

WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION  
ASSEMBLY

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**Resolution 74 – Enhancing participation of  
Sector Members from developing countries in  
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, 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 74 (Rev. New Delhi, 2024)

### **Enhancing participation of Sector Members<sup>1</sup> from developing countries in the work of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector**

*(Johannesburg, 2008; Dubai, 2012; Geneva, 2022; New Delhi, 2024)*

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

*recalling*

- a)* Resolution 71 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the strategic plan for the Union for 2024-2027;
- b)* the spirit of Resolution 123 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on bridging the standardization gap between developing<sup>2</sup> and developed countries;
- c)* the objectives of Resolutions 44 and 54 (Rev. New Delhi, 2024) of this assembly;
- d)* Resolution 59 (Rev. Kigali, 2022) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on strengthening coordination and cooperation among the three ITU Sectors on matters of mutual interest;
- e)* Resolution 25 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on strengthening the ITU regional presence;
- f)* Resolution 30 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on special measures for the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition;
- g)* Resolution 68 (Rev. New Delhi, 2024) of this assembly, on evolving role of industry in the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T),

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<sup>1</sup> Such Sector Members from developing countries shall not be affiliated in any way to any Sector Member of a developed country, and shall be limited to those Sector Members of developing countries (including the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition) having an income per capita according to the United Nations Development Programme not exceeding a threshold to be determined.

<sup>2</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

*taking into account*

that Resolution 170 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on admission of Sector Members from developing countries to participate in the work of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) and ITU-T, which sets the level of financial contribution for Sector Members from developing countries at one sixteenth of the value of a contributory unit for Sector Members for defraying Union expenses,

*recognizing*

- a) that the participation by operators, service providers, industries and other Sector Members from developing countries in standardization activities is low;
- b) that the majority of these operators are subsidiaries of developed countries' telecommunication companies which are already Sector Members;
- c) that the strategic objectives of Sector Members from developed countries participating in ITU-T activities do not necessarily include the participation of their subsidiary entities;
- d) that those developing country telecommunication operators are placing particular emphasis on information and communication technology operation and infrastructure deployment, instead of active participation in standardization activities;
- e) that Article 1 of the ITU Constitution establishes that the Union will facilitate the worldwide telecommunication standardization process with a satisfactory quality of service, and will promote and enhance participation of entities and organizations in the activities of the Union and foster fruitful cooperation and partnership between them and Member States for the fulfilment of the overall objectives as embodied in the purposes of the Union,

*considering*

- a) that relevant entities or organizations from developing countries are interested in ITU-T standardization work, and would be willing to join if more relevant information on ITU-T work is available to them and favourable financial conditions existed for their participation in the work of ITU-T;
- b) that the aforementioned entities or organizations could have a relevant role in research and development of new technologies, and that the participation of entities from developing countries in the work of ITU-T helps to bridge the standardization gap;
- c) that this participation by Sector Members, in particular leading companies, would contribute to enhancing capacity building in developing countries, increase their competitiveness, and support innovation in the markets of developing countries,

*resolves*

- 1 to encourage the adoption of the necessary measures and mechanisms to enable new Sector Members from developing countries to join ITU-T and to be entitled to take part in the work of the ITU-T study groups, in particular, their regional groups, and other groups within ITU-T;
- 2 to encourage Sector Members from developed countries to promote the participation in ITU-T activities of their subsidiaries established in developing countries,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau*

1 to report to the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group annually on the implementation of this resolution, including the assessment on the participation of Sector Members from developing countries in all ITU-T activities;

2 to continue enhancing ITU's web-based tools, in an effort to make it easier to locate and promote guidelines, Recommendations, technical reports, best practices and use cases developed by ITU-T, as well as identifying strategies and mechanisms to help and allow Sector Members from developing countries to proactively use these tools to speed up the transfer of knowledge,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, in close collaboration with the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

within available resources,

1 to organize workshops, preferably back-to-back with meetings of regional groups of ITU-T study groups or other ITU regional events, and develop programmes on awareness campaigns on the benefits for operators, service providers, industries and other Sector Members from developing countries to participate in ITU-T activities aimed at in particular:

- i) enhancing the relevance of ITU-T and the importance of their participation in standardization activities;
- ii) identifying their standardization priorities, needs and concerns with respect to, in particular, telecommunication/ICT trends;

2 to develop relevant metrics to measure the participation of Sector Members from developing countries in ITU-T activities,

*instructs the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group*

to continually encourage the participation of Sector Members from developing countries and report to the next world telecommunication standardization assembly on the implementation of this resolution,

*further resolves that ITU regional offices*

be engaged in the implementation of this resolution,

*invites Member States*

1 to encourage Sector Members from developing countries to enhance their participation in ITU-T activities;

2 to share relevant information from ITU-T activities with potential new Sector Members from developing countries;

3 to support initiatives on enhancing participation of Sector Members from developing countries in ITU-T activities.