PROCEDURE FOR DEVELOPING AND APPROVING APT COMMON PROPOSALS FOR ITU WORLD CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS

1.   Introduction

1.1   The objective of the APT preparatory Group for the ITU World Conference on International Telecommunications (WCIT) is to develop proposals that have a greater chance of success through the support of a number of APT Members.

1.2   These proposals can take the form of an APT Common Proposal (ACP) of the Asia-Pacific region.

1.3   An ACP is a multi-country proposal to which the approved Working Procedures for the APT have been applied during its development. The definition of and approval process for an ACP, as defined by this document, are specified for APT proposals to WCIT.

1.4   These proposals are developed in a two-stage process:

- The first stage is the development preliminary proposals by APT Members, on the basis of input and discussion by Members for inclusion in the Output Documents of the APT Preparatory Group meeting for WCIT;

- The second stage is where each APT Member is invited to approve the proposal by adding its name to the document that is submitted to the ITU for consideration by an ITU World Conference on International Telecommunications.

1.5   It is not the intention of the APT to bind Members to particular positions in relation to international conferences, and therefore, any ACP must clearly identify those APT Members who have chosen to sign up to it.

2   Process for Development and Approval of an ACP

Stage One: Development of a Preliminary APT Common Proposal (PACP)

2.1   Proposals are developed by the Correspondence Groups (CGs) of the APT Preparatory Group for WCIT. The working method is by discussion through e-mail reflectors and at the CG meetings during the APT preparatory meetings for WCIT, prior to being presented to the Plenary sessions of the preparatory meetings.

2.2   If there is consensus at the Plenary, a proposal becomes a PACP.

2.3   If there is a difference of opinion at the Plenary and further discussion cannot produce a consensus then, the Chairman can, as a last resort, forward the proposal as a PACP, provided that;

a) the proposal is *supported by* at least one quarter (25%) of the APT Members present at the Plenary meeting and;

b) the proposal is *not opposed by* a number of Members present at the Plenary greater than the number of Members at the Plenary who support it.

<u>Stage Two : Development of an APT Common Proposal (ACP)</u>

2.4   On confirmation of a proposal as a PACP, all APT Members will be asked to consider inclusion of their country name as a signatory to that proposal. A PACP becomes an ACP provided that;

a) the proposal is *supported by* at least one quarter (25%) of all the APT Members <u>and</u>;

b) the proposal is *not opposed by* more than 50% of the number of Members who support it.

3   APT Positions

3.1   The APT Preparatory Groups for WCIT may also consider development of an APT Position on:

- a contribution submitted to WCIT by another country or region; or
- an issue that is being, or will be, discussed at the WCIT.

3.2   The purpose of developing an APT Position is to assist APT Members in negotiations or discussions at the WCIT on a particular issue or contribution. It will be an internal document for use by members of APT.

3.3   The APT Position would be approved by consensus in the Plenary of the APT Preparatory Group Meeting.

3.4   An APT Position may also be the basis for an APT Common Proposal developed and submitted during the WCIT.

4   APT Coordination Meeting at the WCIT

For the purposes of the development and approval of APT Common Proposals and APT Positions, the APT Coordination Meetings at the WCIT are considered as Plenary of the APT Correspondence Group meetings.

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