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| DRAFT NEW RESOLUTION [ARB-OTTS] - OTTS | | | |
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| **Abstract:** | The objective of this proposed new WTSA resolution is to give certain tasks to relevant study groups in addition to the Director of TSB aiming to find out a multi-dimensional approach to engage all stakeholders especially from the industry in order to find out solutions to the outstanding issues relevant to over-the-top services. | |
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ADD ARB/36A31/1

DRAFT NEW RESOLUTION [ARB-OTTS] (New Delhi, 2024)

(OTTs)

(New Delhi, 2024)

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

recalling

*a)* Resolution 206 (Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on OTTs;

*b)* Resolution 2 (Rev. Geneva, 2022) of this assembly, on ITU-T study group responsibilities and mandates;

*c)* Resolution 44 (Rev. Geneva ,2022) of this assembly, on Bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries;

*d)* Resolution 68 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of this assembly, on Evolving role of industry in the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector,

considering

*a)* the necessity to address operational and technical issues, policy, competition, innovation, and economic implications of OTT services;

*b)* the consumer protection and data privacy concerns to the Telecom/ICT industry;

*c)* the impact of OTT services on telecommunications and information and communication technology (ICT) markets;

*d)* the need to promote a secure digital ecosystem without hindering innovation;

*e)* the need for a standardized definition and taxonomy of OTTs to be used across the Union;

*f)* the increase in data traffic from the proliferation of OTT services and the need for additional infrastructure deployment;

*g)* the benefits of OTT services to consumers, including those with disabilities and specific needs,

recognizing

*a)* studies by ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU‑D) and ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU‑T) on OTTs, particularly ITU-T Study Groups 3 and 17 and ITU-D Study Group 1;

*b)* the wide range of OTT services and their increasing demand, which have significant implications for the capacity of telecommunications networks;

*c)* the international nature of OTT services and the right of each state to regulate its telecommunications/ICT industry;

*d)* the divergent approaches of member states in addressing OTT-related issues;

*e)* the growing significance of OTT services in the digital ecosystem and the numerous benefits accompanied with challenges they provide;

*f)* the importance of interoperability between OTT services and traditional telecommunications services to ensure seamless connectivity for users;

*g)* the reliance of OTT services on robust legacy infrastructure and the challenges developing countries face due to lagging ICT infrastructure development;

*h)* the high cost of building essential infrastructure and the need for innovative and sustainable financing models to ensure progress, accessibility, and inclusivity;

*i)* the contribution of OTT services to the widespread adoption of ICTs by creating locally relevant content and driving increased network capacity usage,

resolve to instruct ITU-T study groups 2, 3, 11, 12, 17 and SCV within their mandate

1 to promote studies on standardization activities related to OTT services such as operational and technical aspects, policy, economic, competition, quality of service (QoS), and innovation aspects of OTT services;

2 to develop relevant ITU-T Recommendations, technical reports, and guidelines on OTT aspects taking into account consumer protection, data privacy, innovation, and competition;

3 to continue studying the impact of OTT services on traditional communication networks and services, and to develop policies that support the coexistence and interoperability of both OTT and traditional communication services;

4 to continue studying collaboration between telecommunication service providers and OTT providers;

5 to develop data privacy and security frameworks that align with international best practices, ensuring the protection of user information and trust in OTT services while acknowledging and respecting the sovereignty and regulatory frameworks of individual states;

6 to develop agreed definition and taxonomy of OTTs to be used across the Union,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunications Standardization Bureau

1 to continue capacity-building programmes on OTT, especially for developing countries;

2 to promote the adoption of common technical standards and protocols that enhance interoperability between OTTs and traditional telecommunications networks;

3 to encourage the participation of traditional telecommunication service providers and OTT service providers in ITU-T work to develop interoperable solutions that enhance the user experience and promote seamless connectivity;

4 to encourage research and development efforts that foster innovation in OTT services and explore new opportunities for collaboration and partnerships among various service providers;

5 to ensure collaborative efforts among policymakers, industry stakeholders, and consumer advocates to address issues related to quality of service (QoS), security, consumer protection, data privacy, and regulatory aspects of OTT services;

6 to provide the necessary support to relevant study groups for the implementation of this resolution;

7 to continuously monitor and track developments in the OTT ecosystem, offering guidance on best practices, technical standards, and industry benchmarks to support the sustainable growth, innovation, and seamless interoperability of OTT services, ensuring a high-quality user experience;

8 to encourage and oversee the development of global standards for OTT services, focusing on interoperability, robust security, quality of service (QoS), and facilitating a seamless user experience across different platforms, devices, and networks;

9 to organize workshops that bring together all stakeholders in the OTT ecosystem; these workshops aim to facilitate collaboration, knowledge sharing, and consideration of stakeholders' interests, while identifying and proposing innovative solutions to address their needs and interests wherever possible;

10 to follow up on the implementation of workshop outcomes or recommendations and report to TSAG, summarizing the progress made in implementing these recommendations,

invites ITU Member States and Sector Members

1 to participate in and contribute to the implementation of this resolution;

2 to share their experiences with OTT services in their countries during ITU-T study group meetings and workshops;

3 to adopt policies that promote competition among OTT service providers;

4 to support initiatives that ensure inclusivity, transparency, and non-discriminatory practices in the provision of OTT services, thereby promoting a level playing field for all stakeholders;

5 to bridge the gaps between OTT providers and telecom operators, ensuring a more cohesive and user-friendly experience for consumers;