

I n t e r n a t i o n a l T e l e c o m m u n i c a t i o n U n i o n

ITU-T

TELECOMMUNICATION
STANDARDIZATION SECTOR
OF ITU

WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION
ASSEMBLY

Hammamet, 25 October – 3 November 2016

**Resolution 22 – Authorization for the
Telecommunication Standardization Advisory
Group to act between world telecommunication
standardization assemblies**

FOREWORD

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is the United Nations specialized agency in the field of telecommunications, information and communication technologies (ICTs). The ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) is a permanent organ of ITU. ITU-T is responsible for studying technical, operating and tariff questions and issuing Recommendations on them with a view to standardizing telecommunications on a worldwide basis.

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), which meets every four years, establishes the topics for study by the ITU-T study groups which, in turn, produce Recommendations on these topics.

The approval of ITU-T Recommendations is covered by the procedure laid down in WTSA Resolution 1.

In some areas of information technology which fall within ITU-T's purview, the necessary standards are prepared on a collaborative basis with ISO and IEC.

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RESOLUTION 22 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016)

Authorization for the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group to act between world telecommunication standardization assemblies

*(Geneva, 1996; Montreal, 2000; Florianópolis, 2004; Johannesburg, 2008;
Dubai, 2012; Hammamet, 2016)*

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Hammamet, 2016),

considering

- a) that, under the provisions of Article 14A of the ITU Convention, the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) is to provide guidelines for the work of study groups and recommend measures to foster coordination and cooperation with other standards bodies;
- b) that the rapid pace of change in the telecommunication environment and in industry groups dealing with telecommunications demands that the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) make decisions on matters such as work priorities, study group structure and meeting schedules in shorter periods of time, between world telecommunication standardization assemblies (WTSA), in order to maintain its relevance and responsiveness in accordance with No. 197C of the Convention;
- c) that Resolution 122 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference resolves that WTSA shall continue, in accordance with its responsibilities, and subject to available financial resources, to promote the continued evolution of the standardization sector and adequately address strategic issues in standardization by means such as, but not limited to, the strengthening of TSAG;
- d) that Resolution 122 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB) to continue, in consultation with relevant bodies, and the ITU membership, and in coordination with the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) and the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D), as appropriate, to organize a Global Standards Symposium (GSS);
- e) that GSS was held in conjunction with this assembly to consider bridging the standardization gap and examining global ICT standards challenges;
- f) that TSAG continues to make proposals for enhancing the operational efficiency of ITU-T, for improving the quality of ITU-T Recommendations and for methods of coordination and cooperation;
- g) that TSAG can help improve coordination of the study process and provide improved decision-making processes for the important areas of ITU-T activities;
- h) that flexible administrative procedures, including those related to budgetary considerations, are needed in order to adapt to rapid changes in the telecommunication environment;
- i) that it is desirable for TSAG to act in the four years between WTSA's in order to meet the needs of the marketplace in a timely manner;
- j) that it is desirable for TSAG to consider the implications of new technologies for the standardization activities of ITU-T and how such technologies can be included within the ITU-T work programme;
- k) that TSAG can play an important role in ensuring coordination between study groups, as appropriate, on standardization issues including, as required, avoiding duplication of work, and identifying linkages and dependencies between related work items;
- l) that TSAG, in providing advice to study groups, may take account of the advice of other groups;

m) that there is a need to continue improving coordination and collaboration with other relevant bodies, within ITU-T, with ITU-R and ITU-D and the General Secretariat, and with other standardization organizations, forums and consortia outside of ITU, and relevant entities;

n) that WTSA-12 established the Review Committee, which conducted a strategic and structural review of ITU-T from 2013 to 2016 and submitted its final report to this assembly,

noting

a) that Article 13 of the Convention states that a WTSA may assign specific matters within its competence to TSAG indicating the action required on those matters;

b) that the duties of WTSA are specified in the Convention;

c) that the current four-year cycle for WSAs effectively precludes the possibility of addressing unforeseen issues requiring urgent action in the interim period between assemblies;

d) that TSAG meets at least on a yearly basis;

e) that TSAG has already exhibited the capability to act effectively on matters assigned to it by WTSA;

f) that Resolution 68 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of this assembly instructs the Director of TSB to organize meetings for high-level industry executives, e.g. chief technology officer meetings, in order to assist in identifying and coordinating standardization priorities and subjects and minimize the number of forums and consortia,

