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| **Summary:**  |
| The document gives an overview and an assessment of the results of WTSA-20. This is the first Draft WTSA-20 report.  |
| **Proposal:**  |
| Com-ITU Plenary is invited to approve the draft WTSA-20 report.  |
| **Background:**  |
| WTSA-20 took place in Geneva (Switzerland) from 01 – 09 March 2022. |

**Report on the outcomes of the WTSA-20**

**Background**

* WTSA-20 took place in Geneva (Switzerland) from 01 – 09 March 2022.
* WTSA-20 was held from 1 to 9 March 2022 in Geneva, Switzerland. WTSA-20 was held as a physical event with interactive remote participation. Decision making was by delegates physically present in Geneva.
* Participation in WTSA-20 totalled 1,281 delegates: 870 physically and 411 remotely. In total, 138 Member States attended, as well as 85 other entities. Physical participants were from 125 Member States, 49 Sector Members, six Academia Members, and two United Nations specialized agencies.
* Before WTSA-20 the Global Standards Symposium (GSS) took place.
* From the CEPT Region there were 229 delegates (government delegates and from industry) from 40 CEPT member states (Albania, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and United Kingdom). There were also delegates from other stakeholders (such as SDOs and NGOs), including from the European Region.

**Significant outcomes and brief assessment of WTSA-20**

Europe successfully contributed to setting the procedural framework, the activities and the priorities of the Sector for the next study period.

The substance of most ECPs was accepted by WTSA-20.

The European candidates for Chairs of ITU-T SGs were appointed as proposed (SG02 – Phil Rushton, SG05 – Dominique Wurges) as well as proposed European Vice Chair candidates.

Europe achieved a good outcome on the Internet, Cyber and Numbering Resolutions.

The engagement of industry in the Sector was discussed at WTSA-20 based on a contribution from Europe and CITEL.

The ITU-T work will continue to be membership driven, i.e. in a bottom-up fashion with secretarial support from TSB (status quo). CEPT’s and CITEL’s proposals to enhance industry’s engagement was not approved by the Assembly. TSAG is invited to consider the issue of industry engagement discussed at WTSA-20, including Resolution 68.

WTSA-20 also acknowledged CEPT’s proposal on the importance of Science Monitoring And Reliable Telecommunications (SMART) cables for climate change and seismic monitoring, with the wide support of the Assembly for the roll-out of activities around this concept within the ITU-T Sector, and the need for standardization of the matter, and sought relevant ITU-T study groups to study and take action, and TSAG to coordinate, as appropriate.

CEPT’s proposal for a new resolution on Machine Readable Standards was not approved by the Assembly. The proposal was considered very innovative by the member states of ITU. Member States are invited to contribute to the topic in TSAG and other study groups.

Resolution 99, Consideration of organizational reform of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector study, requests TSAG to implement the TSAG action plan for the analysis of ITU-T study group restructuring, and for TSAG, with the necessary assistance given by the TSB Director, to prepare a proposal with recommendations to the next Assembly in 2024 for a possible reform of ITU-T. CEPT is invited to contribute to this process.

The overall decisions of WTSA-20 are largely positive from Europe’s perspective. However, some of the work of ITU-T is not found in the core interest of the Telecommunications/ICT industry and might be more oriented to the activities to be performed by the ITU-D.

Being dedicated to finding consensus and pragmatic solutions to issues, CEPT was generally regarded as a positive contributor to WTSA-20.

**Resolutions and Recommendations (Changes, suppressions, new Resolutions)**

WTSA-20 revised 36 Resolutions, adopted two new Resolutions, suppressed four Resolutions, and decided to keep 10 Resolutions unchanged (in total, 20 Resolutions remain the unchanged since Hammamet 2016). Two new Resolutions were approved (Resolution 99 - Consideration of organizational reform of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector study, Resolution 100 - A common emergency number for Africa).

WTSA-20 also revised three ITU-T A-Series Recommendations that guide ITU-T’s work; three other ITU-T A-Series Recommendations were left unchanged.

Annex 1 gives an overview of Resolutions and Recommendations revised, suppressed or added at WTSA-20.

**Results of the European Common Proposals (ECPS)**

Almost all ECPs were accepted by WTSA-20 in substance, see Annex 2 for details.

**CEPT Co-ordination in preparation of and during WTSA-20**

The CEPT preparation for and coordination during WTSA-20 worked well, due to the engagement and commitment of delegates from administrations and industry. It is important to distribute tasks to delegations and individual delegates in order to feel actual responsibility for the European proposals and goals and to be active in official and informal meetings and negotiations.

CEPT Co-ordination meetings were held every day and well attended. Although burdensome for delegates, these daily (lunch-time) meetings allowed Europe to shape a common approach on surprising or unforeseen issues and developments. Co-ordination during formal meetings via mobile messaging apps was helpful.

The CEPT Brief fulfilled its purpose and gave valuable guidelines and background information on the various topics.

The support of ECO was very much appreciated and in particular during the hot phase immediately before the WTSA-20.

