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| PLENARY MEETING | | **Addendum 22 to Document WTDC-17/23-E** |
|  | | **4 September 2017** |
|  | | **Original: Russian** |
| ITU Member States, members of the Regional Commonwealth  in the field of Communications (RCC) | | |
| Revision to WTDC Resolution 59 - Strengthening coordination and cooperation among the three ITU Sectors on matters of mutual interest | | |
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| **Priority area:**  Resolutions and Recommendations  **Summary:**  It is proposed that the text of WTDC Resolution 59 should be amended taking into account the proposals discussed at the WTDC-17 Regional Preparatory Meeting for the CIS (RPM-CIS), and at meetings of other regional telecommunication organizations, as well as further amendments based on a review of Resolutions ITU-R 6 and ITU-R 7 approved at the Radiocommunication Assembly 2015 (RA-15), and of Resolution 18 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) approved at the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly 2016 (WTSA-16).  The purpose of this contribution is to develop common approaches and procedures for effective collaboration between the ITU Sectors on the basis of a sharing of experience of recent years and a review of relevant ITU-R, ITU-T and ITU-D resolutions.  **Expected results:**  WTDC-17 is invited to consider the document and take the appropriate decisions.  **References:**  [Resolution ITU-R 6-2](http://www.itu.int/pub/publications.aspx?lang=en&parent=R-RES-R.6) and [Resolution ITU-R 7-3](http://www.itu.int/pub/publications.aspx?lang=en&parent=R-RES-R.7) of RА-15, [Resolution 18 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016)](http://www.itu.int/pub/publications.aspx?lang=en&parent=T-RES-T.18-2016) of WTSA, Document [RPM-CIS16/36](http://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=D14-RPMCIS-C-0036) | | |

# I Introduction

Much attention is given, both within the Sectors and in ITU as a whole, to the issue of coordination and cooperation between the three ITU Sectors on matters of mutual interest. The Plenipotentiary Conference in Busan 2014 adopted the new Resolution 191, "Strategy for the coordination of efforts among the three Sectors of the Union".

The Resolution noted:

"the recent establishment of the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group subgroup on intra-ITU collaboration and coordination, and the inter-Sector coordination group on issues of mutual interest",

and instructed the Secretary-General:

"1 to ensure the design of a coordination and cooperation strategy for effective and efficient efforts in areas of mutual interest to the three ITU Sectors, in order to avoid duplication of effort and optimize the use of resources;

2 to ensure the preparation of an updated list containing the areas of mutual interest to the three Sectors pursuant to the mandates of each ITU assembly and conference;

3 to ensure reporting of the coordination activities carried out among the different Sectors in each such area, as well as the results obtained”.

It also instructed the Directors of the Bureaux:

"to provide support to the Sector advisory groups in the inter-Sector coordination activity in areas of mutual interest".

In implementation of this Resolution, a task force was set up, headed by the Deputy Secretary-General.

In the period following WTDC-14, meetings were held of the Intersector Coordination Group (ISCG) on issues of mutual interest. Terms of Reference for that group were agreed and a list of topics of mutual interest drawn up.

Collaboration between the task force and the ISCG was scheduled.

Also at the Radiocommunication Assembly 2015 and at the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, through the efforts of a number of delegations from various regional organizations, revisions of resolutions concerning collaboration between the ITU Sectors were prepared, sharing the experience accumulated over recent years and making appropriate amendments. The proposed amendments were based on [Resolution ITU-R 6-2](http://www.itu.int/pub/publications.aspx?lang=en&parent=R-RES-R.6) of RA-15, [Resolution ITU-R 7-3](http://www.itu.int/pub/publications.aspx?lang=en&parent=R-RES-R.7) of RA-15 and [Resolution 18 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016)](http://www.itu.int/pub/publications.aspx?lang=en&parent=T-RES-T.18-2016) of WTDC.

# II Proposal

The RCC administrations propose revising Resolution 59 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) "Strengthening coordination and cooperation among the three ITU Sectors on matters of mutual interest".

**MOD** RCC/23A22/1

RESOLUTION 59 (REV. BUENOS AIRES, 2017)

Strengthening coordination and cooperation among the three   
ITU Sectors on matters of mutual interest

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Buenos Aires, 2017),

recalling

*a)* Resolution 123 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on bridging the standardization gap between the developing[[1]](#footnote-1)1 and developed countries;

*b)* Resolution 191 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on Strategy for the coordination of efforts among the three Sectors of the Union;

*c)* Resolution 5 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of this conference, on enhanced participation by developing countries in the work of ITU;

*d)* Resolution ITU‑R 7 of the Radiocommunication Assembly 2015, on telecommunication development including liaison and collaboration with the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU‑D);

*e)* Resolutions 44 and 45 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on mutual cooperation and integration of activities between ITU‑T and ITU‑D;

*f)* Resolution 18 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of WTSA, on Principles and procedures for the allocation of work to, and coordination between, the ITU Radiocommunication and ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sectors,

considering

*a)* that a basic principle for collaboration and cooperation and among the three ITU Sectors is the need to avoid duplication of activities of the Sectors, and ensure that the work is undertaken efficiently and effectively;

