International Telecommunication Union

ITU-T

TELECOMMUNICATION
STANDARDIZATION SECTOR
OF ITU

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

Resolution 86 – Facilitating the implementation of the Smart Africa Manifesto

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.

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RESOLUTION 86 (Hammamet, 2016)

Facilitating the implementation of the Smart Africa Manifesto

(Hammamet, 2016)

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Hammamet, 2016),

recalling

a)   Resolution 195 (Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on implementation of the Smart Africa Manifesto;

b)   Resolution 197 (Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on facilitating the Internet of things to prepare for a globally connected world;

c)   that it is of high importance that developing countries[1] actively participate in and contribute to the development of telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) standards,

considering

a)   Resolution 30 (Rev. Busan, 2014) 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;

b)   that, under the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019, the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) is to work to "provide support and assistance to developing countries in bridging the standardization gap in relation with standardization matters, information and communication network infrastructure and applications, and relevant training materials for capacity building, taking into account the characteristics of the telecommunication environment of the developing countries";

c)   that various industrial sectors, such as energy, transportation, health, agriculture, disaster management, public safety and home networking, rely on emerging communications networks and technologies;

d)   that Resolution 1353 of the ITU Council recognizes that telecommunications/ICTs are essential components for developed and developing countries for achieving sustainable development, and instructs the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the Directors of the Bureaux, to identify new activities to be undertaken by ITU to support the developing countries in achieving sustainable development through telecommunications and ICT,

taking into account

the mandate of the Smart Africa secretariat, which is in line with the Union's objectives for developing countries,

recognizing

a)   that Smart Africa member states, partner organizations and industries working on various projects need standards;

b)   that ITU-T is responsible for the standardization work relating emerging technologies,

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

resolves to invite study groups of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector

1   to develop ITU-T Recommendations aimed at implementing emerging technologies, with a special focus on developing countries;

2   to collaborate with the Smart Africa office in regard to standards relating to emerging technologies, with more emphasis on use cases and scenarios for developing countries through regional meetings, forums, workshops, etc.,

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

1   to establish mechanisms for collaboration and cooperation between ITU-T study groups and the Smart Africa office in the development of standards;

2   to continue supporting the Smart Africa Manifesto in accordance with Resolution 195 (Busan, 2014);

3   to provide assistance to Smart Africa and African regional groups from within the assigned budget in order to support pilot projects aimed at speeding up the implementation of ITU standards and Recommendations;

4   to strengthen training and guide Smart Africa member states, partner organizations and industries in their adoption of ITU-T standards.