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| **Telecommunication DevelopmentAdvisory Group (TDAG)****30th Meeting, Geneva, Switzerland, 19-23 June 2023** | A close up of a sign  Description automatically generated |
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|  | **21 June 2023** |
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| Chairman, Inter-Sector Coordination Group |
| Report of the Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) on issues of mutual interest |
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| **Summary:**This document presents a progress report of the Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) on issues of mutual interest, highlighting the conclusions from its last meeting on 2 May 2023.**Action required:**TDAG is invited **to note** this document and provide guidance as deemed appropriate.**References:**Plenipotentiary [Resolution 191](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts-2023/RES-191-E.pdf) (Rev. Bucharest, 2022); and [Decision 5](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts-2023/DEC-005-E.pdf)(Rev. Bucharest, 2022) |

1. **Introduction**

The first meeting in 2023 of the Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) on issues of mutual interest, took place on 2nd May 2023, at ITU Headquarters, from 12:30 to 14:00 (CET), in conjunction with the Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG) meeting. The meeting allowed remote participation through the Zoom platform.

The meeting was chaired by Mr Fabio Bigi (Italia), Chairperson of the ISCG, who welcomed the members of the group and other participants to the first ISCG meeting to be held in person since the COVID-19 pandemic was announced in 2020. Mr Bigi also welcomed the ITU Deputy Secretary-General, Mr Tomas Lamanauskas who joined the meeting to deliver opening remarks. Both the ISCG Chairperson and ITU’s Deputy Secretary-General agreed on the importance to strengthen intersectoral coordination within the Union, including between the membership and the secretariat, and encourage the ISCG members to submit contribution to improve the cooperation and collaboration processes among the three Sectors and the General Secretariat.

The ISCG Chairperson presented the Agenda ([ISCG/23-1/01-R1](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/ties/ISCGDocumentLibrary/1st%20Meeting%202023/ISCG-23-1-01-E-Agenda-R1.docx)) which was approved by the meeting.

The Chairperson informed all the documents presented and discussed during the meeting, including the Agenda and the list of participants (see [here](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/ties/ISCGDocumentLibrary/1st%20Meeting%202023/List%20of%20Participants.docx)), can be access through the [ISCG webpage](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/Pages/ISCG/default.aspx).

Related to the webpage, the secretariat informed that the ITU Translate tool has been installed so the site now is available on the six official languages.

1. **Main discussions**
	1. **Report on PP-Resolution 191 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022)**

The ITU secretariat presented document [ISCG/23-1/02](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/ties/ISCGDocumentLibrary/1st%20Meeting%202023/Resolution%20191-Rev%20Bucharest%202022-E.pdf) containing the final text of Resolution 191 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) as revised by the Plenipotentiary Conference 2022; as well as a table with the main changes made, and highlighting actions to be taken by the ISCG.

The secretariat also informed about the new Intersectoral Coordination Mechanism (ISCM) to be presented to Council 2023 in July. This internal mechanism will be driven through three tracks, based on the nature of the themes to be coordinated (strategic, programmatic, operational), to cover all themes that call for intersectoral coordination, as well as to facilitate the monitoring and evaluate the implementation progress. Each category will have different lines of reporting (internal), and the secretariat will continue to report annually to Council and to liaise with the Sectors advisory groups and the ISCG. Also, a lighter mechanism will be implemented to share information among the three Sectors and the General Secretariat on all activities that may require intersectoral coordination.

The ISCG Chairperson highlighted the importance that this new mechanism continues to report to the ISCG regularly, as it was done by the Inter-Sectoral Coordination Task Force (ISC-TF).

It was pointed out that the concept of One ITU needs further clarification, considering the members’ need to have detailed Operational Plan from each Sector, while on the other hand, there is the need to improve ITU-wide coordination mechanisms such as streamlining resolutions by applying the mapping available online (see [here](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/ties/ISCGDocumentLibrary/1st%20Meeting%202023/Mapping-of-resolutions-Updated%20Oct2022.pdf)), or applying the same procedures related to accessibility when organizing meetings, just to mention some.

The meeting agreed and welcomed the efforts from the secretariat to enhance and improve the intersectoral coordination mechanism and requested the secretariat to continue to report on the process.

* 1. **Reports by Themes**

**2.2.1 “Climate change”**

The Secretariat presented a report with the latest developments on advancing internal work on ITU’s climate change related activities (see [ISCG/23-1/05b](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/ties/ISCGDocumentLibrary/1st%20Meeting%202023/Climate%20change.docx)).