*b)* that there are a growing number of issues of mutual interest and concern to all Sectors, including the following: electromagnetic compatibility (EMC); international mobile telecommunications (IMT); middleware; audiovisual delivery; accessibility for persons with disabilities; emergency communications: information and communication technologies (ICT) and climate change; and security in the use of ICT;

*c)* the responsibilities of the Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R), Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) and ITU-D according to the principles laid down in the ITU Constitution and Convention, i.e.:

• that the ITU-R study groups shall focus (Nos. 151 to 154 of the Convention) on the following in the study of Questions assigned to them:

i) use of the radio-frequency spectrum in terrestrial and space radiocommunication and of the geostationary-satellite and other satellite orbits;

ii) characteristics and performance of radio systems;

iii) operation of radio stations;

iv) radiocommunication aspects of distress and safety matters;

• that the ITU-T study groups shall study (No. 193 of the Convention) technical, operating and tariff questions and prepare Recommendations on them with a view to standardizing telecommunications on a worldwide basis, including Recommendations on interconnection of radio systems in public telecommunication networks and on the performance required for these interconnections;

• that, as indicated in No. 214 of the Convention, the ITU-D study groups shall deal with specific telecommunication questions of general interest to developing countries, including the matters enumerated in No. 211 of the Convention, and such study groups shall be limited in number and created for a limited period of time, subject to the availability of resources, shall have specific terms of reference on questions and matters of priority to developing countries and shall be task-oriented;

*d)* that joint meetings of the Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG), the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) and the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) shall review the distribution of new and existing work among the Sectors, subject to confirmation by the applicable procedures of each Sector, the objective being to:

• minimize the duplication of activities of the Sectors;

• group the standardization activities in order to foster cooperation and coordination of the work of ITU-T with regional standardization bodies;

*e)* that the mechanism for cooperation at secretariat level among the three Sectors and the General Secretariat of the Union was established to ensure close cooperation between the secretariats and with the secretariats of external entities and organizations that deal with key priority issues, such as emergency telecommunications and climate change;

*f)* that interaction and coordination in the joint holding of seminars, workshops, forums, symposia and so forth have yielded positive results in terms of financial and human resource savings,

recognizing

*a)* that there is a need to improve the participation of developing countries in the work of ITU, as outlined in Resolution 5 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of this conference;

*b)* that one such mechanism – the Inter-Sectoral Emergency Communications Team – has been established to ensure close collaboration within the Union as a whole, as well as with interested entities and organizations outside ITU, on this key priority issue for the Union;

*c)* that all the advisory groups are collaborating in the implementation of Resolution 123 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries,

taking into account

*a)* the expanding sphere of joint studies between the three Sectors and the need for coordination and cooperation among them in this regard;

*b)* the growing number of issues of mutual interest and concern to the three Sectors including, but not limited to: electromagnetic compatibility, international mobile telecommunications, middleware, audiovisual broadcasting, access to telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) for persons with disabilities, emergency telecommunications including preparedness, ICT and climate change, cybersecurity, compliance of systems with the Recommendations emanating from the ITU‑R and ITU‑T study groups and their joint activities, etc.;

*c)* that mechanisms for cooperation, beyond those already established, need to be identified to address a growing number of subjects of mutual interest and concern in ITU‑R, ITU‑T and ITU‑D;

*d)* the ongoing consultation among representatives of the three advisory groups in the discussion of modalities for enhancing cooperation among them;

*e)* that, according to No. 119 of the Constitution, the activities of ITU-R, ITU-T and ITU-D shall be the subject of close cooperation with regard to matters relating to development, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Constitution;

*f)* that, according to No. 215 of the Convention, ITU-R, ITU-T and ITU-D shall keep the matters under study under continuing review with a view to reaching agreement on the distribution of work, avoiding duplication of effort and improving coordination, and the Sectors shall adopt procedures to conduct such reviews and reach such agreement in a timely and effective manner;

*g)* that an Intersector Coordination Task Force (ISC-TF) in the secretariat, headed by the Deputy Secretary-General, an Intersector Coordination Group on Matters of Mutual Interest, and a TSAG subgroup on intra-ITU collaboration and coordination have been established,

resolves

1 that RAG, TSAG and TDAG, meeting jointly as necessary, shall continue the review of new and existing work and its distribution among ITU-R, ITU-T and ITU-D, for approval by Member States in accordance with the procedures laid down for the approval of new and/or revised Questions;

2 that, if considerable responsibilities in either two or three Sectors in a particular subject are identified:

i) the procedure given in Annex A to this resolution should be applied; or

ii) the matter should be studied by relevant study groups of the Sectors involved, with appropriate coordination (see Annexes B and C to this resolution); or

iii) a joint meeting may be arranged by the Directors of the Bureaux involved,

invites

1 RAG, TSAG and TDAG to continue to assist the Intersector Coordination Group on Matters of Mutual Interest in the identification of subjects common to the three Sectors and mechanisms to enhance cooperation and collaboration in all Sectors on matters of mutual interest;

2 the Directors of the Radiocommunication (BR), Telecommunication Standardization (TSB) and Telecommunication Development (BDT) Bureaux and ISC-TF to report to the Intersector Coordination Group on Matters of Mutual Interest and the respective Sector advisory groups on options for improving cooperation at the secretariat level to ensure that close coordination is maximized,

instructs

1 the ITU-D study groups to continue cooperation with the study groups of the other two Sectors so as to avoid duplication of effort and make use of the results of work done by the study groups of those two Sectors;

2 the Director of BDT to inform TDAG annually on the implementation of this resolution.

