International Telecommunication Union

ITU-T

TELECOMMUNICATION
STANDARDIZATION SECTOR
OF ITU

WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION
ASSEMBLY
Dubai, 20-29 November 2012

Resolution 82 – Strategic and structural review of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector

FOREWORD

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is the United Nations specialized agency in the field of telecommunications. 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.

RESOLUTION 82 (Dubai, 2012)

Strategic and structural review of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector

(Dubai, 2012)

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Dubai, 2012),

noting

a)	that the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) is a unique global standardization body in the telecommunication field comprising governments, regulators, manufacturers, operators, academia and other related bodies;

b)	that, under Article 17 of the ITU Constitution, ITU-T, bearing in mind the particular concerns of the developing countries, is to fulfil the purposes of the Union relating to telecommunication standardization by studying technical, operating and tariff questions and adopting Recommendations on them with a view to standardizing telecommunications on a worldwide basis;

c)	that, under Article 13 of the ITU Convention, the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) is required, *inter alia*, to approve the programme of work for ITU-T for each study period and to determine the priority, urgency, estimated financial implications and time-scale for the completion of studies;

d)	that Resolution 122 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference resolves that WTSA shall adequately address strategic issues in standardization, and encourages Member States, ITU-T Sector Members and study group chairmen and vice-chairmen to concentrate, *inter alia*, on the identification and analysis of strategic issues in standardization in their preparations for WTSA so as to facilitate the work of the assembly;

e)	that, under Article 50 of the Constitution, the Union should cooperate with international organizations having related interests and activities;

f)	Resolution 22 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of this assembly, on authorization for the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) to act between WTSAs;

g)	that Resolution 68 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of this assembly instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB) to organize meetings for high-level industry executives, e.g. chief technology officer (CTO) meetings, in order to assist in identifying and coordinating standardization priorities and subjects to minimize the number of forums and consortia,

considering

a)	that ITU-T conducts studies responding to changing technology and market needs, and should do so in a timely and appropriate manner;

b)	that ITU-T Recommendations are developed in study groups corresponding to specific aspects, and a number of efforts have been made to facilitate coordination among study groups, such as Resolution 45 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of this assembly;

c)   that, in addition to designated lead study groups, joint coordination activities (JCA), global standards initiatives (GSI), technical and strategic reviews (TSR) and focus groups (FG) are established for the study of issues and effective coordination among ITU-T study groups and other standards organizations;

d)   that, in today's standardization environment, the current structure and work methods of ITU-T could evolve to respond more fully to the rapid change in technologies and market needs in a timely and appropriate manner as well as enhance coordination of activities of all study groups of ITU-T, the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R), the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) and other, external organizations;

recognizing

a)   that overall coordination of JCAs, FG and other ITU-T groups might be needed;

b)   that, in terms of the structure of ITU-T, there are still some views that study groups should be restructured and/or current structural arrangements, including the purpose and objectives of JCAs, GSIs, TSRs, FGs, etc., should be examined;

c)   that there is a need to consider improvements in coordination and collaboration arrangements between ITU-T and ITU-R, ITU-D, other standards-making entities and other relevant entities, while avoiding overlap with TSAG functions under No. 197F (Article 14A) of the Convention;

d)   that, under Article 13 of the Convention, WTSA can establish other groups,

resolves

to establish, in accordance with Nos 191A and 191B of the Convention, a review committee functioning in accordance with the relevant provisions of Article 14A of the Convention and the procedures provided below, and with the terms of reference as described in Annex A to this resolution, taking account of today's standardization environment and of the continued evolution of ITU-T;

instructs the Review Committee

1   to report to TSAG on regular basis;

2   to consider the outcomes of the CTO meetings, in particular their reports;

3   to conduct its initial review in a timely manner so as to provide input to TSAG for the preparation of the ITU-T strategic plan;

4   to submit its report to the next WTSA through TSAG,

instructs the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group

1   to consider the Review Committee progress reports, and in conformity with Article 14A of the Convention, implement, as appropriate, any recommendations, pending consideration at the next WTSA,

2   to submit the final report of the Review Committee, without changes, to WTSA, together with its comments thereon,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

1   to support the Review Committee by facilitating the activities in implementing this resolution;

2   to provide fellowships to eligible developing countries.

ANNEX A
(to Resolution 82)

Review Committee – Terms of Reference

1   Examine the adequacy of the current structure of ITU-T to facilitate the Sector's continued evolution and to deal with the increasing demands for timely and appropriate results to meet market demand, taking account of the current and future standardization environment.

2   Review the current coordination and collaborations mechanisms with other standards bodies and propose improvements.

3   Review existing models for collaboration between ITU-T and other standards bodies, given the accelerated rate of change in the worldwide standardization landscape, and the rapidly evolving needs of consumers/users of global standards.

4   Identify and propose new modalities for cooperation and collaboration based on mutual respect and recognition of evolving roles and responsibilities in the standards sphere.

5   Identify ways and means to enhance cooperation with other standards bodies, with a view to minimizing conflict of their standards with ITU-T standards.

6   Develop and propose recommendations for a set of principles for standards development within ITU-T that facilitate interoperability and promote further innovation.

7   Develop a work plan by which to conduct the review, and establish the structure of the report.

8   Conduct its initial review in a timely manner so as to provide input to TSAG for preparation of the ITU-T strategic plan in accordance with Article 14A of the Convention.

9   The Review Committee is established by this assembly and shall present its report to WTSA-16 without changes through TSAG. In addition, the Review Committee shall report its progress to TSAG on a regular basis and take into account the comments made by TSAG on the progress report.

10   Taking into account the role and functions of TSAG, as outlined in Article 14A of the Convention, the Review Committee shall provide reports to TSAG, with a view to, *inter alia*, identifying any specific actions which could be undertaken or implemented in the near term, and/or those which could be conveyed by means of a report from the Director of TSB for decision by the Plenipotentiary Conference.

11   The Review Committee is open to:

a)   ITU-T Member States, Sector Members and academia[1];

b)   representatives of other organizations not covered in a) above, to join the meetings where the subject matter of these other organizations is discussed, together with other experts, including Associates, invited by the chairman in consultation with the vice-chairmen and the Director of TSB.

12   To enhance participation of the regions, the Review Committee shall work with the existing ITU regional groups, including the regional groups of the ITU-T study groups, and take into consideration their contributions. The Review Committee shall coordinate with the Director of TSB, to ensure the provision of fellowships for one participant from each eligible developing country.

13   The Review Committee shall operate in English or the six official languages if so requested. Reports to TSAG shall be translated in the six official languages of the Union.

14   The meetings of the Review Committee shall be paperless and shall make use of electronic working methods in accordance with Resolution 32 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of this assembly.

15   The Review Committee shall meet immediately prior to TSAG.

16   The duration of each Review Committee meeting shall not exceed three working days.

17   The management team of the Review Committee shall consist of a chairman and up to six vice-chairmen, taking into account equitable geographical distribution.

18   The final report of the Review Committee shall be translated and made available to the final TSAG meeting before WTSA-16. The Review Committee shall end in 2016, unless WTSA-16 decides to renew it.

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[1] In accordance with Resolution 169 (Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the admission of academia, universities and their associated research establishments to participate in the work of the three Sectors of the Union, academia should not have a role in decision-making.