RESOLUTION 102 (Rev. Busan, 2014)

ITU's role with regard to international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet and the management of Internet resources, including domain names and addresses

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Guadalajara, 2010),

recognizing

*a)* all relevant resolutions of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*b)* all relevant outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS),

*c) Opinion 1 (Geneva, 2013) of WTPF on Promoting Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) as a long term solution to advance connectivity;*

*d) Opinion 2 (Geneva, 2013) of WTPF on Fostering an enabling environment for the greater growth and development of broadband connectivity;*

*e) Opinion 3 (Geneva, 2013) of WTPF on Supporting capacity building for the deployment of IPv6;*

*f) Opinion 4 (Geneva 2013) of WTPF on In support of IPv6 adoption and transition from IPv4*

*g) Opinion 5 (Geneva, 2013) of WTPF on Supporting multistakeholderism in Internet governance; and*

*h) Opinion 6 (Geneva, 2013) of WTPF on Supporting operationalizing the enhanced cooperation process.*

*i) The results of the CSTD working Group on Enhanced Cooperation*

considering

*a)* that the purposes of the Union are, *inter alia*, to promote, at the international level, the adoption of a broad approach to the issues of telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) in the global information economy and society, to promote the extension of the benefits of new telecommunication technologies to all the world's inhabitants and to harmonize the efforts of Member States and Sector Members in the attainment of those ends;

*b)* that advances in the global information infrastructure, including the development of Internet Protocol (IP)-based networks and the Internet, taking into account the requirements, features and interoperability of next-generation networks (NGN) and future networks, are of crucial importance as an important engine for growth in the world economy in the twenty-first century;

*c)* that the development of the Internet is essentially market-led and driven by private and government initiatives;

*d)* that the private sector continues to play a very important role in the expansion and development of the Internet, for example through investments in infrastructures and services;

*e)* that management of the registration and allocation of Internet domain names and addresses must fully reflect the global nature of the Internet, taking into account an equitable balance of interests of all stakeholders;

*f)* the role played by ITU in the successful organization of the two phases of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), and that the Geneva Declaration of Principles and the Geneva Plan of Action, adopted in 2003, and the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, adopted in 2005, have been endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly;

*g)* that the management of the Internet is a subject of valid international interest and must flow from full international and multistakeholder cooperation on the basis of the outcomes of the two phases of WSIS;

*h)* that, as stated in the WSIS outcomes, all governments should have an equal role and responsibility for international Internet governance and for ensuring the stability, security and continuity of the existing Internet and its future development and of the future internet, and that the need for development of public policy by governments in consultation with all stakeholders is also recognized,

recognizing further

*a)* that ITU is dealing with technical and policy issues related to IP-based networks, including the existing Internet and evolution to NGN as well as studies into the future internet;

*b)* that ITU performs worldwide coordination of a number of radiocommunication-related and telecommunication-related resource allocation systems and acts as a forum for policy discussion in this area;

*c)* that significant effort has been put in by ITU on ENUM, ".int", internationalized domain name (IDN), and country code top-level domain (ccTLD) issues through workshops and standardization activities;

*d)* that ITU has published a comprehensive and useful Handbook on Internet Protocol (IP)-based networks and related topics and Issues;

*e)* §§ 71 and 78a) of the Tunis Agenda with regard to the establishment of enhanced cooperation on Internet governance and the establishment of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF).

