

**EIGHTH SERIES OF TEXTS SUBMITTED BY
COMMITTEE 4 TO THE PLENARY MEETING**

The following texts are submitted to the Plenary Meeting for **first reading**:

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COM6	148	DRAFT NEW DECISION COM6/2
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WGPL	143	DRAFT NEW RESOLUTION WG-PL/6
COM6	148	DRAFT NEW RESOLUTION COM6/4
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Chairman, Committee 4

Annex: 28 pages

ADD B8/153/1

DECISION COM 6/2 (BUSAN, 2014)

Use of hyperlinks in ITU documents

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

considering

Document C09/36, which contains a report by the Secretary-General addressing the use of hyperlinks in ITU documents,

taking into account

the endorsement by the ITU Council¹ of the recommendations contained in the above report,

decides

that final documents submitted for approval shall not contain hyperlinks other than, where appropriate, internal hyperlinks to documents or parts of documents that are stable and have already been approved by the competent organ of the Union, and that the inclusion of an internal hyperlink in a document submitted for approval should not result in implicit approval of the content of the hyperlink's target; rather, any approval must be explicit (this procedure is not applicable to study groups).

¹ See § 12.3 of Document C09/90, 22 October 2009.

MOD B8/153/2

RESOLUTION 58 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

Strengthening of relations between ITU and regional telecommunication organizations and regional preparations for the Plenipotentiary Conference

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

recalling

- a) Resolution 58 (Kyoto, 1994) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;
- b) Resolution 112 (Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;
- c) the following resolutions:
 - Resolution 72 (Rev. WRC-07) of the World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC), on world and regional preparations for WRCs;
 - Resolution 43 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSAs), on regional preparations for WTSAs;
 - Resolution 31 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on regional preparations for WTDCs, this resolution having been adopted for the first time in 2006, by WTDC-06 in Doha, Qatar,

acknowledging

that Article 43 of the ITU Constitution states that: "*Members reserve the right to convene regional conferences, to make regional arrangements and to form regional organizations, for the purpose of settling telecommunication questions which are susceptible of being treated on a regional basis . . .*",

considering

- a) that the Union and regional organizations share a common belief that close cooperation can promote regional telecommunication development through, *inter alia*, organizational synergy;

- b) that the six principal regional telecommunication organizations¹, namely the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT), the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT), the Inter-American Telecommunications Commission (CITEL), the African Telecommunications Union (ATU), the Council of Arab Ministers of Telecommunication and Information represented by the Secretariat-General of the League of Arab States (LAS) and the Regional Commonwealth in the field of Communications (RCC), seek close cooperation with the Union;
- c) that there is a continued need for the Union to strengthen close cooperation with these regional telecommunication organizations, given the increasing importance of regional organizations concerned with regional issues, and cooperate with them in regard to preparation of conferences and assemblies of the three Sectors and plenipotentiary conferences, through six preparatory meetings in the year preceding the conference;
- d) that the ITU Convention encourages the participation of the regional telecommunication organizations in the Union's activities and provides for their attendance at conferences of the Union as observers;
- e) that all six regional telecommunication organizations have coordinated their preparations for this conference;
- f) that many common proposals submitted to this conference have been developed by administrations having participated in the preparatory work carried out by the six regional telecommunication organizations;
- g) that this consolidation of views at regional level, together with the opportunity for interregional discussions prior to conferences, has eased the task of reaching a consensus during these conferences;
- h) that there is a need for overall coordination of the interregional consultations;
- i) the benefits of regional coordination as already experienced in the preparation of WRCs and WTDCs, and latterly WTSAs,

noting

- a) that the Secretary-General's report under former Resolution 16 (Geneva, 1992) of the Additional Plenipotentiary Conference, when available, should facilitate evaluation by the ITU Council of the Union's own regional presence;
- b) that the relationship between ITU regional offices and regional telecommunication organizations has proved to be of great benefit;
- c) that some ITU Member States are not members of these regional telecommunication organizations mentioned in *considering b)* above,

¹ There are eleven regional telecommunication organizations as referred to in Article 43 of the Constitution. The list can be found in Council Resolution 925. The five regional organizations other than the six principal ones may choose to participate in regional preparatory meetings and other activities of the Union.

taking into account

the efficiency benefits that plenipotentiary conferences and other Sector conferences and assemblies would gain from an increased amount and level of prior preparation by the Member States,

resolves

1 that the Union should continue developing stronger relations with regional telecommunication organizations, including the organization of six ITU regional preparatory meetings for plenipotentiary conferences, as well as other Sector conferences and assemblies as necessary;

2 that the Union, in strengthening its relations with the regional telecommunication organizations and by means of ITU regional preparations for plenipotentiary conferences, world conferences on international telecommunications, radiocommunication conferences and assemblies, WTDCs and WTSAs shall, with assistance of its regional offices when necessary, cover all Member States without exception, even if they do not belong to any of the six regional telecommunication organizations mentioned in *considering b)* above,

resolves further

to invite regional telecommunication organizations to continue their preparations for plenipotentiary conferences, including, to the extent possible, the convening of interregional coordination meetings,

instructs the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with the Directors of the three Bureaux