Annex 1 – Overview of Resolutions and Recommendations changed, suppressed and added at WTSA-20

## Revised Resolutions

**Resolution 1** Rules of procedure of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector

This resolution was revised with a number of issues raised in the ECP reflected in the final text.

**Resolution 2** ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector study group responsibility and mandates

**Resolution 7** Collaboration with the International Organization for Standardization and the International Electrotechnical Commission

**Resolution 18** Principles and procedures for the allocation of work to, and strengthening coordination and cooperation among, the ITU Radiocommunication, ITU Telecommunication Standardization and ITU Telecommunication Development Sectors

**Resolution 20** Procedures for allocation and management of international telecommunication numbering, naming, addressing and identification resources

**Resolution 22** Authorization for the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group to act between world telecommunication standardization assemblies

**Resolution 29** Alternative calling procedures on international telecommunication networks

**Resolution 34** Voluntary contributions

**Resolution 40** Regulatory and policy aspects of the work of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector

**Resolution 43** Regional preparations for world telecommunication standardization assemblies

**Resolution 44** Bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries

**Resolution 48** Internationalized (multilingual) domain names

**Resolution 50** Cybersecurity

**Resolution 54** Regional groups of study groups of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector

**Resolution 55** Promoting gender equality in ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector activities

**Resolution 58** Encouraging the creation of national computer incident response teams, particularly for developing countries

**Resolution 60** Responding to the challenges of the evolution of the identification/numbering system and its convergence with IP-based systems/networks

**Resolution 61** Countering and combating misappropriation and misuse of international telecommunication numbering resources

**Resolution 64** Internet protocol address allocation and facilitating the transition to and deployment of IPv6

**Resolution 65** Calling party number delivery, calling line identification and origin identification information

**Resolution 67** Use in the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector of the languages of the Union on an equal footing and the Standardization Committee for Vocabulary

**Resolution 70** Telecommunication/information and communication technology accessibility for persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs

**Resolution 72** Measurement and assessment concerns related to human exposure to electromagnetic fields

**Resolution 73** Information and communication technologies, environment, climate change and circular economy

**Resolution 74** Enhancing participation of Sector Members from developing countries in the work of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector

**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

**Resolution 76** Studies related to conformance and interoperability testing, assistance to developing countries, and a possible future ITU Mark programme

**Resolution 78** Information and communication technology applications and standards for improved access to e-health services

**Resolution 79** The role of telecommunications/information and communication technologies in handling and controlling e-waste from telecommunication and information technology equipment and methods of treating it

**Resolution 84** Studies concerning the protection of users of telecommunication/information and communication technology services

**Resolution 89** Promoting the use of information and communication technologies to bridge the financial inclusion gap

**Resolution 91** Enhancing access to an electronic repository of information on numbering plans published by the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector

**Resolution 92** Enhancing the standardization activities in the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector related to non-radio aspects of international mobile telecommunications

**Resolution 95** ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector initiatives to raise awareness on best practices and policies related to service quality

**Resolution 97** Combating mobile telecommunication device theft

**Resolution 98** Enhancing the standardization of Internet of things and smart cities and communities for global development

## New Resolutions

**Resolution 99** Consideration of organizational reform of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector study groups

**Resolution 100** A common emergency number for Africa

## Revised Recommendations

**Recommendation A.1** Working Methods

It was agreed that no revised text proposals from each of the ITU regions would be agreed at WTSA. Instead, the regional proposals would be considered at the next TSAG meeting.

**Recommendation A.5** Generic procedures for including references to documents of other organizations in ITU-T Recommendations

This recommendation was revised with a number of issues raised in the ECP reflected in the final text.

**Recommendation A.7** Focus Groups

It was agreed that no revised text proposals from each of the ITU regions would be agreed at WTSA. Instead, the regional proposals would be considered at the next TSAG meeting.

**Recommendation A.8** Alternative approval process for new and revised ITU-T Recommendations

This recommendation was revised with a number of issues raised in the ECP reflected in the final text.

## Resolutions deleted

**Resolution 35** Appointment and maximum term of office for chairmen and vice-chairmen of study groups of the Telecommunication Standardization Sector and of the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group

**Resolution 45** Effective coordination of standardization work across study groups in the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector and the role of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group

**Resolution 59** Enhancing participation of telecommunication operators from developing countries

**Resolution 66** Technology Watch in the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

# Annex 2 – Results of ECPs

**ECP 1** ITU’s Role and our vision for ITU-T (OK – CEPT’s basis for the overall approach of Europe – noted)

**ECP 2** Resolutions 22 and 45 - Role of TSAG in coordination of standardization (OK – streamlining resolutions)

**ECP 3** Resolutions 1 and 35 - Streamlining with PP-18 Resolution 208 (OK)

**ECP 4** Resolution 75 – Sustainable Development Goals (OK – streamlining resolutions)

**ECP 5** Resolution 73 - ICT, environment and climate change (OK – streamlining resolutions)

**ECP 6** Resolution 50 – Cybersecurity

CEPT prevented damaging proposals on cyber security, including for the ITU to develop a database of mobile devices, to develop new international legal frameworks, to study AI and to expand the mandate of the ITU into areas of law enforcement and national security. We made modest improvements to the cyber security resolutions, for example promoting the involvement of experts and industry in ITU's work, risk-based and people-centric approaches and collaboration with stakeholders.

