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| **The APT Preparatory Group for PP-14** | | **Document**  **PP14-3/OUT-08** | |
|  | | **05 June 2014** | |

**PRELIMINARY APT COMMON PROPOSAL: WORKING DEFINITION OF THE TERM “ICT”**

**1. Introduction**

Resolution 140 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) requests Council “to elaborate through the Sector study groups and submit a working definition of the term ‘ICT’ to the Council and working groups of the Council, for possible transmission to the next plenipotentiary conference.”

Council Resolution 1332 further instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux to elaborate this working definition. In this regard, Council 2011 instructed the Director of BDT “to conduct consultations with the chairmen of ITU-D study groups and TDAG for the creation of a group for elaboration of a working definition of the term ‘ICT’ open for the participation of other Sector membership, and the Directors of BR and TSB to conduct studies on the definition of ICT and report to the Council.

As results of that study the following working definition is agreed by the correspondence group :

“*Technologies and equipment that handle (e.g. access, crease, collect, store, transmit, receive, disseminate) information and communication*.”

Importantly, the Correspondence Group also agreed to the following parameters and guidelines for the proposed working definition:

* The **working definition** should be high-level and brief; technologically neutral; applicable to the ITU’s roles and responsibilities, and used in the context of the work, recommendations, and resolutions of the ITU’s three sectors.
* The **working definition** should not be intended to include content, services, software, or applications; interfere with the security or integrity of networks or personal data; appear in legally binding documents like the ITU Constitution or Convention, or expand the scope of ITU activities.

One contribution to the Council 2014 stated that

Quote

“*A working definition is intended to be understood within a specific scope and context, and that it is not necessarily exhaustive or authoritative for other purposes. Each use of the term “ICT” has its own particular context and its meaning derives from that context. These meanings vary depending upon whether the subject is telecommunications policy, federal acquisition regulations, management of information resources, or other with regulatory or policy implications.*

*Recognizing the contextual nature of a working definition, the Correspondence Group agreed to parameters and guidelines for development of a working definition of ICTs. The United States understands that the working definition is to be understood within these parameters and guidelines. This agreement on the parameters and guidelines for development of a working definition are discussed clearly in the final report of the Correspondence Group, contained in “Final Report of the Chairman, Correspondence Group on the Elaboration of a Working Definition of the Term `ICT’” (“Final Report of the Correspondence Group) (Document CG01/041). The United States therefore proposes that, should Council determine to transmit the working definition of ICT developed by the Correspondence Group to the Plenipotentiary Conference, it should do so in the form of the Final Report of the Correspondence Group”*

Unquote

After further discussion at Council it was decided to submit the report of the Correspondence Group to PP-14.

**2. Proposal**

In view of the above, and taking into account that the term ICT is used in various ITU Resolutions in conjunction with telecommunication in the form of Telecommunication/ICT since at least 10 years, it is appropriate to reflect the results of the activities of the Correspondence g Group on the “working definition of the ICT” as stated above in all ITU resolutions once PP-14 decides on the matter:

**PACP/10**

* **Option 1**

Should Plenipotentiary Conference agreed on the above mentioned working definition or on a modified version of that working definition , the following text could be included in the minutes of the Plenary Meeting in which such working definition is agreed:

*“Plenipotentiary Conference Busan, 2014 in considering the proposed working definition of ICT decided to instruct the Secretary General and the Director of the Bureaux to editorially reflect the above-mentioned working definition in all ITU Resolutions by*

* *adding an asterisk to the title of all Resolutions in the area where the ICT first appears*

*describing at the bottom of that page underneath of the asterisk the text relating to the above-mentioned Working Definition.”*

* **Option 2**

Should Plenipotentiary Conference did not agreed on the above –mentioned working definition the following text could be included in the minutes of the Plenary Meeting in which such definition is discussed

“*The Plenipotentiary Conference 2014 in considering the proposed working definition of ICT did not agreed to the proposed working definition for ICT and decided to instruct*

*a) the Council to further pursue the matter with a view to agree on a working definition and*

*b) the Secretary General and the Director of the Bureaux to editorially reflect the working definition of the ICT once agreed in all ITU Resolutions by:*

*- adding an asterisk to the title of all Resolutions in the area where the ICT first appears*

*describing at the bottom of that page underneath of the asterisk the text relating to the latter agreed Working Definition*.”

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