1 to continue to consult with Member States and regional and subregional telecommunication organizations on the means by which assistance can be provided in support of their preparations for future plenipotentiary conferences;

2 to follow up on the submission of a report on the results of the aforementioned consultation to the Council for its consideration, taking into account similar experiences, and to report regularly to the Council thereafter;

3 on the basis of such consultations, and ensuring that all the Member States are associated with this process, to assist Member States and regional and subregional telecommunication organizations with preparatory work, in particular for developing countries², in such areas as:

- the organization of ITU preparatory meetings, preferably before or after major ITU events (as referred to in *resolves 2* above);
- facilitating of interregional coordination meetings, with the objective of reaching a possible convergence of interregional views on major issues;
- assisting representatives of regional telecommunication organizations to attend the above-mentioned interregional coordination meetings, including, where necessary, by providing, within the budgetary limits of the Union and the approved financial plan, fellowships for representatives of developing and least developed countries wishing to attend the above-mentioned meetings;
- identifying major issues to be resolved by the future conferences and assemblies referred to in *resolves 2* above,

instructs the Council

to consider the reports submitted and take appropriate measures to strengthen this cooperation, including arranging for dissemination of the findings in the reports and the Council's conclusions to non-Council members and to regional telecommunication organizations, taking into account the actions referred to in *instructs the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with the Directors of the three Bureaux 3* above,

invites the Member States

to participate actively in the implementation of this resolution.

² These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

MOD B8/153/3

RESOLUTION 77 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Scheduling and duration of conferences, forums, assemblies
and Council sessions of the Union (2015-2019)**

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

recalling

- a) No. 47 in Article 8 of the ITU Constitution, which stipulates that the Plenipotentiary Conference shall be convened every four years;
- b) Nos. 90 and 91 in Article 13 of the Constitution, which stipulate that world radiocommunication conferences (WRC) and radiocommunication assemblies (RA) shall normally be convened every three to four years, and shall be associated in place and time;
- c) No. 114 in Article 18 of the Constitution, which stipulates that world telecommunication standardization assemblies (WTSA) shall be convened every four years;
- d) No. 141 in Article 22 of the Constitution, which stipulates that, between two plenipotentiary conferences, there shall be one world telecommunication development conference (WTDC);
- e) No. 51 in Article 4 of the ITU Convention, which stipulates that the ITU Council shall hold an ordinary session annually at the seat of the Union;
- f) Resolution 111 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference,

recognizing

- a) Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019, and the priorities identified therein;
- b) that, in the consideration of the draft financial plan of the Union for 2016-2019, the challenge to increase revenues in order to meet increasing programme demands is substantial,

considering

- a) the need to take into account the financial resources of the Union when scheduling conferences, assemblies and forums, particularly the necessity of ensuring efficient Union operations within limited resources;
- b) that holding conferences, assemblies and forums in the same year as the plenipotentiary conference represents a burden for the Union's membership and staff,

having considered

a) Document PP-14/56 submitted by the Secretary-General, on planned conferences and assemblies;

b) the proposals submitted by several Member States,

bearing in mind

a) the increasing demands placed on and necessary preparatory work to be carried out by Member States, Sector Members, the General Secretariat and the Sectors of the Union before each conference, assembly and forum of the Union;

b) that scheduling the Council earlier in the calendar year improves the linkage between the strategic, financial and operational plans and the budget and other activities to be carried out by the Council,

noting

a) that the dates for the next RA have been set for 26-30 October 2015, and those for the next WRC for 2-27 November 2015;

b) that the external auditor's reports on the Union's finances should normally be available to the Council in due time prior to its sessions,

resolves

1 that ITU conferences and assemblies shall, in principle, be held in the last quarter of the year, and not in the same year¹, except as provided in *recalling b)* above;

2 that plenipotentiary conferences shall, unless there is a pressing need otherwise, be limited to a duration of three weeks;

3 that ITU exhibitions, forums, high-level events and symposia of a worldwide character shall be scheduled within the allocated resources in the financial plan and biennial budget;

4 that the schedule of future conferences, assemblies and Council sessions for the years 2015-2019 shall be as follows:

4.1 the Council shall, in principle, hold its ordinary session within or around June-July of the calendar year;

4.2 WTSA shall be held in the last quarter of 2016;

4.3 WTDC shall be held in November-December of 2017 and every four years thereafter, in the last quarter of the year;

¹ Apart from world conferences on international telecommunications.

