



WORKING GROUP OF THE PLENARY

Document DT/19-E
27 October 2014
Original: English

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PROPOSED REVISION TO RESOLUTION 136 (REV. GUADALAJARA, 2010)

MOD WGPL/19/1

RESOLUTION 136 (REV. ~~GUADALAJARA, 2010~~BUSAN, 2014)

The use of telecommunications/information and communication technologies for monitoring and management in emergency and disaster situations for early warning, prevention, mitigation and relief

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union
(~~Guadalajara, 2010~~Busan, 2014),

recalling

- a) Resolution 36 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of this conference, on telecommunications/information and communication technology (ICT) in the service of humanitarian assistance;
- b) Resolution 182 (Guadalajara, 2010) of this conference, on the role of telecommunications/ICTs in regard to climate change and the protection of the environment;
- c) Resolution 34 (Rev. ~~Hyderabad, 2010~~Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on the role of telecommunications/information and communication technology in disaster preparedness, early warning, rescue, mitigation, relief and response;
- ~~d)~~ Resolution 66 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on Information and Communication technology and climate change;
- ~~e)~~ Resolution 48 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010) of WTDC, on strengthening cooperation among telecommunication regulators;
- ~~ef)~~ Resolution 644 (Rev. WRC-~~0712~~) of the World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC), on telecommunication resources for disaster mitigation and relief operations;
- ~~fg)~~ Resolution 646 (WRC-~~0312~~) of WRC, on public protection and disaster relief;
- ~~gh)~~ Resolution 673 (WRC-~~0712~~) of WRC, on radiocommunication use for Earth observation applications;
- ~~i)~~ Article 5 of the International Telecommunication Regulations on the safety of human life and the priority of telecommunications;
- ~~hj)~~ the emergency telecommunication/ICT coordination mechanisms established by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs,

taking into account

Resolution 60/125, on international cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in March 2006,

noting

- a) § 51 of the Geneva Declaration of Principles adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), on the use of ICT applications for disaster prevention;
- b) § 20 (c) of the Geneva Plan of Action adopted by WSIS, on e-environment, which calls for the establishment of monitoring systems, using ICTs, to forecast and monitor the impact of natural and man-made disasters, particularly in developing countries, least developed countries and small economies;
- c) § 30 of the Tunis Commitment adopted by WSIS, on disaster mitigation;
- d) § 91 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society adopted by WSIS, on disaster reduction;
- e) the effective coordination work of the Partnership Coordination Panel for Telecommunication for Disaster Relief and Mitigation, led by the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector;
- f) the work of the ITU-R and ITU-T study groups in adopting Recommendations that provide technical information on satellite and terrestrial radiocommunication systems and wired networks and their role in disaster management, including important Recommendations pertaining to the use of satellite networks in times of disasters;
- g) the work of the ITU-T study groups in developing and adopting Recommendations for priority/preferential emergency telecommunications and emergency telecommunication services (ETS), including consideration of use of both terrestrial and wireless telecommunication systems during emergencies,

considering

- a) the devastation suffered from disasters including but not limited to tsunamis, earthquakes and storms around the world, particularly in developing countries that may suffer disproportionately due to a lack of infrastructure and, therefore, have the most to gain from information on the subject of disaster prevention, mitigation and relief efforts;
- b) ~~the potential of that~~ modern telecommunications/ICTs play an important role in early warning of disasters and to facilitate disaster prevention, mitigation, and relief and recovery efforts;
- c) the ongoing cooperation between ITU study groups and other standards development organizations dealing with emergency telecommunications, alert and warning systems;
- d) Resolution 59 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference referring to strengthening coordination and cooperation between ITU-R, ITU-T and ITU-D in matters of mutual interest;
- e) that Article 5 of the International Telecommunication Regulations, establishes that safety of life telecommunications, such as distress telecommunications, shall be entitled to transmission as of right and, where technically practicable have absolute priority over all other telecommunications, in accordance with the relevant articles of the Constitution and Convention and taking due account of the ITU-T's relevant recommendations;
- f) the need to plan for immediate availability of telecommunication services in emergency or disaster situations in affected areas or regions, through primary or back up telecommunication

systems, including those which may be movable or portable, to minimize impacts and facilitate relief operations;

g) that satellite services among other radiocommunication services [may] constitute a reliable platform for public safety, especially in natural disasters when existing terrestrial networks are often disrupted, and are highly useful for the coordination of humanitarian assistance by governments agencies and other humanitarian entities,

recognizing

a) the activities being undertaken at the international and regional levels within ITU and other relevant organizations to establish internationally agreed means for the operation of systems for public protection and disaster relief on a harmonized and coordinated basis;

b) the ongoing development by ITU, in coordination with the United Nations and other United Nations specialized agencies, of guidelines for applying the international content standard for all-media public warning in all disaster and emergency situations;

