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Accessibility terms and definitions –

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

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ACCESSIBILITY TERMS AND DEFINITIONS –

FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 63080 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 100: Audio, video and multimedia systems and equipment.

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The text of this International Standard is based on the following documents:

CDV	Report on voting
100/2775/CDV	100/2873/RVC

Full information on the voting for the approval of this International Standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

This document has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under "http://webstore.iec.ch" in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

A bilingual version of this publication may be issued at a later date.

INTRODUCTION

This document defines words describing accessibility, disability, and technical terms to be used for improving the writing in relation to standardization, and to facilitate accurately the needs and the mainstreaming of accessibility in standards that will include persons with disabilities (PWD), older persons with age-related disabilities and persons with specific needs. See WTDC Res. 58, WTDC AP and ITU–T F.790, listed in the Bibliography.

With the advent of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (see UNCRPD in the Bibliography), its passage in 2006, and its ratification by numerous countries, many new terms and definitions were created. Some of these terms and definitions were created at the behest of PWD themselves to eradicate terms that were demeaning, insulting, and inaccurate.

Writers of standards are able to mainstream accessibility features into standards, as well as to write specific standards for accessibility. To design products and services successfully, there is a need for a common language. This document is intended to give definitions so that it will make it easier for industries to implement these accessibility features and accessibility standards if everyone is using the same language and vocabulary. It is also important that governments, government agencies, non-government organizations (NGOs), the UN, and its respective agencies normalize these terms for their integration into mainstream everyday language.

The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD), Article 9, made clear the need to include PWD, older persons with age-related disabilities, and persons with specific needs by mainstreaming them into all aspects of modern life. This can only be done by including them in the design of modern technology and information and communication technologies (ICTs) using universal design as defined in the UNCRPD and using a common language and vocabulary.

ACCESSIBILITY TERMS AND DEFINITIONS –

1 Scope

This document contains a list of currently used terminology to describe accessibility and terms that writers of standards need when writing and designing International Standards. It is important to standardize and define a recognized list of the terms already used and in existing ITU Recommendations and Resolutions, along with those in the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD). Without such a list, there could be confusion not only on the part of writers and implementers of standards, but also by the public at large. It is also important to eliminate terminology that is no longer used, offensive, and demeaning to persons with disabilities (PWD) and others.

The terminology in this document is for use in international work when English is used to refer to telecommunication/ICT accessibility matters. This document is also applicable to everyday life and all usages, including web design and other writings, as well as ICT, telecommunications, and broadcasting standardization. The aim is for it to also be mainstreamed into future policy, regulatory, and academic documents so as to be consistent with global compatibility and understanding. In the future, work that is yet to be created, written, or approved could include new terms that are added as appropriate by consensus in a revision.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.