

I n t e r n a t i o n a l T e l e c o m m u n i c a t i o n U n i o n

# ITU-T

TELECOMMUNICATION  
STANDARDIZATION SECTOR  
OF ITU

WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION  
ASSEMBLY  
Geneva, 1-9 March 2022

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## **Resolution 58 – Encouraging the creation of national computer incident response teams, particularly for developing countries**

## 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 58 (Rev. Geneva, 2022)

### **Encouraging the creation of national computer incident response teams, particularly for developing countries<sup>1</sup>**

(Johannesburg, 2008; Dubai, 2012; Geneva, 2022)

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Geneva, 2022),

*considering*

that Resolution 123 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the three Bureaux to work closely with each other in pursuing initiatives that assist in bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries,

*recognizing*

- a) the highly satisfactory results obtained by the regional approach within the framework of Resolution 54 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly;
- b) the increasing level of computer use and computer dependency in information and communication technologies (ICTs) within developing countries;
- c) the increasing attacks and threat on ICT networks through computers;
- d) the work carried out by the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) under former Question 22/1 of ITU-D Study Group 1 and current Question 3/2 of ITU-D Study Group 2 on this subject,

*noting*

- a) that there is still a low level of computer emergency preparedness within many countries, particularly developing countries;
- b) that the high level of interconnectivity of ICT networks could be affected by the launch of an attack from networks of the less-prepared nations, which are mostly the developing countries;
- c) the importance of having an appropriate level of computer emergency preparedness in all countries;
- d) the need for establishment of computer incident response teams (CIRTs) on a national basis and the importance of coordination within and among the regions;
- e) the work of Study Group 17 of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) in the area of national CIRTs, particularly for developing countries, and cooperation between them, as contained in the outputs of the study group,

*bearing in mind*

that well-functioning CIRTs in developing countries will serve to improve the level of developing countries' participation in world computer emergency response activities and contribute to achieving an effective global ICT infrastructure,

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<sup>1</sup> These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

*resolves*

to support the creation of national CIRTs in Member States where CIRTs are needed and are currently absent,

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

- 1 to identify best practices to establish CIRTs in line with the ITU toolkit;
- 2 to identify where national CIRTs are needed, particularly in developing countries, and encourage their establishment;
- 3 to collaborate with international experts and bodies to establish national CIRTs;
- 4 to provide support, as appropriate, within existing budgetary resources;
- 5 to facilitate collaboration between national CIRTs, such as capacity building and exchange of information, within an appropriate framework;
- 6 to take necessary action to progress implementation of this resolution,

*invites the Member States*

- 1 to consider the creation of a national CIRT as a high priority;
- 2 to collaborate with other Member States and with Sector Members,

*invites Member States and Sector Members*

to cooperate closely with ITU-T and ITU-D in this regard.