



IAFI/India (Republic of)

**PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO WTSA RESOLUTION-75-THE ITU
TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION SECTOR'S CONTRIBUTION IN
IMPLEMENTING THE OUTCOMES OF THE WORLD SUMMIT ON THE
INFORMATION SOCIETY, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE 2030 AGENDA FOR
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Background

UN Membership in 2015 adopted 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, for urgent action by all countries in a global partnership. It was widely accepted that ICTs can serve as catalysts for achieving all the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), a United Nations-sponsored summit, a multi-stakeholder process focused to harness the power of ICTs for the benefit of all, addresses the challenges and opportunities related to information, communication, and the information society.

The ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) plays a vital role in implementing the outcomes of the WSIS, contributing to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

This Resolution-75 was adopted by WTSA in 2008, reaffirms ITU-T's commitment to these goals and outlines specific actions that will be taken for further implementation.

Introduction

The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) was a landmark event that brought together governments, the private sector, and civil society to develop a roadmap for building an inclusive information society. WSIS fosters collaboration between governments, businesses, civil society, and international organizations to ensure a coordinated and inclusive approach to using ICTs for sustainable development. The WSIS outcomes provide a comprehensive set of goals and targets for achieving this vision.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is a global plan of action for achieving sustainable development by 2030. The Agenda includes 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that address a wide range of challenges, including poverty, hunger, inequality, climate change, and access to education and healthcare.

The resolution also invites Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia, and all stakeholders to participate actively in ITU WSIS implementation activities, including in ITU-T, to support achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, especially to SDG-1 (No Poverty), SDG-4 (Quality Education), SDG-5 (Gender Equality), SDG-8 (Decent

Work and Economic Growth), SDG-9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure) and SDG -13 (Climate Changes).

The development of quality ICT infrastructure for the entire population, with a focus on rural and remote areas, is one of the ITU's most important priorities in alignment with SDG-9.

Proposal

This resolution proposes a number of actions that ITU-T and Member-state, other stakeholders may take action to implement the WSIS outcomes and contribute to the achievement of the SDGs. These actions include:

1. to continue work on the implementation of WSIS outcomes and the WSIS vision beyond 2015.
2. to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, through and in harmony with the WSIS framework.
3. to study on low-cost sustainable solution and to reduce the digital divide.

This document proposes to modify Resolution 75 of WTSA-22.

Annex:

Revision of Resolution 75

RESOLUTION 75 (Rev. Geneva, 2022)

The ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector's contribution in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

(Johannesburg, 2008; Dubai, 2012; Hammamet, 2016; Geneva, 2022)

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Geneva, 2022),

considering

- a)* the relevant outcomes of both phases of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS);
- b)* United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution 70/1, on transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- c)* UNGA Resolution 70/125, on the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of WSIS outcomes;
- d)* the WSIS+10 Statement on the implementation of WSIS outcomes and WSIS+10 vision for WSIS beyond 2015, adopted at the ITU-coordinated WSIS+10 High-Level Event (Geneva, 2014) and endorsed by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Busan, 2014), which was submitted as an input into the overall review of WSIS by UNGA;
- e)* the relevant resolutions and decisions related to the implementation of relevant outcomes of both phases of WSIS and to international Internet-related public policy issues adopted by the Plenipotentiary Conference:
 - i)* Resolution 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the strategic plan for the Union for 2020-2023;
 - ii)* Resolution 101 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on Internet Protocol (IP)-based networks;
 - iii)* Resolution 102 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on ITU's role with regard to international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet and the management of Internet resources, including domain names and addresses;
 - iv)* Resolution 130 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on strengthening the role of ITU in building confidence and security in the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs);
 - v)* Resolution 131 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on measuring ICTs to build an integrating and inclusive information society;
 - vi)* Resolution 133 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the role of administrations of Member States in the management of internationalized (multilingual) domain names;
 - vii)* Resolution 139 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the use of telecommunications/ICTs to bridge the digital divide and build an inclusive information society;

