



American Model United Nations
International Telecommunication Union

ITU/I/2

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Facilitating digital inclusion initiatives for indigenous peoples

SUBMITTED TO: The International Telecommunication Union

The International Telecommunication Union,

1 *Reaffirming* Resolution 46 of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, which requests the
2 Secretary-General's assistance with the assistance of the Telecommunication Development Bureau,

3 *Noting* Resolution 184 of the 2010 Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union
4 (ITU), which encourages the ITU's inclusion of and collaboration with indigenous peoples in facilitating their digital
5 inclusion,

6 *Considering* successful collaborations between the International Telecommunication Union and indigenous
7 groups, on work in utilizing technology to better the quality of life,

8 *Acknowledging* how many Global South Member States lack funds and infrastructure to expand their telecom-
9 munication services, especially as it applies to a quality education in the modern world,

10 *Acknowledging* the existence of a digital divide that disproportionately affects indigenous populations, lim-
11 iting their access to technological resources,

12 *Recognizing* the benefits of facilitating digital inclusion initiatives for indigenous peoples in the promotion of
13 equality in access to information, medical care, education, and economic development,

14 *Confident* in the great importance that the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights has held within the
15 international community,

16 *Referencing* the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4 (Quality Education: Enhancing Economic Oppor-
17 tunity Initiative) to aid in bridging the digital divide through infrastructure developments in schools and households,

18 *Encouraging* the development of innovative, culturally sensitive solutions that address the specific challenges
19 faced by indigenous populations in adopting and benefiting from digital technologies,

20 *Referencing* the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4 (Quality Education: Enhancing Economic Oppor-
21 tunity Initiative) to aid in bridging the digital divide through infrastructure developments in schools and households,

22 *Approving* of the United Nations Division for Inclusive Social Development (DISD), to ensure that all
23 Member States of the United Nations consider the three main aspects of digital inclusion: accessibility, affordability,
24 and adaptability,

25 *Reaffirming* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and United Nations Declaration on the Rights of
26 Indigenous People (UNDRIP) as powerful precedents set forth by the United Nations,

27 *Recognizes* the hesitancy towards Western initiatives and the historical background of indigenous relation-
28 ships,

29 *Recognizing* that there are still gaps in the international community as more digital opportunities and
30 resources are becoming requirements in modern day,

31 *Acknowledging* the desires of indigenous communities who do not want to assimilate to an increasingly
32 modernizing society and would prefer to not be included in these initiatives,

33 1. *Requests* that the ITU form an initiative primarily focused on providing insight for pre-existing funding
34 to the ITU:

35 (a) Urgently seeking partnership with the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
36 to work alongside the state and indigenous communities to survey the needs of indigenous communities, develop a
37 database, and assist the ITU Liaison;

38 2. *Requests* to discuss how the current ITU funds can be reallocated to fund infrastructure and educational
39 resources to promote the involvement of indigenous and underrepresented communities within the ITU and the
40 corresponding United Nations member states, holding a deep regard for the sovereignty of all nations in and out of
41 conflict;

42 3. *Encourages* members to support and propose initiatives on an international scale, like those similar to
43 the Albanian National Plan for Sustainable Development of Digital Infrastructure Broadband 2020-2026:

44 (a) Through its efforts in ensuring 100 percent of schools, hospitals, banks, households, and public
45 institutions have direct access to broadband internet by 2025, putting funding into the best infrastructure and
46 development available at all times to the best of each member ability;

47 (b) The principle that equitable access to broadband internet is essential for fostering inclusive
48 development and ensuring that no community is left behind in the digital era;

49 (c) Acknowledging that expanding broadband internet to indigenous communities is a vital step
50 towards empowering these populations, bridging societal gaps, and fostering cultural preservation;

51 4. *Proclaims* that the initiative established in this resolution will seek the inclusion of representatives from
52 focused indigenous groups so their unique concerns are heard and that the leadership of the ITU can properly invest
53 funding and through education into these communities and avoid causing more harm than good:

54 (a) Calls for initiatives that support indigenous entrepreneurs, providing access to online markets,
55 financial services, and capacity building programs;

56 (b) Urges the continuation of a report writing process within the ITU to bring to the United Nations
57 to ensure digital inclusion, with regular reporting on the effectiveness of implemented initiatives;

58 5. *Recommends* constant communication with the United Nations' Broadband Commission for Sustainable
59 Development, seeking to monitor progress and aid in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,
60 specifically regarding universal access to mobile and broadband technologies; and expanding upon SDGs 1, 4, 8,
61 9, 10, and 11 to protect against inequalities in education, economic insecurities, and create new opportunities for
62 indigenous groups;

63 6. *Requests* the United Nations General Assembly to draft and implement a Declaration of Digital and
64 Technological Human Rights to ensure all people have a protected right and access to telecommunications services,
65 technologies, and infrastructure as the world continues to enter this new digital age;

66 7. *Encourages* any and all participation by indigenous communities in order to provide adequate resources
67 and educational opportunities.

Passed by consensus, with 4 abstentions