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| **Council 2021 Virtual consultation of councillors, 8-18 June 2021** |  |
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|  | **Document C21/INF/2-E** |
| **23 March 2021** |
| **English only** |
| Report by the Secretary-General | |
| COLLABORATION WITH THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM | |

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| Summary  This report presents an overview of ITU’s activities and relationship with the UN system since the 2020 virtual consultations of councillors.  Action required  This report is transmitted to the Council **for information**.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  References  Documents [C08/INF/8](http://www.itu.int/md/S08-CL-INF-0008/en), [C11/INF/6](http://www.itu.int/md/S11-CL-INF-0006/en), [C12/INF/1(Rev.1)](http://www.itu.int/md/S12-CL-INF-0001/en), [C13/INF/10](http://www.itu.int/md/S13-CL-INF-0010/en), [C14/INF/7](http://www.itu.int/md/S14-CL-INF-0007/en), [C15/INF/4](http://www.itu.int/md/S15-CL-INF-0004/en), [C16/57](http://www.itu.int/md/S16-CL-C-0057/en), and [C17/INF/10](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-INF-0010/en), [C18/INF/4](https://www.itu.int/md/S18-CL-INF-0004/en), [C19/INF/8](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-INF-0008/en), [C20/INF/3](https://www.itu.int/md/S20-CL-INF-0003/en) |

1. **Introduction**

1.1 As a United Nations (UN) Specialized Agency, ITU collaborates, participates, and interacts with the UN system governance processes, subsidiary mechanisms, and inter-agency coordination networks, as well as through joint initiatives. This work aims to strengthen synergies and foster greater cooperation, information and knowledge sharing in order to fulfil programmatic, operational and management mandates in a more coherent and coordinated manner. The ITU General Secretariat, assisted by its UN Liaison Office in New York, coordinates ITU’s relations with the UN and ensures that its priorities are strengthened and reflected in UN system-wide related work, outputs and agenda setting. Over recent years, these efforts have resulted in greater priority and recognition being given to the critical role of telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) for economic, social, and environmental sustainable development. See ITU Council reports referenced above.

1. **United Nations Comprehensive Response to Covid-19**
   1. ITU’s response to the Covid-10 pandemic included mobilizing around the United Nations system’s comprehensive efforts, in particular through the Chief Executive Board’s (CEB), High-level Committee on Management (HLCM), which mobilized its functional networks on human resources, technology, procurement, and finance and budget to support business continuity across the UN system. The HLCM is currently leading a coordinated return to office (RTO) through harmonizing key operational procedures in Health (mitigation measures, such as social distancing, wearing of masks, encouraging vaccination and Covid-19 testing, Media-vac evacuations, insurances); Teleworking policies and practices including contractual agreement/new workforce; Security of virtual meeting tools, including legal framework, guidelines and best practices for safe and trusted virtual events and remote participation in collaboration with the United Nations Information Security Interest Group (UNISSIG/CEB) as well as interpretation services; Rapid cloud adoption (Office365, teams) and digital signatures; Safety and security (staff , delegates, premises) and onsite event restrictions; Security clearance (TRIP) and emergency communications; Host country emergency frameworks, among other.
   2. In addition, ITU responded to the UN Secretary-General’s call to “build back better”, calling on the international community to “Connect2Recover” and recalls that its Member States have agreed on the Connect 2030 Agenda as a way to expand quality digital infrastructure in countries for the benefit of all people everywhere.
   3. Common projects with sister UN agencies, including with UNESCO on e-learning, with the World Health Organization and UNICEF on health messaging, and through the Broadband Commission’s Agenda for Action. Further details are provided below on related key initiatives.
2. **The 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals**

3.1 As the UN specialized agency for ICTs, ITU is actively promoting their key role in achieving the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 SDGs. ITU’s primary focus is in addressing SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), and in particular target 9.c aiming to significantly increase access to ICTs and provide universal and affordable access to the Internet. It is, therefore, through infrastructure and connectivity and in partnership with all stakeholders that ITU will contribute the most towards achieving the remaining SDGs. ITU is also the custodian of five SDG indicators (4.4.1, 5.b.1, 9.c.1, 17.6.2 and 17.8.1) contributing to the UNSTATS monitoring of the SDGs. As we embark on the Decade of Action, the final 10 years to deliver the promise of the 2030 Agenda, ITU and its members have adopted the Strategic Plan for 2020-2023, the Connect 2030 Agenda and the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) process to guide its contribution.

