

# Overview of ITU Activities on Combating Counterfeiting and Stolen ICT Devices

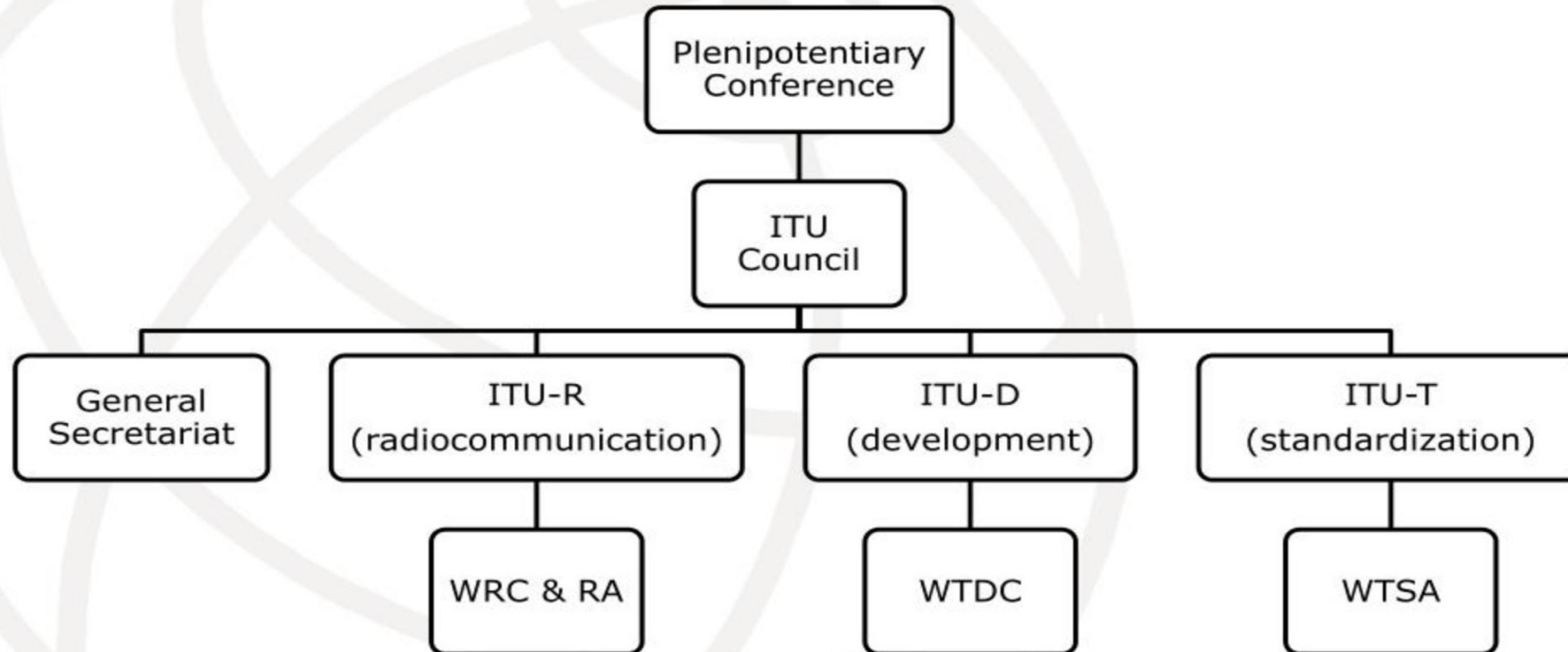
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***KOFI NTIM YEBOAH-KORDIEH***  
***Vice-Chair SG11 – Chair ITU-T RG-AFR***  
***NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY, GHANA***

October 2025



# ITU Structure



## Plenipotentiary conference – PP

### Resolution 188 – Combating counterfeit and tampered telecommunication/information and communication technology devices

#### Resolves

to explore all ways and **means to combat counterfeit** and tampered telecommunication/ICT devices in order **to protect ITU members** and other stakeholders **from their negative impacts**,

#### invites Member States

...  
4 **to work in close collaboration with relevant stakeholders, such as, WTO, WIPO and WCO**, on activities relating to combating counterfeit and tampered telecommunication/ICT devices, **including restricting the trading, export/import and circulation of these telecommunication/ICT devices internationally**

**instructs the Directors of the three Bureaux 2** to assist all the membership, considering relevant ITU-T recommendations, and **collaborate with other telecommunication/ICT SDOs and regional and international organizations** related to combating counterfeiting, in taking the necessary actions to prevent and detect the tampering (unauthorized changing) and/or replication of unique telecommunication/ICT device identifiers;

