

I n t e r n a t i o n a l T e l e c o m m u n i c a t i o n U n i o n

ITU-T

TELECOMMUNICATION
STANDARDIZATION SECTOR
OF ITU

WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION
ASSEMBLY

Johannesburg, 21-30 October 2008

Resolution 69 – Non-discriminatory access and use of Internet resources

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.

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RESOLUTION 69

Non-discriminatory access and use of Internet resources

(Johannesburg, 2008)

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Johannesburg, 2008),

considering

that one of the purposes of ITU laid down in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution is "to maintain and extend international cooperation among all its Member States for the improvement and rational use of telecommunications of all kinds",

considering further

approved documents of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), Geneva 2003 and Tunis 2005, in its Declaration of Principles, especially §§ 11, 19, 20, 21 and 49 thereof,

noting

that § 48 of the WSIS Declaration of Principles recognized that: "The Internet has evolved into a global facility available to the public and its governance should constitute a core issue of the Information Society agenda. The international management of the Internet should be multilateral, transparent and democratic, with the full involvement of governments, the private sector, civil society and international organizations. It should ensure an equitable distribution of resources, facilitate access for all and ensure a stable and secure functioning of the Internet, taking into account multilingualism",

recognizing

- a) that the second phase of WSIS (Tunis, November 2005) identified ITU as the possible moderator/facilitator for the following WSIS Action Lines from the Plan of Action: C2 (Information and communication infrastructure) and C5 (Building confidence and security in use of the ICTs);
- b) that the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006) entrusted the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) with a range of activities aimed at implementing the WSIS (Tunis, 2005) outcomes, a number of those activities having to do with Internet-related issues;
- c) Resolution 102 (Rev. Antalya, 2006) of the Plenipotentiary Conference on ITU's role with regard to international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet and the management of Internet resources, including domain names and addresses;
- d) that management of the registration and allocation of Internet domain names and addresses must fully reflect the geographical nature of the Internet, taking into account an equitable balance of interests of all stakeholders,

taking into account

- a) that ITU-T is dealing with technical and policy issues related to IP-based networks, including the Internet and next-generation networks;
- b) that a number of the resolutions of this assembly deal with Internet-related issues,

resolves to invite Member States

1 to refrain from taking any unilateral and/or discriminatory actions that could impede another Member State from accessing public Internet sites, within the spirit of Article 1 of the Constitution and the WSIS principles;

2 to report to the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau on any incident referred to in 1 above,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

1 to integrate and analyse the information on incidents reported from Member States;

2 to report this information to Member States, through an appropriate mechanism,

invites Member States and Sector Members

to submit contributions to the ITU-T study groups that contribute to the prevention and avoidance of such practices.