



*American Model United Nations*  
**International Telecommunication Union**

ITU/I/3

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Facilitating digital inclusion initiatives for indigenous peoples

SUBMITTED TO: The International Telecommunication Union

*The International Telecommunication Union,*

1        *Recalling* all relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly, the Human Rights Council and  
2 the Economic and Social Council relating to the rights of indigenous peoples, reaffirming its resolutions 74/135 of 18  
3 December 2019, 75/168 of 16 December 2020 and 76/148 of 16 December 2021,

4        *Reaffirming* the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which addresses the indi-  
5 vidual and collective rights of indigenous peoples,

6        *Guided by* the goals outlined in the Connect 2030 Agenda established in the 2018 Plenipotentiary Conference,

7        *Emphasizing* the fundamental importance of digital inclusivity as a cornerstone of global progress and de-  
8 velopment,

9        *Noting* with concern the lack of technology within rural communities and developing nations,

10       *Highlighting* the transformative power of digital literacy and vocational training as the key to unlocking the  
11 full potential of individuals within indigenous populations,

12       *Being* aware of the critical role that technology plays in either fostering unity or exacerbating disparities  
13 among diverse cultures and communities,

14       *Cognizant* of the need for collaborative international efforts to address the digital divide and the need for  
15 equitably distributed benefits of technology,

16       *Acknowledging* that broadband internet has become an indispensable tool for communication, education,  
17 economic development, and access to information in the contemporary digital age,

18       *Further acknowledging* the cultural significance of digital spaces and the imperative to create environments  
19 that celebrate and preserve indigenous languages and traditions,

20       *Affirming* the commitment to harnessing technology as a bridge that connects, empowers, and uplifts in-  
21 digenous communities on the global stage,

22       *Fully aware* of the unique challenges faced by indigenous peoples in accessing and benefiting from the  
23 digital revolution, with 19 least developed countries entirely lacking internet exchange points and other forms of  
24 infrastructure critical for widespread internet access,

25       *Confident* that expanding broadband internet to indigenous communities is a vital step towards empowering  
26 these populations, bridging societal gaps, and fostering cultural preservation,

27       *Understanding* the need for indigenous communities to have increased jurisdiction over decision-making in  
28 their own communities,

29       1. *Requests* that the General Assembly or Security Council develop a research initiative on a Technology  
30 Development Scale (TDS) to classify regions based on the magnitude, quality, and affordability of broadband access,  
31 the output of regional technology sectors, and the percentage of citizens with regular internet access to ensure  
32 countries and regions with the most need are assisted equitably, which will assist in research on the feasibility of the  
33 following initiatives:

34            (a) Create a number scale from one to five, with one being the least developed and five being the  
35 most developed;

36            (b) Conduct an assessment on how well each member state utilizes the sources and infrastructure  
37 provided under the resolution, to be;

- 38 (i) Analyzed every three years assessed upon;
- 39 A. Percentage of regions with internet availability and access to resources;
- 40 B. Percentage deficits when compared to the most connected region in the country;
- 41 C. Level of technological knowledge;
- 42 D. Percentage increase of technological distribution and literacy within the State over the year;
- 43 E. Data from organizations such as the Giga Initiative, an International Telecommunications Union
- 44 (ITU) affiliate organization which maps internet infrastructure in technologically underserved coun-
- 45 tries, for the purpose of equitably ensuring rural areas, and particularly rural schools, are adequately
- 46 connected to the internet;

47 (c) Create a comprehensive indigenous digital inclusion initiative that integrates digital skills train-

48 ing, entrepreneurship support, and monitoring mechanisms, guided by active participation from indigenous leaders

49 for holistic empowerment and community development, through initiatives that support indigenous entrepreneurs,

50 provide access to online markets and financial services, such as advisory boards, engaging design workshops, and

51 customized training programs, in accordance with the needs of individual community members and locally owned

52 enterprises;

53 (d) Working directly with indigenous advocacy leaders to;

54 (i) Request the implementation of an online training program to be hosted on the ITU's website;

55 (ii) Target specific sectors by;

56 A. Setting technological devices to provide different modules;

57 B. Allowing individuals to choose which module they want;

58 C. Focusing on education by providing effective technology training to teachers, with free-to-use on-

59 line video resources in individuals' indigenous languages, and a volunteer system in which technology

60 experts educate teachers on how to utilize technology efficiently;

61 D. Focusing on training public and private entities on data collection, communication platforms and

62 supplying marketing tools;

63 E. Focusing on public relations by producing and distributing communication and media training

64 to help keep citizens informed and training community leaders on how to integrate technology into

65 their forms of public communication;

