

RESOLUTION 77 (REV. BUCHAREST, 2022)

Scheduling and duration of conferences, forums, assemblies and Council sessions of the Union (2023-2027)

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Bucharest, 2022),

recalling

- a) No. 47 in Article 8 of the ITU Constitution, which stipulates that the Plenipotentiary Conference shall be convened every four years;
- b) Nos. 90 and 91 in Article 13 of the Constitution, which stipulate that world radiocommunication conferences (WRCs) and radiocommunication assemblies (RAs) shall normally be convened every three to four years, and shall be associated in place and time;
- c) No. 114 in Article 18 of the Constitution, which stipulates that world telecommunication standardization assemblies (WTSAs) shall be convened every four years;
- d) No. 141 in Article 22 of the Constitution, which stipulates that, between two plenipotentiary conferences, there shall be one world telecommunication development conference (WTDC);
- e) No. 51 in Article 4 of the ITU Convention, which stipulates that the ITU Council shall hold an ordinary session annually at the seat of the Union;
- f) Resolution 111 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on considering major religious periods in the scheduling of ITU conferences, assemblies and Council sessions,

recognizing

- a) Resolution 71 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of this conference, on the strategic plan for the Union for 2024-2027, and the thematic priorities identified therein;
- b) that, in the consideration of the draft financial plan for the Union for 2024-2027, the challenge to increase revenues in order to meet increasing programme demands is substantial,

considering

- a) the need to take into account the financial resources of the Union when scheduling conferences, assemblies and forums, particularly the necessity of ensuring efficient Union operations within limited resources;
- b) the need to take into account the availability of sufficient meeting space to accommodate core ITU Sector activities;
- c) that holding conferences, assemblies and forums in the same year as the plenipotentiary conference represents a burden for the Union's membership and staff;
- d) that travel restrictions during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic resulted in a compressed and extraordinary schedule of conferences in 2022;
- e) that, to the greatest extent possible, it is important to undertake an orderly transition to the regular scheduling of conferences in the coming years,

having considered

- a) Document PP-22/37 submitted by the Secretary-General, on planned conferences and assemblies;
- b) the proposals submitted by several Member States,

bearing in mind

- a) the various provisions of the Constitution and Convention establishing the three Sectors of the Union and their constituent elements, including conferences, assemblies, study groups and advisory groups;
- b) the increasing demands placed on and necessary preparatory work to be carried out by Member States, Sector Members, the General Secretariat and the Sectors of the Union before each conference, assembly and forum of the Union;
- c) that scheduling the Council earlier in the calendar year improves the linkage between the strategic, financial and operational plans and the budget and other activities to be carried out by the Council;
- d) that in the period 2023-2027, the dates and places of certain meetings may change due to possible disruptions caused by demolition works and the construction of the new ITU headquarters building,

noting

- a) that Council Decision 623 set the dates for WRC-23 as 20 November to 15 December 2023, in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, preceded by RA-23 from 13 to 17 November 2023 and followed by the Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM27-1) from 18 to 19 December 2023;
- b) that the external auditor's reports on the Union's finances should normally be available to the Council in due time prior to its sessions,

resolves

- 1 that ITU conferences and assemblies shall, in principle, be held in the last quarter of the year, and not in the same year, except as provided in *recalling b)* above;
- 2 that plenipotentiary conferences shall, unless there is a pressing need otherwise, be limited to a duration of three weeks;
- 3 that the Union and its Member States should make every effort, as far as practicable, in order that the planned period of any ITU conference, assembly or Council session not be scheduled during a period which coincides with other major ICT events;
- 4 that ITU exhibitions, forums, high-level events and symposia of a worldwide character shall be scheduled within the allocated resources in the financial plan and biennial budget approved by the Council, and subject to the schedule and meeting space requirements of core activities of ITU and other mandatory Union events, such as conferences, assemblies and Council sessions;
- 5 that the schedule of future conferences, forums, assemblies and Council sessions for the years 2023-2027 shall be as follows:
- 5.1 the Council shall, in principle, hold its ordinary session within or around June-July of the calendar year;
- 5.2 WRC-23 shall be held in Dubai (United Arab Emirates) from 20 November to 15 December 2023, preceded by RA-23 from 13 to 17 November 2023;
- 5.3 WTSa shall be held in the last quarter of 2024 in India;
- 5.4 WTDC shall be held in the last quarter of 2025 in Bangkok, Thailand;

5.5 the Plenipotentiary Conference shall be held in the last quarter of 2026 in Doha, Qatar;

5.6 an RA and a WRC, after 2023, shall be held in the last quarter of 2027;

6 that the agendas of world and regional conferences shall be established in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention and the agendas of assemblies shall be established, as appropriate, taking into account the resolutions and recommendations of the relevant conferences and assemblies;

7 that the conferences and assemblies mentioned in *resolves* 5 should be held within the periods indicated there, that the precise dates and places will be set by the Council after consultation of the Member States, leaving sufficient time between the various conferences, and that the precise duration shall be decided by the Council after their agendas have been established,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to take appropriate measures to facilitate the most efficient use of time and resources during such conferences;

2 to give scheduling priority to the study groups and advisory groups of the three ITU Sectors, the Council and the Council working groups when the meetings listed are held at ITU headquarters;

3 to report to the Council on the implementation of this resolution, proposing further improvements, as appropriate,

instructs the ITU Council

1 at each ordinary session, to schedule its next three ordinary sessions in June-July and to review the Council's schedule on a rolling basis;

2 to take appropriate measures to facilitate the implementation of this resolution, and report to future plenipotentiary conferences on possible improvements in the implementation of this resolution.

*(Minneapolis, 1998) – (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002) – (Rev. Antalya, 2006)
– (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) – (Rev. Busan, 2014)) – (Rev. Dubai, 2018)
– (Rev. Bucharest, 2022)*