recognizing

that the Plenipotentiary Conference (Marrakesh, 2002) adopted Nos. 191A and 191B of the Convention that allow WTSA to establish and terminate other groups,

resolves

1 to assign to TSAG the following specific matters within its competence between this assembly and the next assembly to act in the following areas in consultation with the Director of TSB, as appropriate:

a) maintain up-to-date, efficient and flexible working guidelines;

b) assume responsibility, including development and submission for approval under appropriate procedures, for the ITU-T A-series Recommendations (Organization of the work of ITU-T);

c) restructure and establish ITU-T study groups, taking into account the needs of the ITU-T membership and in response to changes in the telecommunication marketplace, and assign chairmen and vice-chairmen to act until the next WTSA in accordance with Resolution 35 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of this assembly;

d) issue advice on study group schedules to meet standardization priorities;

e) while recognizing the primacy of the study groups in carrying out the activities of ITU-T, create, terminate or maintain other groups, including focus groups, appoint their chairmen and vice-chairmen, and establish their terms of reference with a defined duration, in accordance with Nos. 191A and 191B of the Convention, in order to enhance and improve the effectiveness of ITU-T's work as well as promoting flexibility in responding rapidly to high-priority issues; such groups shall not adopt Questions or Recommendations, in accordance with Article 14A of the Convention, but work on a specific mandate;

f) identify changing requirements and provide advice on appropriate changes to be made to the priority of work in ITU-T study groups, planning and allocation of work between study groups, having due regard for the cost and availability of resources;

- g) review reports of and consider appropriate proposals made by coordination groups and other groups, and implement those that are agreed;
- h) establish the appropriate mechanism and encourage the utilization, for example, of coordination groups or other groups, to address key topics of work which span several study groups, with a view to ensuring effective coordination of standardization topics in order to achieve suitable global solutions;
- i) review progress in the implementation of the ITU-T work programme, including fostering coordination and collaboration with other relevant bodies such as standardization organizations, forums and consortia outside of ITU;
- j) advise the Director of TSB on financial and other matters;
- k) approve the programme of work arising from the review of existing and new Questions and determine the priority, urgency, estimated financial implications and time-scale for the completion of their study;
- l) group, as far as practicable, Questions of interest to developing countries, including the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in order to facilitate their participation in these studies;
- m) address other specific matters within the competence of WTSA, subject to the approval of Member States, using the approval procedure contained in Resolution 1 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of this assembly, Section 9;

2 that TSAG examine implementation of the actions and achievement of the goals as reflected in the annual operational plans and in the WTSA-16 Action Plan, which includes the WTSA resolutions, for the purpose of identifying possible difficulties and possible strategies for implementing key elements, and recommending solutions to the Director of TSB regarding them;

3 that revisions to the relevant procedures for the adoption of Questions and Recommendations by study groups, other than those referred to in Nos. 246D, 246F and 246H of the Convention, may be initiated by TSAG for approval by Member States between WTSA's, using the approval procedure contained in Resolution 1 (Rev. Hammamet) of this assembly, Section 9;

4 that TSAG provide liaison on its activities to organizations outside ITU in consultation with the Director of TSB, as appropriate;

5 that TSAG consider the implications, for ITU-T, of market needs and new emerging technologies that have not yet been considered for standardization by ITU-T, establish an appropriate mechanism to facilitate the examination of their consideration, for example assigning Questions, coordinating the work of study groups or establishing coordination groups or other groups, and appoint their chairmen and vice-chairmen;

6 that TSAG review and coordinate standardization strategies for ITU-T by identifying the main technological trends and market, economic and policy needs in the fields of activity relevant to the mandate of ITU-T, and identify possible topics and issues for consideration in ITU-T's standardization strategies;

7 that TSAG establish an appropriate mechanism to facilitate standardization strategies, for example assigning Questions, coordinating the work of study groups or establishing coordination groups or other groups, and appoint their chairmen and vice-chairmen;

8 that TSAG consider the result of this assembly concerning GSS and take follow-up actions, as appropriate;

9 that a report on the above TSAG activities shall be submitted to the next WTSA,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

- 1 to take into consideration the advice and guidance of TSAG in order to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the Sector;
- 2 to provide to each TSAG meeting a report on the implementation of WTSA resolutions and actions to be undertaken pursuant to their operative paragraphs;
- 3 to provide information about any work item that has not given rise to any contribution in the time interval of the previous two study group meetings through his or her report about study group activity;
- 4 to report to TSAG on the experience in the implementation of the A-series Recommendations for consideration by the ITU-T membership.