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| **The APT Preparatory Group for PP-14** | | **Document**  **PP14-3/OUT-17** | |
|  | | **05 June 2014** | |

**PRELIMINARY APT COMMON PROPOSAL: Proposed Revision of Resolution 131 (rev. guadalajara, 2010)**

**1. Introduction**

The 10th WTIM in Bangkok on National coordination of ICT statistics recommended that Member States are free to establish their own model of national coordination of ICT statistics and whichever source considered reliable by the Member State may be appointed by it to the BDT as such.

Resolution 8 (Rev. Duba, 2014) and the Programme 4 in Dubai action plan approved by WTDC-14 call upon BDT to rely primarily on official statistics, to develop the international standards, definitions and methodologies on telecommunication/ICT statistics.

ITU will continue to collect and disseminate quality indicators and statistics that measure and provide comparative analysis of advancements in the use and adoption of ICTs as a major factor in supporting socio-economic growth. They also serve to monitor the digital divide as well as progress towards achievement of internationally agreed goals in the post-2015 development agenda.

**2. Proposals**

APT Members propose to update PP Resolution 131 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) to reflect the progress achieved so far within adopted Resolution 8 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) and the Programme 4 in Dubai action plan by WTDC-14:

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**MOD**

RESOLUTION 131 (Rev. Busan, 2014)

Information and communication technology index[[1]](#footnote-1)1   
and community connectivity indicators[[2]](#footnote-2)2

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014),

*aware*

*a)* that technological innovation, digitization and telecommunications/ information and communication technologies (ICTs) have developed significantly and have continued to modify the ways in which people access knowledge and communicate with one another;

*b)* that there is still an ongoing need to call for the promotion of knowledge and the development of skills in all populations in order to achieve greater economic, social and cultural development and to raise the standard of living of the world's citizens;

*c)* that each Member State is seeking to establish its own policies and regulations in order to narrow as effectively as possible the digital divide between those who have access to communication and information and those who do not,

*recognizing*

*a)* that the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) represented an opportunity to identify a global strategy for narrowing the digital divide from the development standpoint;

*b)* that the outcome of the global Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development has resulted in agreement on the identification of a set of basic indicators for measuring ICT for development, as called for by § 115 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society,

*considering*

*a)* that the Geneva Plan of Action adopted by WSIS provides for the following: "*In cooperation with each country concerned, develop and launch a composite ICT Development (Digital Opportunity) Index. It could be published annually, or every two years, in an ICT Development Report. The index could show the statistics while the report would present analytical work on policies and their implementation, depending on national circumstances, including gender analysis*";

*b)* that key stakeholders, among which ITU (represented by the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D)), involved in the measurement of information society statistics, joined forces to create a "global Partnership for Measuring ICT for Development";

*c)* the contents of Resolution 8 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) as well as Programme 4 of the Dubai Action Plan, on collection and dissemination of telecommunication/ICT information and statistics, with particular emphasis on consolidation of information and statistical data by the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), in order to avoid duplication in this field;

*d)* that, through Programme 4 of the Dubai Action Plan, WTDC called upon ITU-D to:

* collect, harmonize and disseminate data and official statistics in the area of telecommunications/ICTs using a variety of data sources and dissemination tools, such as the World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators (WTI) Database, the ICT Eye ITU online portal, the UN Data portal and others;
* analyse telecommunication/ICT trends and producing regional and global research reports, such as the Measuring the Information Society (MIS) report as well as statistical and analytical briefs;
* benchmark telecommunication/ICT developments and clarifying the magnitude of the digital divide (using tools such as the ICT Development Index and the ICT Price Basket) and measuring the impact of ICTs on development and the gender digital divide;
* develop international standards, definitions and methodologies on telecommunication/ICT statistics, in close cooperation with other regional and international organizations, including the United Nations, Eurostat, OECD and the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development, for consideration by the United Nations Statistical Commission;
* provide a global forum for discussing information society measurements for ITU members and other national and international stakeholders, by organizing the World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium and its related statistical expert groups;
* encourage Members States to bring together different stakeholders in government, academia and civil society in raising national awareness about the importance of production and dissemination of high-quality data for policy purposes;
* contribute to the monitoring of internationally agreed goals and targets, including the MDG and WSIS targets as well as the targets set by the Broadband Commission, and developing related measurement frameworks;
* maintain a leading role in the global Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development and its relevant task groups;
* provide capacity building and technical assistance to Member States for the collection of telecommunication/ICT statistics, in particular by means of national surveys, through the delivery of training workshops and the production of methodological manuals and handbooks,

