Hyderabad Declaration (2010)

.

This PDF contains an extract from the publication *World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-10): final report*: (Geneva: ITU, 2010)

ANNEX B

HYDERABAD DECLARATION

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Hyderabad, 2010)

declares that

1   Broad access to telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) is essential for the world's collective economic, social and cultural development, and the building of a global information society. This access brings new opportunities for interaction among people, for sharing of the world's knowledge resources and expertise, for transforming people's lives and for contributing to the global development agenda.

2   Such opportunities should be fully exploited, with the aim of fostering sustainable development, alleviating poverty, creating jobs and reducing vulnerability, especially for poor and marginalized populations, including women, children, indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities.

3   Widespread access to telecommunication/ICT services and applications provides significant opportunities for improving ICT-based government and public services, such as healthcare and education.

4   With the implementation of the Buenos Aires (1994), Valletta (1998), Istanbul (2002) and Doha (2006) action plans, ITU, together with development partners and other stakeholders, has made great strides to enhance universal access and shape the emerging global information society.

5   The level of access to telecommunications/ICTs has improved dramatically across the world. Mobile cellular has been the most rapidly adopted technology in history. Likewise, broadband adoption has grown significantly since its introduction. Rapid advances in the use of broadband technologies to propel innovations and new services are expected to continue in the coming years.

6   However, the digital divide remains, and is compounded by disparities in broadband access and infrastructure between and within countries, in particular between urban and rural areas. Rapid development of telecommunication/ICT infrastructure in rural and remote areas, using suitable technologies, is an immediate priority for many countries. Another major concern for many administrations is the lack of infrastructure to support telecommunication/ICT development in rural areas, for which suitable and affordable solutions have to be identified.

7   Broadband access and usage, supported by strong national backbones, are increasingly considered as essential services that need to be universally available to all citizens in order to develop networked economies and information societies.

8   As telecommunication/ICT networks are deployed, governments are better able to provide e-government services to their citizens, which improve transparency, accountability, utilization of resources and access to governmental services, including health and education.

9   Wireless broadband technologies, in particular, and the services and applications enabled by these networks, can foster the widespread use of affordable and accessible telecommunications/ICTs.

10   Next-generation networks (NGNs) hold great promise in this regard. Ensuring seamless migration to NGNs also raises the challenge of ensuring interconnectivity, interoperability and end-to-end quality of service.

11   Similarly, migration to all-IP networks has given rise to a need for adherence to established allocation policies, development of appropriate national strategies, and capacity building to address the migration of networks from IPv4 to IPv6 and encourage the deployment of IPv6, taking into account regional and national requirements.

12   Given the increasing demand for limited radio-frequency resources, efficient spectrum management and the transition from analogue to digital broadcasting are critical issues for policy-makers, regulators, broadcasters and other stakeholders.

13   The growing use of ICT applications, the popularity of social networks and the emergence of the "Internet of things" provide innovative and useful services for users, but increase the challenge of building confidence and trust in the availability, reliability, security and use of telecommunications/ICTs.

14   These challenges can be addressed by promoting international coordination and cooperation in cybersecurity, taking into account, *inter alia*, the ITU Global Cybersecurity Agenda (GCA), the development of related public policies and the elaboration of legal and regulatory measures, including capacity building, to ensure cybersecurity, encompassing also online protection of children and women.

15   With convergence, policy-makers and regulators will continue to promote widespread affordable access to telecommunications/ICTs through the establishment of enabling legal and regulatory environments that are fair, transparent, stable, predictable and non-discriminatory and that promote competition, foster continued technological and service innovation and encourage investment incentives.

16   Building widespread telecommunication/ICT literacy and human and institutional capacity in the development and use of telecommunication/ICT networks, applications and services enables people to access and contribute information, ideas and knowledge.

17   The least developed countries (LDCs) face the greatest challenges in telecommunications/ICTs. The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Hyderabad, 2010) reaffirms the global commitment to address the special telecommunication/ICT needs of LDCs.

18   Telecommunications/ICTs can make a substantial contribution to monitoring, mitigating and adapting to the adverse effects of climate change.

19   "Green ICTs" (environmentally-friendly ICTs) and renewable energy sources assist in preserving the environment by reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and enhancing living standards. The formulation and implementation of policies for proper disposal of e-waste are also of great importance.

20   Telecommunications/ICTs play a critical role in disaster detection, early warning, preparedness, response and recovery. Administrations need to support the development and implementation of policies and strategies that facilitate the use of telecommunications/ICTs for disaster management, taking into account the benefits of interoperable telecommunication/ICT systems, in particular radiocommunications.

21   The regions have encapsulated their needs in regional initiatives and presented them to the conference. The detailed descriptions of these regional initiatives can be found in the annex to Resolution 17 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010) of this conference.

22   The ITU regional presence needs to be strengthened and the study groups of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) should continue contributing to the body of knowledge which is made available to the international community. Cooperation among the three ITU Sectors should be further enhanced.

23   Public and private partnerships need to be strengthened, in order to explore and further develop new and innovative ways of financing development projects, in close collaboration with international, regional and national financing and investment institutions.

24   The Hyderabad Action Plan is a comprehensive package that will promote the equitable and sustainable development of telecommunication/ICT networks and services. It consists of study group Questions, five programmes, and regional initiatives that address the specific needs of the regions. The identified five programmes are:

•   Programme 1: Information and communication infrastructure and technology development

•   Programme 2: Cybersecurity, ICT applications and IP-based network-related issues

•   Programme 3: Enabling environment

•   Programme 4: Capacity building and digital inclusion

•   Programme 5: Least developed countries, countries in special need, emergency telecommunications and climate-change adaptation.

25   This Hyderabad Action Plan is an important and relevant tool for helping to bridge the digital divide.

26   The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Hyderabad, 2010) calls upon ITU Member States, Sector Members and other stakeholders to contribute towards the successful implementation of the Hyderabad Action Plan (HAP).