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|  | World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA-24) New Delhi, 15–24 October 2024 | |  |
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| PLENARY MEETING | | Addendum 15 to Document 40-E | |
|  | | 20 September 2024 | |
|  | | Original: Russian | |
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| ITU Member States, members of the Regional Commonwealth in the field of Communications (RCC) | | | |
| PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO RESOLUTION 90 | | | |
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| **Abstract:** | Open-source software has already become an essential part of most software ecosystems, and the total number of open-source software components available is already in the tens of millions. However, the extended amount of time that a large percentage of available open-source code goes without being updated is a security risk factor in the use of open source, increasing the likelihood of vulnerabilities therein. However, far from all software developers have a well-developed set of rules for monitoring the security of their open-source code. It is proposed to make amendments and additions to Resolution 90, on open source in the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector.  Furthermore, in view of the ITU-T outcomes in relation to this Resolution during the 2022-2024 study period and the positive experience of engagement with the open-source community, it would be beneficial to make appropriate changes to this Resolution for its further application within ITU-T, including the use of open-source code as a regular working tool of ITU-T and its incorporation into ITU-T Recommendations.  RCC proposes to revise Resolution 90, on open source in the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector. | |
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MOD RCC/40A15/1

RESOLUTION 90 (Rev. New Delhi, 2024)

Open source in the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector

(Hammamet, 2016; New Delhi, 2024)

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

recalling

*a)* § 10e) and § 23o) of the Geneva Plan of Action of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS);

*b)* § 29) of the Tunis Commitment of WSIS;

*c)* § 49) of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society of WSIS;

*d)* Resolution 44 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of this assembly, on bridging the standardization gap between developing[[1]](#footnote-1)1 and developed countries;

*e)* Resolution 58 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of World Telecommunication Development Conference, which resolves to invite Member States to promote and undertake research and development of ICT-accessible equipment, services and software, with emphasis on free and open-source software and affordable equipment and services,

recognizing

*a)* that there has been positive feedback from study groups on the use of open source in ITU‑T Recommendations in the implementation of this resolution;

*b)* that a number of study groups include work on open source in their mandates;

*c)* that there has been no negative feedback with respect to the implementation of this resolution;

*d)* that ITU and Linux Foundation are joining forces to launch the OpenWallet Forum,

resolves

that the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) continue to work on the benefits and disadvantages of the implementation of open-source projects in relation with the work of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU‑T), as appropriate,

instructs all applicable study groups of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector, within available financial resources

1 to provide inputs to TSAG enquiries on open source as listed in TSAG Report 8, July 2016;

2 to consider output from TSAG on open source, in order to study the value of using open source to develop reference implementations of ITU‑T Recommendations, as appropriate;

3 considering the output of the studies under *instructs*2 above, to continue using open source, as appropriate, as a regular working tool of ITU‑T, including its incorporation into ITU‑T Recommendations;

4 to support the use of open-source projects in their work, as appropriate, taking into account the outcome of the TSAG study;

5 to continue engaging with open-source projects, including on cybersecurity issues,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

1 to provide open source related training (e.g. tutorials, seminars, workshops) to ITU‑T participants, in collaboration with open-source communities and the Telecommunication Development Bureau, taking into account the ITU‑T objective to bridge the standardization gap and digital gender gap and the budgetary constraints of the Union;

2 to submit a report to TSAG annually on progress achieved in implementing this resolution,

instructs the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group

to continue fulfilling of the outcomes of TSAG Report 8 concerning open source,

invites the ITU Council Working Group on financial and human resources

to evaluate any potential financial implications for the Union of implementing this resolution,

invites the ITU membership

to contribute to the implementation of this resolution.

**Reasons:** The fact that far from all software developers have a well-developed set of rules to monitor the security of their open-source code is a risk factor in the use of open source, increasing the likelihood of vulnerabilities therein.   
  
The positive experience of interacting with the open-source community should be reflected in the text of the document for further practice in ITU-T.

1. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)