World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-14)

Dubai, 30 March – 10 April 2014

SOURCE:	United States of America
TITLE:	Proposed modifications to Programme 2 - Cybersecurity, ICT applications and IP-based network-related issues

Background

Information and communication technologies (ICTs) are integral to the economic and social development of all nations as well as to the development of the information society. Security is an essential element of the operation and use of ICTs and requires that all persons involved be aware of security and take action appropriate to their role. As the use of ICT continues to grow, cybersecurity and combating the transmission of email spam continues to be a priority among members. During the last four years, the ITU-D's Programme 2 and Question 22-1/1 both continued to work in this area. The Programme undertook many activities that offer development assistance to members and encourage cooperation among members. Q22-1/1 developed products and materials to support countries in developing national cybersecurity capabilities, to convene experts, and to contribute to ongoing information sharing on best practices. The Question also identified key areas of common concern as well as gaps, based on contributions to a compendium and a survey, respectively.

Discussion

The evolving nature of ICT drives an equally evolving nature of cybersecurity and the United States believes that it is important to keep BDT Programme 2 *Cybersecurity, ICT applications and IP-based network-related issues* current in its placement in the broad ITU-D cybersecurity effort, and appropriately linked to other ongoing cybersecurity efforts both within ITU-D and in the larger cybersecurity community; our proposals for modifying the Programme plan in this regard are in the Attachment.

Proposal

USA/22/7   Objective(s): 3

The modifications to Programme 2 proposed below are meant to update the text, limit redundancies, and reinforce the importance of cooperation among all stakeholders including Member States, the private sector, the technical community, and organizations at the national, regional, and international level, which is critical to improving cybersecurity and was central to the success of both Question 22 and Programme 2 during the 2010-2014 study period.

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CHANGES TO PROGRAMME 2

Programme on Cybersecurity, ICT applications and IP-based network-related issues

1 Background

In ICT for development initiatives, there has long been a realization that building information societies requires an *ecosystem approach* where supporting elements include an enabling environment, infrastructure build-out, capacity building and broad availability of ICT applications and services.

These elements create a virtuous circle for broadband infrastructure development where new types of content and applications drive an ever-increasing need for more bandwidth.

2 Purpose

Recognizing the importance of international cooperation, the main purpose of Programme 2 is to support the ITU membership, in particular developing countries, to address the issues identified above, namely:

2.1 Improving access to ICT applications and services contributes to economic and social development, especially in underserved and rural areas, as well as the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and WSIS targets.

2.2 Building trust and confidence in the use of information and communication technologies, such as the Internet and next-generation networks (NGNs), is important for the deployment and use of broadband networks. Cybersecurity should be dealt with taking into consideration the global, transnational nature of cyberthreats, and in accordance with existing frameworks and coursework developed by Question 22 in previous study periods as well as by other relevant expert organizations.

2.3 Promoting necessary access to Critical Internet Resources (CIRs) enabling to adapt adequate national and/or regional policy processes, specifically for IP-based networks, including the transition from IPv4 and migration to/deployment of IPv6, domain names and their internationalized versions.

2.4 Capacity building, through enhancement of awareness of the use of critical Internet resources, in collaboration with relevant expert organizations.

3 Priority areas

3.1 ICT applications and services

Developing telecommunication infrastructures to support ICT applications as well as person-to-person voice communications is a key challenge for the ITU membership, particularly in developing countries.

With the number of mobile subscribers expected to surpass the 5 billion mark in 2010, with most mobile subscribers in developing countries, the untapped potential for mobile ICT applications to support socio-economic development is enormous.

In the area of ICT applications, Programme 2 will focus on the following priority areas:

3.1.1 elaboration of **National Strategic Planning Frameworks** and associated toolkits for selected ICT applications and services in close collaboration with related specialized UN

agencies and programmes, the private sector and other international organizations (e.g. World Bank, OECD) with expertise in these domains. These frameworks and toolkits facilitate the elaboration of cross-sector national e-strategies and build capacity amongst the ITU membership to articulate national vision, objectives, strategies, action plans and performance indicators to support the **implementation** of **large-scale ICT applications and services** that better leverage existing infrastructure. This will result in an effective harnessing of ICTs to better serve socio-economic development;

3.1.2   development of a **cross-domain mobile application framework** to improve the delivery of value-added services using mobile communications. This could start with high potential services like mobile health and mobile banking applications but could be generalized to development of other kinds of applications. Programme 2 will act as a catalyst by launching appropriate partnership platforms – involving public and private partners – in order to foster the development of mobile-based ICT applications.

3.2   Cybersecurity

Major challenges remain ahead for ITU Member States – especially developing countries – in achieving improved cybersecurity. Programme 2 should support Member States with specific capacity building and outreach initiatives and activities related to legal measures, technical and procedural measures, organizational structures, and international cooperation as described in this section. Priority should be given to assisting least developed countries (LDCs).

In the area of cybersecurity, Programme 2 will focus on the following priority areas:

3.2.1   Support ITU Member States in the development of their **national and/or regional cybersecurity strategies** as an essential step towards building national capabilities for dealing with cyberthreats and within the principles of international cooperation taking into account the relevant UN General Assembly resolutions on Cybersecurity including 55/63, 56/121, 57/239, 58/199, and 64/211.