4.4 the Plenipotentiary Conference shall be held in the United Arab Emirates in the last quarter of 2018;

4.5 RA and WRC shall be held in 2019;

5 that the agendas of world and regional conferences shall be established in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention and the agendas of assemblies shall be established, as appropriate, taking into account the resolutions and recommendations of the relevant conferences and assemblies;

6 that the dates and duration given in *noting* above for WRC-15, for which the agenda, which was further modified during this conference to include global flight tracking, has been established and approved, must not be modified;

7 that the conferences and assemblies mentioned in *resolves* 4 should be held within the periods indicated there, that the precise dates and places will be set by the Council after consultation of the Member States, leaving sufficient time between the various conferences, and that the precise duration shall be decided by the Council after their agendas have been established,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to take appropriate measures to facilitate the most efficient use of time and resources during such conferences;

2 to report to the Council on the implementation of this resolution, proposing further improvements, as appropriate,

instructs the Council

1 at each ordinary session, to schedule its next three ordinary sessions in June-July and to review the Council's schedule on a rolling basis;

2 to take appropriate measures to facilitate the implementation of this resolution, and report to future plenipotentiary conferences on possible improvements in the implementation of this resolution.

MOD B8/153/4

RESOLUTION 111 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Considering major religious periods in the scheduling of
ITU conferences, assemblies and Council sessions**

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

having considered

- a) the importance of mutual respect for the religious and spiritual requirements of delegates to ITU conferences, assemblies and Council sessions;
- b) the importance of including all delegates in the crucial work of ITU conferences and assemblies and of not precluding such participation;
- c) the scheduling and invitation process for ITU conferences and assemblies as set out in the ITU Convention,

resolves

- 1 that the Union and its Member States should make every effort, as far as practicable, in order that the planned period of any ITU conference or assembly not be scheduled on any period which is considered a major religious period by a Member State;
- 2 that the Union and the Member States of the Council should make every effort, as far as practicable, in order that the planned period of any Council session not be scheduled during a period which is considered a major religious period by a Member State of the Council;
- 3 that the inviting government for a given ITU conference or assembly or, in the absence of an inviting government, the Secretary-General, shall be responsible for verifying with Member States that the proposed period of that conference or assembly does not coincide with a major religious period, at least for the last four days of that conference or assembly.

MOD B8/153/5

RESOLUTION 167 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Strengthening and developing ITU capabilities for electronic meetings
and means to advance the work of the Union**

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

considering

- a) the rapid technological change in the field of telecommunications and the associated policy, regulatory and infrastructure adaptations required at national, regional and global levels;
- b) the consequent need for the widest possible engagement of the ITU membership from around the world to address these matters in the work of the Union;
- c) that developments in technologies and facilities for the holding of electronic meetings and the further development of electronic working methods(EWM) will enable more open, rapid and easy collaboration between participants in the activities of ITU, which may be paperless;
- d) that some activities and procedures associated with certain ITU meetings still require direct face-to-face participation by the Union's membership,

recalling

- a) Resolution 66 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on documents and publications of the Union, regarding the electronic availability of documents;
- b) Resolution 58 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on strengthening of relations between ITU and regional telecommunication organizations and regional preparations for the Plenipotentiary Conference, which resolves that the Union, in strengthening its relations with the regional telecommunication organizations and by means of ITU regional preparations for plenipotentiary conferences, radiocommunication conferences and assemblies, world telecommunication development conferences (WTDC) and world telecommunication standardization assemblies (WTSA) shall, with the assistance of its regional offices when necessary, cover all Member States without exception, even if they do not belong to any of the six regional telecommunication organizations;

- c) Resolution 175 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference, on telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) accessibility for persons with disabilities, including age-related disabilities, which resolves to take account of persons with disabilities and specific needs;
- d) Resolution 32 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of WTSA, on strengthening electronic working methods in the work of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) and the implementation of EWM capabilities and associated arrangements in the work of ITU-T;
- e) Resolution 73 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of WTSA, on ICTs and climate change and, in particular, *recognizing g)* thereof concerning energy-efficient working methods;
- f) Resolution 5 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on enhancing participation by developing countries¹ in the activities of the Union, in particular, *instructs 4* thereof to continue promoting remote participation and meetings and EWM so as to encourage and facilitate participation in the work of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D);
- g) Resolution 66 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on ICT and climate change, in particular the instruction to the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) to consider possible changes in working methods to meet the objectives of the EWM initiatives;
- h) Resolution 81 (Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on further development of EWM for the work of ITU-D, which identifies the role of BDT in providing support to EWM and the benefits to the ITU membership;
- i) Resolution ITU-R 7-2 (Rev. Geneva, 2012) of the Radiocommunication Assembly (RA), on the development of telecommunications, including coordination and collaboration with ITU-D,
- recognizing*
- a) that electronic participation has been producing significant benefits for the Union's membership, by reducing travel costs, and has facilitated wider participation in both the work of the Union and in meetings that require attendance;
- b) that numerous ITU meetings are already available as audio and video webcasts and that use of videoconferencing, audio conference calls, real-time captioning and web-based collaboration tools for electronic participation in certain types of meetings have been advanced in meetings of the Sectors and the General Secretariat;
- c) the budgetary difficulty that delegates from many countries, and in particular developing countries, have in travelling to participate in face-to-face ITU meetings;

