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| contribution from the russian federation | |
| Appointment and maximum term of office for chairmen and vice‑chairmen of SECTOR study groups, ADVISORY GROUPS AND COORDINATION COMMITTEES FOR VOCABULARY | |

I have the honour to transmit to the Member States of the Council the attached contribution submitted by the **Russian Federation.**

Houlin ZHAO  
 Secretary-General

Russian Federation

Appointment and maximum term of office for chairmen and vice‑chairmen of SECTOR study groups, ADVISORY GROUPS AND COORDINATION COMMITTEES FOR VOCABULARY

The Administration of the Russian Federation proposes that the ITU Council consider the draft new resolution on the appointment and maximum term of office for chairmen and vice‑chairmen of Sector study groups, advisory groups and coordination committees for vocabulary, as appended hereto.

ADD

draft new resolution

Appointment and maximum term of office for chairmen and vice‑chairmen   
of Sector study groups, advisory groups and coordination committees   
for vocabulary

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

considering

*a)* Resolution ITU-R 15-6 of the 2015 Radiocommunication Assembly (RA), Resolution 35 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) and Resolution 61 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) relating to the appointment and maximum terms of office for chairmen and vice-chairmen of their respective advisory groups and study groups;

*b)* Resolution 166 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the number of vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups;

*c)* Resolution 58 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on strengthening of relations between ITU and regional telecommunication organizations and regional preparations for the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*d)* Resolution 70 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on mainstreaming a gender perspective in ITU and promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women through information and communication technologies,

considering further

*a)* that, in accordance with No. 242 of the Convention, RA, WTSA and WTDC shall appoint the chairman and one vice-chairman or more for each study group, and that, in appointing chairmen and vice-chairmen, particular consideration shall be given to the requirements of competence and equitable geographical distribution, and to the need to promote more efficient participation by the developing countries;

*b)* that, in accordance with No. 243 of the Convention, if the workload of any study group requires, the assembly or conference shall appoint such additional vice-chairmen as it deems necessary;

*c)* that No. 244 of the Convention describes the procedure for replacing a study group chairman or vice‑chairman who is unable to carry out his or her duties at some time in the interval between two Sector assemblies or conferences;

*d)* that procedures and qualifications for the chairman and vice-chairmen of advisory groups should generally follow those for the appointment of study group chairmen and vice-chairmen;

*e)* that experience of ITU in general and the Sector concerned in particular would be of particular value for the chairman and vice-chairmen of the Sector's advisory group;

*f)* that the relevant sections of Resolution 1 on the working methods of each Sector contain guidelines for the appointment of chairmen and vice-chairmen of study groups and advisory groups,

recognizing

*a)* that currently the three ITU Sectors have established similar appointment procedures, required qualifications and guidelines with respect to chairmen and vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups[[1]](#footnote-1)1;

*b)* the need to seek and encourage suitable representation of chairmen and vice-chairmen coming from developing countries[[2]](#footnote-2)2;

*c)* the need to encourage the effective participation of all elected vice-chairmen in the work of their respective advisory groups and study groups, through the establishment of specific roles for each elected vice-chairman, so as to better distribute the management workload of the meetings of the Union,

recognizing further

*a)* that the Sector advisory groups, study groups and committees for vocabulary should appoint only the number of vice-chairmen deemed necessary for the efficient and effective management and functioning of the group in question;

*b)* that steps should be taken to provide some continuity between chairmen and vice-chairmen;

*c)* that a specific time-limit on the term of office would permit the introduction of new ideas on a periodic basis, while at the same time giving an opportunity for the chairmen and vice-chairmen of study groups, advisory groups and coordination committees for vocabulary to be appointed from different Member States of the Union, and guaranteeing, on the one hand, reasonable stability to advance the work, and, on the other, renewal with candidates having new perspectives and vision;

*d)* the importance of effectively mainstreaming a gender perspective in the policies of all ITU Sectors,

taking into account

*a)* that a maximum time in office of two terms (a total of eight years) for chairmen and vice-chairmen of Sector study groups, advisory groups and committees for vocabulary between two assemblies or conferences of the Sector concerned provides for an adequate level of stability while providing the opportunity for different individuals to serve in these capacities;

*b)* that the management team of a study group or advisory group should include at least the chairman, vice‑chairmen and subordinate group chairmen;