#### Final Acts of the Plenipotentiary Conference Bucharest, 2022



## *Plenipotentiary conference – PP*

### *Resolution 189 – Assisting Member States to combat and deter mobile device theft*

#### **Resolves**

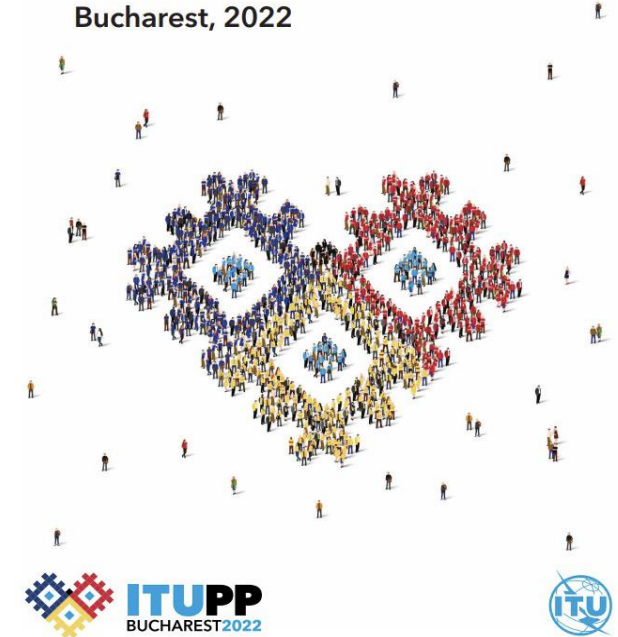
*to explore and encourage the development of ways and means to continue to combat and **deter mobile device theft and its negative effects**, taking into account considering d) above,*

***instructs the Director of BDT, Director of TSB and Director of BR***

*...*

*3 to provide assistance, within the Union's expertise and within available resources, as appropriate, in **cooperation with relevant organizations, to Member States**, if so requested, in order to reduce mobile device theft and the use of stolen mobile devices in their countries, and also spread best practices in combating mobile device theft;*

#### **Final Acts** of the Plenipotentiary Conference Bucharest, 2022



## **World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly – WTSA**

### **Resolution 96 – ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector studies for combating counterfeit telecommunication/information and communication technology devices**

#### **Resolves**

1 to explore ways and means, *within the scope of ITU, to combat and deter counterfeiting and tampering of telecommunication/ICT device in order to protect governments, telecommunication providers, industry and consumers from the negative impacts of counterfeit and tampered telecommunication/ICT devices;*

...

#### **Instructs SG11 in collaboration with other SGs concerned**

1 to continue developing Recommendations, technical reports and guidelines to address the problem of counterfeit and tampered ICT equipment and to support the Member States in anti-counterfeiting/*tampering activities on different types of devices;*

#### **instructs the Director of TSB, in close collaboration with Directors of RB and BDT**

...

1 to assist Member States in addressing their concerns with respect to counterfeit and tampered telecommunication/ICT devices, through information sharing at regional or global level, including conformity assessment systems;

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

**Resolution 96 – ITU Telecommunication  
Standardization Sector studies for combating  
counterfeit and tampered  
telecommunication/information and  
communication technology devices**



# **World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly – WTSA**

## **Resolution 97 – Combating mobile telecommunication device theft**

### **Resolves**

*1 that ITU-T should explore all applicable solutions and develop ITU-T Recommendations to combat and deter mobile device theft and its negative effects, offering all interested parties a forum for encouraging discussion, member cooperation, the exchange of best practices and guidelines and the dissemination of information on combating mobile device theft;*

***instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, in collaboration with the Directors of the Radiocommunication Bureau and Telecommunication Development Bureau***

*2 to facilitate, in collaboration with industry organizations and standards-development organizations (SDOs), the standardization and dissemination of Recommendations, technical reports and guidelines to combat mobile device theft and its negative effects, specifically regarding the exchange of identifiers of mobile devices reported stolen or lost, and to prevent lost or stolen mobile devices from accessing mobile networks;*