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

d) that the current status of interactive remote participation (IRP) allows "remote intervention" rather than "remote participation", insofar as a remote participant cannot take part in decision-making;

e) that the regional offices are an extension of ITU as a whole and, therefore, EWM will serve to build up the effectiveness of the Union's activities, including project implementation, as set forth in Resolution 157 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

f) that the expected role of the regional offices is essential in order to fully comply with the basic mandates of the Union and, to this end, it is necessary that these offices be able to rely on affordable means of communication (videoconferencing), such as those that can be accessed over the web, to hold electronic meetings with the Member States, as stated in Resolution 58 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference,

recognizing further

a) the annual reports by the Secretary-General to the Council on the implementation of this resolution;

b) the report from the 2014 session of the Council to this conference;

c) the financial, legal, procedural and technical difficulties of providing remote participation to all, particularly with respect to:

- the difference in time zones among regions and in relation to Geneva, and particularly with the Americas and Asia-Pacific regions;
- the costs of infrastructure, broadband, equipment, applications, meeting room renovations and staff, especially in developing countries;
- the rights and legal status of remote participants and chairmen;
- the limitation in terms of formal procedures available to remote participants in comparison with physically present participants;
- the telecommunication infrastructure limitations in some countries due to unstable or inadequate connections;
- increased accessibility for people with disabilities and specific needs,

noting

a) that the existence of electronic meetings, with well-documented rules and procedures, will help ITU in widening the involvement of potential stakeholders, both member and non-member experts, particularly from developing countries, who are unable to participate in face-to-face meetings;

- b) that EWM has made important contributions to the work of Sector groups, such as rapporteur groups, and of Council working groups, and that work, such as the development of texts, has been progressed in various parts of the Union through electronic communications;
- c) that different modes of participation are suitable for different types of meetings;
- d) that managing electronic meetings from the regional offices can facilitate regional coordination, in order to promote greater participation by Member States in the work of the study groups of the three Sectors;
- e) that there needs to be a coordinated and harmonized approach to the technology used,
emphasizing
 - a) that there is a need for procedures to ensure fair and equitable participation by all;
 - b) that electronic meetings can contribute to bridging the digital divide;
 - c) that the implementation of electronic meetings is beneficial to ITU's role in leading the coordination on ICTs and climate change, and on accessibility,

resolves

- 1 that ITU should continue to develop its facilities and capabilities for remote participation by electronic means in appropriate meetings of the Union, including working groups created by the Council;
- 2 that ITU should continue to develop its EWM in relation to the elaboration, distribution and approval of documents and the promotion of paperless meetings;
- 3 that the Union continue to develop EWM, within budget availability, for the participation of persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs, which may include, *inter alia*, captioning for the hearing-impaired, audioconferencing for the visually impaired, and webconferencing for persons with restricted mobility, as well as solutions and facilities to address other similar challenges;
- 4 that the Union further study the impact of remote participation on existing rules of procedure;
- 5 that ITU should provide facilities and capabilities for EWM at ITU meetings, workshops and training courses, particularly to assist developing countries that have bandwidth limitations and other constraints;
- 6 to encourage e-participation of developing countries in meetings, workshops and training by providing simplified facilities and guidelines, and by waiving, within the appropriations that the Council is empowered to authorize, any expenses for those participants, other than the local call or Internet connectivity charges,

instructs the Secretary-General, in consultation and collaboration with the Directors of the three Bureaux

- 1 to implement the EWM Action Plan in Annex 1 to this resolution, addressing the legal, technical, security and financial implications of increasing the EWM capability of ITU;
- 2 to build upon trials for electronic meetings, in collaboration with the Directors of the Bureaux, such that their subsequent implementation is technologically neutral, to the greatest extent possible, and cost effective, in order to allow as broad participation as possible, satisfying the necessary security requirements;
- 3 to identify and review the costs and benefits of the items of the Action Plan on a regular basis;
- 4 to involve the advisory groups in the evaluation of the use of electronic meetings and to develop further procedures and rules associated with electronic meetings, including the legal aspects;
- 5 to report to the Council on an ongoing basis on the developments made with regard to electronic meetings, in order to assess progress in their use within ITU;
- 6 to report to the Council on the feasibility of extending the use of languages in electronic meetings,

instructs the Secretary-General

to share information about developments and progress made with regard to electronic meetings with the United Nations and other specialized agencies, for their consideration,

instructs the Directors of the Bureaux

to continue taking action, in consultation with the Sector advisory groups, in order to provide appropriate electronic participation or observation facilities in Sector meetings for delegates unable to attend face-to-face meetings,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to take all necessary measures to implement, in the shortest possible time-frame and according to budgetary availability, a suitable technological platform that makes it possible for all the regional offices to host electronic meetings with their respective ITU Member States, in accordance with Resolution 25 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this Conference,

instructs the Council

to consider the financial requirements to implement this resolution and allocate the necessary financial resources, within the limits of the resources available and consistent with the financial and strategic plans.

