



Agenda item: PL 2

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DRAFT NEW COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON “ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT TO PALESTINE FOR REBUILDING THEIR TELECOMMUNICATION SECTOR”

Purpose

This is a draft resolution for the International Telecommunication Union Council with the aim of ensuring the ITU's much needed assistance and support to Palestine for rebuilding its telecommunication sector.

Action required by the Council

The Council is invited to **consider** and **adopt** the draft new resolution.

References *United Nations General Assembly Resolution [A/RES/78/170](#),
United Nations Educational, Science and Cultural Organization Resolution [42 C/COM.APX/DR.2](#)*

DRAFT NEW RESOLUTION [...]

**Assistance and support to Palestine
for rebuilding their telecommunication sector**

The ITU Council,

recalling

- a) the noble principles, purpose and objectives enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- b) as well as in the Declaration of Principles adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society;
- c) the efforts of the United Nations to promote sustainable development;
- d) the purposes of the Union as enshrined in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution;
- e) the efforts by ITU, to leave no one behind, to connect the unconnected, and to achieve sustainable development and its goals;
- f) that Nos 6 and 7 of Article 1 of the ITU Constitution provide "*to promote the extension of the benefits of the new telecommunication technologies to all the world's inhabitants*" and "*to promote the use of telecommunication services with the objective of facilitating peaceful relations*",

recalling further

- a) United Nations General Assembly Resolution [A/RES/78/170](#) of 19 December 2023 on Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources;
- b) United Nations Educational, Science and Cultural Organization Resolution [42 C/COM.APX/DR.2](#) of 9 November 2023 on Impact and consequences of the current situation in the Gaza Strip/Palestine in all aspects of UNESCO's mandate;
- c) Resolutions 34 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on Assistance and support to countries in special need for rebuilding their telecommunication sector;
- d) Resolutions 125 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on Assistance and support to Palestine for infrastructure development and capacity building in the telecommunication and information technology sector;
- e) Resolution 99 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on Status of Palestine in ITU;
- f) Resolution 18 (Rev. Kigali, 2022) of World Telecommunication Development Conference, on Special technical assistance to Palestine;
- g) Resolutions 137 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on Deployment of future networks in developing countries,

Considering

- a) that the basic instruments of the Union, including the Constitution and the Conventions, have as a purpose to strengthen peace and security in the world by means of and through international cooperation and its development to achieve better understanding among peoples;
- b) the importance of Palestine's effective participation in the new information society, and supporting it in building its information society;
- c) that the ITU has an important role in establishing and developing modern and reliable telecommunications networks, and that their deployment is an essential part of economic and social development and is of the utmost importance to the future of the Palestinian people;
- d) that the international community has an important role in assisting Palestine in general, and the Gaza Strip, in particular, to develop a modern and reliable telecommunication network;
- e) that the ITU aims to promote the use of telecommunication services with the objective of facilitating peaceful relations,

deploring in this regard

- a) widespread destruction of critical infrastructure, failure of telecom services and mobile phone outages that have occurred across the Gaza Strip since the beginning of the aggression by the occupying power;
- b) the 2G technologies and services that are still provided to the people in the Gaza Strip, and the difficulty of finding devices to perform maintenance on the current network, as the companies that manufacture these devices have stopped manufacturing them;
- c) the obstacles practiced by the occupying power in preventing the use of new communications technologies and not allowing the employment of the 3G, 4G, and 5G generations so far in Palestine, and the Gaza Strip in particular,

bearing in mind

the basic principles in the preamble to the Constitution,

noting

- a) the Telecommunication Development Bureau's (BDT) long-term technical assistance to Palestine for the development of its telecommunications in implementation of Resolution 32 (Kyoto, 1994) of the Plenipotentiary Conference and the urgent need for assistance to be provided in the various fields of communication and information;
- b) the restrictions and difficulties related to the current situation in Palestine that prevent access to telecommunications/information and communications technology (ICT) means, services and applications, which constitute a continuing obstacle to the development of telecommunications/ICT in Palestine,

reaffirming

- a) the sovereignty, independence, unity, and territorial integrity of Palestine within its internationally recognized borders, extending to its territorial waters;

b) on the need to respect and preserve the unity, contiguity and integrity of the entire occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem,

reiterating the ITU commitment

to “promote the adoption of measures for ensuring the safety of life through the cooperation of telecommunication services”,

calls upon Member States

to make every effort with a view to:

- 1 return of communications in the Gaza Strip;
- 2 preserving the telecommunication infrastructure in Palestine in general, and the Gaza Strip, in particular;
- 3 providing all forms of assistance and support to Gaza Strip, bilaterally or through executive measures taken by ITU;
- 4 providing the necessary support to build and activate 4G and 5G services in the Gaza Strip;
- 5 providing assistance to Gaza to support the implementation of projects of the three Union Bureaux and regional initiatives, including capacity building,

invites the Council

- 1 to allocate the necessary funds within available resources for the implementation of this resolution;
- 2 to consider the reports and proposals submitted by the Secretary-General and the three Bureaux of the Union regarding the implementation of this decision,

resolves to instruct the Directors of the three Bureaux

- 1 to monitor and provide regular reports on the particular needs of Palestine in the field of telecommunications, and to prepare proposals for effective technical assistance;
- 2 to carry out an assessment on the impact of the war in Palestine to ITU programmes and activities in the region, and provide a report thereon;
- 3 to ensure adequate financial and human resources mobilization, including under the internal budget and the Information and Communication Technology Development Fund, for the implementation of the proposed actions,

instructs the Secretary-General

to coordinate the activities carried out by the three Sectors of the Union in accordance with resolves above, to ensure that the Union's action in favour of Palestine is as effective as possible, and to provide a report on the matter to the 2026 Plenipotentiary conference and to the Council meeting in 2025, and future meetings and conferences as appropriate,

invites Member States

to make contributions to the WTDC-25 and PP-26 to support ITU efforts to rebuild Palestine's telecommunication infrastructure and necessary support and technical capacity building.