3.2 ITU continued to follow, participate, and provide inputs to the global follow-up and review process of Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) carried out annually in July at the High-level Political Forum (HLPF), held virtually in 2020 due to COVID-19. ITU’s main contribution to this process was the annual [ITU Council contribution to HLPF](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/26022ITU_Council_Contribution_HLPF2020.pdf), among other. ITU also enhanced its outreach with countries presenting their voluntary national review reports (VNR) to raise the visibility of the critical role of ICTs as an enabling tool for achieving and accelerating progress for sustainable development. All 47 countries that presented their VNRs in 2020, made referenced to the importance of connectivity, ICTs and/or underlined the opportunities digital technologies in one way or another in their reports or oral presentations. ITU also engaged with UN system entities and other stakeholders through the organization and participation in various side-events, workshops and other advocacy opportunities to promote ITU’s work and ICTs for the SDGs. In December 2020, UNDESA launched a second call for submissions of SDG good practices, including those that could be replicated or scaled-up by others across the globe. ITU is member of the Inter-Agency Team on SDG Good Practices whose role is to anlayze submissions.

**4. UN Governance and subsidiary mechanisms**

4.1 ITU continued to follow and provide input to UN’s processes, such as meetings of the UN General Assembly (UNGA), ECOSOC, and its subsidiary bodies, in particular, the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD), Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), Commission on Sustainable Development and the Statistical Commission, as well as the meetings of the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC), among others.

4.2 ITU continued to ensured that key ITU activities and the important role of ICTs for sustainable development are reflected in relevant UN Secretary-General reports and resolutions such as UNGA resolution on [Information and Communications Technologies for sustainable development](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/75/202) and ECOSOC/CSTD resolutions on [Science, Technology and Innovation for Development](https://undocs.org/E/RES/2020/13) and resolution on [Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the WSIS](https://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=E/RES/2020/12), which ITU coordinates the WSIS input. With the growing importance of digital transformation, the ITU Liaison Office in New York also follows and reviews other UNGA resolutions with references to ICTs to keep Headquarters informed, among these, the thematic resolutions on social inclusion and social integration, the girl child and agricultural technology for sustainable development, to name a few. In addition, ITU was invited to contribute to the preparation of the UN Secretary-Genreal’s Report on “Our Common Agenda”, to be presented to the next UN General Assembly in September 2021. ITU provided its inputs – focusing on “meaningful universal connectivity” as a critical common agenda for Digital Cooperation.

**5. UN Summits and Conferences**

5.1 Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and safety measures put in place in early 2020 , many major United Nations conferences and meeting were either postponed, cancelled or held virtually in a reduced format. ITU was present at multiple events held either virtually or in hybrid form, including: Council of the UN Technology Bank for LDCs (Jan. 2020); UN-Habitat 10th World Urban Forum (Feb. 2020); 73rd World Health Assembly (May 2020), WHO Executive Board (May 2020); High-Level Forum Event of the UN-GGIM (Jun. 2020); UNIDIR Annual Cyberstability Conference (Sep. 2020); LLDCs Ministerial Meeting (September 2020); UNESCO Mobile Learning Week 2020 (Oct. 2020); UNCTAD – 4th session of Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-Commerce and the Digital Economy (Oct. 2020); Internet Governance Forum (Nov. 2020); UNDESA Online Global Dialogue on Digital Inclusion for All (Dec. 2021), among others.

