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| Chairman, Inter-Sector Coordination Group |
| Progress report of the Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) on issues of mutual interest |
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| **Summary:**This document contains a progress report of the Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) on issues of mutual interest, highlighting the conclusions from its last meeting, held virtually, on 12 March 2021.**Action required:**TDAG is invited to note this document and provide guidance as deemed appropriate.**References:**[Resolution 191](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-191-E.pdf) (Rev. Dubai, 2018) |

1. **Introduction**

The [Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG)](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/Pages/ISCG/default.aspx) on issues of mutual interest, which is composed by representatives of the Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG), the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) and the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG), works to identify subjects common to the three Sectors and the General Secretariat, and mechanisms to enhance cooperation and collaboration in all Sectors on matters of mutual interest, in order to avoid duplication of effort and optimize the use of resources of the Union, in line with [Resolution 191 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-191-E.pdf).

The ISCG considers current and new activities and their distribution among ITU-R, ITU-T and ITU-D for approval by the ITU Member States in accordance with the procedures for approval of new and revised Questions. It also considers the reports by the three Directors and the Inter-Sectoral Coordination Task Force (ISC-TF) on options for improving cooperation at the secretariat level to ensure that close coordination is maximized.

Since the last report presented to TDAG, the ISCG met two times in June 2020, and in March 2021. The next meeting of the ISCG is scheduled for September 1st, 2021.

During the last meeting, the ISCG’s Secretariat presented the updated ITU website related to [Intersectoral Coordination](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/Pages/intersectoral-coordination.aspx). The main changes are:

* The link to “Intersectoral coordination of activities” in the [General Secretariat of ITU landing page](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/Pages/default.aspx), has been activated in all 6 UN official languages.
* Reports from the ISC-TF will be posted in the Intersectoral Coordination webpage.
* The [ISCG webpage](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/Pages/ISCG/default.aspx) has been updated with new contact details (e-mail: iscg@itu.int and [mailing list](https://www.itu.int/CookieAuth.dll?GetLogon?curl=Z2Fnet4Z2FiwmZ2FZ3Fp0Z3D0Z26p11Z3DITUZ26p12Z3DITU-SEP-Cross-sector-SEP-SG&reason=0&formdir=10)); access to the documents is now by means of a TIES Account, and any ITU member, independently of the Sector where associated, will have access to the intersectoral coordination related documents to be posted in this webpage.

The ISCG members requested to add the ISCG webpage link to the 3 advisory groups websites, and in a harmonized way.

The ISCG Secretariat will continue to work to improve access to the website, as well as information related to the meetings, so kindly requests the members to inform about any inconvenience they may experience. Related to the website design and harmonization, the concerns will be considered within the new ITU website project.

1. **Strengthening cooperation and joint activities on issues of mutual interest**

During the last meeting of the ISCG, the Secretariat presented a new template for the Mapping Tables including information received from the TSAG as per ITU-T structure changes accepted during its advisory group meeting held in January 2021.

The document can be found as [ISCG/21-4/05-E](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/ties/ISCGDocumentLibrary/1st%20Meeting%202021/ISCG-21-1-04-E-MappingTablesTemplates.docx). The ISCG Chairman requested the three Advisory Groups to review and update the mapping tables accordingly, and to submit the final document to the ISCG Secretariat (iscg@itu.int) to be published on the ISCG website.

The ISCG Chairman would also like to raise to the attention of TDAG the Mapping Table on Resolutions (see [here](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/ISCT_Mapping_Tables/Mapping-Resolutions.pdf)) that may be reviewed and updated considering the preparations for the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-21).

The ISCG Secretariat also presented a progress report on the pilot theme “Climate Change” that can be found as document [ISCG/21-1/05](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/ties/ISCGDocumentLibrary/1st%20Meeting%202021/ISCG-21-1-05-E-ClimateChange.docx).

A contribution from TSAG was presented on “Enhancing accessibility awareness in the ITU”, proposing a pilot trial on accessibility, based on ITU-T experience (see [TSAG-TD1014](file://C:\Users\sukenik\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Outlook\VM18KGGB\A%20contribution%20from%20TSAG%20was%20presented%20on%20)). This theme will be addressed and coordinated within the ISC-TF, so the ISCG members also agreed to have “Accessibility” as a specific theme and requested the Task Force to present a report for the next meeting to be held in September 2021.

The Russian Federation presented a contribution on “Harmonization of the ITU websites” (see [ISCG/21-1/06](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/ties/ISCGDocumentLibrary/1st%20Meeting%202021/ISCG-21-1-06-Harmonisation%20of%20the%20ITU%20websites%20%28Russia%20Fed.%29.docx)) explaining several challenges found when accessing the website, as well as the need to accelerate the process of harmonization of the 3 Sectors’ websites.

The Head of the Strategic Communications Division was present in the ISCG meeting so welcomed the contribution and explained on the work that is already taking place to improve the website and on the project for the new ITU website that will be presented to Council 2021 (see [ISCG/21-1/INF/1-E](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/ties/ISCGDocumentLibrary/1st%20Meeting%202021/ISCG-21-1-INF%201-Progress%20report%20on%20the%20New%20ITU%20Website.docx)).

Among other themes, ISCG members also commented on the need to coordinate remote participation procedures as there are many different platforms being used by the Sectors. The ISCG Chairman requested this theme to be as well reported to the next meeting.

Finally, the ISCG presented a Liaison Statement to the RAG meeting, celebrated in March. During the meeting RAG members agreed that the updating of the mapping tables should continue to be performed by the three Bureaux, BDT, BR and TSB. And are being reviewed regularly by the BR Study Group Department.

RAG also invited the ISCG to consider the proposals made during the meeting, including harmonizing the guidelines on how to indicate the main achievements/deliverables by the ITU-R and ITU-T Sectors to be addressed to ITU-D in support of their activities, in particular on the topics which are of particular interest for developing countries.

1. **Conclusion**

TDAG is invited to discuss this document and to present comments and proposals to the ISCG on the themes that were presented and on other possible joint activities among all Sectors and/or bilaterally and on mechanisms to strengthen cooperation.

The next ISCG will take place virtually on September 1st, 2021. Detailed information will be posted in the [ITU Events portal](https://www.itu.int/en/events/Pages/default.aspx).

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