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| **The 2ndAPT Preparatory Meeting for PP-14 (PP14-2)** | | **Document:**  **PP14-2/INP-14** | |
| 28 – 30 October 2013, Gold Coast, Australia | | **28 October 2013** | |

Chairman, Sub-WG on ITU-T Issues

**issues for consideration under Working Group 3: Sub Working Group ITU-T Issues**

1. **INTRODUCTION**

The first APT preparatory meeting for the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2014 (PP-14), which was held in Seoul, Republic of Korea, from 2 to 3 April 2013, established three Working Groups for the preparation on the issues related to PP. WG3 will consider the issues related to three sectors of the ITU, while the Sub-WG on ITU-T Issues under WG3 will consider Telecommunication Standardization issues.

This issue paper aims to assist discussion on ITU-T Issues for PP-14 preparation by summarizing the outcomes of PP-10, ITU Council, WTSA-12, TSAG, ITU-T Review Committee and other ITU-T activities pertaining to the Terms of Reference of Sub-WG on ITU-T (See Annex A). This version also lists provisions of CS and CV specifically associated with the work of ITU-T (See Annex B). As yet there are no contributions or proposals to PP-14 from other regions and countries, so this can be a subject for discussion at the 3rd APT Preparatory Meeting for PP 14.

Issues presented in this paper include:

* Improve the efficiency of ITU-T sector to meet the needs of industry
* Strengthen the relationship between ITU and other SDOs
* Strategic Plan for the Standardization Sector
* Bridging standardization gap
* Conformance and interoperability activities in ITU-T
* ITU-T Review Committee
* Study areas of ITU-T: 1) Concept of network externalities; 2)Telecommunication support for the protection of the environment; 3)International telex service; 4)Technical aspects of Internet; 5)Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs, including non-discriminatory access to modern ICT resources;6) Emergency communication; 7) Telecommunication/ICT applications for e-health; 8)Telecommunication/information and communication technology accessibility; 9)SDN

***Invitation to APT Members:***

APT member countries are encouraged to actively participate in the discussion and provide comments regarding these issues and suggestions on issues need to be discussed in this Sub-WG.

1. **DISCUSSION ON ISSUES**
   1. **Issue 1: Improve the efficiency of ITU-T sector to meet the needs of industry**
      1. Background

* PP-10 Resolution 122 resolves to encourage WTSA to further develop its working methods and procedures for the purpose of improving the management of ITU-T's standardization activities.
* The Objective 2 of ITU-T stated in PP-10 Resolution 71 emphasizes to develop efficiently, effectively and in a timely manner the required global telecommunication/ICT standards (ITU-T Recommendations).
  + 1. Activities in ITU-T
* WTSA Resolution 68 was updated at WTSA-12 to implement PP-10 Resolution 122, peculiarly resolving to instruct the Director of the TSB to organize meetings for high-level industry executives, e.g. chief technology officer (CTO) meetings, in order to assist in identifying and coordinating standardization priorities and subjects to minimize the number of forums and consortia. TSB director has organized five sessions of Chief Technical Officer (CTO) meetings, which are held in conjunction with major industry events to facilitate participation. The fifth meeting will take place on Monday, 18 November 2013 in Bangkok, Thailand during ITU TELECOM World 2013.
* During the TSAG meeting held in Geneva, 2-4 July 2012, Japan submitted a proposal of SG restructure based on principles discussed at APT meeting, which pointed out the new structure of ITU-T should be flexible and enhance studies in key areas, such as IoT, Smart Grid, and Cloud Computing, so that it can respond to emerging standardization issues in a timely manner. ([C101/TSAG/T09](http://www.itu.int/md/T09-TSAG-C-0101/en))
  + 1. *Further Action Required*

APT member countries are encouraged to provide comments and proposals regarding the following considerations:

* Maximizing the benefit of Chief Technical Officer (CTO) meetings
* Developing new structure of ITU-T and streamlining the approval process of ITU-T Recommendations for responding to emerging standardization issues in a timely manner
* Revising PP-10 Resolution 122
  1. **Issue 2: Strengthen the relationship between ITU and other SDOs**
     1. Background
* PP-10 Resolution 58 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) resolves 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;
* The Objective 1 of ITU-T stated in PP-10 Resolution 71 focuses on Coordinating/International cooperation, inter alia, to cooperate and collaborate with other ITU Sectors, standardization bodies and relevant entities (e.g. Global Standards Collaboration, World Standards Cooperation).
  + 1. Activities in ITU-T
* WTSA-12 approved a new Resolution on strengthening collaboration (WTSA Resolution 81 (Dubai, 2012)), which resolves that an action plan be developed by TSAG for, inter alia, defining specific steps on how to improve coordination with other relevant standards bodies regarding the development of new Questions that are intended to address new domains and new work items under such Questions. TSAG decided to establish a Rapporteur group on "Strengthening collaboration" under TSAG Vice-Chairman Ms. Monique Morrow (USA) to follow up WTSA Resolution 81 at its meeting held on 4-7 June 2013.
* During the TSAG meeting on 2-4 July 2012, China proposed that ITU-T needed to further strengthen the internal cooperation among Groups and improve the ability to cooperate with other SDOs, to actively make use of internal and external resources to speed up the development and deployment of global standards, as well, enhance the competitiveness in the global ICT standardization area. ([C92/TSAG/T09](http://www.itu.int/md/T09-TSAG-C-0092/en))
* Japan proposed to create a new working group called “CG: Collaboration Group” featured by combining the advantages of FGs, JCAs and GSIs to improve collaboration and coordination on the emerging and cross-cutting issues such as smart community and e-health among ITU-T, ITU-R, ISO, and IEC at the TSAG meeting on 10-13 January 2012.([C70/TSAG/T09](http://www.itu.int/md/T09-TSAG-C-0070/en))
  + 1. *Further Action Required*

APT member countries are encouraged to provide comments and proposals regarding the following considerations:

* Attending the discussion of TSAG Rapporteur group on "Strengthening collaboration"
* Creating new framework for collaboration and coordination with other SDOs
* Examining the feasibility and the pros and cons of adopting outputs of forums and consortia as ITU outputs
* Enriching PP-10 Resolution 58 to cover the relationship between ITU and other SDOs in addition to regional telecommunication organizations.
  1. **Issue 3: Strategic Plan for the Standardization Sector**
     1. Background
* PP-10 Resolution 71 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) describes the Strategic plan for the Union for 2012-2015. In terms of ITU-T, the four Objectives of this sector include: coordinating/International cooperation, producing global standards, bridging the standardization gap, informing/disseminating information.
* Council Resolution 1355 adopted the four-year rolling Operational Plan for ITU-T for the years 2014-2017, which followed the structure of the Strategic Plan for the Union for 2012-2015 and focused on the four Objectives of the Sector as described in the Strategic Plan.
  + 1. Activities in ITU-T
* WTSA-12 Resolution 33 invites Member States and Sector Members to continue contributing their insights on the strategic plan and priorities of ITU-T to the TSAG strategic planning process, and instructs TSAG to monitor the evolution of the telecommunication environment as well as to prepare proposals to assist in preparation of the Union's draft strategic plan for the coming study period.
* With regard to the ITU-T portion of the draft strategic plan for the Union for 2016–2019, TSAG agreed to establish a Rapporteur Group under TSAG Vice-Chairman Mr. Fabio Bigi (Italy) to provide appropriate input for consideration of the Council Working Group for the elaboration of the draft strategic plan at its meeting of 4-7 June 2013. The TSB Director will provide input for the Rapporteur Group as required.
  + 1. *Further Action Required*

APT member countries are encouraged to provide comments and proposals regarding the following considerations:

