International Telecommunication Union

ITU-T

TELECOMMUNICATION
STANDARDIZATION SECTOR
OF ITU

WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION ASSEMBLY
Hammamet, 25 October – 3 November 2016

Resolution 40 – Regulatory aspects of the work of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector

FOREWORD

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is the United Nations specialized agency in the field of telecommunications, 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 40 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016)

Regulatory aspects of the work of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector

(Montreal, 2000; Florianópolis, 2004; Johannesburg, 2008; Dubai, 2012; Hammamet, 2016)

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Hammamet, 2016),

recognizing

a) the provisions of Nos. 246D to 246H of the ITU Convention;

b) Resolution 20 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of this assembly, on the procedures for allocation and management of international telecommunication numbering, naming, addressing and identification resources,

considering

a) that the tasks undertaken in the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) cover both technical matters and matters having policy or regulatory implications;

b) that rules pertaining to certain aspects of the Sector's work are being framed in terms that will rely upon clear and certain identification of the boundary between technical matters and matters having policy or regulatory implications;

c) that administrations are encouraging a larger role for Sector Members in the work of ITU-T, particularly on technical matters;

d) that many matters having policy or regulatory implications may involve technical implementation and therefore need to be considered in appropriate technical study groups,

noting

a) that the ITU Member States have identified significant policy responsibilities in Chapter VI of the ITU Constitution (Articles 33-43) and in Chapter V of the Convention (Articles 36-40), and in relevant resolutions of plenipotentiary conferences;

b) that the International Telecommunication Regulations further describe policy and regulatory obligations incumbent upon Member States;

c) that No. 191C of the Convention empowers the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) to assign matters within its competence to the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG), indicating the action required on those matters,

resolves

1 that, when determining whether a Question or Recommendation has policy or regulatory implications, particularly Questions or Recommendations which relate to tariff and accounting issues, study groups shall more generally consider possible topics such as:

– the right of the public to correspond;

– protection of telecommunication channels and installations;

– use of the limited numbering and addressing resources;

– naming and identification;

– secrecy and authenticity of telecommunications;

–   safety of life;

–   practices applicable to competitive markets;

–   misuse of numbering resources; and

–   any other relevant matters, including those identified by a decision of Member States, or recommended by TSAG, or Questions or Recommendations where there is any doubt about their scope;

2   to request TSAG to consult Member States on any relevant issues other than those specified above;

3   to instruct TSAG to study and identify the operational and technical areas related to quality of service/quality of experience (QoS/QoE) of telecommunications/information and communication technologies that might have policy and regulatory nature, taking into account the studies being carried out by the relevant study groups, and report that to the next WTSA,

invites Member States

to contribute actively to the work to be carried out on this matter.