*c)* the convenience of nominating by consensus per regional organization[[3]](#footnote-3)3 for the vice-chairmen of advisory groups and study groups;

*d)* the value of prior experience of the nominee at least as chairman or vice-chairman of a working party or as rapporteur, associate rapporteur or editor in the respective study groups,

resolves

1 that candidates for the posts of chairmen and vice-chairmen of study groups, advisory groups and committees for vocabulary should be appointed according to the procedures given in Annex A, the qualifications given in Annex B and the guidelines given in Annex C to this resolution and *resolves* 2 of Resolution 58 (Rev. Busan, 2014);

2 that candidates for the posts of chairmen and vice-chairmen of study groups, advisory groups and committees for vocabulary should be identified, taking into account that, for each study group, advisory group and committee for vocabulary, the assembly or conference concerned will appoint the chairman and only the number of vice-chairmen deemed necessary for the efficient and effective management and functioning of the group in question, applying the guidelines given in Annex C;

3 that nominations for the posts of chairmen and vice‑chairmen of study groups, advisory groups and committees for vocabulary should be accompanied by a biographical profile highlighting the qualifications of the individuals proposed, taking into careful consideration continuity in participation in the study groups, advisory group or committee for vocabulary, and that the Director of the Bureau concerned will circulate the profiles to the heads of delegation present at the assembly or conference;

4 that the term of office for both chairmen and vice-chairmen should not exceed two terms of office between consecutive assemblies or conferences;

5 that the term of office in one appointment (e.g. as a vice-chairman) does not count towards the term of office for another appointment (e.g. as a chairman) and that steps should be taken to provide some continuity between chairmen and vice-chairmen;

6 that the interval between assemblies or conferences during which a chairman or vice-chairman is elected under No. 244 of the Convention does not count towards the term of office,

resolves further

1 that vice-chairmen of advisory groups and study groups should be encouraged to assume the leadership role of activities in order to ensure equitable distribution of the tasks to achieve greater involvement by the vice-chairmen in the management and work of advisory groups and study groups;

2 that the appointment of vice-chairmen of study groups should be limited to two or three candidates from each region, taking into account Resolution 70 (Rev. Busan, 2014) and *resolves* 2 of Resolution 58 (Rev. Busan, 2014), to ensure equitable geographical distribution among the ITU regions so as to ensure that every region is represented by not more than three competent and qualified candidates;

3 that the appointment of candidates from countries that do not hold any position of chairmen or vice-chairmen should be encouraged;

4 that each ITU region attending RA, WTSA and WTDC should be encouraged, when assigning the positions to individual experienced professionals, to observe fully the principle of equitable geographical distribution among ITU regions, and the need to promote more efficient participation by the developing countries;

5 The above-mentioned guidelines may, to the extent practicable, be applied to conference preparatory meetings of the Radiocommunication Sector.

ANNEX A

Procedure for the appointment of chairmen and vice‑chairmen of study groups, advisory groups and committees for vocabulary

1 Typically, the positions of chairmen and vice‑chairmen to be filled are known in advance of the assembly or conference.

a) In order to help the assembly or conference to appoint chairmen/vice‑chairmen, Member States and Sector Members of the Sector in question are encouraged to indicate to the Director of the Bureau suitable candidates, preferably three months, but no later than two weeks, before the opening of the assembly or conference.

b) In nominating suitable candidates, Sector Members should carry out prior consultations with the administration/Member State concerned, in order to avoid any possible disagreement in regard to such nomination.

c) On the basis of received proposals, the Director of the Bureau will circulate to Member States and Sector Members the list of candidates. The list of candidates should be accompanied by a list of the qualifications of each candidate as given in Annex B to this resolution.

d) On the basis of this document and any relevant received comments, the heads of delegation, at a suitable time during the assembly or conference, should be invited to prepare, in consultation with the Director of the Bureau, a consolidated list of designated chairmen and vice‑chairmen of study groups, advisory groups and committees for vocabulary to be submitted in a document to the assembly or conference for final approval.

e) In drafting the consolidated list, the following should be taken into account: In cases where there are two or more candidates with identical qualifications for the same chairman position, preference should be given to candidates from Member States and Sector Members having the lowest number of designated study group and advisory group chairmen.