**6. Inter-agency Coordination**

6.1 ITU contributed actively to the Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) and its subsidiary mechanisms, the High-Level Committee on Management (HLCM) and High-Level Committee on Programmes (HLCP). During this period and following the CEB’s endorsement in 2019 of the ITU-coordinated UN system-wide strategic approach and road map for supporting capacity development on AI and HLCP’s UNESCO-coordinated work on UN system actions on the ethics of AI, it was decided during the 40th HLCP session in October 2020 to establish an HLCP interagency working group on AI (IAWG-AI), co-led by UNESCO and ITU to focus on  policy and programmatic coherence of AI activities within the UN. The group will leverage the stocktaking and gap analysis exercise by ITU and other HLCP members regarding internal capacities within the UN and other stakeholders in relation to the UN system-wide strategy. The IAWG-AI is currently in the process of developing and adopting their Terms of Reference.

6.2 In addition, ITU contributed to the agenda items on strengthening the UN System’s impact and visibility on reducing inequalities and support of the Decade of Action to Deliver the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, biodiversity and nature-based solutions for sustainable development and building an inclusive, sustainable and resilient future with indigenous peoples.

6.3 In the HLCM, ITU led the Work Group on Virtual Meetings with Interpretation of its Digital & Technology Network and produced in May 2020 the Virtual Events and Remote Participation Guidelines and Best Practices document, which was shared by all the participating agencies and related organizations. Thereafter, ITU has been working actively with other UN agencies, sharing experiences on using the virtual meeting platforms and organizing virtual, and in particular, statutory meetings. ITU also contributes actively to the Interagency Security Management Network (IASMN).

6.4 ITU is also a member of the UN Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG), which serves as a high-level forum for joint policy formation and decision-making. It guides, supports, tracks and oversees the coordination of development operations in 162 countries and territories.

6.5 Also to highlight during 2020 and 2021 period are the following: As member of the Interagency Task Team (IATT) on STI, ITU is co-chairing its working group on gender and STI, and is a member of working group 10: "Analytical work on emerging science and technologies and the SDGs" which, among other things, provides guidance to the agenda of the annual STI Forum.

6.6 ITU also continues to participate actively in the work of various thematic and administrative inter-agency mechanisms and networks. In this regard, ITU chairs the Partnership for Measuring ICT for Development; actively participated and provided secretariat to the UN Strategic Planning Network (UNSPN); currently holds the rotational Vice-chair of the United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS); is a member of the Steering Committee of the United Nations Geospatial Network; and occupies one of the 33 seats allocated in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board (UNJSPB). A full list of UN inter-agency coordination mechanisms, networks and groups in which ITU participates is provided in Annex. The majority of the meetings are conducted via electronic means, a practice that is increasing.

**7. Key initiatives with other UN Funds, Programmes and Specialized Agencies**

7.1 ITU continued to strengthen its relationship with UN organizations through joint initiatives promoting ICTs as enabling tools for sustainable development. Key new and ongoing initiatives include the following, among many others:

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* ITU maintained a close collaboration with several UN specialized agencies, with a view to satisfy spectrum requirements for emerging mobile, aeronautical, maritime and space radio technologies, establish a stable regulatory environment for their usage and coordinate the development relevant technical standards. The following is a summary of the collaboration of the ITU with the following UN agencies in 2020:
* UNOOSA: ITU attended the meetings of the Scientific and Technical sub-Committee of the Committee On the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) in order to present the ITU report on the use of the geostationary-satellite orbit (GSO) and other orbits (see <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-R/space/snl/Pages/reportSTS.aspx>) and the outcome of WRC-19 related to space. The other meetings of COPUOS as well as the annual meeting of UN-Space (the United Nations Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities) were cancelled in 2020 due to the pandemic. The ITU also attended the United Nations Space Law Conference to present Frequency Management in the context of Emerging Issues in Space Law and Policy (see <https://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/spacelaw/un-conference-on-space-law-and-policy-organized-in-cooperation-with-the-economic-commission-for-africa.html>), and the webinar on Space Law and Regulations of the Access to Space For All initiative to present the ITU Master Register (see <https://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/access2space4all/accspace4all_tips.html#Tag2>).
* ICAO: ITU actively participated and collaborated with the work of the ICAO Frequency Spectrum Management Panel (FSMP), on the following areas: development and maintenance of ICAO SARPs for aeronautical systems as well as guidance material, in particular for the update of the ICAO spectrum Handbook; development of the ICAO Position for WRC-23 and consideration of regional proposals on WRC-23 agenda items; development of input material for studies within the ITU-R as necessary to ensure that aeronautical systems are taken care of in the development of ITU-R Recommendations and Reports and in the development of draft solutions for WRC-23; consideration of issues related to harmful interference from aeronautical and non-aeronautical sources, in particular for issues related to interference to the global navigation satellite system (GNSS) and to aeronautical safety services. Work also continued on the alignment of ICAO and ITU frequency assignment databases and development of tools for notification of aeronautical frequencies to ITU. Moreover, ITU and ICAO secretariat coordinated actions to mitigate interference to aircraft navigation equipment in certain geographical areas.
* IMO: ITU participated in the 2020 meetings of Navigation Communication and Search and Rescue Sub-committee of IMO and the IMO/ITU Experts Group on maritime radio issues dealing with the preparations of initial IMO position on WRC-23 agenda items related to maritime issues. IMO secretariat participated in the meetings of ITU-R Working Parties 5B and 4C. Joint work continues on modernization of Global Maritime Distress and Safety System and alignment of the treaty documents of the two organizations: ITU’s Radio Regulations and IMO Safety of Life at Sea Convention (SOLAS).
* WMO: ITU continues to make joint action with WMO to develop WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS) and to provide spectrum access for incumbent and new space and terrestrial observing system. Joint actions have been taken such as the publication of the second edition of WMO/ITU Handbook “Use of Radio Spectrum for Meteorology: Weather, Water and Climate Monitoring and Prediction” and of the Report ITU-R RS.2456 “Space weather sensor systems using radio spectrum”. ITU expert’s support for WMO Steering Group for Radio Frequency Coordination and Inter-Programme Team on Space Weather Information, Systems and Services activities. ITU experts are part of the Expert Team of the WMO Global Multi-hazard Alert System (ET-GMAS) working on standardized and authoritative multi-hazard alerts and warnings. ITU staff assisted in latest structure reform of WMO, as approved by World Meteorological Congress 2019.

**TSB**

* In 2020, the [AI for Good Global Summit](https://aiforgood.itu.int/programme-2020/) transformed into a digital platform, always online, all year round, with [continuous programming](https://aiforgood.itu.int/programme/). Close to 40 UN sister agencies are partners. The Summit is co-convened by Switzerland.
* The[Financial Inclusion Global Initiative (FIGI)](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/extcoop/figisymposium/Pages/default.aspx) is a three-year programme of collective action led by ITU, the World Bank Group and the Committee on Payments and Market Infrastructures, with support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. FIGI is designed to advance research in digital finance and accelerate digital financial inclusion in developing countries. ITU leads the FIGI Security, Infrastructure and Trust Working Group as well as the organization of FIGI symposia. The third FIGI Symposium will be held virtually over six weeks from 18 May to 24 June 2021.
* TSB represented ITU at a high-level panel on “Digital Finance - a Building Block for Digital Cooperation” convened by UNDP, 15 September 2020. The panel welcomed the [UN Secretary-General’s Roadmap for Digital Cooperation](https://www.un.org/en/content/digital-cooperation-roadmap/) and the [UN Secretary General’s Task Force on Digital Financing of the SDGs](https://www.un.org/en/digital-financing-taskforce)
* The ITU/WMO/UNESCO-IOC Joint Task Force on SMART Cable Systems is leading an ambitious project to equip submarine communications cables with scientific sensors (e.g., sea water temperature, pressure, water movement) that could be used for climate change monitoring and tsunami early warning (“SMART cables”). A detailed peer-reviewed article on the project can be found in the journal “Frontiers in Marine Science”: [“SMART Cables for Observing the Global Ocean: Science and Implementation”](https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fmars.2019.00424/full).
* [Future Networked Car Symposium](https://www.itu.int/en/fnc/Pages/default.aspx), co-organized with UNECE. ITU-T Technical Committees (Study Groups and Focus Groups) continue to collaborate with UNECE relevant Working Parties to make sure that international technical ITU-T Recommendations be referenced by related UNECE regulations and directives;
* The [ITU-T Focus Group on AI for Health (FG AI4H)](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/focusgroups/ai4h), driven in close collaboration by ITU and WHO, is working towards the establishment of a framework and associated processes for the performance benchmarking of ‘AI for Health’ algorithms. The group is currently working on 20 topic areas ("use cases"), addressing health issues including breast cancer, neurodegenerative diseases, vision loss, skin lesions, cardiovascular disease;
* Partnership with UNEP and WMO in creating the [ITU-T Focus Group on AI for Natural Disaster Management (FG-AI4ND)](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/focusgroups/ai4ndm/Pages/default.aspx);
* A [Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)](https://www.itu.int/en/mediacentre/Pages/pr30-2020-UN-Habitat-partner-accelerate-digital-transformation-cities-communities.aspx) between ITU and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) supports their collaboration to advance human rights, promote social inclusion and achieve sustainable urban development.
* The [United for Smart Sustainable Cities (U4SSC)](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/ssc/united/Pages/default.aspx) initiative is supported by 17 UN bodies with the aim of achieving SDG11: ‘Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable’. U4SSC held its 5th annual meeting on 9 October 2020, co-organized by ITU, UNECE and UN-Habitat, and hosted by UNECE. More than 100 cities worldwide are evaluating their progress towards the SDGs with “[Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/ssc/united/Pages/publication-U4SSC-KPIs.aspx)” based on ITU standards, indicators promoted by U4SSC.

