**ADD** ARB/21A28/1

DRAFT NEW RESOLUTION [ARB-3] (BUENOS AIRES, 2017)

Role of ITU in preparing an appropriate environmental system for telecommunications to enable developing countries to make the transition to future telecommunication technology infrastructures

(Buenos Aires, 2017)

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

recalling

*a)* the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society Forum, (2017), concerning ITU activities in coordinating, implementing and monitoring Summit outcomes, as well as harmonizing the Sustainable Development Goals with the key trends of WSIS;

*b)* Resolution 30 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on the role of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society;

*c)* Resolution 20 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on non-discriminatory access to modern telecommunication/information and communication technology facilities, services and related applications,

considering

*a)* that continuously changing standards resulting from the emergence of new technologies is having a direct impact on developing countries' investments in telecommunication infrastructure;

*b)* that the development, maintenance and sustainability of telecommunication networks requires a lot of investments each year;

*c)* that some manufacturers of the new technologies do not offer solutions that allow the reuse or recycling of devices and equipment based on older technologies in future telecommunication networks, which is not beneficial to the economies of developing countries;

*d)* that reducing the digital gap in developing countries is linked to the way in which the infrastructure of future telecommunication networks is accessed and used,

recognizing

*a)* that investment by developing countries and telecommunication companies in funding new infrastructure for future telecommunication technologies and networks depends upon the benefits of such investment to the economy of the country in question; noting that some public sectors in developing countries have taken it upon themselves to invest in telecommunication technology infrastructures;

*b)* that public sectors in developing countries and private sector telecommunication operators rely upon returns from existing investments in telecommunication technologies to finance new infrastructures;

*c)* that many developing countries continue to make use of infrastructure and equipment relying upon technology that cannot be developed but nevertheless must continue to be maintained;

*d)* that investment in developing countries' telecommunication technology infrastructures is not consistent with manufacturer-sanctioned investments;

*e)* that ITU may have an important role to play in ensuring smooth technological development, enabling developing countries to cover infrastructure investments by improving adopted plans in this regard;

*f)* that the annual replacement of thousands of tons of old technology equipment in favour of new technology has an adverse impact on investment by telecommunication operators, particularly in developing countries,

resolves

to instruct the Director of ITU-D to work in close cooperation with the Director of ITU-R and Director of ITU-T to respond to the needs of developing countries in this area by:

1 submitting recommendations and sharing the best practice of public sectors and telecommunication operators in order to improve their plans to develop telecommunication technology infrastructure in accordance with the real situation and development conditions of each country;

2 giving proper priority to this topic by making the necessary financial allocations, within the limits of available resources, to expedite implementation of this Resolution,

instructs Study Group 2

within the framework of the Questions assigned to it, to work in collaboration with the relevant ITU‑T and ITU‑R study groups to achieve the following goals:

1 preparation of a study designed to indicate the balance between existing telecommunication technology infrastructure in developing countries and the investment plans of manufacturers regarding future telecommunication technologies;

2 preparation of an annual report on progress in this area with regard to the Questions assigned to it;

3 contribution to the organization of seminars and workshops on this topic.