**ECP 7** Resolution 48 - Internationalised Domain Names (OK – streamlining resolutions)

**ECP 8** Resolution 43 - Regional Preparation for WTSAs (OK)

**ECP 9** Resolution 67 - Languages of the Union (OK – streamlining resolutions)

**ECP 10** Resolution 72 - Exposure to electromagnetic fields (OK – streamlining resolutions, amendment of mandate of SG05)

**ECP 11** Resolution 64 - Internet protocol address allocation and facilitating IPv6 (OK – streamlining resolutions)

**ECP 12** Resolution 52 - Countering and combatting spam (OK)

**ECP 13** Resolution 54 – Creation of and assistance to regional groups (title changed to ‘Regional Groups of study groups of ITU Standardisation Sector’.

The proposals in the ECP to modify the pre-existing text of Resolution 54 were broadly agreed, including the change in title. However, text was transferred from Resolution 1 which denied Members outside a region the right to attend meeting in another region. This was contrary to the provisions of the CS/CV as had been made clear by ITU Legal Counsel. Despite CEPT arguing that the imported text should be consistent with the CS/CV, opposition for changes to it were resisted by three other regions. Given the political sensitivities and the fact that there is to be another WTSA in two years’ time, CEPT decided not to confront the issue at this WTSA but defer it to be addressed in an ECP to WTSA-24.

**ECP 15** A-series Rec A.2 - Presentation of contributions to the ITU-T Sector (No change accepted by assembly)

**ECP 16** A-series Rec A.8 - AAP for new and revised ITU-T Recs (OK)

**ECP 17** Recommendation A.1 - Working methods for SGs of ITU-T standardization sector (No change accepted by assembly)

**ECP 18** Recommendation A.5 - Generic procedures for including references to documents of other organizations in ITU T Recommendations (OK)

**ECP 19** Recommendation A.7 - Focus Groups: Establishment and Working Procedures (No change accepted by assembly)

**ECP 20 (rev1)** Resolution 1 - Rules of procedure of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (OK – This resolution was revised with a number of issues raised in the ECP reflected in the final text.)

**ECP 21** Resolution 40 - Regulatory aspects of the work of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (OK)

**ECP 22** Resolution 60 - Responding to the challenges of the evolution of the identification/numbering system and its convergence with emerging telecommunications/ICTs and services (OK)

**ECP 23** Resolution 91 - Enhancing access to an electronic repository of information on numbering plans published by the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (OK)

**ECP 24** Resolution 20 - Procedures for allocation and management of international telecommunication numbering, naming, addressing and identification resources (OK)

**ECP 25** Proposed new WTSA Resolution on the Importance of Industry Engagement in the Work of ITU-T

ECP-1 from CEPT and the IAP-2 from CITEL were to replace the existing Resolution 68. An ad hoc group discussion produced a merged proposal of a draft new Resolution. No final text agreed due to the opposition of SAU, RUS and ALG despite the advocacy of CAN, DEU, USA and especially the sector member Broadcom. Plenary is requested to consider draft revised Resolution 68 as found in Document 99R1. TSAG is tasked to consider the issue of industry engagement in Nov 2022.

**ECP 26** Proposed new WTSA Resolution on SMART Submarine Cable Systems (Proposal not accepted by assembly, to be discussed in TSAG)

**ECP 27** Resolution 29 - Alternative calling procedures on international telecommunication networks (OK)

**ECP 28** Resolution 61 - Countering and combating misappropriation and misuse of international telecommunication numbering resources (OK)

**ECP 29** Resolution 65 - Calling party number delivery, calling line identification and origin identification information (OK)

**ECP 30** Resolution 2 - ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector study group responsibility and mandates

The COM-ITU position was NOC. This was reflected in that no regional revised text was agreed. The only updated text to this resolution came from each of the respective study groups' preparatory processes.

**ECP 31** Resolution 98 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) - Enhancing the standardization of Internet of things and smart cities and communities for global development (OK)

**ECP 32** Resolution 87 (Hammamet, 2016) - Participation of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector in the periodic review and revision of the International Telecommunication Regulation (OK – No change of Resolution)

**ECP 33** Resolution 96 - ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector studies for combating counterfeit telecommunication/information and communication technology devices (Objection by some CEPT member states to *recognizing further (b) of WTSA Resolution 96.* Recommendation ITU-T X.1255 is not based on digital object architecture and we do not support this reference. This should be reflected in the meeting minutes of WTSA-20.)

**ECP 34** Resolution 97 - Combating mobile telecommunication device theft (OK – streamlining resolution)

**ECP 35** Proposed new Resolution on Machine Readable Standards (New resolution proposal not accepted by assembly)