

# ITU Workshop on Human Exposure to Electromagnetic Fields (EMFs) in Latin America

# 14 August 2013, Quito, Ecuador

# ‘Workshop Actions’

ITU (International Telecommunication Union), specialized agency of the United Nations for Information Technology and Communication (ICT) with the Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Society of Ecuador and in collaboration with Telefonica Movistar organized a Workshop on Human Exposure to Electromagnetic Fields on 14 August 2013 in Quito, Ecuador.

The objectives of this workshop were: to respond to Resolution 176 of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Guadalajara, 2010) and Resolution 72 of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA 12) on measurement concerns related to human exposure to electromagnetic fields (EMF) and the difficulty of network deployment and to provide an overview of EMF issues to policy makers and other stakeholders with a special focus on Latin America and to identify a few actions for consideration of Working Party 2 of the ITU-T Study Group 5.

Recognizing the importance of wireless and mobile communications to the economy, health care, education, business and the society in Latin America, ITU, in particular ITU-T Study Group 5, Working Party 2, Question 7 is called on to:

1. **Promote ITU EMF Information:** Promote the new ITU-T Study Group 5 EMF information and education resources to the Latin America Region including communities, stakeholders and governments. Update the ITU Latin America Regional web site with links to the new ITU-T EMF information website.
2. **Standardize:** Call on governments and ICT industry in Latin America to promote harmonised EMF compliance and assessment standards, implement ITU-T Recommendations, and encourage the participation of national representatives in ITU-T Study Group 5.
3. **Knowledge & Information Sharing:** Facilitate information sharing with the ITU Latin America region and interested stakeholders such as World Health Organization (WHO), Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL), Comisión Técnica Regional de Telecomunicaciones (COMTELCA), Mobile Manufacturers Forum (MMF), GSM Association (GSMA), and Asociación Iberoamericana de Centros de Investigación y Empresas de Telecomunicaciones (ACHIET). Hold a ‘best practice’ information sharing session at the next meeting of ITU- T Study Group 5 that will take place in Lima, Peru from 2 to 13 December 2013.
4. **Buiding Capacity**: in Latin America on ITU-T Recommendations of the K-series and in particular to ITU-T K.83 “Monitoring field strengths of electromagnetic fields” and encourage the ITU-T SG5 Regional group for Americas to establish a regional center to assist Member States of the Region concerning EMF measurement of human exposure and the necessary capacity building according to *resolves 2* of Resolution 176 of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Guadalajara 2010).
5. **Contributions to ITU-T SG5 Recommendations**: Encourage the delegates of ITU-T Study Group 5 Regional Group for Americas and interested stakeholders to contribute to the development of ITU-T Recommendations.
6. **Mobilize Expertise**: Encourage ITU to work with governments, ICT industry and key stakeholders in order to foster sustainable development and deployment of ICT infrastructure aimed at ensuring a better quality of service for citizens.

In conclusion, we call on Governments in Latin America and ICT industry to deep the work related to EMF, health and Environment to facilitate the deployment of wireless networks with the participation of the population protecting the environment, the urban patrimony, and the human health under the frame of ITU and WHO Recommendations.