*f)* the relevant WSIS outcomes in §§ 29-82 of the Tunis Agenda concerning Internet governance;

g) that ITU should be encouraged to facilitate cooperation with all stakeholders as referred in the Tunis Agenda;

*h)* that Member States represent the interests of the population of the country or territory for which a ccTLD has been delegated and they are free to manage a ccTLD that has been delegated to their country [or territory] according to national requirements;

*i)* that Member States should not be involved [intervene] in decisions regarding another country's ccTLD,

emphasizing

*a)* that the management of the Internet encompasses both technical and public policy issues and should involve all stakeholders and relevant intergovernmental and international organizations in accordance with §§ 35 a)-e) of the Tunis Agenda;

*b)* that the role of governments includes providing a clear, consistent and predictable legal framework, in order to promote a favourable environment in which global ICT networks are interoperable with Internet networks and widely accessible to all citizens without any discrimination and to ensure adequate protection of public interests in the management of Internet resources, including those domain names and addresses which are under their remits;

*c)* that WSIS recognized the need for enhanced cooperation in the future, to enable governments, on an equal footing, to carry out their roles and responsibilities, in international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet, but not in the day-to-day technical and operational matters that do not impact on international public policy issues;

*d)* that ITU, for its part, has started the process towards enhanced cooperation as one of the relevant organizations referred to in § 71 of the Tunis Agenda, and that the Dedicated Group on international Internet-related public policy issues should continue its work on Internet-related public policy issues;

*e)* that ITU can play a positive role by offering all interested parties a platform for encouraging discussions and for the dissemination of information on the management of Internet domain names and addresses and other Internet resources within the mandate of ITU,

*noting*

*a)* United Nations General Assembly 2nd Committee process on the review of WSIS]

*a)* that the Council Working Group on international Internet related public policy issues (CWG Internet) has furthered the objectives of that resolution regarding public policy issues pertaining to the Internet;

*b)* Resolution 1336, adopted by the ITU Council at its 2011 session, which instructed the Secretary-General to disseminate, as appropriate, the reports of the CWG Internet to all [relevant] international organizations and stakeholders actively involved in such matters for their consideration in their policy-making processes;

*c)* that the CWG Internet shall include in its work all relevant decisions of this conference and all other resolutions relevant to the work of the group as stated in Council Resolution 1305 and the annex thereto,

d)

the need to conduct Internet governance debates in an open and transparent manner.

resolves

that ITU should work with all stakeholders[[1]](#footnote-2)1 on a cooperative, collaborative and equal basis in order to contribute to the multistakeholder Internet governance for the greater benefit of global users,

that all documents related to Internet governance issues shall be accessible to all stakeholders without password protection

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to continue to take a significant collaboration role in international discussions and initiatives on the management of Internet domain names and addresses and other Internet resources within the mandate of ITU, taking into account future developments of the Internet, the purposes of the Union and the interests of its membership as expressed in its instruments, resolutions and decisions;

2 to take the necessary steps for ITU to continue to play a facilitating role in the coordination of international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet, as expressed in §35 d) of the Tunis Agenda, interacting as appropriate with other intergovernmental organizations in these domains;

3 in line with § 78 a) of the Tunis Agenda, to continue to contribute as appropriate to the work of IGF;

4 to continue to take the necessary steps for ITU to play an active and constructive role in the process towards enhanced cooperation as expressed in § 71 of the Tunis Agenda;

5 to continue to take the necessary steps in ITU's own internal process towards enhanced cooperation on international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet as expressed in § 71 of the Tunis Agenda, involving all stakeholders, in their respective roles and responsibilities;

6 to report annually to the Council on the activities undertaken on these subjects and to submit proposals as appropriate;

7 to continue to publish, as appropriate, the papers and reports of the CWG Internet to all relevant international organizations and stakeholders actively involved in such matters , so that they can collaborate fully,

instructs the Directors of the Bureaux

1 to contribute to the CWG Internet concerning the activities undertaken by their Bureaux which are relevant to the work of the group;

2 to provide assistance, within the Union's expertise, and within available resources, as appropriate, in cooperation with relevant organizations, to Member States, if so requested, in order to achieve their stated policy objectives with respect to the management of Internet domain names and addresses and other Internet resources, and with respect to Internet-related public policy issues, as stated in the annex to Council Resolution 1305, which identifies the role of the Dedicated Group, within their mandate;

3 to liaise and to cooperate with the regional telecommunication organizations pursuant to this resolution,

