**PACP-30**

**PRELIMINARY APT COMMON PROPOSAL**

**NEW RESOLUTION ON** **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PACIFIC LAGATOI DECLARATION**

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| **Summary:**  It is proposed that this new Resolution for WTDC-25 on the role of ITU in supporting Pacific Island Countries to implement the Lagatoi Declaration on Digital Transformation in the Pacific, with its commitment to build an inclusive, connected, and digitally empowered Pacific, taking into account the Pacific’s unique geographic, economic, and social challenges. The draft resolution seeks the support of the ITU and its Member States in achieving the objectives of the Declaration, securing resources, including technical assistance, funding, and partnerships, to implement the Lagatoi Declaration Action Plan.  The Annexto this proposaloutlines the priorities for Pacific Island Countries contained in the Lagatoi Declaration Plan of Action.  **Expected Results:**  APT Member administrations invite WTDC to examine the proposals and approve of the new resolution.  **References:** Lagatoi Declaration, 28 August 2023 |  |

1. **PROPOSALS**

APT Member administrations propose a new Resolution on Implementation of the Pacific Lagatoi Declaration according to the annex below.

ANNEX

RESOLUTION XX (Baku, 2025)

**Implementation of the Pacific Lagatoi Declaration**

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Baku, 2025),

*Considering*

*a)* that, Pacific Island ICT Ministers adopted the Lagatoi Declaration on Digital Transformation in the Pacific during the inaugural Pacific ICT Ministerial Dialogue, hosted by Ministry for Information and Communications Technology, Government of the Independent State of Papua New Guinea, in August 2023, and subsequently reaffirmed through the Pacific ICT Ministerial Dialogue in Suva, Fiji on 8 August 2025;

*b)* that the Lagatoi Declaration provides a digital roadmap and reflects the shared commitment to work together in the spirit of a ‘Smart Pacific, One Voice – Creating a Digital Future together for the Pacific’,

*recalling*

*a)* the Lagatoi Declaration, with its commitment to build an inclusive, connected and digitally empowered Pacific, reflecting the specific geographic isolation, climate vulnerability, economic, and social challenges of Pacific SIDS;

*b)* the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent, related declarations, and Pacific Island Forum leaders’ commitment for a well-connected region that ensures inclusion, accessible, secure and affordable ICT infrastructure and services;

*c)* UNGA Resolution 70/1, on transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

*considering further*

*a)*  Resolution 25 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on strengthening the regional presence;

*b)* Resolution 16 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on special measures for the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition,

*noting*

*a)* that Pacific Island Countries (PICs) are particularly vulnerable to extreme levels of devastation resulting from natural disasters, climate change, rising sea levels and lack the capacity to respond effectively to these calamities;

*b)* that high-quality, accessible and affordable telecommunication/ICT are critical to encouraging sustainable economic growth and providing faster, more reliable, and secure communications allowing communities to share information and access early warning systems;

*c)* the existing connectivity gaps, and the vulnerability of the Pacific due to cyber and environmental threats,

*noting with concern*

*a)* that, despite all the measures taken so far, rural and remote communities in PICs, as SIDS, remain underserved, limiting equitable access to digital opportunities;

*b)* that the geographical situation of PICs is an obstacle to the establishment of international telecommunication network connectivity with these countries;

*c)* the cyber and environmental vulnerability of PICs , and the need to ensure resilient critical information infrastructure,

*resolves to instruct the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

1 to provide development support to PICs through the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) programmes of assistance, noting the priorities outlined in the Lagatoi Declaration;

2 to continue providing the necessary administrative and operational support for identifying the needs of PICs and for proper administration of the resources appropriated for these countries;

3 to report annually on this matter to the TDAG and the Council,

*requests the Secretary-General*

1 to mobilize financial support from the existing networks, including voluntary contributions and appropriate partnerships, including public-private partnerships;

2 to engage the different United Nations agencies to support various components of the Lagatoi Declaration, in areas within their scope and mandate,

*calls upon governments of Pacific Island Countries*

1 to foster cooperation in identifying and implementing digital solutions tailored to the Pacific’s unique geographic, economic, and social challenges and collaborate to align regional ICT priorities;

2 to actively engage in the Review of the ITU’s Regional Presence,

*calls upon other Member States and Sector Members*

to cooperate with PICs in promoting regional, subregional, multilateral and bilateral projects and programmes for the implementation of this Resolution.

**ANNEX TO RESOLUTION XX (Baku, 2025)**

**Lagatoi Declaration Priority Areas**

1. **Digital Transformation**
2. Digital transformation as a catalyst for social and economic empowerment and has far‑reaching benefits to productivity, employment, skills, economic growth, trade, well-being and environmental sustainability;
3. Commitment to creating an enabling environment and promoting universal and affordable access to connectivity for all to accelerate Digital Transformation.
4. **Digital Innovation and Entrepreneurship**
5. Adoption of digital online services to create value for individuals and businesses in the Pacific, who can benefit from access to information, tools to improve production and improved access to ICTs and digital government services, including health and education;
6. Commitment to promote digital government strategies, policies and programs to enable digital transformation of both public and private sectors, including micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in the Pacific;
7. Commitment to enable MSMEs to take full advantage of emerging technologies and facilitate their effective and meaningful access to digital platforms, as this will help enhance their competitiveness in an increasingly digitally connected world, facilitate their further integration into global value chains and support job creation.
8. **Digital Infrastructure**
9. Rolling out widespread, modern, and resilient infrastructure with sufficient capacity which is key to development of the ICT sector in the Pacific as digital infrastructure underpins the delivery of digital services;
10. Commitment to increase focus on the availability and quality of telecommunication networks and supportive infrastructure;
11. Increased coverage and penetration rates of high-speed meaningful broadband connectivity in order to accelerate the efforts to connect individuals and businesses in the Pacific.
12. **Digital Security and Trust**
13. Promoting the take-up of digital services by providing a safe and secure digital environment;

1. Developing a thriving ICT ecosystem by providing individuals and businesses in the Pacific with the confidence they need to navigate digital and/or online spaces;
2. Commitment to establish trusted and secured systems which help create a stable environment supported by the development of conducive policy and regulatory frameworks, to facilitate the use of digital services.
3. **Digital Capacity Building and Skills Development**
4. Supporting a skilled ICT workforce and the promotion of necessary digital literacy and culturally sensitive user-protection that is required for the Pacific to fully benefit from digital transformation and to develop a resilient ICT ecosystem;
5. Providing ICT technical skillsets including dedicated training to targeted segments of the population to increase demand for digital services and grow the digital economy, develop digital literacy programs for all to participate in the digital economy;
6. Promoting capacity building efforts that go beyond technical skills, fostering an understanding of how people’s behavior and cultural norms interact with technology.
7. **Regional Cooperation and Representation**
8. Strong cross-border cooperation among Pacific Island Countries and Territories, and effective multi-stakeholder cooperation with United Nations agencies and other relevant global, regional and sub-regional fora, regional organizations, private sector, technical community, civil society and other relevant stakeholders, required for successful digital transformation;

1. Adopting a unified approach to set harmonized policy and regulatory frameworks; address common challenges; find solutions; mobilize resources more efficiently and enhance investment; and ensure shared accountability, commitment and values by Pacific Islands Forum Members;
2. Supporting the work of the various existing regional governance structures that coordinate and cooperate on the development of ICT in the Pacific;
3. Calling on the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and other development partners to strengthen understanding of, and engagement and presence in, the  
   Pacific region, and invite those partners to scale up cooperation in resource  
   mobilization to support Pacific Island Countries and Territories.