



**IAFI/INDIA (Republic of)**

**PROPOSAL FOR MODIFICATIONS TO WTSA RESOLUTION – 20 - PROCEDURES  
FOR ALLOCATION AND MANAGEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL  
TELECOMMUNICATION NUMBERING, NAMING, ADDRESSING AND  
IDENTIFICATION RESOURCES**

**Background**

The allocation and management of international telecommunication numbering, naming, addressing, and identification (NNAI) resources is a complex process governed by international regulations and standards. The seamless flow of international telecommunications traffic relies on a complex infrastructure of numbering, naming, addressing, and identification (NNAI) resources. Efficient management of these resources is crucial for ensuring global connectivity, interoperability, and security.

At international level, International Telecommunication Union (ITU) plays a central role through its Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T). ITU-T issues Recommendations that define various NNAI plans, such as the E.164 numbering plan for telephone numbers and the E.212 plan for mobile subscriber identities.

At national level, designated entity within each country responsible for managing and assigning national NNAI resources. Numbering Plan Administrator (NPA) typically operate under the authority of the national telecommunications regulator.

ITU-T Resolution-20 outlines the general principles and procedures for NNAI resource allocation and management. It emphasizes the sovereignty of member states over their national NNAI resources while promoting global harmonization and efficiency.

Since its adoption during WTSA meeting in 1993, Resolution 20, a cornerstone of international NNAI resource management, has undergone continuous refinement through ongoing discussions and updates at every WTSA meeting.

**Introduction**

In present digital age, seamless communication across borders has become an essential part of our lives. This interconnectedness relies on a robust and well-managed system of international telecommunication NNAI resources, comprising telephone numbers, network identifiers, service codes, and more. However, the allocation and management of these resources pose a multifaceted challenge, requiring a delicate balance between national sovereignty and global consistency.

Various procedures governing the allocation and management of international telecommunication NNAI resources and related codes (e.g. new telephone country codes, telex destination codes, signalling area/network codes, data country codes, mobile country codes, identification), including ENUM, are laid down in the relevant Recommendations in the ITU-T E-, ITU-T F-, ITU-T Q-, ITU-T X- and ITU-T Y-series.

Study Group 2, in liaison with other relevant study groups, provide advice to the Director of TSB on technical, functional and operational aspects regarding the assignment, reassignment and/or reclamation of international telecommunication NNAI resources, who is responsible for the misuse of any international telecommunication NNAI resources, and inform the ITU Council accordingly.

With the emergence of new telecommunications/ICT services, particularly Over-the-Top (OTT) offerings, has presented the Director TSB with fresh challenges in allocating and managing international NNAI resources.

### **Proposal**

IAFI/Administration of India, after careful study of the Resolution-20, suggests some modifications to Resolution 20 of WTSA-22, considering the impact of new and emerging telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) on the allocation and management of international telecommunication NNAI resources.

The proliferation of Over-the-Top (OTT) platforms offering voice services has placed unprecedented demands on the management of international telecommunication numbering, naming, addressing, and identification (NNAI) resources. To meet these challenges, regulators must embrace both flexibility and adaptability and need to act swiftly to allocate and manage NNAI resources for these evolving services, ensuring transparency and interoperability across telecom applications.

It is proposed that APT develop a common proposal for this Resolution based on this contribution.

### **Attachment :**

Resolution 20 with modifications in Track Changes

RESOLUTION 20 (Rev. Geneva, 2022)

**Procedures for allocation and management of international telecommunication numbering, naming, addressing and identification resources**

*(Helsinki, 1993; Geneva, 1996; Montreal, 2000; Florianópolis, 2004; Johannesburg, 2008; Dubai, 2012; Hammamet, 2016; Geneva, 2022)*

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Geneva, 2022),

*recognizing*

- a) the relevant rules of the International Telecommunication Regulations (Dubai, 2012) regarding the integrity and use of numbering resources and calling line identification;
- b) the instructions in the resolutions adopted by plenipotentiary conferences relevant for the stability of numbering and identification plans, especially the ITU-T E.164 and ITU-T E.212 plans, and in particular in Resolution 133 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, where it resolves to instruct the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux: "to take any necessary action to ensure the sovereignty of ITU Member States with regard to Recommendation ITU-T E.164 numbering plans whatever the application in which they are used";
- c) Resolution 49 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, on ENUM;
- d) that international telecommunication numbering, naming, addressing and identification (NNAI) resources and related codes are crucial to maintain global interoperability;
- e) the impact of new and emerging telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) on the allocation and management of international telecommunication NNAI resources,