ANNEX 1 TO RESOLUTION 167 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

EWM action plan

- Upgrade infrastructure at headquarters and regional offices to support the use of e-participation
- Implement technical solutions to extend ITU interpretation services to e-participants
- Implement technical solutions to implement self-service provisioning and running of e-meetings
- Establish guidelines for e-participation in ITU meetings
- Provide training, as appropriate, to ITU meeting organizers, regional office staff, chairmen, rapporteurs, editors and delegates
- Review current applicable policies and practices
- Review legal issues related to amendments that would be required to legal instruments of the Union
- Implement the collection of statistics across all Sectors so as to track trends in e-participation
- Report annually to the Council on the results of the EWM and remote participation policies, including statistical evaluation of those results, and on procedural, financial, technical and legal matters
- Discuss the improvement of ITU capabilities in terms of EWM and remote participation and propose the necessary amendments to the Rules of Procedure to the Council and the 2018 plenipotentiary conference.

MOD B8/153/6

RESOLUTION 175 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)

**Telecommunication/information and communication technology
accessibility for persons with disabilities
and persons with specific needs**

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

recalling

- a)* Article 12 of the International Telecommunication Regulations (ITR), adopted by the World Conference on International Telecommunications (WCIT) (Dubai, 2012), which states that Member States should promote access for persons with disabilities to international telecommunication services, taking into account the relevant ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) Recommendations;
- b)* the outcome document of the High-Level Meeting on Disability and Development (HLMDD) convened by the United Nations General Assembly at the level of Heads of State and Government on 23 September 2013, under the theme "The ICT Opportunity for a Disability-Inclusive Development Framework", which stresses the need for inclusive development in which persons with disabilities are both agents and beneficiaries;
- c)* Resolution 70 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, on telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) accessibility for persons with disabilities, the current regulatory framework and the studies, initiatives and events on this issue undertaken by ITU-T and its study groups, in particular Study Group 2 and Study Group 16, in collaboration with the Joint Coordination Activity on Accessibility and Human Factors (JCA-AHF);
- d)* the ITU-T Focus Group on Audiovisual Media Accessibility (FG-AVA), which is working on broadcasting and Internet television in order to include audio description for the visually impaired and captioning/subtitles for the deaf and hearing impaired, as well as accessible remote Internet participation;
- e)* the Phuket Declaration on Tsunami Preparedness for Persons with Disabilities (Phuket, 2007), which emphasizes the need for inclusive emergency warning and disaster management systems using telecommunication/ICT facilities based on open, non-proprietary, global standards;

f) Resolution GSC-14/27 of the 14th Global Standards Collaboration meeting (Geneva, 2009), which encourages greater collaboration among global, regional and national standardization bodies as a basis for establishing and/or strengthening activities and initiatives concerning the use of telecommunications/ICTs accessible to persons with disabilities;

g) the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) special initiative work carried out through studies conducted within the framework of Question 20/1 of ITU-D Study Group 1, commencing in September 2006 and proposing the wording of Resolution 58 (Hyderabad, 2010) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) and, likewise, the ITU-D initiative on the development of an e-accessibility toolkit for persons with disabilities, in collaboration and partnership with the Global Initiative for Inclusive ICTs (G3ict),

recognizing

a) the Dubai Declaration (WTDC-14), which lists a series of measures to promote equitable, affordable, inclusive and sustainable development of telecommunication/ICT networks, applications and services;

b) Resolution 58 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, on accessibility to telecommunications/ICTs for persons with disabilities, including age-related disabilities;

c) ongoing work in the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R):

i) Recommendation ITU-R M.1076, entitled "Wireless communication systems for persons with impaired hearing";

ii) relevant parts of the ITU-R Handbook entitled "Digital terrestrial television broadcasting in the VHF/UHF bands", providing guidance on techniques to be used for delivering programmes for people with hearing difficulties;

iii) work to bridge the digital disability divide, including work in ITU-R Study Group 6 on broadcasting and the creation of the new Intersector Rapporteur Group on Audiovisual Media Accessibility (IRG-AVA) between ITU-R and ITU-T;

iv) work in ITU-R Study Group 4 Working Parties 4A and 4B and Study Group 5 Working Party 5A with regard to improving access to digital hearing aids on a global basis;

d) ongoing work in ITU-T:

i) studies under Question 4/2, on human factors related issues for improvement of the quality of life through international telecommunications, and Question 26/16, on accessibility to multimedia systems and services, including Recommendation ITU-T F.790 on telecommunication accessibility guidelines for older persons and persons with disabilities;

