

RESOLUTION 47 (Rev. Sharm El Sheik, 2014)

**Enhancement of knowledge and effective application of
ITU Recommendations in developing countries¹,
including conformance and interoperability
testing of systems manufactured on the
basis of ITU-T Recommendations**

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Sharm El Sheik, 2014),

recalling

Resolution 47 (Doha, 2006) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on the enhancement of knowledge and effective application of ITU Recommendations in developing countries,

considering

that Resolution 123 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference instructed 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 in such areas as conducting case studies on the application of Recommendations of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) and the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) or organizing training courses and workshops for this purpose,

recognizing

- a) that Resolution 44 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) resolved to implement the action plan contained in its Annex aimed at bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries, which includes four programmes (Strengthening standard-making capabilities; Assisting developing countries in respect to standards application; Human resource building; and Fundraising for bridging the standardization gap),
- b) that Resolution 76 (Dubai, 2012) of WTSA calls on ITU-T, in collaboration with the other Sectors as appropriate, to assist developing countries in identifying human and institutional capacity-building and training opportunities on conformance and interoperability testing,
- c) that the Conformance and Interoperability Program Action Plan was updated by Council 2013 and is contained in C13/24 Rev. 1, and
- d) that Resolution 177 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau “to assist Member States in addressing their concerns with respect to counterfeit equipment.”

¹ These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

e) the report developed by the Director of the TSB on counterfeit equipment as described in the C&I Action Plan;

observing

a) that any conformance and interoperability program in a world connected by the Internet must recognize different types of conformance and interoperability, including in the sense of conformance with a common policy or authority applied to all participants in a network, or in the sense of technical compatibility, either in relation to specialized services within a network or in the form of general purpose connectivity between autonomous networks;

b) that different types of conformance and interoperability are relevant to and have different implications in light of various policies and regulatory contexts, some of which may favor one type of network over another, and these considerations have important relationships to bridging of the digital divide and closing the standardization gap.

noting

a) that understanding ITU-T Recommendations and related international standards in order to apply new technology to the network appropriately and effectively is essential for the implementation of Resolution 76 (Dubai, 2012) on studies related to conformance and interoperability testing, assistance to developing countries, and a possible future ITU Mark programme;

b) the lack of practical information on the application of ITU-T Recommendations and related standards of other countries and on how to conduct and appropriately utilize conformance and interoperability testing, and the lack of guidelines on applying these technical documents,

resolves to invite Member States and Sector Members

1) to engage in activities to enhance knowledge and effective application of ITUR and ITUT Recommendations in developing countries;

2) to introduce best-practice application of ITU-R and ITU-T Recommendations for both networks that provide specialized functions among routers implementing specialized treatment of packets, and networks interoperating by general purpose transmissions of packets among autonomous networks, in, for example, but not limited to, fibre-optic transmission technology, broadband network technology, Internet networks, next-generation networks and cybersecurity, by organizing training courses and workshops especially for developing countries,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, in close collaboration with the Directors of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau and the Radiocommunication Bureau

to encourage the participation of developing countries in training courses and workshops organized by the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) so as to introduce best practices in the application of ITU-R and ITU-T Recommendations, both in relation to general purpose interoperability among autonomous networks and in relation to interoperability by adherence with common policy such as for specialized services, for example by providing fellowships;

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, in close collaboration with the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

- 1) to assist developing countries in building their capacity so as to be able to utilize conformance testing and interoperability testing of equipment and systems, relevant to their needs, in accordance with the relevant Recommendations, both for general purpose interoperability among autonomous networks and interoperability by the application of a common policy across routers subject to a core authority, and including the development of Mutual Recognition Agreements and Mutual Recognition Arrangements;
- 2) to assist the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB), in collaboration, as appropriate, with equipment and systems manufacturers and internationally and regionally recognized standards-development organizations, in conducting interoperability testing events, preferably in the developing countries, to encourage developing countries to attend these events, to build the capacity of the developing countries to effectively participate and be involved in these events, [and to provide views of developing countries on this issue following a questionnaire addressed by Programme 1 to the ITU members];
- 3) to coordinate and facilitate the participation of specialists from developing countries in the work of international or regional test laboratories of organizations or entities specialized in conformance testing and interoperability testing, in order for them to gain on-the-job experience;
- 4) to implement the recommended actions from the Conformance and Interoperability Program Action Plan as endorsed by the ITU Council at its 2013 session (C13-24 Rev. 1);
- 5) to assign to Programme 1 the responsibility for following up implementation of this resolution, [to conduct a field study on the economic feasibility of and need for creating regional laboratories in areas which may need them (the Africa region, the Arab region, the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Americas region and the Asia and Pacific region) for conformance and interoperability testing of manufactured systems in relation to ITU-T Recommendations, and to report to the Council on the results of this field study;]
- 6) to incorporate recognition of a distinction between certifications related to general purpose connectivity among autonomous Internet providers, versus certifications related to specialized functions not readily supported by general purpose Internet connectivity, in training courses and workshops, framing for capacity building, testing events, test laboratories, and other components of the program;
- 7) to submit a periodic report to the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group on the implementation of this resolution as well as a report to the next WTDC in 2018 on implementation of this resolution, which shall also contain lessons learned with a view to updating the resolution for the phase after 2018.
- 8) to work with the ITU-D Study Groups in assisting Member States to address their concerns with respect to counterfeit equipment taking into account industry best practices.