**BDT**

* ITU continued to partner with WHO to deliver health information via mobile messaging, in the Be-Healthy Be-Mobile programme;
* ITU also engaged in the “Niger 2.0” Smart Villages project in Niger to connect remote areas of the country to the benefits of the Internet and the vast opportunities it provides. This project is being undertaken in collaboration with Niger’s ANSI and several other organizations including the World Health Organization (WHO), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), UNESCO, Digital Impact Alliance (DIAL) and others;
* Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development, led by ITU and UNESCO, with membership of six other UN entities established in 2010 with the aim of boosting the importance of broadband on the international policy agenda, and expanding broadband access in every country as key to accelerating progress towards national and international development targets;
* Decent Jobs for Youth Campaign led by ILO and ITU - The ITU is leading the digital skills thematic priority of Decent Jobs for Youth (a global initiative to scale up action and impact on youth employment under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development). The programme is aimed at boosting decent jobs and enhancing skills for youth in Africa’s digital economy with the initial implementing countries being Rwanda, Kenya, Nigeria, Côte d’Ivoire, Senegal, and South Africa.
* EQUALS: The EQUALS Global Partnership for Gender Equality in the Digital Age is a committed group of corporate leaders, governments, businesses, not-for-profit organizations, academic institutions, NGOs and community groups around the world dedicated to promoting gender balance in the technology sector by championing equality of access, skills development and career opportunities for women and men alike. EQUALS was Launched in 2016 by the International Telecommunication Union and four founding partners – GSMA, the International Trade Centre, the United Nations University and UN Women, and currently this global partnership includes UN Women, UNESCO, UNCTAD, ITC, UNU-CS as well as GSMA;
* GIGA - GIGA is a joint ITU and UNICEF initiative that aims to provide connectivity to every school in the world. It is anchored on four pillars, namely: Map, Connect, Finance and Empower. Through GIGA, ITU and UNICEF have joined forces with an aim to connect every school to the Internet by 2030 and facilitate global cooperation, leadership, and innovation in finance and technology;
* Global E-Waste Monitor: The Global E-Waste Monitor (GEM) is a collaborative effort between the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the Sustainable Cycles (SCYCLE) Programme currently co-hosted by the United Nations University (UNU) and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), and the International Solid Waste Association (ISWA) and provides comprehensive insight to address the global e-waste challenge;
* ITU collaborates with FAO on digital agriculture to support the agricultural sector with e-agriculture services and applications;
* Innovation for digital transformation by ITU and UNIDO particularly on SDG 9: ITU collaborates on the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III) led by UNIDO in partnership with ITU and other UN organizations and partners, including development of a joint roadmap and a IDDA III high-level event (25 Sep 2019, New York) and collaboration on the Mohammed bin Rashid Initiative (MBR) for Global Prosperity;
* Mobile Learning Week (MLW), organized by UNESCO in partnership with ITU and supported by other partners;
* ITU/World Bank: Joint Declaration to enhance cooperation for the advancement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as concrete areas of collaboration such as digital financial service (e.g., FIGI), Regulatory Handbooks, the Regulatory Watch Initiative, The 2020 Digital Regulation Handbook,​ the Digital Regulation Online Platform and the ICT Regulation Toolkit;
* BDT was successful in enhancing its collaboration with other UN agencies resulting in joint resource mobilization and partnerships efforts. One positive outcome was a partnership forged with FAO, ILO, UNCDF, and UNDP, which resulted in an agreement with the European Commission (EC) for the financing of the project “Support to Rural Entrepreneurship, Investment and Trade in Papua New Guinea”;
* Collaboration with the office of the UN Secretary General in the implementation of the Roadmap on Digital Cooperation. ITU is co-leading two key action areas namely Global Connectivity and Capacity Building, with UNICEF and UNDP, respectively (see below).
* Steering committee member in collaboration with other UN Agencies on the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development is an international,