* Contributing to the TSAG strategic planning process
* Attending the discussion of Rapporteur Group under TSAG Vice-Chairman Mr. Fabio Bigi
* Reviewing the Objectives of ITU-T sector with reference to those in the current study period and the evolution of the telecommunication environment
  1. **Issue 4: Bridging standardization gap**
     1. Background
* PP-10 Resolution 123 instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the three Bureaux to work closely with each other to bridge the standardization gap between developing and developed countries.
* Bridging the standardization gap is the Objective 3 of ITU-T according to PP-10 Resolution 71 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010). ITU-T needs to provide support and assistance to developing countries in bridging the standardization gap in relation to standardization matters, information and communication network infrastructure and applications, and relevant training materials for capacity building, taking into account the characteristics of the telecommunication environment of the developing countries.
  + 1. Activities in ITU-T
* WTSA-12 strongly supported ITU-T’s “Bridging the Standardization Gap” programme (WTSA Resolution 44), which endeavours to increase the participation of developing countries in ITU’s work. WTSA-12 Resolution 44 also “invites the Council to increase the ITU-T budgetary provisions for fellowships, interpretation and translation of documents for meetings of TSAG, ITU-T study groups and regional groups of ITU-T study groups” and “invites the Council to encourage the establishment of a specialized panel for stimulating ICT innovations, under ITU-T, with the objective of enhancing global collaborative innovation in order to bridge the standardization gap between developed and developing countries and to identify and support innovations from developing countries”. Council 2013 encouraged the establishment of the said specialized panel and encouraged the membership to favour the implementation of WTSA Resolution 44 (Rev. Dubai, 2012).
* An ITU-T Focus Group on Bridging the Gap: From Innovation to Standards (FG Innovation) was established by ITU-T TSAG at its meeting in Geneva, 10-13 January 2012. The main objective of FG Innovation is to support the activities of ITU-T Study groups to further support innovation and close the digital divide (Res.71 of PP-10). TSAG at its meeting of 4-7 June 2013 endorsed the continuation of the focus group until June 2014.
  + 1. *Further Action Required*

APT member countries are encouraged to provide comments and proposals regarding the following considerations:

* Updating PP-10 Resolution 123 with reference to WTSA-12 Resolution 44, including the decisions of Council 2013 on it
* Participating in the discussion of ITU-T FG Innovation, and incorporating its output into the work of reviewing PP-10 Resolution 123 as appropriate.
  1. **Issue 5: Conformance and interoperability activities in ITU-T**
     1. Background
* The conformance and interoperability (C&I) programme (PP Resolution 177, Guadalajara 2010) is based on four pillars: 1) Conformity assessment; 2) Interoperability events; 3) Capacity building; 4) Establishment of test centres and C&I programmes in developing countries. Actions 1 and 2 are led by TSB, actions 3 and 4 by BDT.
* During the meeting of Council 2013, all the councillors who took the floor referred to the importance of activities relating to conformance and interoperability, commended the work done by ITU in that area, and urged the Union to continue that work. With regard to the funding of activities, they had been fully covered by the budget for 2012-2013, and that the budget for 2014 2015 was still being drawn up. TSB would do its best, whatever the circumstances.
  + 1. Activities in ITU-T
* WTSA-12 revised WTSA Resolution 76 on conformity and interoperability and WTSA Resolution 7 (Cooperation with ISO and IEC), putting ITU-T on much better footing to take forward this very important programme.
* ITU-T SG 11 (“Signalling requirements, protocols and test specifications”) was designated by WTSA-12 as ITU-T lead study group on test specifications, conformance and interoperability testing to coordinate ITU-T C&I activities across all ITU-T SGs. It held its first meeting in this study period on 25 Feb – 1 March 2013 and took important decisions. ITU-T SG11 also created a Working Party “Conformance and interoperability testing” and revised the terms of reference of the Joint Coordination Activity on C&I Testing (JCA-CIT).
* Special sessions were held on 26 February 2013 of both ITU-T SG11 and ITU-T SG 13 and during the TSAG meeting of 4-7 June 2013 to allow the IECEE Executive Secretary and IECEE Chairman to present the IECEE Conformity Assessment scheme. IECEE is the IEC System for Conformity testing and Certification of Electrotechnical Equipment and Components and has wide acclaim in the industry. IECEE offered ITU to use the IECEE platform if the ITU membership so wishes. ITU-T SG 11 and TSAG encouraged the TSB Director to explore this cooperation with IECEE.
  + 1. *Further Action Required*

APT member countries are encouraged to provide comments and proposals regarding the following considerations:

