E.161.1;

2 to report to the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly on the progress achieved in implementing this resolution, which is intended to improve access to emergency services,

invites Member States particularly in the Africa region

1 to implement the provisions of Recommendation ITU-T E.161.1 and, in particular, to consider 112 to be used as a primary emergency number, and 911 to be used as a secondary alternative emergency number;

2 that have not implemented a common emergency number in line with Recommendation ITU-T E.161.1 to seek technical assistance from the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau;

2. to consider having mechanisms or guidelines that would assist in the implementation of this resolution;

3 to share their updated numbering plan information including emergency numbers according to Recommendation ITU-T E.129.