- viii) Resolution 140 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on ITU's role in implementing the outcomes of WSIS and in the overall review by UNGA of their implementation;
- ix) Resolution 178 (Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on ITU's role in organizing the work on technical aspects of telecommunication networks to support the Internet;
- x) Resolution 200 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the Connect 2030 Agenda for global telecommunications/ICT, including broadband, for sustainable development;
- f) the opinions of the World Telecommunication/ICT Policy Forum;
- g) the role of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) in ITU implementation of relevant WSIS outcomes, adaptation of ITU's role and development of telecommunication standards in building the information society, including ITU's lead facilitation role in the WSIS implementation process, as a moderator/facilitator for implementing Action Lines C2, C5 and C6 and participating with other stakeholders, as appropriate, in the implementation of Action Lines C1, C3, C4, C7, C8, C9 and C11 and all other relevant action lines and other WSIS outcomes, within the financial limits set by the Plenipotentiary Conference;
- h) that, despite the previous decade's achievements in ICT connectivity, many forms of digital divide remain, both between and within countries, and between women and men, that need to be addressed through, among other actions, strengthened enabling policy environments and international cooperation to improve affordability, access, education, capacity building, multilingualism, cultural preservation, investment and appropriate financing, as well as measures to improve digital literacy and skills and to promote cultural diversity;
- i) that the management of the Internet encompasses both technical and public policy issues and should involve all stakeholders and relevant intergovernmental and international organizations in accordance with §§ 35 a)-e) of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, as well as § 57 of the outcome document of the 2015 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the WSIS outcomes,

considering further

- a) that ITU has a pivotal role in providing a global perspective in regard to the information society;
- b) that the Council Working Group on WSIS and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (CWG-WSIS&SDG), in accordance with Resolution 140 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) and with Resolution 1332, first adopted by the ITU Council at its 2011 session and last modified at its 2019 session, open to all the ITU membership, constitutes an effective mechanism for facilitating Member State inputs on ITU implementation of relevant WSIS outcomes and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- c) that the Council Working Group on international Internet-related public policy issues (CWG-Internet), in accordance with Resolution 1336, first adopted by the Council at its 2011 session and last modified at its 2019 session, open to Member States only, with open consultation of all stakeholders, was created in order to promote enhanced cooperation and to foster the participation of governments in addressing international Internet public policy issues;

d) that there is a perceived need to improve coordination, dissemination and interaction: (i) by avoiding duplication of efforts through focused coordination between ITU's relevant study groups that deal with international Internet public policy issues and technical aspects of telecommunication networks to support the Internet; (ii) by disseminating relevant international Internet public policy information to the ITU membership, the General Secretariat and the Bureaux; (iii) by promoting enhanced cooperation and technical-oriented interaction between ITU and other relevant international organizations and entities,

recognizing

a) the commitment of ITU to implementing relevant WSIS outcomes and the WSIS vision beyond 2015, as one of the most important goals for the Union;

b) that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has substantial implications for the activities of ITU,

recognizing further

a) that all governments should have an equal role and responsibility for international Internet governance and for ensuring the stability, security and continuity of the Internet, while also recognizing the need for development of public policy by governments in consultation with all stakeholders, as expressed in § 68 of the Tunis Agenda;

b) the potential of ICTs to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other internationally agreed development goals;

c) that increased connectivity, innovation and access played a critical role in enabling progress on the SDGs;

d) the need to promote greater participation and engagement in Internet governance discussions of governments, the private sector, civil society, international organizations, the technical and academic communities and all other relevant stakeholders from developing countries¹¹;

e) the need for enhanced cooperation in the future, to enable governments, on an equal footing, to carry out their roles and responsibilities in international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet, but not in the day-to-day technical and operational matters that do not impact on international public policy issues, as expressed in § 69 of the Tunis Agenda;

f) that, using relevant international organizations, such cooperation should include the development of globally applicable principles on public policy issues associated with the coordination and management of critical Internet resources, in which regard the organizations responsible for essential tasks associated with the Internet are called upon to contribute to creating an environment that facilitates this development of public policy principles, as expressed in § 70 of the Tunis Agenda;

g) that §§ 69 to 71 of the Tunis Agenda called for the process towards enhanced cooperation to be started by the United Nations Secretary-General, involving all relevant organizations by the end of the first quarter of 2006, to involve all stakeholders in their respective roles, to proceed as quickly as possible consistent with legal process, and to be responsive to innovation; and for relevant organizations to commence a process towards enhanced cooperation involving all stakeholders, proceeding as quickly as possible and