* Updating PP-10 Resolution 177 with reference to WTSA-12 Resolution 76 and the related outputs of Council 2013 and ITU-T SGs.
* Examining the benefit of cooperating with IECEE or other organizations for the implementations of the C&I programme.
  1. **ITU-T Review Committee**
* Taking into account the conclusions of GSS, WTSA-12 adopted Resolution 82 to establish a Review Committee (RevCom) for ensuring that ITU-T’s structure continues to meet the needs of the continually evolving and convergent ICT landscape, particularly as collaboration with vertical markets increases. This will help to enable such innovations as e-health, intelligent transport systems, smart grid, mobile money and e-learning.
* To enhance participation of the regions, the Review Committee shall work with the existing ITU regional groups, including the regional groups of the ITU-T study groups, and take into consideration their contributions. RevCom encouraged the six RevCom Vice Chairmen, representing the six regions, to take advantage of the relevant regional organizations meetings (e.g. CITEL, CEPT, Arab Standards Team, etc.) to provide input to RevCom at its first meeting.
* Revcom shall coordinate with the Director of TSB, to ensure the provision of fellowships for one participant from each eligible developing country.
* According to the report of the first RevCom meeting held in Geneva, 3 June 2013, RevCom will carry out its work focusing on high level strategic aspects of ITU-T standardization activities, such as the strategic direction, proposing new strategies and ways to trial them, while TSAG will continue its work focusing on operational aspects of these activities. The relationship between the two should be complementary.

APT member countries are encouraged to provide comments and proposals regarding the following considerations:

* Proposing a new PP Resolution on ITU-T Review Committee with a view to better guide, support, finance and disseminate the work of this Committee.
  1. **Study areas of ITU-T**
     1. Concept of network externalities
* PP Resolution 22 (Rev. Antalya, 2006) urges ITU-T to expedite its work on completing its study on the concept of network externalities for international traffic in relation to both fixed and mobile services.
* WTSA-08 approved Recommendation ITU-T D.156 on network externalities, which was amended in May 2010 and September 2012 for explaining the practical implementation of this Recommendation and presenting a method to calculate the network externality premium respectively.
* A new Opinion adopted by WTSA-12 calls upon concerned ITU Member States to take into consideration the progress achieved so far within ITU-T Study Group 3, to review and possibly withdraw the reservations about Recommendation ITU-T D.156, and invites Member States to take all measures necessary for the effective implementation of this Recommendation.

APT member countries are encouraged to provide comments and proposals regarding the following considerations:

* Updating PP Resolution 22 (Rev. Antalya, 2006) to reflect the progress achieved so far within ITU-T Study Group 3 and the Opinion 1 adopted by WTSA-12.
  + 1. Telecommunication support for the protection of the environment
* PP-94 Resolution 35 resolves that the Union shall give every possible encouragement to an increasing role being played by telecommunication and information technologies in promoting environmental protection and sustainable development, and instructs the three Sectors to assist the Secretary-General in the application of this Resolution by providing him with all relevant information and by conducting studies in selected areas for evaluating and highlighting the advantages of telecommunication applications for the protection of the environment.
* PP-10 Resolution 182 resolves that ITU, within its mandate and in collaboration with other organizations, will demonstrate its leadership in applying telecommunications/ICTs to address the causes and effects of climate change, and instructs TSB Director, inter alia, to assist the lead ITU-T study group on ICTs and climate change (currently ITU-T Study Group 5), in collaboration with other bodies, in the development of methodologies to assess: i) the level of energy efficiency in the ICT sector and the application of telecommunications/ICTs in non-ICT sectors; ii) the complete lifecycle GHG emissions of telecommunication/ICT equipment.
* A revised Resolution 73 of WTSA-12 focused on the environment and climate change. ICTs are fundamental to monitor climate change, mitigate and adapt to its effects and assist in the transition towards a green economy. By raising awareness of the role of ICTs, ITU is promoting transformative solutions that can ensure a sustainable future.
* A new Resolution 79 on e-waste of WTSA-12 instructs ITU-T study groups with the support of the TSB Director to strengthen its activities in this arena and to assist ITU Member States in instituting policy frameworks that limit e-waste’s negative environmental effects.
* ITU-T Study Group 5 (SG5) has continued working on a set of commonly agreed standardized methodologies to assess the environmental impact of ICTs. Within this context, key progress was achieved on ITU-T Recommendation L.1400, L.1410, L.1420 and L.1430.