*noting*

- a) that the procedures governing the allocation and management of international telecommunication NNAI resources and related codes (e.g. new telephone country codes, telex destination codes, signalling area/network codes, data country codes, mobile country codes, identification), including ENUM, are laid down in the relevant Recommendations in the ITU-T E-, ITU-T F-, ITU-T Q-, ITU-T X- and ITU-T Y-series;
- b) that the principles concerning future NNAI plans to deal with emerging services or applications and relevant NNAI resource allocation procedures to meet international telecommunication needs will be studied in accordance with this resolution and the work programme approved by this assembly for study groups of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T);
- c) the deployment of current and future telecommunications/ICTs, including Internet Protocol (IP)-based networks to support new and innovative services that may require NNAI resources;
- d) that several international telecommunication NNAI resources are developed and maintained by ITU-T study groups and are in widespread use;

e) that the national authorities responsible for allocation of NNAI resources, including those covered by Recommendation ITU-T Q.708, on specifications of Signalling System No. 7 – Message transfer part (MTP), Recommendation ITU-T E.164, on the international public telecommunication numbering plan, and Recommendation ITU-T E.212, on the international identification plan for public networks and subscriptions, normally participate in ITU-T Study Group 2;

f) that it is in the common interest of ITU Member States and Sector Members that the Recommendations and guidelines for international telecommunication NNAI resources should:

- i) be known, recognized and applied by all;
- ii) be used to build and maintain confidence of all in the related services;
- iii) address deterrence of misuse of such resources;
- iv) be governed and administered in a consistent and appropriate manner;

g) Articles 14 and 15 of the ITU Convention, relating to the activities of ITU-T study groups and the responsibilities of the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB), respectively;

h) No. 196 of the Convention, which stipulates that "In the performance of their studies, the telecommunication standardization study groups shall pay due attention to the study of questions and to the formulation of recommendations directly connected with the establishment, development and improvement of telecommunications in developing countries at both the regional and international levels. They shall conduct their work giving due consideration to the work of national, regional and other international standardization organizations, and cooperate with them, keeping in mind the need for the Union to maintain its pre-eminent position in the field of worldwide standardization for telecommunications.",

*considering*

a) that the assignment of international telecommunication NNAI resources is a responsibility of the Director of TSB and the relevant administrations;

b) the evolution of telecommunication services, and the requirements for NNAI resources to support new telecommunications/ICTs and innovative services;

c) the ongoing cooperation between ITU-T and several consortia and standards entities in the allocation and management of international telecommunication NNAI resources as referred to in Supplement 3 to the ITU-T A-series Recommendations,

*resolves to instruct*

1 the Director of TSB, before assigning, reassigning and/or reclaiming international telecommunication NNAI resources, to consult:

- i) the chairman of Study Group 2, in liaison with the chairmen of the other relevant study groups, or if needed the chairman's delegated representative, to resolve requirements as specified in relevant ITU-T Recommendations; and
- ii) the relevant administration(s); and/or

- iii) the authorized applicant/assignee when direct communication with TSB is required in order to perform its responsibilities;

in the Director's deliberations and consultations, the Director will consider the general principles for the allocation of NNAI resources, and the provisions of the relevant Recommendations in the ITU-T E-, ITU-T F-, ITU-T Q-, ITU-T X- and ITU-T Y-series, and those to be further adopted;

2 Study Group 2, in liaison with other relevant study groups, to provide to the Director of TSB with advice on technical, functional and operational aspects in the assignment, reassignment and/or reclamation of international telecommunication NNAI resources in accordance with the relevant Recommendations, taking into account the results of any ongoing studies, information and guidance in cases of reported complaints about misuse of international telecommunication NNAI resources;

3 the Director of TSB, in close collaboration with Study Group 2, and any other relevant study groups, to follow up with the administrations involved on the misuse of any international telecommunication NNAI resources, and inform the ITU Council accordingly;

4 the Director of TSB to encourage all relevant study groups to study the impact of new and emerging telecommunications/ICTs on the allocation and management of international telecommunication NNAI resources;

5 the Director of TSB to take the appropriate measures and actions where Study Group 2, in liaison with the other relevant study groups, has provided information, advice and guidance in accordance with *resolves to instruct* 2 and 3 above;

6 Study Group 2 to continue to study necessary action to ensure that the sovereignty of ITU Member States with regard to country-code NNAI plans is fully maintained, including ENUM, as enshrined in Recommendation ITU-T E.164 and other relevant Recommendations and procedures; this shall cover ways and means to address and counter any misuse of any international telecommunication NNAI resources,

*invites Member States*

to share their experiences regarding the implementation of this resolution.