c) the contribution of the private sector, in the prevention, mitigation and relief of emergency and disaster situations, which is proving to be effective;

d) the need for a common understanding of the network infrastructure components required to provide rapidly installed, interoperable, interworking, robust telecommunication capabilities in humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations;

e) the importance of working towards the establishment of standards-based monitoring and worldwide early-warning systems, based on telecommunications/ICTs, that are linked to national and regional networks and that facilitate emergency disaster response all over the world, particularly in high-risk regions;

f) the importance of redundancy, infrastructure resilience, and the availability of energy supply when planning disaster situations;

fg) the role that the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector can play, through such means as the Global Symposium for Regulators and the ITU-D study groups, in collecting and disseminating ~~a set of~~ national regulatory best practices for telecommunication/ICT facilities for disaster prevention, mitigation and relief;²

h) that private and public networks include various public safety and group communications features which can play a key role in emergency and disaster preparedness, prevention, mitigation and relief situations,

convinced

a) that an international standard for communication of alert and warning information can assist in the provision of effective and appropriate humanitarian assistance and in mitigating the consequences of disasters, in particular in developing countries;²

b) that there is need to train rescue and relief agencies, as well as the general public, in the use of modern communication technologies to strengthen both disaster preparedness and response,

resolves to instruct the Directors of the Bureaux

1 to continue their technical studies and to develop recommendations, guidelines and standards, through the relevant ITU study groups, with advice from Advisory Groups, concerning technical and operational implementation, as necessary, of advanced solutions to meet the needs

of public-protection and disaster-relief telecommunications/ICTs, taking into account the capabilities, evolution and any resulting transition requirements of existing systems, particularly those of many developing countries, for national and international operations;

2 to conduct training programs, workshops, and capacity building for trainers of relevant organisations and entities, especially in developing countries, on technical and operational aspects of networks and their use, for monitoring and management in emergency and disaster situations;

23 to support the development of robust, comprehensive, all-hazards emergency and disaster prediction, detection, early-warning, mitigation and relief systems, at national, regional and international levels, including monitoring and management systems involving the use of telecommunications/ICTs (e.g. remote sensing), in collaboration with other international agencies, in order to support coordination at the global and regional level;

34 to promote implementation by appropriate alerting authorities of the international content-standard for all-media public warning, in concert with ITU ongoing-development-of guidelines by all ITU Sectors-developed through the relevant ITU study groups for application to all disaster and emergency situations through the relevant ITU study groups;

45 to continue to collaborate with organizations that are working in the area of standards for emergency telecommunications/ICTs and for communication of alert and warning information, in order to study the appropriate inclusion of such standards in ITU's work and their dissemination, in particular in developing countries;

6 to analyze on-going work in all sectors of ITU, regional entities and other expert organizations -and promote joint activities to avoid duplication of efforts and resources in the development, use and interworking of public and private Telecommunications/ICT, including radiocommunication and satellite systems, in times of emergencies and disaster relief operations in response to natural disasters;

7 to assist Member States in enhancing and strengthening the use of all available communication systems, including satellite, amateur radio and broadcasting services in the event of the disruption of both conventional power supply, and telecommunications networks,

8 to support the work of the relevant study groups in the development of reports and recommendations regarding radio-frequency spectrum requirements for disaster management,

encourages Member States

1 in emergency and disaster relief situations, to satisfy temporary needs for spectrum in addition to what may be normally provided for in agreements with the administrations concerned, while seeking international assistance for spectrum coordination and management, in accordance with the legal framework in force in each country;

2 to work in close collaboration with the Secretary-General, the Directors of the Bureaux, and other Member States, while taking into account as well as emergency telecommunication/ICT coordination mechanisms of the United Nations, in the development and dissemination of tools, procedures and best practices for the effective coordination and operation of telecommunications/ICTs in disaster situations;

3 to facilitate the use by emergency organizations of both existing and new technologies, systems and applications and solutions (satellite and terrestrial), to the extent practicable, in order to satisfy interoperability requirements and to further the goals of public protection and disaster relief;

4 to develop and support national and regional centres of excellence for research, pre-planning, equipment pre-positioning and deployment of telecommunication/ICT resources for humanitarian assistance and disaster relief coordination;⁷²

5 to adopt and promote policies that encourage public and private operators to invest in the development and building of Telecommunications/ICTs, including radiocommunication and satellite systems for early warning systems and the management of emergencies;

6 to take appropriate measures so that all operators inform local and roaming users in a timely manner and at no cost, numbers in use to contact emergency services;

7 to explore the possibility of introducing a globally harmonized emergency number to supplement existing domestic emergency numbers taking into account the relevant ITU-T Recommendations,

invites the Secretary-General

1 to inform the United Nations and, in particular the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, of this resolution;

2 to coordinate the activities conducted by the Union's Sectors in line with *resolves* 5, in order to ensure the most effective action possible by the ITU in this matter.

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