The report presents the activities carried out by the Sectors and highlights the plans to organize a ‘Green Digital Day’ at COP28, aiming to bring together the ICT ecosystem to create momentum, with impact-oriented, to ensure that the day leads to measurable positive impact for the climate.

The ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) Focal Point also presented document [ISCG/23-1/06](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/ties/ISCGDocumentLibrary/1st%20Meeting%202023/ITU-R%20Focal%20Point-Contribution%20ISCG%2023-1.docx) containing the work that the Sector does related to climate change, how ITU-R looks at the industry and the media-industry on the subject, and called for coordination with the Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) for the development of standards.

The ISCG Chairperson welcome the information and requested the Climate Change Coordinator, Mr Paolo Gemma, to present a comprehensive report to the next meeting, including the assessment of the ICT Sector emissions, Scope 3, as it is a topic of interest to the three Sectors.

**2.2.2 “Accessibility”**

The ISCG Chairperson invited the Accessibility Coordinator, Ms Andrea Saks, to make an oral report. The coordinator focused on the necessity for ITU to use the standards being developed by ITU-T Study Group 16 on accessible meetings and remote participation, as well as to stablish standard procedures for ITU meetings.

The ITU-R Focal Point also submitted updated information on the work of ITU-R Study Group 6 does on broadcasting services, more specific on how to personalize media for any disability (see [ISCG/23-1/06](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/ties/ISCGDocumentLibrary/1st%20Meeting%202023/ITU-R%20Focal%20Point-Contribution%20ISCG%2023-1.docx)).

The secretariat presented a report with the latest developments on advancing internal work on ITU’s accessibility related activities (see [ISCG/23-1/05a](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/ties/ISCGDocumentLibrary/1st%20Meeting%202023/Accessibility.docx)). The Focal Point for Accessibility also highlighted that the Union’s draft budget for 2024-2025 includes, for the first time, the amount of 100k CHF/year for accessibility activities leading to make ITU accessible (e.g., providing captioning, etc.).

The ISCG Chairperson encouraged the coordinator to present a comprehensive report on all aspects discussed. The ISCG members also requested to be involved in the new building project so as to assure all accessibility matters are contemplated.

* + 1. **Remote participation**

The Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) representative on remote participation presented a document [ISCG/23-1/04](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/ties/ISCGDocumentLibrary/1st%20Meeting%202023/Virtual%20meetings-Contribution%20ISCG%2023-1.docx) on updates from the past year. The document informs that Supplement 4 to ITU T A-series of Recommendations, detailing guidance on remote participation, has been revised. The complete text can be found on the Liaison Statement submitted by TSAG to the meeting (see [TSAG-LS03](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/ties/ISCGDocumentLibrary/1st%20Meeting%202023/sp17-tsag-oLS-00003.docx)).

The meeting agreed that the ISCG sent out a Liaison Statement to the Sectors inviting to share the rules that they have on governance and management of virtual meetings to try and identify an agreed common best practice in the short term and that such information is provided to Council to assist them in their deliberations as stated in PP-Resolution 167 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) to develop a Union wide common approach in the longer term. It was also agreed to appoint Mr Philip Rushton as the contact person.

The Liaison Statement to be submitted by the ISCG is presented as Annex 1 to this report.

* + 1. **Contributions received**

The Russian Federation presented document [ISCG/23-1/03](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/ties/ISCGDocumentLibrary/1st%20Meeting%202023/Russian%20Fed-Contribution%20ISCG%2023-1-R1.docx) with the following proposal:

* To encourage the secretariat to accelerate work on the harmonization of the ITU Sectors' websites to ensure clarity, ease of navigation and an image of One ITU, using the six official languages of the Union on an equal footing;
* To add the link of the ISCG website to the ITU homepage;
* To draw to the attention of the Coordination Committee and the Intersectoral Coordination Mechanism the concern about the ITU searching system;
* To request the secretariat to submit information on the harmonization of the websites and on the ITU searching system to the following meeting of the ISCG.

The ISCG agreed on the proposal to be included in the report and to request the ITU secretariat to inform to the next ISCG meeting.

Another contribution was presented by Kenya and ATDI (document [ISCG/23-1/08](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/ties/ISCGDocumentLibrary/1st%20Meeting%202023/Kenya-ATDI-Contribution%20ISCG%2023-1.docx)), on the implementation of WTDC-Resolution 9, and the collaboration needed between ITU-R and ITU-D. This document was also submitted to RAG, TDAG and the Rapporteur Groups on ITU-D Questions 1/1, 2/1, 4/1, 5/1, 1/2 and 7/2.

