

RESOLUTION 12 (REV.WRC-19)

Assistance and support to Palestine

The World Radiocommunication Conference (Sharm el-Sheikh, 2019),

recalling

- a) the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- b) the terms of Resolution 67/19 of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), which decides to accord to Palestine non-member observer State status in the United Nations;
- c) UNGA Resolution 72/240, which recognizes the Palestinian people's right to permanent sovereignty over their natural resources, specifically land, water, energy and other natural resources, in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem;
- d) Resolution 32 (Kyoto, 1994) of the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference, on technical assistance to Palestine for the development of telecommunications;
- e) Resolution 125 (Rev. Dubai, 2018), Resolution 125 (Rev. Busan, 2014), Resolution 125 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010), Resolution 125 (Rev. Antalya, 2006) and Resolution 125 (Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on assistance and support to Palestine for rebuilding its telecommunication networks;
- f) Resolution 99 (Rev. Dubai, 2018), Resolution 99 (Rev. Busan, 2014) and Resolution 99 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the status of Palestine in ITU;
- g) Resolution 18 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), Resolution 18 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) and Resolution 18 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on special technical assistance to Palestine;
- h) Resolution 9 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) and Resolution 9 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, which recognize that it is the sovereign right of every State to manage spectrum use within its territories;
- i) Nos. 6 and 7 of the ITU Constitution indicating among the purposes of the Union "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",

considering

- a) that the Constitution and ITU Convention are designed to strengthen peace and security in the world for the development of international cooperation and better understanding among the peoples concerned;
- b) Resolution 125 (Rev. Dubai, 2018), which recognizes that ITU's policy of assistance to Palestine for the development of its telecommunication sector has been efficient but has not yet fulfilled its goals due to the prevailing situation,

RES12-2

considering further

- a) the need to continue assisting Palestine to manage, similar to ITU administrations, its radio spectrum resources required to advance the economic and social development of Palestine;
- b) that the frequency assignments and frequency spectrum management requirements of Palestine must be respected and safeguarded in accordance with the provisions and resolutions of ITU and international law in this regard;
- c) the right of Palestine to manage and plan its own spectrum resources in accordance with the Interim Agreement and the provisions of the Radio Regulations and the various resolutions adopted by global and regional radiocommunication assemblies and conferences,

mindful

of the fundamental principles contained in the Constitution,

noting with concern

the restrictions and difficulties related to the current situation in Palestine that are preventing access to telecommunication means, services and applications and which constitute a continuing obstacle to telecommunications in Palestine,

welcomes

1 the bilateral agreement elaborated through the Joint Technical Committee (JTC) by concerned parties on 24 October 2019, which included:

- i) establishing a subcommittee dedicated to reviewing and assessing the present and future needs of Palestine for the next five years, which will establish a work plan containing an outline of future steps towards addressing the requirements presented by the Palestinians, including, after six months, steps with respect to the identification, designation and allocation of adequate frequencies for the operation of 4G and 5G networks;
- ii) identifying, designating and allocating adequate frequencies for the operation of 3G, 4G and 5G networks and for microwave links in Palestine for the existing Palestinian operators and another new potential operator, based on the Palestinian requirements as submitted to the last JTC meeting held on 24 October 2019;
- iii) supporting the timely implementation in Palestine of new technologies in accordance with the agreed outcomes of the meeting of 24 October 2019 elaborated through JTC;

2 the commitment of concerned parties to advance efforts to facilitate the entry of necessary equipment for the construction and operation of telecommunication networks for use by Palestinian operators;

3 the continued support of ITU, including its Secretary-General, in achieving the goals of this resolution,

urges Member States

including concerned parties, to make every effort with a view to facilitating the acquisition and deployment of the equipment needed by Palestine for the establishment of their networks,

resolves

1 to continue to provide assistance to Palestine, through the ITU Radiocommunication Sector and in collaboration with the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector, pursuant to the relevant ITU resolutions and decisions, in particular in the areas of capacity building, spectrum management and frequency assignment, with a view to enabling Palestine to manage and exploit its radio spectrum;

2 to enable Palestine to continue implementing 3G technology in Gaza through support and technical assistance, consistent with the bilateral agreement signed on 19 November 2015;

3 to enable Palestine to modernize its telecommunication networks, including building and operating 4G and 5G networks, through support and technical assistance,

urges concerned parties

to facilitate the import and deployment of equipment and, in the next JTC meeting (expected either December 2019 or January 2020), to start establishing a clear and reasonable time-frame for allocation of adequate frequencies of 4G and 5G for the Palestinian operators,

instructs the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau

1 to take appropriate measures within the mandate of the Radiocommunication Bureau in order to assist in the implementation of this Resolution;

2 to report to the next World Radiocommunication Conference on progress achieved in the implementation of this Resolution,

instructs the Secretary-General

to ensure that this Resolution is implemented.