3.2.2   Support ITU Member States, and in particular least developed countries, in their efforts to build capacity :

3.2.2.1   To facilitate Member States' access to resources developed by other relevant international organizations that are working on national legislation to combat cybercrime.

3.2.2.2   To support ITU Member States' national and regional efforts to build capacity in this area, in collaboration with one another, as well as with relevant stakeholders.

3.2.2.3   To facilitate activities of relevant cybersecurity Questions, including reporting of all relevant activities by the program to those questions, disseminating the Questions' results, including course material, and providing feedback to the Questions, based on comments received from Member States and others;

3.2.2.4   To establish technical and procedural measures, aimed at securing national ICT infrastructures; taking into account the work of the ITU-T relevant Study Groups and other relevant technical and expert organizations;

3.2.2.5   To establish organizational structures, such as computer incident response teams (CIRTs), to identify, manage and respond to cyberthreats, and participate in cooperation mechanisms at the regional and international level..

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3.2.3   Contribute to the **implementation of ITU's ongoing and future global initiatives to combat cyberthreats,** with the support provided by ITU membership as active partners/contributors.

3.2.4   Contribute also, to the implementation of relevant Child Online Protection initiatives with the cooperation and support of ITU membership as active partners/contributors.

3.3   Critical Internet resources

The provision of open and equitable access to critical Internet resources (CIRs) and ensuring that countries improve awareness on issues pertaining to Internet-related public policy, including Internet governance, are key issues for ITU Member States. the ever-increasing migration to all-IP-based networks, and the evolution of the current Internet governance arrangements establishes the need for many developing countries to build national capacity and improve their contribution and involvement in the management and effective governance of the Internet.

In the area of CIRs, Programme 2 will focus on the following priority areas:

3.3.1   Support ITU Members with **deployment /migration to IPv6-based networks and applications in collaboration, when required, with relevant expert organizations**;

3.3.2   Support ITU Member States in **building capacity** on the elaboration of national/regional policies and strategies in the management and use of domain names and internationalized domain names (IDNs) in order to foster development and access to ICT content and applications compatible with national/regional needs in collaboration, when required, with the relevant expert organizations;

3bis   Methods

For all the above-mentioned priority areas, the program shall in all cases collaborate with all relevant organizations, including, but not limited to, FIRST, AP-CERT, OAS, OECD, MAAWG, the RIRs, and NOGs to avoid duplication of effort. Where possible, workshops will be collocated with other relevant activities. The program shall call upon the breadth of the community to assist in achieving its objectives. No endeavour shall be undertaken without broad partnership. It is not necessary for the program to lead an activity to achieve success, but merely to bring the necessary leaders together, or collaborate with others to do so.

4   Deliverables

For all of the above-mentioned priority areas, the anticipated deliverables fit within the following five categories: "Creation of tools; Training material, in collaboration with relevant expert organizations and taking into account elements referred in Programme 4; Assistance to members; information sharing; and partnerships". These categories are complementary and interlinked, as they contribute to the overall success of each of the priority areas identified above.

4.1   Creation of tools

Development of tools in the form of scoping documents, associated toolkits and guidelines, and specific technical capabilities is essential for **subject areas where the level of readiness is not mature** and where BDT, in collaboration with relevant entities, when required, will bring added-value, as well as address specific communities of need, such as children, youth, indigenous people and people with disabilities. Tools should leverage the expertise and existing documentation of other BDT programmes, ITU Study Groups, and relevant stakeholders and expert organizations.

4.2   Assistance to Members

Assistance to Members can take the form of thematic workshops, meetings and seminars on the priority areas identified above or through the provision of **specific expert assistance** to elaborate a project for a specific Member State or group of Member States, in close collaboration with relevant experts or bodies. This assistance shall be coordinated with ITU regional offices, relevant expert organizations, and/or the projects department where assistance involves the elaboration of a project structure.

4.3   Information sharing

Seminars, workshops, and appropriate tools and guidelines are an important information sharing mechanism, but sustainable initiatives can be carried out through appropriate **web-based platforms** and in conjunction with relevant experts on thematic subjects, and presented in an interconnected manner to ensure synergies and good visibility of work undertaken.

Seminars, workshops and appropriate tools and guidelines are an important information-sharing mechanism, but sustainable initiatives can be carried out through dedicated web-based platforms developed by ITU and relevant experts on thematic subjects, and presented in an interconnected manner to ensure synergies and good visibility of work undertaken.

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5   Relationship with other activities

5.1   Provide advice, expertise and support to ITU-D regional offices, ITU projects and ITU regional initiatives.

5.2   Collaborate closely with ITU-D programmes and initiatives, ITU-D study groups, as well as ITU-T, ITU-R and the General Secretariat.

5.3   Cooperate with other regional and international organizations on joint activities and projects.

5.4   Undertake activities related to relevant WTDC-10 resolutions: 45, 54, 63, 65, 66, 67, 69, 72 and 74.