APT member countries are encouraged to provide comments and proposals regarding the following considerations:

* Combining PP-94 Resolution 35 and PP-10 Resolution 182 as the former seems to be obsolete
* Updating PP-10 Resolution 182 with reference to WTSA-12 Resolution 73, 79 and the related outcomes of ITU-T SG5
  + 1. International telex service
* PP-98 Resolution 89 resolves to instruct TSB Director, inter alia: 1) to conduct a survey, to be updated regularly, on the decrease in the use of the international telex service and assess when it may become possible for the international telex service to be replaced by new means of telecommunication; 2) to study measures, in collaboration with the Telecommunication Development Bureau, to assist developing countries in expediting the changeover from the international telex service to more modern means of telecommunication.
* Resolution 137 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) resolves to instruct the Directors of the three Bureaux to coordinate ongoing work being carried out by study groups and the relevant programmes as defined in Hyderabad Action Plan of WTDC-10, to assist the membership in deploying NGN effectively.

APT member countries are encouraged to provide comments and proposals regarding the following considerations:

* Incorporating the associated parts of PP-98 Resolution 89 into PP-10 Resolution 182 as appropriate
* Suppressing PP-98 Resolution 89 as Telex has been mostly superseded by fax, email, and SWIFT
  + 1. Technical aspects of Internet
* Resolution 101 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) requests ITU-T to continue its collaborative activities on IP-based networks with ISOC/IETF and other relevant recognized organizations, in respect of interconnectivity with existing telecommunication networks and migration to NGN and future networks. In different areas of NGN and future network Recommendations, major progress has been made recently by ITU-T SG13, SG15, SG5, SG16, SG17, IoT-GSI, IPTV-GSI and Focus Group on Machine-to-Machine.
* Resolution 102 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) instructs TSB Director, inter alia, to ensure that ITU-T performs its role in technical issues, and to continue to contribute ITU-T expertise and to liaise and cooperate with appropriate entities on issues related to the management of Internet domain names and addresses and other Internet resources within the mandate of ITU, as well as any other related technological developments and issues.
* Resolution 133 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux to take an active part in all international initiatives and activities on the deployment and management of Internationalized Domain Names (IDN). TSB continues to investigate emerging technologies such as Digital Object Architecture (DOA) which, with a namespace based on Unicode 3.0, provides native support for IDNs.
* Resolution 178 (Guadalajara, 2010) instructs TSB Director, in consultation with TSAG, to evaluate and present a proposal on adjustments to the current structure of ITU-T, in order to organize the work on aspects of telecommunication networks to support Internet. WTSA-12 established JCA-Res178 in November 2012 to coordinate and identify ITU-T work on aspects of telecommunication networks to support the Internet that help advance network evolution, capacity, continuity, interoperability and security, through contribution-based work; and to coordinate ITU-T contributions to the implementation of WSIS.
* Resolution 180 (Guadalajara, 2010) on Facilitating the transition from IPv4 to IPv6 was adopted at PP-10.
* WTSA-12 adopted revised Resolution 64 “IP address allocation and facilitating the transition to and deployment of IPv6”, which resolves to instruct ITU-T Study Group 2 and 3, to continue to study the allocation and economic aspects of IP addresses, and to monitor and evaluate the allocation of IPv4 addresses which may be still available, returned or unused, in the interests of developing countries. It also instructs the TSB Director, in close collaboration with the BDT Director, to continue assisting developing countries with IPv6 migration and deployment through BDT Programme 2 and 4, to assist in the establishment of IPv6 test-bed laboratories in developing countries in collaboration with appropriate relevant organizations. In its last meeting in January 2013, ITU-T SG2 set up a correspondence group to propose the methodology and work items needed to implement the parts of WTSA-12 Resolution 64 relevant to ITU-T SG2.