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* World Summit on the Information Society Forum (WSIS Forum): In coordination with UNESCO, UNCTAD, ITC, UPU, UNDESA, ILO, UNEP, FAO and WHO, ITU leads the coordination of the annual Forum, including for the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines with the lead  facilitating and co-facilitating  agencies,  and the UN Process to ensure alignment with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
* WSIS TalkX series, launched this year in collaboration with UN Agencies to highlight the linkage of the World UN Days with ICTs (WSIS Action Lines)
* ITU, UN Innovation network and UN-OICT initiative collaborate on a monthly TechLearnTalk series at UNHQ to help build capacity on a range of ICT themes. Themes addressed thus far include drones, blockchain, predictive analytics, chatbots, VR/AR. As part of the TechLearnTalks series, ITU, in collaboration with WHO and FAO, organized an Introductory seminar on Artificial Intelligence for the benefit of UN staff across the UN System and one on the Internet of Things is scheduled to take place shortly.
* Annual compendium report “UN Activities on Artificial Intelligence” was released in September 2020, at the sixth AI for Good UN Partners Meeting. The 2020 version of the compendium covers around 260 cases and projects run by 36 UN agencies and bodies, an increase of almost 75% since the 2019 compendium.
* In support of Girls in ICT Day, ITU has a collaboration with UNICC and the Office of the UN Secretary-General’s Envoy on Youth in the form of an intergenerational interview series between young women in tech and women in tech role models.
* Joint side events with UN sister agencies for major UN conferences (CSocD, CSW, Financing for Development, Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, STI Forum, HLPF, UNGA) and/or to commemorate relevant international days observed by the United Nations, such as International Women’s Day (8 March), International Girls in ICT Day (22 April), World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (May 17), World Day against Trafficking in Persons (30 July), International Day of the Girl (October 11), World Cities Day (31 Oct.), International Day of Persons with Disabilities (3 Dec.).

**8. Collaboration with the UN Secretary General’s Special Envoy on Technology**

8.1 In June 2020, the UN Secretary-General released the new Roadmap for Digital Cooperation ([A/74/821](https://undocs.org/A/74/821)), which includes a set of recommended actions for the international community to help ensure all people are connected, respected, and protected in the digital era. It builds on recommendations made by the Secretary-General’s High-level Panel on Digital Cooperation[[1]](#footnote-2), and input, received through the eight Roundtable groups convened by the office of the UN Secretary-General, from Member States, the private sector, civil society, and the technical communities and other stakeholder groups.

8.2 ITU is collaborating with the office of the UN Secretary General, specifically the office of the UN Secretary-General’s Special Envoy on Technology in the implementation of the Roadmap on Digital Cooperation. ITU is co-leading two Roundtable groups, namely on Global Connectivity and Capacity Building, with UNICEF and UNDP, respectively, and participating other Roundtable groups, for rest the subjects, such as Digital Inclusion, Digital Public Goods, Trust and Security, Artificial Intelligence and Digital Cooperation Architecture, to implement and support key actions outlined in the Roadmap.