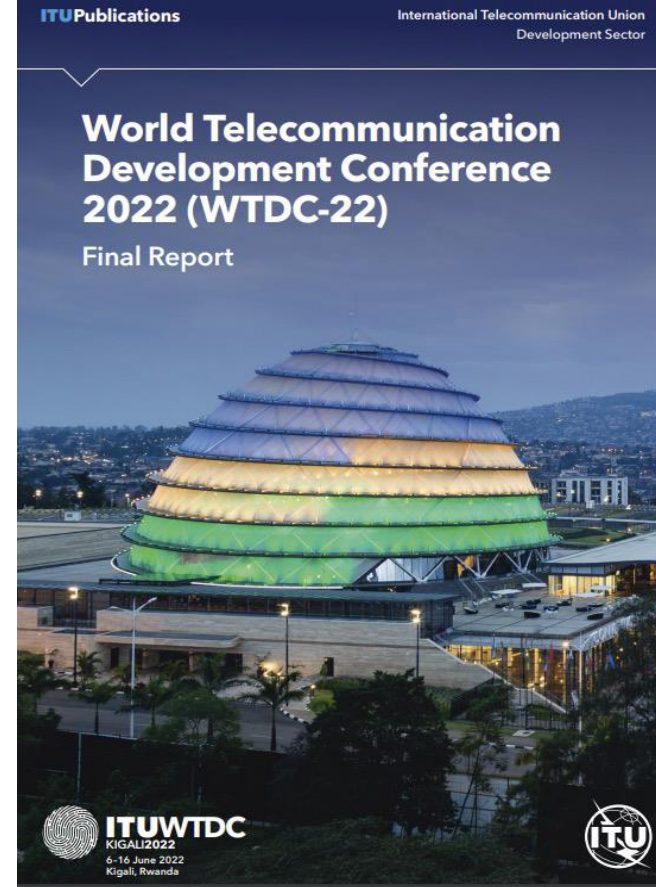
## ***World Telecommunication Development Conference – WTDC***

### ***Resolution 79 – The role of telecommunications/information and communication technologies in combating and dealing with counterfeit and tampered telecommunication/information and communication devices***

***resolves to instruct the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, in close collaboration with the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau and the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau 1 to continue to increase and develop ITU activities on combating, and ways of limiting the spread of, counterfeit and tampered devices;***

***...***

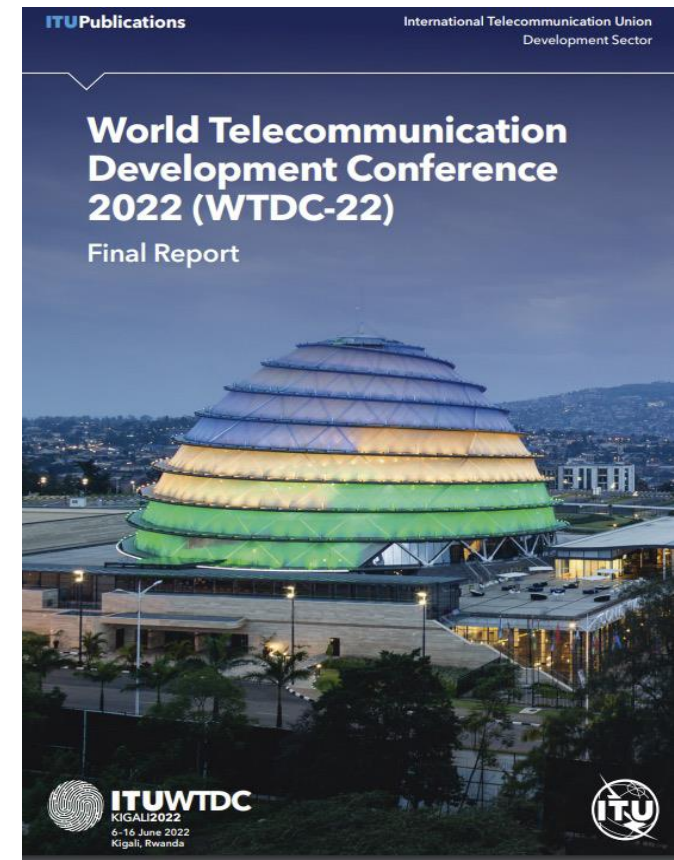
***3 to continue to work in collaboration with stakeholders (such as WTO, WIPO, WHO and WCO), including academia and relevant organizations, to coordinate activities relating to combating counterfeit and tampered devices through study groups, focus groups and other related groups;***



## **World Telecommunication Development Conference – WTDC Resolution 84 – Combating mobile telecommunication device theft**

### **resolves**

1 that the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) should explore all applicable solutions and develop reports or implementation guidelines, taking into account the needs of countries, especially developing countries, *in consultation with relevant ITU-T and ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) study groups, to combat and deter mobile device theft*, offering all interested parties a forum for encouraging discussion, member cooperation, exchange of best practices and guidelines and dissemination of information on combating mobile device theft;



# *ITU-T SG11*

[ITU-T SG11](#) is a lead Study Group on combating counterfeiting and tampering of ICT devices, as well as on combating the use of stolen ICT devices.

