

American Model United Nations International Telecommunication Union

ITU/I/5

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION:

Telecommunication/information and communication technology

accessibility for persons with disabilities and persons with spe-

cific needs

SUBMITTED TO:

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The International Telecommunication Union

The International Telecommunication Union,

Taking into account the measures established by the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD),

Recognizing the importance of aiding persons with disabilities and specific needs,

Recognizing the importance of increasing the ability of persons with disabilities to participate in the economy of their respective Member States,

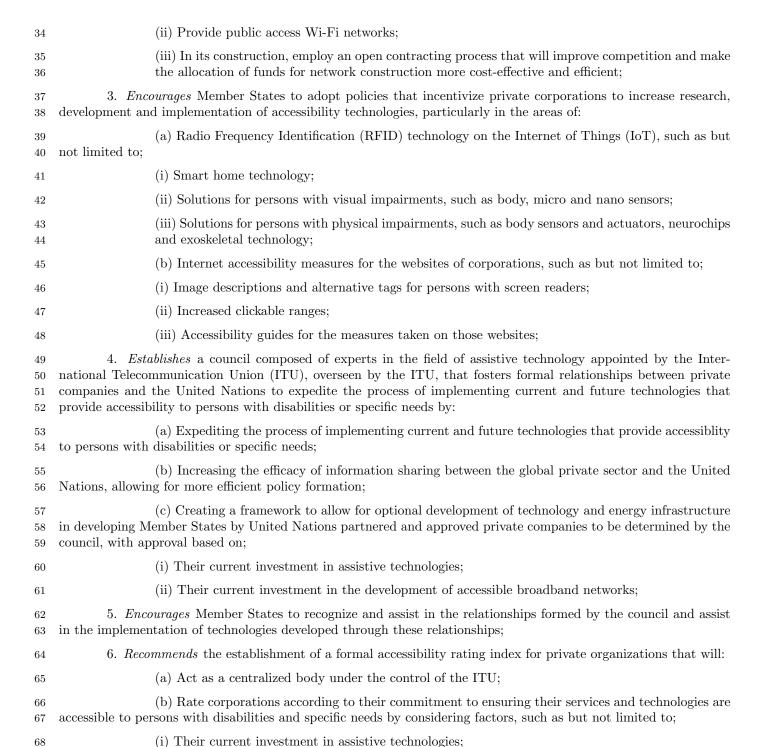
Affirming the work of Member States that have already been working to improve quality of life for their citizens with disabilities or specific needs through the implementation of assistive technology,

Welcoming the innovation of private corporations worldwide that have improved the lives of those with disabilities and specific needs by creating assistive technologies,

Understanding the complex state of relations between the United Nations and its Member States with international corporations and the need for formal relationships to be established to bridge the gaps between them,

- 1. Urges Member States to adopt regulations that improve access to information and communication technologies (ICTs) for individuals living with disabilities that should consist of, but not to be limited to:
- (a) Requiring manufacturers of information and communication equipment to ensure that their equipment is fully accessible and usable by persons with disabilities whenever possible, which includes accessibility measures such as;
 - (i) An installed narrator program with the capacity to narrate text in all nationally recognized languages;
 - (ii) An installed magnifier and high contrast display option to aid those with visual impairments;
 - (iii) Closed captioning features;
 - 2. Recommends that Member States improve access to broadband networks through:
 - (a) The subsidization of broadband infrastructure projects, which should;
 - (i) focus on rural areas which are especially vulnerable to lacking broadband access;
 - (ii) Consist of subsidies to private organizations that are participating and expanding broadband infrastructure and should consist of complete government funding of projects if possible when no incentive for private organizations to expand broadband infrastructure in areas with this need exists;
 - (iii) Include the lowering of tariffs on imported network-related equipment to further remove barriers to private organizations expanding broadband networks;
 - (iv) Include the funding of requisite infrastructure, such as electrical power grids;
 - (b) The creation of a publicly owned and operated broadband network that will;
 - (i) Provide high-speed broadband access to government offices, libraries and other publicly operated institutions, which are frequently visited, so that these institutions can act as designated electronic access centers by providing free or affordable access to broadband networks;

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(ii) Their current investment in the development of accessible broadband networks.

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Passed by consensus, with 3 abstentions