**MOD** ARB/21A11/1

RESOLUTION 30 (Rev. Buenos aires, 2017)

Role of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector in   
implementing the outcomes of the World Summit   
on the Information Society, taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Buenos Aires, 2017),

recalling

*a)* the relevant outcomes of both phases of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS);

*b)* United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution 70/1, on transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

*c)* UNGA Resolution 70/125, on the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of WSIS outcomes;

*d)* the WSIS+10 Statement on the implementation of WSIS outcomes and WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS beyond 2015, adopted at the ITU-coordinated WSIS+10 High-Level Event (Geneva, 2014) and endorsed by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Busan, 2014);

*e)* the relevant resolutions and decisions related to the implementation of relevant outcomes of both phases of WSIS and to international Internet-related public policy issues adopted at the Plenipotentiary Conference (Busan, 2014) and the 2016 session of the ITU Council;

i) Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan,2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019;

ii) Resolution 101 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on Internet protocol (IP)-based networks;

iii) Resolution 102 (Rev. Busan, 2014) 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;

iv) Resolution 130 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on strengthening the role of ITU in building confidence and security in the use of information and communication technologies (ICT);

v) Resolution 131 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on measuring ICTs to build an integrating and inclusive information society;

vi) Resolution 133 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the role of administrations of Member States in the management of internationalized (multilingual) domain names;

vii) Resolution 139 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the use of telecommunications/ICT to bridge the digital divide and build an inclusive information society;

viii) Resolution 140 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on ITU's role in implementing the outcomes of WSIS and in the overall review by UNGA of their implementation;

ix) Resolution 178 (Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on ITU's role in organizing the work on technical aspects of telecommunication networks to support the Internet;

x) Resolution 200 (Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the Connect 2020 Agenda for global telecommunication/ICT development;

xi) the opinions of the World Telecommunication/ICT Policy Forum (Geneva, 2013),

recognizing

*a)* that WSIS stated that the core competencies of ITU are of crucial importance for building the information society, and identified ITU as a moderator/facilitator for implementing Action Lines C2 and C5, and as a partner in Action Lines C1, C3, C4, C6, C7 and C11, as well as Action Line C8 as stated in Resolution 140 (Rev. Busan, 2014);

*b)* that it was agreed among the parties to follow up the Summit outcomes to appoint ITU as moderator/facilitator for the implementation of Action Line C6, in which it was previously only a partner;

*c)* that the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU‑D) – in view of its purposes and objectives; the nature of the existing partnership among Member States and ITU‑D Sector Members; its experience over many years in dealing with different development needs and implementing a range of projects, including infrastructure projects and specifically telecommunication/ICT infrastructure projects, financed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and various funds and through possible partnerships; the nature of its five existing objectives, adopted at this conference to meet the needs of the telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, including building confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs and fostering an enabling environment, and to achieve the WSIS goals; and the presence of its authorized regional offices – is a key partner in the implementation of WSIS outcomes, in respect of Action Lines C2, C5 and C6, which are the cornerstone of the Sector's work pursuant to the ITU Constitution and Convention, and also participates with other stakeholders, as appropriate, in the implementation of Action Lines C1, C3, C4, C7, C8, C9 and C11 and all other relevant action lines and other WSIS outcomes, within the financial limits set by the Plenipotentiary Conference,

recognizing further

that the Plenipotentiary Conference, in its Resolution 140 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010), resolved ITU-D shall give high priority to building information and communication infrastructure (WSIS Action Line C2), this being the physical backbone for all e-applications,

taking into account

*a)* Resolution 75 (Rev. Hammamet,, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, on the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector's contribution in implementing the WSIS outcomes, taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs);

*b)* Resolution 61 (Geneva, 2015) of the Radiocommunication Assembly, on the ITU Radiocommunication Sector's contribution in implementing the WSIS outcomes;

*c)* the programmes, activities and regional initiatives being carried out in accordance with the decisions of this conference for bridging the digital divide;

*d)* the relevant work already accomplished and/or to be carried out by ITU and reported to the ITU Council through the Council Working Group on WSIS (CWG‑WSIS) and the Council Working Group on International Internet-related Public Policy Issues (CWG-Internet),

noting

*a)* Council Resolution 1332, on ITU's role in the implementation of the WSIS outcomes, taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

*b)* Council Resolution 1334 , on ITU's role in the overall review of the implementation of the WSIS outcomes, :

• draft WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS beyond 2015, under the mandates of the participating agencies;

*c)* Council 2016 Resolution 1336, on the Council Working Group on international Internet-related public policy issues,

noting further

that the ITU Secretary-General created the ITU WSIS Task Force, whose role is to formulate strategies and coordinate ITU's policies and activities in relation to WSIS, and that this Task Force is chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General, as noted by Council Resolution 1332,

resolves to invite the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector

1 to continue working in cooperation with the other ITU Sectors and with development partners (governments, specialized agencies of the United Nations, relevant international and regional organizations, etc.), through a clear plan and appropriate mechanisms for coordination among the different partners concerned at the national, regional, interregional and global levels, having particular regard to the needs of the developing countries[[1]](#footnote-1)1, including in the field of building the telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, building confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs, and implementation of the other WSIS goals and SDGs;