- ii) publication by the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group of the guide for ITU-T study groups entitled "Considering end-user needs in developing recommendations;"
- iii) JCA-AHF for the purposes of awareness-raising, advice, assistance, collaboration, coordination and networking;
- e) ongoing work in ITU-D:
 - i) studies under Question 7/1, on access to telecommunication/ICT services by persons with disabilities and with specific needs;
 - ii) the Dubai Action Plan (WTDC-14);
- f) that the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019, as approved by this conference, includes intersectoral objective I.5: "Enhance access to telecommunications/ICTs for persons with disabilities and specific needs" and related outcomes and outputs;
- g) the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), calling for special attention to be given to persons with disabilities, including age-related disabilities;
- h) that the ITU-coordinated WSIS+10 High-Level Event on the WSIS vision beyond 2015 identified accessibility among the priority areas that must be tackled in the application of the post-2015 WSIS outcomes;
- i) § 13 of the Geneva Declaration of Principles and § 18 of the Tunis Commitment, reaffirming the commitment to providing equitable and affordable access to ICTs, especially for persons with disabilities and specific needs;
- j) various regional and national efforts to develop or revise guidelines and standards for telecommunications/ICT;
- k) ITU's accessibility policy for persons with disabilities, adopted by the ITU Council in 2013;
- l) that webcasting and captioning are invaluable tools, which benefit persons with disabilities and specific needs,

considering

- a) that the World Health Organization estimates that there are one billion persons with varying degrees of physical, sensory or cognitive disabilities in the world, meaning 15 per cent of the world's population, and 80 per cent of them live in developing countries¹;

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

- b) that ICTs can provide opportunities and benefits for women and girls with disabilities to overcome exclusion on the basis of their gender and disability;
- c) that the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which entered into force on 3 May 2008, requires States Parties, under Article 9 on accessibility, to take appropriate measures including:
- i) 9 (2g) "*To promote access for persons with disabilities to new information and communications technologies and systems, including the Internet*";
 - ii) 9 (2h) "*To promote the design, development, production and distribution of accessible information and communications technologies and systems at an early stage, so that these technologies and systems become accessible at minimum cost*";
- d) that the United Nations Human Rights Council established the Special Rapporteurship on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to allow identification of the barriers and obstacles still faced by persons with disabilities in achieving their full, effective participation in society, whose mandate will be to work in close coordination with all mechanisms and entities of the United Nations system, regional mechanisms, civil society and organizations of and for persons with disabilities, and will incorporate the perspectives of gender, international cooperation and capacity building in all its activities, in accordance with the principles of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
- e) the importance of cooperation between governments, the private sector and relevant organizations to provide possibilities for low-cost access;
- f) that it is necessary for governments and multiple stakeholders to pay attention to the outcomes in the report jointly prepared by G3ict and Disabled People's International (DPI), given that the accessibility of the information infrastructure, considered an essential area of ICT accessibility that has an enormous impact on the greatest number of users, falls short of the level of progress called for by the provisions in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in terms of general compliance on the part of the countries that have ratified it,

resolves

- 1 to involve persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs in the work of ITU so that they may collaborate in the adoption of a comprehensive action plan in order to extend access to telecommunications/ICTs, in collaboration with external entities and bodies concerned with this topic;
- 2 to foster dialogue between those who prepare statistics on telecommunications/ICTs and users with disabilities, in order to obtain better information and knowledge about which data to collect and analyse at the national level using international standards and methods;
- 3 to boost a call to action promoting cooperation with regional and global organizations and institutions that deal with accessibility for persons with disabilities, including age-related disabilities, in order to include accessibility to telecommunications/ICTs in their agendas and take into account its cross-cutting nature with other topics;

4 to maximize use of webcasting facilities and captioning (including transcripts of the captioning), and if possible, considering the financial and technical limitations of the Union, provide it in all six official languages of the Union both during and after the conclusion of any session when convening conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union as articulated in Chapter II, Section 12 "Setting up of committees of the General rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union",

instructs the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Directors of the Bureaux

1 to coordinate accessibility-related activities between ITU-R, ITU-T and ITU-D, in collaboration with other relevant organizations and entities where appropriate, in order to avoid duplication and to ensure that the needs of persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs, including age-related disabilities, are taken into account;

2 to consider the financial implications for ITU of providing, within the available resources, accessible information through ICTs and access to ITU facilities, services and programmes for participants with visual, hearing or physical disabilities and persons with specific needs, including captioning at meetings, sign language interpretation, access to print information and the ITU website, access to ITU buildings and meeting facilities, and the adoption of accessible ITU recruitment practices and employment;

3 pursuant to United Nations General Assembly Resolution 61/106, to consider accessibility standards and guidelines whenever undertaking renovations or changing the use of space at a facility, so that accessibility features are maintained and additional barriers are not inadvertently implemented;

4 to encourage and promote representation by persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs so as to ensure that their experiences, views and opinions are taken into account when developing and progressing ITU work;

5 to consider expanding the fellowship programme in order to enable delegates with disabilities and delegates with specific needs, within existing budgetary constraints, to participate in the work of ITU;