[Question 15](#) of ITU-T Study Group 11 (Q15/11) "Combating counterfeit and stolen telecommunication/ICT devices and their software" is addressing the growing problem of counterfeited telecommunication/ICT products and devices, which is adversely affecting all stakeholders in the ICT field (vendors, governments, operators and consumers).

## *Current outcomes of ITU-T on combating counterfeit and stolen telecommunication/ICT devices and tampered software*

- [ITU-T Q.5054](#) "Consumer centric framework for combating counterfeit and stolen information and communication technology mobile devices" (02-2025)
- [ITU-T Q.Suppl.76](#) "Common approaches and interfaces for data exchange between the central equipment identity register and the equipment identity register" (10-2023)
- [Technical Report QSTR-MCM-UC](#) "Use Cases on the combat of Multimedia Content Misappropriation" (10-2023)
- [ITU-T Q.Suppl.75](#) "Use Cases on the Combat of Counterfeit ICT and Stolen Mobile Devices" (12-2021)
- [ITU-T Q Suppl.73](#) "Guidelines for Permissive versus Restrictive System Implementations to address counterfeit, stolen and illegal mobile devices" (03-2021)

## *Current outcomes of ITU-T on combating counterfeit and stolen telecommunication/ICT devices and tampered software*

- [ITU-T Q Suppl.74](#) “Roadmap for the Q.5050-series - Combat of Counterfeit ICT and Stolen Mobile Devices” (03-2021)
- [Recommendation ITU-T Q.5053](#) "Mobile device access list audit interface" (01-2021, SG11)
- [Recommendation ITU-T Q.5052](#) "Addressing mobile devices with duplicate unique identifier" (09-2020, SG11)
- [Recommendation ITU-T Y.4808](#) "Digital entity architecture framework to combat counterfeiting in Internet of things" (08-2020, SG20)
- [Recommendation ITU-T Q.5051](#) “Framework for Combating the use of Stolen Mobile ICT Devices” (03-2020, SG11)

## *Current outcomes of ITU-T on combating counterfeit and stolen telecommunication/ICT devices and tampered software*

- ITU “Ask the Expert” session dedicated to “[Guardians of Authenticity: Battling Counterfeiting](#)” (virtual, 28 March 2024)
- Series of webinars/workshops on combating counterfeiting and stolen ICT devices.
  - - [Episode 1: Existing challenges and solutions on combating counterfeiting of ICT devices](#), Virtual, 15 February 2023
  - [Episode 2: Global approaches on combating counterfeiting of telecommunication/ICT devices and mobile device theft](#) Geneva, 13 October 2023
- [Joint ITU/MWF Webinar "Combating Counterfeit and Irregular Mobile Devices: How to address the Problem"](#)  
Virtual, 31 May 2021
- [WSIS Forum 2021. Session 406— Combating counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices and software](#)  
• Virtual, 7 May 2021
- [Third ITU-T Study Group 11 Regional Workshop for Africa on “Counterfeit ICT Devices, Conformance and Interoperability Testing Challenges in Africa”](#)  
• Tunis, Tunisia, 30 September 2019
- [ITU Workshop on Global approaches on combating counterfeiting and stolen ICT devices](#)  
• Geneva, Switzerland, 23 July 2018



## *Current outcomes of ITU-T on combating counterfeit and stolen telecommunication/ICT devices and tampered software*

- Second ITU-T Study Group 11 Regional Workshop for Africa on “Counterfeit ICT Devices, Conformance and Interoperability Testing Challenges in Africa”

- Tunis, Tunisia, 23 April 2018

- Counterfeit ICT Devices, Conformance and Interoperability Testing Challenges in Africa

- Cairo, Egypt, 5 April 2017

- Combating counterfeit using conformance and interoperability solutions

- Geneva, 28 June 2016

- Building consumer trust

- Budapest, 13 October 2015

- Demo on a solution to combat Counterfeiting of ICT products based on the Digital Object Architecture

- Geneva, 22 April 2015

- Combating counterfeit and substandard ICT devices

- Geneva, 17-18 November 2014

# **Combating counterfeit and stolen telecommunication/ICT devices and tampered software**

<https://itu.int/go/CS-ICT>

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**Thank you!**

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