APT member countries are encouraged to provide comments and proposals regarding the following considerations:

* Updating PP-10 Resolution 101, 102 and 133 with reference to the related outcomes of ITU-T
* Reviewing PP-10 Resolution 178 to reflect that JCA-Res178 has been established by WTSA-12
* Reviewing PP-10 Resolution 180 with reference to WTSA-12 Resolution 64, peculiarly, taking into account the establishment of IPv6 test-bed laboratories in developing countries
  + 1. Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs, including non-discriminatory access to modern ICT resources
* Resolution 64 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) on Non-discriminatory access to modern telecommunication/information and communication technology facilities, services and applications, including applied research and transfer of technology, on mutually agreed terms was revised at PP-10.
* Resolution 130 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) resolves to continue to give high priority in building confidence and security in the use of information and communication technologies within ITU.
* Resolution 174 (Guadalajara, 2010) on ITU's role with regard to international public policy issues relating to the risk of illicit use of information and communication technologies was adopted at PP-10.
* Resolution 179 (Guadalajara, 2010) instructs TSB Director to encourage Study Group 2 of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) to continue exploring the option of introducing a single globally harmonized telephone number in the future, and Member States, for the time being, to allocate a telephone number on a regional basis for child online protection.
* WTSA-12 revised Resolution 50 on Cybersecurity, Resolution 52 on Countering and combating spam, Resolution 58 on Encouraging the creation of national CIRTs, particularly for developing countries, Resolution 61 on Countering and combating misappropriation and misuse of international telecommunication numbering resources, and Resolution 69 on Non-discriminatory access and use of Internet resources. The revised WTSA Resolution 61 invites Member States to ensure that ITU-T E.164 numbering resources are used only by the assignees and only for the purposes for which they were assigned, and the Resolution 69 invites affected ITU Member States to report to ITU on any unilateral and/or discriminatory actions that could impede another Member State from accessing public Internet sites and using resources, within the spirit of Article 1 of the Constitution and the WSIS principles.
* In order to identify cyberthreats and countermeasures to mitigate risks, ITU-T has developed Recommendations of security requirements, guidelines and specifications for ICT and IP-based systems. ITU-T also provides an international platform for the development of the protocols, systems and services that protect current and Next Generation Networks (NGN).
* ITU-T Study Group 17 (SG 17) is the lead study group on security and identity management Since April 2010, who established JCA-COP in April 2012 to coordinate the ITU-T child online protection (COP) work amongst the ITU-T study group.

APT member countries are encouraged to provide comments and proposals regarding the following considerations:

* Reviewing Resolution 64 with reference to WTSA-12 Resolution 69
* Updating PP-10 Resolution 130 with reference to WTSA-12 Resolution 50, 52 and 58
* Reviewing PP-10 Resolution 174 with reference to WTSA-12 Resolution 61
* Reviewing PP-10 Resolution 179 with reference to the associated outcomes of ITU-T
  + 1. Emergency communication
* Resolution 136 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) resolves to instruct the Directors of the Bureaux to continue their technical studies and to develop recommendations, through the ITU study groups, concerning technical and operational implementation, as necessary, of advanced solutions to meet the needs of public-protection and disaster-relief telecommunications/ICTs.
* ITU-T Focus Group on Disaster Relief Systems, Network Resilience and Recovery (FG-DR&NRR) was established by the ITU-T TSAG meeting in Geneva, 10-13 January 2012. The objective of the Focus Group is to collect and document information and concepts that would be helpful for the work on disaster relief systems/applications, network resilience and recovery from a telecommunication perspective.
* ITU-T SG2 was designated as the lead study group on telecommunications for disaster relief/early warning, network resilience and recovery by WTSA-12.