The ISCG noted the proposal and requested the proponents to have further consultations with other stakeholders and to present a contribution proposing guidelines on the way forward to the next ISCG meeting.

* + 1. **Possible Future Themes**

There were two themes mentioned to be considered by the ISCG:

* Bridging the Digital Divide
* ITU website harmonization

The ISCG Chairperson invited the members to submit contributions to the next meeting on all themes they would like the ISCG to discuss, and to present proposals to improve coordination and collaboration between the three Sectors and the General Secretariat.

* + 1. **ISCG Terms of Reference**

The ISCG agreed to update the [Terms of Reference](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/Pages/ISCG/Terms-of-reference-for-IST.aspx) with the new representatives appointed by TSAG and TDAG, as well as with the revised Resolutions from the Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-22), WTSA-22 and WTDC-22.

1. **Mapping Tables**

The Secretariat informed that the [Mapping of Resolutions](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/ties/ISCGDocumentLibrary/1st%20Meeting%202023/Mapping-of-resolutions-Updated%20Oct2022.pdf) was updated after PP-22 and can be found on the ISCG website.

[Table 1](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/ties/ISCGDocumentLibrary/Liaisons%20Statements%20on%20Inter-Sectoral%20Coordination%20Activities/Table%201.pdf) (mapping ITU-R and ITU-D), and [Table 2](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/ties/ISCGDocumentLibrary/Liaisons%20Statements%20on%20Inter-Sectoral%20Coordination%20Activities/Table%202.pdf) (mapping ITU-R and ITU-T) were revised by ITU-T and ITU-D and will be posted on the website, noting that ITU-R will need to review both tables once the World Radiocommunication Conference be concluded by end 2023.

Table 3 (mapping ITU-T and ITU-D) will continue to be discussed by the Sectors and an agreed version will be presented to the next ISCG meeting.

1. **Future activities**

The ISCG Chairman will provide an oral report to RAG, including relevant issues discussed during this meeting of the ISCG.

Reports will be presented to TSAG and TDAG during their respective meetings in June 2023.

The ISCG updates will be also submitted to Council 2023 in the framework of the implementation of PP-Resolution 191 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022).

The ISCG decided that a meeting will be scheduled for the second half of 2023, in October. Date to be confirmed after consultations with the ISCG Management Team.

1. **Closure of the meeting**

Mr Fabio Bigi, Chairperson of the ISCG thanked the Chairperson of RAG, and the representatives from the three Sectors, and all the participants for their support.

The Chairperson also extended his appreciation to the Secretariat for the assistance in preparing the meeting.

**ANNEX 1**

**LIAISON STATEMENT**

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| **Source:** | ISCG |
| **Title:** | LS on Governance and management of virtual meetings |
| **Purpose:** | Action |

 **For action to:** RAG, TDAG

 **For comment to:** -

 **For information to:** TSAG

 **Approval:** ISCG meeting (2 May 2023)

 **Deadline:** 30 September 2023

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| **Contact:** | Phil RushtonTSAG Representative on remote participation | **E-mail:** philrushton@rcc-uk.uk bruce.gracie@ericsson.comiscg@itu.int  |
| **Keywords:** | Inter-Sector coordination; ISCG, Virtual meetings, Remote participation. |
| **Abstract:** | The ISCG presents information on virtual meetings and request the Sectors advisory groups to share their procedures for the management of those meetings. |

The Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) on issues of mutual interest would like to present to the attention of the Radiocommunication Advisory Groups (RAG) and the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) document [ISCG/23-1/04](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/ties/ISCGDocumentLibrary/1st%20Meeting%202023/Virtual%20meetings-Contribution%20ISCG%2023-1.docx) presented, by the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) representative on remote participation, to the ISCG meeting on 2 May 2023.

The ISCG would also like to share with RAG and TDAG the revised Supplement 4 to ITU-T A-series of Recommendations, [Supplement on Guidelines for remote participation](https://www.itu.int/rec/T-REC-A.Sup4-202212-I).

The ISCG invites RAG and TDAG to share the rules that they have on governance and management of virtual meetings to try and identify an agreed common best practice to be provided to the ITU Council to assist them in their deliberations as stated in PP-Resolution 167 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022), to develop a Union wide common approach in the longer term.

Looking forward to receiving your feedback, the ISCG thanks RAG and TDAG for its collaboration and contributions.

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