*e)* the WSIS outcomes in relation to ICT indicators, especially the following paragraphs in the Tunis Agenda:

• § 113, which called for formulating appropriate indicators and benchmarking, including community connectivity indicators, to clarify the magnitude of the digital divide, in both its domestic and international dimensions, and keep it under regular assessment, and tracking global progress in the use of ICTs to achieve internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals;

• § 114, which recognized the importance of the development of ICT indicators for measuring the digital divide and noted the launch of the Partnership for Measuring ICT for Development;

• § 115, which noted the launch of the ICT Opportunity Index and the Digital Opportunity Index, based on the set of basic indicators defined by the global Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development;

• § 116, which stressed the need to take into account different levels of development and national circumstances;

• § 117, which called for further development of these indicators, in collaboration with the global partnership, in order to ensure cost-effectiveness and non-duplication in this field;

• § 118, which invited the international community to strengthen the statistical capacity of developing countries by giving appropriate support at national and regional levels,

*recognizing further*

*a)* that, with a view to providing their populations with faster access totelecommunication/ICT services, many countries have continued to implement public community connectivity policies in those communities that are poorly served with telecommunication facilities;

*b)* that the approach of achieving universal service through community connectivity and broadband access instead of seeking in the short term to ensure that all households have a telephone line has become one of the main goals of ITU,

*bearing in mind*

*a)* that, in order to keep each country's public policy makers properly informed, ITU-D shall continue to strive to gather and periodically publish a variety of statistics which provide some indication of the degree of progress in and penetration of telecommunication/ICT services in the different regions of the world;

*b)* that, according to the guidelines of the Plenipotentiary Conference, it is necessary to ensure as far as possible that the policies and strategies of the Union are fully in tune with the constantly changing telecommunication environment,

*noting*

*a)* that the Geneva Plan of Action adopted by WSIS identifies indicators and appropriate reference points, including community connectivity indicators, as elements for the follow-up and evaluation thereof;

*b)* that the single ICT Development Index (IDI) was developed by ITU-D and has been published annually since 2009;

*c)* that Resolution 8 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) instructs the Director of BDT to establish and collect community connectivity indicators and to participate in the establishment of core indicators to measure efforts to build the information society and, by doing so, to illustrate the scale of the digital divide,

*resolves to instruct the Secretary-General and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

to continue, if justified, to promote the adoption of measures necessary to ensure that community connectivity indicators are taken into account in regional and world meetings convened for the purpose of evaluating and following up the Geneva Plan of Action and Tunis Agenda,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

1 to continue to promote the adoption of ITU statistics based primarily on official data provided by Member States, and to publish them regularly;

2 to promote the activities required to define and adopt new indicators including e-application indicators for the purpose of measuring the real impact of ICTs on countries' development;

3 in order to give full effect to Resolution 8 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), to continue convening a seminar for Member States and experts to develop existing indicators and systematically review their methodologies, commencing this review in accordance with Resolution 8 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), and, as appropriate, to formulate any other indicators that may be required;

4 to call for a conference on ICT indicators at least once every two years;

5 to give the necessary support for the implementation of Resolution 8 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), and to stress the importance of implementing the WSIS outcomes in relation to the indicators mentioned, and to continue to avoid duplication in statistical work in this field;

6 to continue to work to promote a single ICT index using available internationally recognized methodologies as the means by which ITU responds to *considering a)* above;

7 to cooperate with relevant international bodies, in particular those involved in the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development, for the implementation of this resolution;

8 to work on the development of community connectivity indicators and forward the results on an annual basis;

9 to adapt the data collection and the single ICT index in order to reflect the changing access to and use of ICTs, and to invite Member States to participate in such processes,

*instructs the Secretary-General*

to submit a report to the next plenipotentiary conference on progress in the implementation of this resolution,

*invites Member States*

1 to participate in the submission of their national community connectivity statistics to ITU-D;

2 to participate actively in these endeavours, by providing the requested information to ITU-D so as to produce telecommunication/ICT benchmarks, with a view to developing a single ICT index.

(Marrakesh, 2002)– (Rev. Antalya, 2006) – (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) (Rev. Busan, 2014)

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1. 1 The single ICT index must be further developed, taking into consideration the needs of the membership. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. 2 Community connectivity is taken here to refer to the possibility to access telecommunication services from a terminal facility put at the disposal of a community, to facilitate ease of use. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)