2 to continue to encourage the principle of non-exclusion from the information society and to devise appropriate mechanisms to this end (§§ 20-25 of the Tunis Commitment);

3 to continue to facilitate an enabling environment encouraging ITU‑D Sector Members to give priority to investing in the development of the telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, encompassing rural, isolated and remote regions, through different technologies;

4 to assist Member States in finding and/or improving innovative financial mechanisms to develop telecommunication/ICT infrastructure (such as the Digital Solidarity Fund and others mentioned in § 27 of the Tunis Agenda, and partnerships);

5 to continue to assist developing countries in advancing their legal and regulatory frameworks in order to further the goal of building the telecommunication/ICT infrastructure and achieve the other WSIS goals and SDGs;

6 to promote international cooperation and capacity building in issues related to cyberthreats and building confidence and security in the use of ICTs consistent with Action Line C5, in which ITU is sole facilitator;

7 to pursue its activities in the field of statistical work for telecommunication development, using the indicators required to evaluate progress in this area with a view to bridging the digital divide, *inter alia*, within the framework of the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development and consistent with §§ 113‑118 of the Tunis Agenda;

8 to develop and implement the ITU‑D strategic plan, taking into account the need to give priority to building the telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, including broadband access, at the national, regional, interregional and global levels, and to achieve the other WSIS goals and SDGs related to the activities of ITU‑D;

9 to continue to propose at the forthcoming plenipotentiary conference appropriate mechanisms for funding the activities flowing from the WSIS outcomes and SDGs that are relevant to the core competencies of ITU, specifically those to be adopted in relation to:

i) Action Lines C2, C5 and C6, in which ITU is now identified as the sole facilitator;

ii) Action Lines C1, C3, C4, C6, C7, including its eight sub-action lines, and C11, in which ITU is now identified as a co-facilitator, as well as C8 and C9, in which ITU is identified as a partner;

iii) The Sustainable Development Goals and targets,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to continue to provide CWG-WSIS with a comprehensive summary of ITU‑D activities on implementation of the WSIS outcomes;

2 to ensure that concrete objectives and deadlines for WSIS activities and SDGs are developed and reflected in the operational plans of ITU‑D, in accordance with Resolution 140 (Rev. Busan, 2014) and with the objectives that will be set for ITU‑D by the Plenipotentiary Conference in 2018 with regard to the implementation by ITU of the WSIS+10 outcomes and SDGs;

3 to provide the membership with information on emerging trends based on ITU‑D activities;

4 to take appropriate action to facilitate the activities to implement this resolution,

further instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to act as a catalyst in the development of partnerships among all parties, with a view to ensuring that initiatives and projects attract investment, and to continue to act as a catalyst in the following functions, among others:

– encouraging the implementation of regional telecommunication/ICT initiatives and projects;

– participating in the organization of training seminars;

– signing agreements with national, regional and international partners involved in development, when required;

– collaborating on initiatives and projects with other relevant international, regional and intergovernmental organizations, where appropriate;

2 to promote human capacity building in developing countries relating to various aspects of the telecommunication/ICT sector, consistent with the mandate of ITU‑D;

3 to foster, particularly with the ITU regional offices, the conditions required for a successful knowledge-based enterprise incubator process and other projects for small, medium and micro enterprises (SMMEs) in and among developing countries;

4 to encourage the international financial institutions, Member States and Sector Members, in their respective roles, to address, as a priority issue, the building, reconstruction and upgrading of networks and infrastructure in developing countries;

5 to pursue coordination with international bodies, with a view to mobilizing the financial resources needed in the implementation of projects;

6 to take the necessary initiatives to encourage partnerships which have been given high priority pursuant to:

i) the Geneva Plan of Action;

ii) the Tunis Agenda;

iii) the outcomes of the WSIS HLM overall review ;

iv) the SDGs,

calls upon Member States

1 to continue to give priority to the development of the telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, including in rural, remote and underserved areas, to building confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs, to fostering an enabling environment and to ICT applications, in order to build the information society and achieve the SDGs;

2 to consider the development of principles towards the adoption of strategies in areas such as telecommunication network security, consistent with WSIS Action Line C5;

3 to submit contributions to relevant ITU‑D study groups and to the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group, where appropriate, and contribute to CWG-WSIS on implementing WSIS outcomes and SDGs within ITU's mandate;

4 to continue to support and collaborate with the Director of BDT in implementing relevant WSIS outcomes and SDGs in ITU‑D,

requests the Secretary-General

to bring this resolution to the attention of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Dubai, 2018) for consideration and required action, as appropriate, when reviewing Resolution 140 (Rev. Busan, 2014).

1. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)