¹¹ These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

responsive to innovation; and for the same relevant organizations to be requested to provide annual performance reports;

h) that various initiatives have been implemented and some progress has been made in relation to the process towards enhanced cooperation detailed in §§ 69 to 71 of the Tunis Agenda and that UNGA, in Resolution 70/125, called for continued dialogue and work on the implementation of enhanced cooperation, which is already under way in accordance with § 65 of that resolution,

taking into account

a) Resolution 30 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on the role of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector in implementing the WSIS outcomes, taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

b) Resolution ITU-R 61 (Rev. Sharm el-Sheikh, 2019) of the Radiocommunication Assembly, on the ITU Radiocommunication Sector's contribution in implementing the WSIS outcomes and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

c) the programmes, activities and regional initiatives being carried out in accordance with the decisions of WTDC-17 for bridging the digital divide;

d) the relevant work already accomplished and/or to be carried out by ITU under the guidance of CWG-WSIS&SDG and CWG-Internet,

noting

a) Resolution 1332, first adopted by the Council at its 2011 session and last modified at its 2019 session, on ITU's role in the implementation of the WSIS outcomes and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

b) Resolution 1334, first adopted by the Council at its 2011 session and last modified at its 2015 session, on ITU's role in the overall review of the implementation of the WSIS outcomes;

c) Resolution 1344, first adopted by the Council at its 2012 session and last modified at its 2015 session, on the modality of open consultation for CWG-Internet;

d) Resolution 1336, first adopted by the Council at its 2011 session and last modified at its 2019 session, on CWG-Internet,

noting further

that the ITU Secretary-General created the ITU WSIS&SDG Task Force, whose role is to formulate strategies and coordinate ITU's policies and activities in relation to the WSIS process and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and that this task force is chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General, as noted by Council Resolution 1332,

resolves

1 to continue ITU-T's work on the implementation of WSIS outcomes and the WSIS vision beyond 2015 and follow-up activities within its mandate;

2 that ITU-T should contribute to achievement of the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, through and in harmony with the WSIS framework;

3 that ITU-T should carry out the activities under *resolves* 1 and 2 above in cooperation with other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate;

4 that the relevant ITU-T study groups should consider in their studies the output of CWG-WSIS&SDG and CWG-Internet,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

1 to provide CWG-WSIS&SDG with a comprehensive summary of ITU-T activities on implementation of the WSIS outcomes, taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

2 to ensure that concrete objectives and deadlines for activities in connection with WSIS outcomes, taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, are developed and reflected in the operational plans of ITU-T in accordance with Resolution 140 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) and Council Resolution 1332;

3 in implementing the WSIS outcomes, taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, within the mandate of ITU-T, to pay special attention to the needs of the developing countries;

4 to provide information on emerging trends based on ITU-T activities;

5 to take appropriate action to facilitate the activities for implementation of this resolution;

6 to submit contributions to the relevant annual reports of the ITU Secretary-General on these activities,

invites Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia

1 to submit contributions to relevant ITU-T study groups and to the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group, where appropriate, and contribute to CWG-WSIS&SDG on implementing WSIS outcomes, taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development within the ITU mandate;

2 to support and collaborate with the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau in implementing relevant WSIS outcomes, taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in ITU-T;

to submit contributions to CWG-WSIS&SDG,

invites Member States

to submit contributions to CWG-Internet,

invites all stakeholders

1 to participate actively in ITU WSIS implementation activities, including in ITU-T, to support achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as appropriate;

2 to participate actively in the online and physical open consultations of CWG-Internet.