4 to explore ways and means for greater collaboration and coordination between ITU and relevant organizations[[2]](#footnote-3) involved in the development of IP-based networks and future Internet, through cooperation agreements, as appropriate[];

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

1 to ensure that the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (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, such as IP version 6 (IPv6), ENUM and IDNs, as well as any other related technological developments and issues, including facilitating appropriate studies on these issues by relevant ITU-T study groups and other groups;

2 in accordance with ITU rules and procedures, and calling upon contributions from the ITU membership, to continue to play a facilitating role in coordination and assistance in the development of public policy issues pertaining to Internet domain names and addresses and other Internet resources within the mandate of ITU and their possible evolution;

3 to work with Member State, Sector Members and relevant international organizations on issues concerning Member States' ccTLDs and related experiences;

4 to report annually to the Council, and also to WTSA, on the activities undertaken and achievements on these subjects, including proposals for further consideration as appropriate,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

1 to organize international and regional forums and carry out necessary activities, in conjunction with appropriate entities, for the period 2015-2018, to discuss policy, operational and technical issues on the Internet in general, and on the management of Internet domain names and addresses and other Internet resources within the mandate of ITU in particular, including with regard to multilingualism, for the benefit of Member States, especially for developing countries, including the least developed countries (LDCs), small island developing states (SIDS), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and countries with economies in transition, taking into consideration the content of the relevant resolutions of this conference, including this resolution, in addition to the content of the relevant resolutions of the 2014 World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC);

2 to continue promoting, through the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector programmes and study groups, the exchange of information, fostering debate and the development of best practices on Internet issues, and to continue to play a key role in outreach by contributing to capacity building, providing technical assistance and encouraging the involvement of developing countries, including LDCs, SIDS, LLDCs and countries with economies in transition, in international Internet forums and issues;

3 to continue reporting annually to the Council and the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group, and also to WTDC, on the activities undertaken and achievements on these subjects, including proposals for further consideration as appropriate,

invites the CWG Internet

1 to consider and discuss openly with all interested stakeholders the activities of the Secretary-General and Directors of the Bureaux in relation to the implementation of this resolution;

2 to prepare ITU inputs into the above-mentioned activities as appropriate,

*instructs the Council*

1 to ensure that [all stakeholders] are able to contribute to and participate in the ITU CWG Internet to ensure maximum collaboration for the benefit of the global community;

2 taking into account annual reports presented by the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux, to take appropriate measures in order to contribute actively to international discussions and initiatives related to issues on international management of Internet domain names and addresses and other Internet resources within the mandate of ITU;

3 to consider the reports of CWG Internet and take actions as appropriate;

4 to report to the 2018 plenipotentiary conference on the activities undertaken and achievements on the objectives of this resolution, including proposals for further consideration as appropriate,

invites Member States

1 to participate in the discussions on international management of Internet resources, including domain names and addresses, and in the process towards enhanced cooperation on Internet governance and international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet, so that worldwide multistakeholder representation in the debates can be ensured;

2 to continue to participate actively in the discussions and development of public policy issues related to Internet resources, including domain names and addresses, their possible evolution and the impact of new usages and applications, cooperating with the relevant organizations, and to contribute to the CWG Internet and ITU study groups on related matters,

invites Member States and Sector Members

to seek the appropriate means to contribute to enhanced cooperation on international public policy issues relating to the Internet, in their respective roles and responsibilities.

(Minneapolis, 1998) – (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002) – (Rev. Antalya, 2006) – (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010)

1. 1 including, but not limited, to the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), the regional Internet registries (RIRs), the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), the Internet Society (ISOC) and the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C), on the basis of reciprocity. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Including but not limited to the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN); the Regional Internet Registries (RIRs); the Internet Engineering Taskforce (IETF); the Internet Society (ISOC) andthe World-Wide-Web Consortium (W3C),on the basis of reciprocity. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)