2 Situations which cannot be considered within the above will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis at the assembly or conference. For example, if a merger of two existing study groups is envisaged, the proposals pertaining to the relevant study groups can be considered. Therefore, the procedure outlined in § 1 can still be applied.

However, if the assembly or conference decides to set up a completely new study group, discussions will have to be held at the assembly or conference and appointments made.

3 These procedures should be applied for appointments made by an advisory group under delegated authority.

4 Vacant positions of chairmen and vice-chairmen that occur in mid-term between assemblies or conferences are filled in accordance with No. 244 of the Convention.

ANNEX B

Qualifications of chairmen and vice‑chairmen

1 No. 242 of the Convention states that:

"… In appointing chairmen and vice‑chairmen, particular consideration shall be given to the requirements of competence and equitable geographical distribution and to the need to promote more efficient participation by the developing countries."

Whilst giving primary consideration to the qualifications below, there should be an appropriate representation of chairmen and vice-chairmen from developing countries, including the least developed countries, small island developing states and countries with economies in transition.

2 As regards competence, the following qualifications, *inter alia*, appear to be of paramount importance when appointing chairmen and vice‑chairmen:

‒ relevant professional knowledge and experience;

‒ continuity in participation in the relevant study group or, for chairmen and vice-chairmen of advisory groups, in ITU and the corresponding Sector in particular;

‒ managerial skills;

‒ availability for immediate commencement of duties and thereafter until the next assembly or conference;

‒ knowledge of activities related to the Sector's mandate.

3 Particular reference to the above qualifications should be included in the biographical profile to be circulated by the Director of the Bureau.

ANNEX C

Guidelines for appointment of the optimum numbers of vice-chairmen   
for study groups, advisory groups and committees for vocabulary

1 Pursuant to Resolution 166 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference and No. 242 of the Convention, equitable geographical distribution among the ITU regions, the need to promote more effective participation by the developing countries, gender balance and specialist knowledge and experience should be taken into account[[4]](#footnote-4)4.

2 To the extent possible, and taking into account the need for demonstrated competence, appointment or selection to the management team should utilize the human resources of as broad a range of Member States and Sector Members as possible, at the same time recognizing the need to appoint only the number of vice-chairmen necessary for the efficient and effective management and functioning of the study groups, advisory group and committee for vocabulary, consistent with the projected structure and work programme.

3 The workload should be a factor in determining the appropriate number of vice-chairmen to ensure that every aspect within the purview of the study groups, advisory group and committee for vocabulary is fully managed. The distribution of tasks among the vice-chairmen shall be made in the framework of each study group and advisory group, and may be modified according to the needs of the work.

4 The total number of vice-chairmen proposed by any administration should be reasonable, so as to observe the principle of equitable distribution of posts among the Member States concerned.

5 Member States of each ITU region[[5]](#footnote-5)5 should, when assigning the positions to individual experienced professionals, fully observe the principle of equitable geographical distribution among ITU regions, and the need to promote more efficient participation by the developing countries.

6 Regional representation in the study groups, advisory groups and other groups of all three Sectors should be taken into account, such that no single individual may hold more than one vice-chairmanship position in these groups in any one Sector, and only in exceptional cases hold such a position in more than one Sector[[6]](#footnote-6)6.

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1. 1 The criteria contained within this resolution do not apply to the designation of chairmen or vice‑chairmen of focus groups. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. 2 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. 3 Taking into account *resolves* 2 of Resolution 58 of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Rev. Busan, 2014). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. 4 For those regions consisting of numerous administrations and with diverse economic and technological conditions within the region, to the extent possible the number of representatives of those regions may be increased, as appropriate. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. 5 Taking into account Resolution 58 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference in regard to the six regional telecommunication organizations, namely: the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT), the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT), the Inter-American Telecommunications Commission (CITEL), the African Telecommunications Union (ATU), the Council of Arab Ministers of Telecommunication and Information represented by the Secretariat-General of the League of Arab States (LAS), and the Regional Commonwealth in the field of Communications (RCC). [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. 6 The criterion mentioned in this paragraph should not prevent a vice-chairman of a given advisory group or a vice-chairman of a given study group from holding positions of chairman or vice-chairman of a given working party or as rapporteur or associate rapporteur for any group under the mandate of that Sector group. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)