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| **Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG)****23rd Meeting, Geneva, 9-11 April 2018** | P:\SUP\Logos\Post-150th Anniv\ITU-logo-UNblue.jpg |
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|  | **Document** **TDAG-18/5-E** |
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| Director, Telecommunication Development Bureau |
| Inter-Sector Coordination Team on Issues of Mutual Interest |
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| **Summary:** The inter-Sector Coordination Team on Issues of Mutual Interest was established jointly by the Advisory Groups of all three ITU Sectors – Radiocommunication (ITU-R), Telecommunication Standardization (ITU-T) and Telecommunication Development (ITU-D) – to optimize the use of resources. In executing its functions, the Team identifies subjects common to the three Sectors, or, bilaterally, and considers and updates a list containing areas of mutual interest to the three Sectors pursuant to the mandates assigned by each ITU assembly or conference. This report highlights the inter-Sectoral coordination activities that have been undertaken in the Sector advisory groups since the last TDAG meeting in May 2017.**Action required:** TDAG is invited to note the report and provide guidance as deemed appropriate.**References:** WTDC Resolution 59 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017),[TSAG-LS1](http://ifa.itu.int/t/2017/ls/tsag/sp16-tsag-oLS-00001.zip) |

**1. Introduction**

1.1 A basic principle for collaboration and cooperation among the three ITU Sectors (ITU-R, ITU-T and ITU-D) is the need to avoid duplication of activities of these Sectors and ensure that their work is undertaken efficiently and effectively. To pursue this principle, the Inter-Sector Coordination Team on Issues of Mutual Interest (ISCT) was established following the adoption in 2014 of Resolution 59 (Dubai, 2014) on strengthening coordination and cooperation among the three ITU Sectors on matters of mutual interest.

1.2 The Team identifies the necessary mechanisms to strengthen cooperation and joint activity among the three Sectors or with each Sector, on issues of mutual interest, paying particular attention to the interests of the developing countries. The Team works electronically and has since its creation held four meetings in conjunction with the meetings of the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG).

**2.** Meetings of the Sector advisory groups and inter-Sector coordination

2.1 At its last meeting on 10 May 2017, the Team updated the list of areas of mutual interest to include candidate topics on working methods for ITU inter-Sector coordination (see **Annex 1**). In addition, the Team reviewed and approved the mappings of common interest areas of work between ITU-D and ITU-T study groups and between ITU-R and ITU-T study groups presented in the following two attachments from TSAG: Attachment 1 – Matching of ITU-D Study Groups 1 and 2 Questions of interest to ITU-T study groups; and Attachment 2 – Matching of ITU-R working parties of interest to ITU-T study groups.

2.2 When examining the progress report from the Inter-Sector Team on Issues of Mutual Interest, TDAG at its meeting on 10-13 May 2017 expressed its appreciation for the mappings in the two attachments, underlining their usefulness in preparing proposals on ITU-D study Questions for the 2018-2021 period. TDAG further agreed to a proposal to add to Attachment 2 a reference to ITU-R Study Group 1 Question 1/239 on electromagnetic fields.

2.3 In the period since the last TDAG meeting in May 2017, TSAG and RAG met as follows:

* TSAG, Geneva, 26 February-2 March 2018.
* RAG, Geneva, 26-29 March 2018.

**3. WTDC-17**

3.1 Revised Resolution 59 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) resolves that TDAG and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) shall continue to cooperate actively with RAG and the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau (BR) and with TSAG and the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB) as called for by Resolution191 (Busan, 2014).

3.2 RAG, TSAG and TDAG are invited to continue assisting inter-Sector coordination in identifying subjects common to the three Sectors and mechanisms to enhance cooperation and collaboration in all Sectors on matters of mutual interest. The Directors of BR, TSB and BDT are invited to report to their respective Sector advisory groups on options for improving cooperation at the secretariat level to ensure that close coordination is maximized.

3.3 ITU-D study groups are instructed 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.

3.4 The Director of BDT in cooperation with the Director of TSB and the Director of BR are invited to provide an annual report to ITU-D study groups on the latest development in the activities of ITU-T and ITU‑R study groups.

3.5 In the light of the changes and updates to Resolution 59 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), it is proposed to update the terms of reference of the Inter-Sector Coordination Team on Issues of Mutual Interest as **Annex 2**.

**4. Efforts for collaboration and coordination among Sectors**

4.1 The electronic calendar of events developed by BDT for 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021 is facilitating collaboration and coordination of various meetings and events of the ITU Sectors.These yearly event calendars are available to members on the [TDAG homepage](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Conferences/TDAG/Pages/default.aspx) and are updated regularly. These calendars are in a printer-friendly format (see **Annex 3** for current versions).

4.2 The ICT-Eye portal and its survey form an essential tool for gathering data from administrations on key ICT metrics. BDT does the tracking of such data on a yearly basis, and displays the data results on the statistics portal. BR teamed up with BDT to expand the survey to include a chapter on key spectrum-specific information (for example mobile technologies or standards and spectrum licensing).

**5 Events and activities organized by BDT, BR and TSB in cooperation with other bodies and with the support of ITU Regional and Area Offices**

5.1 BR continues to pursue its objective of informing and assisting the ITU membership, in particular in developing countries, on issues relating to radiocommunication matters. For this purpose, BR organizes spectrum-related workshops, seminars, meetings and capacity building activities in close cooperation with BDT and the ITU Regional and Area Offices, and the relevant international organizations and national authorities.