ANNEX A  
(to Resolution 59 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2107))

Procedural method of cooperation

With respect to *resolves* 2 i), the following procedure should be applied:

a) The joint meeting of the advisory groups referred to in *resolves* 1 will nominate the Sector which will lead the work and will finally approve the deliverable.

b) The lead Sector will request the other Sectors to indicate those requirements which it considers essential for integration in the deliverable.

c) The lead Sector will base its work on these essential requirements and integrate them in its draft deliverable.

d) During the process of development of the required deliverable the lead Sector shall consult with the other Sectors in case it has difficulties with these essential requirements. In case of agreement on revised essential requirements the revised requirements shall be the basis for further work.

e) When the deliverable concerned comes to maturity, the lead Sector shall seek once more the views of the other Sectors.

In the determination of the work responsibility, it may be appropriate to progress the work by drawing jointly on the skills of the Sectors involved.

ANNEX B  
(to Resolution 59 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017))

Coordination of radiocommunication, standardization and development activities through intersector coordination groups

With respect to *resolves* 2 ii), the following procedure shall be applied:

a) The joint meeting of the advisory groups referred to in *resolves* 1 may, in exceptional cases, establish an intersector coordination group (ICG) to coordinate the work of the Sectors involved and to assist the advisory groups in coordinating the related activity of their respective study groups.

b) The joint meeting shall, at the same time, nominate the Sector which will lead the work.

c) The mandate of each ICG shall be clearly defined by the joint meeting, based on the particular circumstances and issues at the time the group is established; the joint meeting shall also establish a target date for termination of the ICG.

d) The ICG shall designate a chairman and a vice-chairman, one representing each Sector.

e) The ICG shall be open to members of the participating Sectors in accordance with Nos. 86-88, 110-112 and 134-136 of the Constitution.

f) The ICG shall not develop Recommendations.

g) The ICG shall prepare reports on its coordinating activities to be presented to each Sector's advisory group; these reports shall be submitted by the Directors to the participating Sectors.

h) An ICG may also be established by WTSA or by RA or by WTDC following a recommendation by the advisory group(s) of the other Sector(s).

i) The cost of an ICG shall be supported by the participating Sectors on an equal basis and each Director shall include budgetary provisions for such meetings in the budget of his or her Sector.

ANNEX C  
(to Resolution 59 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2107))

Coordination of radiocommunication, telecommunication standardization and development activities through intersector rapporteur groups

With respect to *resolves* 2 ii), the following procedure shall be applied when work on a specific subject could be best performed by bringing together technology experts from the study groups or working parties concerned of either two or three Sectors to cooperate on a peer-to-peer basis in a technical group:

a) The study groups or working parties concerned in each Sector may, in special cases, agree by mutual consultation to establish an intersector rapporteur group (IRG) to coordinate their work on a specific technical subject, informing RAG, TSAG and TDAG of this action through a liaison statement.

b) The study groups or working parties concerned in each Sector shall, at the same time, agree on clearly defined terms of reference for the IRG, and establish a target date for completion of the work and termination of the IRG.

c) The study groups or working parties concerned in each Sector shall also designate the chairman (or co-chairmen) of the IRG, taking into account the requested specific expertise and ensuring equitable representation of each Sector.

d) Being a rapporteur group, the IRG shall be regulated by the provisions applicable to rapporteur groups, given in the most recent versions of Resolution ITU-R 1, Recommendation ITU‑T A.1 and WTDC Resolution 1; participation is limited to members of the Sectors involved.

e) In fulfilling its mandate, an IRG may develop draft new Recommendations or draft revisions to Recommendations, as well as draft technical reports or draft revisions of technical reports, to be submitted to its parent study groups or working parties for further processing as appropriate.

f) The results of the IRG's work should represent the agreed consensus of the IRG or reflect the diversity of views of the participants in the IRG.

g) An IRG shall also prepare reports on its activities, to be submitted to each meeting of its parent study groups or working parties.

h) An IRG shall normally work by correspondence and/or by teleconference; however, it may occasionally take the opportunity of a meeting of its parent study groups or working parties to hold short face-to-face concurrent meetings, if this is feasible without support by the Sectors.

**Reasons:** The need to increase the effectiveness of cooperation and liaison between the Sectors, by among other things developing and applying common and clear approaches and procedures based on sharing of experience acquired in recent years and a review of relevant ITU‑R, ITU-T and ITU-D resolutions.

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1. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)