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| APTlogogreen3 | ASIA-PACIFIC TELECOMMUNITY | **Document No.:** |
| **4th Meeting of the APT Preparatory Group for PP-22 (APT PP22-4)** | **APT PP22-4/OUT-07** |
| 1-5 August 2022, Bangkok, Thailand | 5 August 2022 |

APT Preparatory Group for ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2022

**PRELIMINARY APT COMMON PROPOSAL**

**PROPOSED MODIFICATION TO RESOLUTION 100**

**Role of the Secretary-General of ITU as depositary**

**for memoranda of understanding**

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| **Summary:**  To enhance oversight and transparency on Memoranda of Understandings (MoUs) being entered with the ITU, the APT proposes to revise PP Resolution 100 to strengthen the Council’s role in assessing MoUs that have a significant financial and/or strategic implication to the Union.  The modifications include instructing the Council to develop guidelines for the ITU entering MoUs that have significant strategic and financial implications. |

**INTRODUCTION**

This proposal by APT member administrations instructs Council to develop guidelines for the ITU entering into MoUs that have significant strategic and financial implications. These guidelines will provide the Secretary-General or their designee with clearly defined guidelines and encourage consultation with Council prior to entering into MoUs. This will provide Member States better oversight of MoUs between the ITU and partnering agencies.

**PROPOSAL**

APT Member Administrations propose the revision of PP Resolution 100 on “Role of the Secretary-General of ITU as depositary for memoranda of understanding”.

**PACP-07**

**MOD**

RESOLUTION 100 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022)

Role of the Secretary-General of ITU as depositary   
for memoranda of understanding

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Rev. Bucharest 2022),

# *considering*

*a)* that one of the purposes of the Union as set out in Article 1 of the Constitution is to maintain and extend international cooperation between all its Member States for the improvement and rational use of telecommunications of all kinds;

b) that another purpose of the Union is to promote, at the international level, the adoption of a broader approach to the issues of telecommunications in the global information economy and society, by cooperating with other world and regional intergovernmental organizations and those non-governmental organizations concerned with telecommunications,

# *noting*

that cooperative multilateral action in the field of telecommunications is increasingly being achieved through the conclusion of memoranda of understanding (”MoUs”), which are generally non-binding instruments used to reflect international consensus on a matter, and in which both Member States and Sector Members may participate,

*recognizing*

a) that the Secretary-General traditionally serves as depositary for MoUs that relate to telecommunications,

b) that the 2018 Plenipotentiary Conference agreed MoUs in which the ITU is a participant, that have substantial and/or strategic implications, should only be entered into subject to Council’s prior approval,

# *believing*

that, to ensure transparency and accountability, the Secretary-General’s role entering into MoUs on behalf of the ITU, or serving as a depositary for any MoU, must follow established criteria and guidelines and must be in line with the general practices of the United Nations system,

# *resolves*

that in keeping with the criteria and guidelines established by the Council the Secretary-General may2021 enter into and serve as depositary for MoUs that relate to telecommunications and that are in the overall interest of the Union,

# *instructs the Secretary General*

1 to only enter into MoUs on behalf of the ITU in accordance with the guidelines established by the Council;

2 to prepare contributions and provide reports to Council;

3 to obtain Council approval on the ITU’s participation in MoUs, as appropriate, in accordance with the guidelines;

4 to provide annually to Council a list of all MoUs entered into since the last ordinary session of the Council,

# *instructs the Council*

1 to establish guidelines for entering into MoUs which will ensure an opportunity for Council to approve MoUs that have strategic and/or financial significance;

2 to apply the following principles when considering ITU’s participation in MoUs:

a) that any MoUs and involvement of the Secretary General in his/her capacity should contribute to and be within the purposes of the Union as set forth in Article 1 of the Constitution, and within the strategic and financial plans of the Union;

b) that the sovereignty and rights of ITU Member States should be fully respected and preserved.