5.2 The following events were organized, among others:

* Four Regional Radio Seminars in Nairobi (Kenya), Lima (Peru), Phnom Penh (Cambodia) and Muscat (Oman).
* An ITU Frequency Coordination Meeting on the use of the UHF band (470-806 MHz) in Guatemala City, Guatemala (28 August-1 September).
* Two International Satellite Symposia in Bariloche, Argentina (29-31 May) and Bangkok, Thailand (30 August- 1 September), respectively.
* 2nd ITU/WMO Seminar on the "Use of Radio Spectrum for Meteorology: Weather, Water and Climate Monitoring and Prediction", in Geneva, Switzerland on 23-24 October.
* 5th Latin-American Telecommunication Congress, Cartagena, Colombia, 20-23 June.
* 7th International Spectrum Congress and ITU Workshop on frequency coordination in Bogota, Colombia, 5-8 September 2017.

5.3 Under the Bridging the Standardization Gap, four Standardization Forums were held for developing countries in 2017, covering a wide range of themes, including operational aspects, economic and policy issues, the Internet of Things, artificial intelligence and cybersecurity.

5.4 Recognizing that the use of mobile phones for mobile financial services offers opportunities to enhance growth and development, particularly in developing countries, the ITU-T Focus Group on Digital Currency, including Digital Fiat Currency, will work in close collaboration with all ITU-T and ITU-D study groups. Digital Fiat Currency is a term used by ISO TC68/SC7 for allocating currency codes.

# Annex 1

# List of areas of mutual interest

1. Participation

1.1 Remote participation.

1.2 E-meetings, e-correspondence groups.

1.3 Increasing involvement of developing countries.

1.4 Participation issues, including vice-chairmen tasks.

1.5 Non-member participation.

2. Document handling

 2.1 Electronic document handling.

 2.2 Deadline for submission of secretariat contributions for action.

 2.3 Electronic access to documents, including the application of the access policy of the documents decided by the Council.

3. Registration

 3.1 Harmonization of registration.

 3.2 Registration for participation in meetings, including for remote participants.

4. Improvement of the ITU webpages in official ITU languages taking into account best practices.

 4.1 Language issues

5. Meeting planning.

5.1 Preparation to conferences and meetings.

5.2 Further enhancement and optimization of seminars/symposia/workshops/capacity building.

5.3 Collaboration and cooperation on events.

6. Streamlined establishment procedures of inter-Sector Rapporteur group (IRG).

6.1 Liaison statement handling of Inter-Sector Rapporteur Groups

7. Identification of technical issues with common interests.

8. Exchange of information on related study activities

8.1 Improvement of interaction between working parties and study groups of different Sectors.

9. Working methods (Resolution 1) of the three Sectors and application of best practices.

10. Sector membership.

# Annex 2

**Draft Revised Terms of Reference**

The inter-Sector coordination team (ISCT) is jointly established by the Advisory Groups of all three Sectors, in order to avoid duplication of effort and optimize the use of resources. While executing its functions it will:

• identify subjects common to the three Sectors, or, bilaterally, and consider an updated list (prepared by the Secretariat) containing the areas of mutual interest to the three Sectors pursuant to the mandates assigned by each ITU assembly or conference;

• identify the necessary mechanisms to strengthen cooperation and joint activity among the three Sectors or with each Sector, on issues of mutual interest, paying particular attention to the interests of the developing countries;

• report annually to the respective advisory groups on the progress of the work undertaken.

**Background documents**

a) Resolution 191 (Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on strategy for the coordination of efforts among the three Sectors the Union;

b) Resolution ITU-R 6-2 (Rev. Geneva, 2015) of RA, on liaison and collaboration with the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T), and Resolution ITU-R 7-3 (Rev. Geneva, 2015) of RA, on telecommunication development including liaison and collaboration with the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D);

c) Resolutions 44 and 45 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of WTSA, on mutual cooperation and integration of the activities of ITU-T and ITU-D;

d) Resolution 5 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC, on enhanced participation by developing countries in the activities of the Union;

e) Resolution 18 (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;

f) Resolution 59 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC, on strengthening coordination and cooperation among ITU-R, ITU-T and ITU-D on matters of mutual interest.

**Composition of the inter-Sector coordination team on issues of mutual interest:**

1. The inter-Sector coordination team on issues of mutual interest will consist of representatives from the three Advisory Groups, keeping in mind the need for regional balance.

2. The ISCT is chaired by (tbd), and vice-chaired by the appointed RAG, TSAG and TDAG representatives:

3. RAG representatives: Mr Peter Major and Mr Albert Nalbandian (Vice-Chairmen of RAG);

4. TSAG representatives: Mr Matano Ndaro and Mr Vladimir Minkin (Vice-Chairmen of TSAG);

5. TDAG representatives: (tbd) and (tbd) (Vice-Chairmen of TDAG).

**Secretariat support**

The support of the group activity will be provided in accordance with Resolution 191 (Busan, 2014).

**Working methods:**

• The inter-Sector coordination team will use the e-mail list int-sect-team@lists.itu.int.

• The inter-Sector coordination team interactions may include e-mail exchange via the e-mail list or through electronic meetings.

• Possible physical meetings may be held if deemed necessary, preferably in conjunction with advisory group meetings, and within available resources, to finalize the work.

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