6 to identify, document and disseminate examples of best practices for accessibility in the field of telecommunications/ICTs among ITU Member States and Sector Members;

7 to work collaboratively on accessibility-related activities with ITU-R, ITU-T and ITU-D, in particular concerning awareness and mainstreaming of telecommunication/ICT accessibility standards and in developing programmes that enable developing countries to introduce services that allow persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs, including age-related disabilities, to utilize telecommunication/ICT services effectively;

8 to work collaboratively and cooperatively with other relevant regional and global organizations and entities, in particular in the interest of ensuring that ongoing work in the field of accessibility is taken into account;

- 9 to work collaboratively and cooperatively with disability organizations in all regions to ensure that the needs of persons with disabilities are taken into account;
- 10 to direct the regional offices, within their available resources, to organize regional competitions for the development of assistive technologies to enable persons with disabilities and specific needs, having due regard to differences in culture and languages and taking into account the presence of developers with disabilities;
- 11 to make use of and share information regarding the ways in which ICTs can empower persons with a wide range of disabilities and specific needs, for example guidelines, tools and information sources prepared by ITU and other relevant organizations such as G3ict which are of benefit to the work of ITU and the membership;
- 12 to encourage the regional offices, within their available resources, to cooperate with stakeholder concerned to promote the development of new technologies that enable persons with disabilities and specific needs;
- 13 to submit a report to the next plenipotentiary conference on measures taken to implement this resolution,

invites Member States and Sector Members

- 1 to consider developing, within their national legal frameworks, guidelines or other mechanisms to enhance the accessibility, compatibility and usability of telecommunication/ICT services, products and terminals, and to offer support to regional initiatives related to this issue;
- 2 to consider introducing appropriate telecommunication/ICT services and to encourage the development of applications for telecommunication devices and products in order to enable persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs to utilize these services on an equal basis with others, and to promote international cooperation in this regard;
- 3 to promote the development of learning opportunities in order to train persons with disabilities to use ICTs for their social and economic development, including through train-the-trainer courses and distance learning;
- 4 to participate actively in accessibility-related activities/studies in ITU-R, ITU-T and ITU-D, including participating actively in the work of the study groups concerned, and to include and promote representation by persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs so as to ensure that their experiences, views and opinions are taken into account;
- 5 to take into account *considering c) ii) and e) above*, and the benefits of cost affordability for equipment and services for persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs, including universal design;
- 6 to encourage the international community to make voluntary contributions to the special trust fund set up by ITU to support activities relating to the implementation of this resolution.

ADD B8/153/7

RESOLUTION WG-PL/6 (BUSAN, 2014)

Creating an enabling environment for the deployment and use of information and communication technology applications

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

recalling

- a) Resolution 54 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on information and communication technology (ICT) applications;
- b) Resolution 137 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on next-generation network deployment in developing countries¹;
- c) Resolution 139 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on telecommunications/ICTs to bridge the digital divide and build an inclusive information society;
- d) Resolution 140 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on ITU's role in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS);
- e) WSIS Action Line C7, on ICT applications (hereafter referred to as "e-applications"), which are specified as:
 - e-government
 - e-business
 - e-learning
 - e-health
 - e-employment
 - e-environment
 - e-agriculture
 - e-science;

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

f) § 14 of the WSIS Geneva Plan of Action, which notes that ICT applications can support sustainable development, in the fields of public administration, business, education and training, health, employment, environment, agriculture and science within the framework of national e-strategies,

recalling further

a) Resolution 136 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the use of telecommunications/ICTs for monitoring and management in emergency and disaster situations for early warning, prevention, mitigation and relief;

b) Resolution 182 (Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the role of telecommunications/ICTs in regard to climate change and protection of the environment;

c) Resolution 183 (Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on telecommunication/ICT applications for e-health,

noting

a) that Objective D.2 of the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019 aims to foster an enabling environment for ICT development and foster the development of telecommunication/ICT networks as well as relevant applications and services;

b) that ITU, along with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), established the Broadband Commission for Digital Development in 2010 in its efforts to strengthen the activities aimed at the expansion of broadband and to give more weight to the utilization of ICT applications;

c) that ITU has played a key role in the implementation of the WSIS outcomes for both networks and e-applications, in the role of mediator/facilitator for information and communication infrastructure (Action Line C2) and the role of co-facilitator in the more active implementation of ICT applications (Action Line C7),

recognizing

a) that the use of telecommunications/ICT can improve competitiveness and productivity, as well as increasing efficiencies and bringing benefits in all aspects of our daily life;

b) that the benefits of deploying telecommunication networks will be fully realized through the introduction and active utilization of various ICT applications and services;

c) that, in order to facilitate the deployment of telecommunication networks and the expansion of ICT applications, cooperation among various respective players is necessary at various levels;

d) that, in order to enable people to access and use ICT applications, it is important to develop an approach adapted to local needs,

resolves to instruct the ITU Council

1 to consider the Secretary-General's report referred to in *instructs the Secretary-General* 5 below;

