

WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION
ASSEMBLY
New Delhi, 15-24 October 2024

**Resolution 101 – Standardization activities of
the ITU Telecommunication Standardization
Sector on artificial intelligence technologies in
support of telecommunications/information
and communication technologies**



FOREWORD

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is the United Nations specialized agency in the field of telecommunications, and information and communication technologies (ICTs). The ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) is a permanent organ of ITU. ITU-T is responsible for studying technical, operating and tariff questions and issuing Recommendations on them with a view to standardizing telecommunications on a worldwide basis.

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), which meets every four years, establishes the topics for study by the ITU-T study groups which, in turn, produce Recommendations on these topics.

The approval of ITU-T Recommendations is covered by the procedure laid down in WTSA Resolution 1.

In some areas of information technology which fall within ITU-T's purview, the necessary standards are prepared on a collaborative basis with ISO and IEC.

RESOLUTION 101 (New Delhi, 2024)

Standardization activities of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector on artificial intelligence technologies in support of telecommunications/information and communication technologies

(New Delhi, 2024)

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

recalling

- a)* Resolution 214 (Bucharest, 2022) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on artificial intelligence (AI) technologies and telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs);
- b)* United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution 78/265, on seizing the opportunities of safe, secure and trustworthy AI systems for sustainable development, and UNGA Resolution 78/311, on enhancing international cooperation on capacity building of AI;
- c)* relevant World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) action lines and relevant United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG 9, on building resilient infrastructure, promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization and fostering innovation, and SDG 17, on strengthening the means of implementation and revitalizing the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development;
- d)* the experience of collaboration among the relevant study groups of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) and other relevant organizations and standards-development organizations (SDOs), including the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), with the aim of building synergies and sharing information among IEC, ISO and ITU-T,

recognizing

- a)* the role of ITU-T in developing international standards for telecommunications/ICTs in support of ITU's strategic goals of universal connectivity and sustainable digital transformation;
- b)* the necessity for global collaboration and dialogue among Member States, Sector Members and other stakeholders in addressing opportunities and potential challenges of AI regarding its role in telecommunications/ICTs, including aspects of trustworthiness;
- c)* that studies related to AI in ITU-T have advanced telecommunication/ICT standardization, including through, *inter alia*, study groups and focus groups in various areas and various AI initiatives, including the AI for Good platform;

d) ITU's collaboration with other United Nations agencies and organizations through the Inter-Agency Working Group on AI, co-chaired by ITU and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), which combines the technological pillars of the United Nations to provide a solid foundation for system-wide efforts on AI;

e) the importance of the fifth Global Standards Symposium, convened on 14 October 2024, in New Delhi, India, and the first International AI Standards Summit from 14-18 October 2024, also in New Delhi,

noting

a) the increasing relevance of AI and the consequent need for robust technical standards on AI-enabled telecommunications/ICTs in order to enhance their efficiency, capabilities and trustworthiness;

b) that many other SDOs, consortia and stakeholders are developing standards, specifications, best practices and guidance for AI technologies, systems and services, within their mandates;

c) that ITU has partnered with more than 40 other United Nations agencies to convene the AI for Good platform, which seeks to identify practical applications of AI in order to advance progress on the SDGs and scale those solutions for global impact,

considering

that the development and many use cases of AI technologies can be a key enabler for telecommunications/ICTs to contribute to universal sustainable digital connectivity and to achieve the SDGs,

resolves to instruct study groups of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector, within their mandates

1 to continue work on applying AI to telecommunications/ICTs when developing ITU-T Recommendations, guidelines, best practices and assessment procedures, such as those related to telecommunication operation, management, energy aspects, reliability, security, AI-enabled networks and protocols, services and applications, the Internet of Things, and tools to enhance the efficiency and capabilities of AI-enabled telecommunications/ICTs;

2 to periodically review and update AI-related ITU-T Recommendations in relation to telecommunications/ICTs in view of technological progress and emerging opportunities and challenges,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

to facilitate information-sharing among ITU membership on ITU-T work on AI in relation to telecommunications/ICTs, in order to build understanding, in particular for developing countries¹, in relation to the deployment of AI technologies in support of telecommunications/ICTs and the associated opportunities and challenges,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, in collaboration with the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Telecommunication Development and Radiocommunication Bureaux

- 1 to support the work of the AI for Good platform in identifying practical applications of AI in order to advance progress on the SDGs and scale those solutions for global impact;
- 2 to identify opportunities, as appropriate, for cooperation in international standardization efforts and for collaboration with relevant stakeholders on AI in relation to telecommunications/ICTs;
- 3 to provide technical guidance, in particular to developing countries, on implementing international standards on AI in telecommunications/ICTs,

invites ITU Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia

- 1 to promote the development and adoption of ITU-T Recommendations related to the deployment of AI technologies in telecommunications/ICTs;
- 2 to share their experiences and contribute to international multistakeholder standardization efforts on AI technologies, including efforts by international organizations, the private sector, civil society, academia, small and medium enterprises and technical organizations;
- 3 to engage in the ITU Council Working Group on WSIS and SDGs, providing guidance on capacity-building efforts for the use of AI in achieving the SDGs, and to monitor the actions taken by ITU with respect to AI, with a view to enhancing inter-Sectoral coordination, regional empowerment and membership engagement.

¹ These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.