66 (iii) Understand which of these services is most applicable to individual communities;

67 2. *Encourages* individual member states to increase investment in the digital economy to increase and build

68 access to infrastructure, knowledge, technology, and other resources, which could:

69 (a) Allow for the creation of internet exchange points in least developing countries, and encouraging

70 partnerships with non-profits, non-governmental organizations, and other forms of public-private partnerships to

71 provide such infrastructure;

72 (b) Further reduce the financial burden placed on governments when establishing infrastructure such

73 as broadband connectivity, Wi-Fi, electricity, etc. by collaborating with private sector corporations;

74 (i) Stressing the need to focus on the expansion of broadband access in rural areas, where many

75 indigenous people live;

76 (c) Gather additional funds by taking the plans initiated in operative Clause 1 and defer these

77 initiatives to General Assembly 5;

78 (i) ITU members being able to make use of the ITU agency's funds;

79 (ii) All other members benefiting from private investment through the digital economy;

80 3. *Seeks* long-term solutions to bring additional technology after broadband has been established, through

81 the distribution of radios to indigenous communities, for the purpose of:

82 (a) Enhancing communication, both regionally and globally;

83 (b) Expanding digital literacy in rural areas overall, with an emphasis on isolated indigenous com-  
84 munities;

85 (c) Enhancing collaboration with Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and private organiza-  
86 tions to translate this knowledge into native languages;

87 4. *Resolves to* promote education among all indigenous populations to make it more accessible for indigenous  
88 communities to participate in the digital economy as well as the broader technological world, with a focus on  
89 improving digital literacy, especially for women and children, while also encouraging social cohesion, civic engagement,  
90 enhanced use of digital tools and services by:

91 (a) Encouraging member states to enact policies similar to Portugal's Creative Communities for Dig-  
92 ital Inclusion (CCDI) program to improve digital literacy in concert with social cohesion, gender and socioeconomic  
93 equity, civic engagement, and capacity to effectively use digital tools and services, on a individual basis, as well as  
94 the TechTrailblazers Capacity Building Initiative (TTCBI), an innovative program focused on equipping skills that  
95 are necessary for active engagement in the digital landscape;

96 (b) Encouraging governments to increase the digital literacy and inclusion of future generations by  
97 requiring focus on digital literacy in primary education;

98 (c) Encouraging governments and relevant stakeholders to invest in digital infrastructure, including  
99 reliable broadband connectivity, to extend access to remote indigenous regions through community-led assessments  
100 of needs, technology workshops, training opportunities, and community-operated service hubs that are inclusive of  
101 cultural exchange platforms, digital storytelling initiatives, and regular community check-ins;

102 5. *Emphasizes* the autonomy, sovereignty and value of local and regional indigenous participation at their  
103 desired level of control within the digital world by:

104 (a) Enshrining the preservation of cultural heritage within digital spaces by promoting indigenous  
105 culture online within their own communities and countries of residence by working towards the creation of local roles  
106 to ensure cultural representation, preserve and expand indigenous voices and languages, and maintain indigenous  
107 culture, aiming to prevent any blockades towards digital inclusion on the basis of ethnic/cultural identity;

108 (b) Calling upon governments to work with living, native speakers to create and expand internet  
109 resources that typically overlook indigenous languages, for the purpose of extending the knowledge of indigenous  
110 languages to non-indigenous populations, as well as extending knowledge of the languages most commonly used in  
111 business to indigenous peoples;

112 6. *Encourages* member states to enact measures towards digital inclusion at the rate in which indigenous  
113 groups want to participate without punitive measures or withdrawal of existing support through the creation of  
114 lines of dialogues between indigenous leaders and government outreach officers so that lines of communication are  
115 maintained and relationships easily updated based on evolving needs, with allowance for indigenous cultures to join  
116 the digital world on a case-by-case basis, whether as a whole or as individuals;

117 7. *Draws attention* to the importance of sovereignty and thus suggests member states with security issues  
118 to explore the use of:

119 (a) Creating tax-based policies, trade agreements, and protections for local industries to retain their  
120 sovereignty while uplifting indigenous groups, facilitating fair and free trade;

121 (b) Promoting indigenous participation in their country's government, by allowing governments to  
122 move to facilitate a structure in which indigenous groups and tribes are allocated equal representation or delegation  
123 and providing for equal representation of indigenous peoples underrepresented in major urban areas previously by;

124 (i) Working with the standard ratio of citizen to representative utilized in the home country;

125 (ii) Utilizing population data from the World Bank to determine where such representation is possible  
126 in the drawing of representative districts.

Passed, Yes: 34 / No: 2 / Abstain: 5