2 to consider ways and means to further explore this topic, as appropriate,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to continue monitoring the progress and achievements of goals set by the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), WSIS and the Broadband Commission;

2 to actively participate in discussions relating to the Post-2015 Development Agenda in order for the Union to play a pivotal role in enabling greater use of e-applications;

3 to continue consultations with all relevant organizations and institutions in ICT sectors as well as non-ICT sectors in order to explore ways to cooperate in promoting the expansion and active utilization of e-applications in various areas;

4 to report to the Council on the progress of activities related to this resolution,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to further elaborate the ICT Development Index (IDI) to reflect the availability and utilization of ICT applications and their social and economic impact;

2 to enhance awareness of the role and benefits of e-applications regarding socio-economic development;

3 to work with the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau (BR) and the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB), as appropriate, in order to encourage cooperation with other relevant organizations in the development of best practices relating to the network infrastructure that enables the use of a wide range of e-applications,

invites Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia

1 to promote the introduction of e-applications to support sustainable development, in the fields of public administration, business, education and training, health, employment, environment, agriculture, manufacturing industry and science, among others, within the framework of national e-strategies;

2 to consider how institutional frameworks can support the utilization of e-applications;

- 3 to promote policy measures that will encourage the adoption of e-applications within their countries;
- 4 to explore measures for greater cooperation and coordination with other Member States, Sector Members and various entities such as international organizations, development institutes, industries, and other relevant organizations in order to strengthen their roles and activities in relation with ICT applications.

ADD B8/153/8

RESOLUTION COM6/4 (BUSAN, 2014)

Support and assistance for Iraq to rebuild its telecommunication sector

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

recalling

- a) the noble principles, purpose and objectives enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- b) the efforts of the United Nations to promote sustainable development and the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions concerning the situation;
- c) the purposes of the Union as enshrined in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution;
- d) § 16 of the Geneva Declaration of Principles adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS);
- e) § 15 of the Tunis Commitment adopted by WSIS,

recognizing

- a) that a reliable telecommunication network infrastructure and related services used appropriately are indispensable to support the social and economic development of nations, particularly those that have suffered natural disasters or wars;
- b) that telecommunication facilities in Iraq have suffered and are still suffering enormous damage as a result of many wars;
- c) that the damage caused to Iraq's telecommunication infrastructure and the illicit use of information and communication technology (ICT) services in the prevailing war situation is a matter of concern for the international community and relevant bodies/agencies;
- d) that Resolution 34 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of this conference provides for continuing support for Iraq to rebuild and overhaul its telecommunication infrastructure, establish institutions, develop human resources and set tariffs;
- e) that Resolution 34 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference has not yet been translated into deeds or put into action: Iraq has not received the necessary support from ITU to rebuild and overhaul its telecommunication infrastructure, establish institutions, develop human resources and set tariffs;

f) that Iraq will be unable to bring its infrastructure up to an acceptable international level without help from the international community, provided bilaterally or through international organizations,

considering

a) that such efforts will help rebuild and modernize the telecommunication infrastructure;

b) that such efforts will also strengthen the capacity of Iraq's administrative and security systems to meet the country's economic, service and security needs in the telecommunication field,

resolves

1 that it is necessary to undertake special, clearly-defined actions within the framework of ITU on the basis of a clearly defined timetable and action plan agreed between the Union and the Iraqi Administration, in order to implement this resolution to provide appropriate support for Iraq for rebuilding and overhauling its telecommunication infrastructure and technical skills, establishing the appropriate ICT institutions and developing human resources, and assistance in the assignment of appropriate tariffs;

2 to allocate, within the available resources, the necessary technical expertise within or external to the Union for the implementation of this resolution;

3 to build and develop human resources and capacity by instituting training programmes inside and outside Iraqi territory as necessary, for experts to address the shortfall in expertise in key areas, meeting requests from the Iraqi Administration for the required technical specialists and providing other forms of assistance,

invites Member States

to ensure all possible technical assistance and support to the Administration of Iraq, in:

1 rehabilitating its telecommunication sector;

2 ensuring the lawful use of ICT in the prevailing situation;

3 achieving the most effective use of ICT for economic and social benefits,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to provide the necessary technical resources for such actions, on the basis of an action plan and timetable agreed with the Administration of Iraq;

2 to report on the matter periodically to the ITU Council.

SUP B8/153/9

RESOLUTION 4 (REV. GUADALAJARA, 2010)

**Duration of plenipotentiary
conferences of the Union**

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

SUP B8/153/10

RESOLUTION 93 (MINNEAPOLIS, 1998)

Special arrears accounts

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Minneapolis, 1998),

SUP B8/153/11

RESOLUTION 153 (REV. GUADALAJARA, 2010)

Scheduling of Council sessions and plenipotentiary conferences

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