APT member countries are encouraged to provide comments and proposals regarding the following considerations:

* Updating PP-10 Resolution 136 with reference to the related outputs of ITU-T
  + 1. Telecommunication/ICT applications for e-health
* Resolution 183 (Guadalajara, 2010) gives priority consideration to the expansion of ICT initiatives for e-health in the work of ITU, and instructs the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Directors of the Bureaux, to work collaboratively with WHO and ITU-R, ITU-T and ITU D and, in particular, develop programmes that enable developing countries to introduce e health services safely and effectively.
* A new Resolution on e-Health (WTSA Res78) was adopted by WTSA-12, which acted as the catalyst for the initiation of new work in various ITU-T Study Groups, as well as increased interaction with WHO and other organizations addressing ICT healthcare standards. Security standards for e-health communications, services, databases, records handling, identification and authentication were among the priorities identified in the Resolution.
* ITU-T SG16, in collaboration with relevant SGs, particular SG11 and SG17, is studying communication protocols relating to e-health.

APT member countries are encouraged to provide comments and proposals regarding the following considerations:

* Updating PP-10 Resolution 183 with reference to WTSA-12 Resolution 78 and other related outputs of ITU-T
  + 1. Telecommunication/information and communication technology accessibility
* PP-10 Resolution 70 resolves to take account of persons with disabilities in the work of ITU, and to collaborate in adopting a comprehensive action plan in order to extend access to telecommunications/ICTs to persons with disabilities, in collaboration with external entities and bodies concerned with this subject.
* A new Resolution 70 on Telecommunication/ information and communication technology accessibility for persons with disabilities resolves (WTSA Resolution 70) was adopted at WTSA-12, resolving that ITU-T SG2, SG16 and JCA-AHF shall continue giving high priority to work on the relevant Questions. WTSA-12 reconfirmed ITU-T SG16 as the lead study group for telecommunication/ICT accessibility for persons with disabilities and SG2 for the work relating to Human Factors.
* ITU-T Focus Group on Audiovisual Media Accessibility (FG AVA) was proposed by ITU-T Study Group 16 (14-25 March 2011) and established after consultation of ITU-T study groups and membership. The Focus Group objective is to make audiovisual media accessible for persons with disabilities.

APT member countries are encouraged to provide comments and proposals regarding the following considerations:

* Updating PP-10 Resolution 70 with reference to WTSA-12 Resolution 70 and other related outputs of ITU-T
  + 1. SDN
* Software-defined networking (SDN) will profoundly change the telecommunication and ICT industry's landscape in the decades to come. Consequently, WTSA-12 adopted a new resolution on SDN (WTSA Resolution 77) to expedite SDN standardization work in ITU-T.
* A JCA on SDN under ITU-T TASG (JCA-SDN) was established in June 2013. JCA-SDN will coordinate the work carried out by ITU-T SG11, SG13 and other involved expert groups.

APT member countries are encouraged to provide comments and proposals regarding the following considerations:

* Proposing a new PP Resolution on SDN to facilitate the work of ITU related to technical and development issues of SDN.

1. **Conclusion**
   1. This issue paper attempts to compile the discussion points pertaining to Sub-WG on ITU-T Issues and identify possible APT common proposals to improve the work of ITU-T.
   2. Comments and suggestions from APT Members in relation to this issues paper are sincerely welcomed.

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**Annex A**

**Terms of Reference of Sub-WG on ITU-T Issues**

* Consider proposals to improve the efficiency of the sector to meet the needs of industry
* Consider issues that could strengthen the relationship between ITU and industry forums and consortia, including adoption of outputs of forums and consortia as ITU outputs
* Consider Council decisions on the ITU-T sector issues
* Review the proposed Strategic Plan for the Standardization Sector
* Review PP Resolutions/Recommendations relevant to the ITU-T
* Review contributions and proposals to PP-14 from other regions and countries on telecommunication standardization issues
* Consider changes to the Constitution and Convention (General Provisions and Rules) of the Union that have an impact on or may be required to improve the effectiveness of the ITU-T
* Review the decision taken by WTSA-12 in relation with the activities of Review Committee as established by WTSA-12 with a view to propose any required action if necessary
* Consider any other issues determined by the Group in its work for the preparation to PP-14 or referred to the Group by WG3 or Plenary

**Annex B**

**Provisions of CS, CV and General Rules specifically associated with the work of ITU-T**

* CHAPTER III of CS (Telecommunication Standardization Sector)
* SECTION 6 of Chapter I of CV (Telecommunication Standardization Sector)

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