**9. Collaboration with the Joint Inspection Unit of the United Nations system (JIU)**

9.1 Through the Inter Sectoral Coordination – Task Force (ISC-TF), ITU reviewed reports and recommendations from the JIU’s 2019 and 2020 UN system-wide reports. A full list of JIU reports and recommendations, including acceptance and implementation status was presented to the Twelfth session of the Council Working Group on Finance and Human Resources (CWG-FHR).

| **ANNEX**  **UN Inter-Agency Coordination Mechanisms, Networks and Groups** | | | | | |
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| General key activities and benefits of coordination mechanisms, networks and groups include, among other, the following:  1. Information and knowledge sharing, best practices  2. Coordination, collaboration and networking - maximizing synergies, coherence and efficiencies as one UN, within respective mandates  3. Leadership, guidance and strategic direction  4. Promotion and advocacy  5. Draft, and implementation of UN system-wide plans, projects, decisions and recommendations, with respective mandates | | | | | |
| **Name** | **Key Activity** | **Key ITU relevance / Specific benefit brought to ITU** | **Frequency of meetings\*** | **Time spent** | **Financial implications\*** |
| [Chief Executive Board for Coordination (CEB)](https://www.unsystem.org/content/what-we-do) | Provides coordination and strategic direction for the system as a whole in areas under the responsibility of executive heads. | ICT4SDG, emerging technologies, cybersecurity  [PP Res. 64 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-064-E.pdf)  Non-discriminatory access to modern telecommunication/information and communication technology facilities, services and applications, including applied research and transfer of technology, and e-meetings, on mutually agreed terms | Twice per year | 2 days per meeting; coordination of briefing book with Talking Points | Travel and DSA for executive head |
| [High-level Committee on Programmes **(HLCP)**](https://www.unsystem.org/content/hlcp) | Promotes system-wide cooperation, coordination and knowledge sharing in programme and operational areas. | -Enhance ITU’s visibility and lead on key areas in UN agencies, such as ICT4SDG, digital cooperation, AI, cybersecurity, digital skills, digital literacy, climate change, smart cities  -Share and introduce UN best practice to ITU’s activities, such as strategic Foresight. | Twice per year | 2 days per meeting; coordination of briefing book with Talking Points | Travel and DSA for approx. 2 staff |
| [High-Level Committee on Management **(HLCM)**](https://www.unsystem.org/content/hlcm) | Identifies and analyses administrative management reforms with the aim of improving efficiency and simplifying business practices. | Ensure coherence and implementation of the UN common system | Twice per year | 2 days per meeting | Travel and DSA for approx. 2 staff |
| [Digital Technology Network](https://www.unsystem.org/content/reports-digital-and-technology-network) | The Digital & Technology Network (DTN) brings together the CIOs from UN System organizations to advise the HLCM on system-wide approaches to leveraging technology and functions as a forum to coordinate system-wide ICT policy and practices. <https://www.unsystem.org/content/digital-and-technology-network> | Ensure coherence and implementation of the UN common system (meeting arranged together with UNICC management committee) | Twice per year | 1.5 days | Travel/DSA |
| UNICC management committee | UN wide computer services  <https://www.unicc.org/who-we-are/governance/> | Governance of UNICC  (meeting arranged together with DTN management committee) | Twice per year | 1.5 days | Travel/DSA |
| UN Legal Network | Aims to increase communication among legal advisers across the system, develop consultation and knowledge sharing mechanisms to address issues of common concern and ensure, where appropriate, a better dissemination of relevant guidelines, policies and practices. It also supports a better understanding of the needs of the various bodies for which the Office of Legal Affairs (OLA) provides central legal services. | ITU benefits from the exchange of information and experiences, as well as collaborates on issues of common interest. | Once a year | 2-3 days per meeting | Travel and DSA for approx. 2 staff |
| Human Resources network | Provides strategic advice and leadership in the management of human resources, focusing on specific strategic issues of interest to HR Directors, as well as preparing views and proposals to the HLCM and ICSC as well as liaising with the Federations of Staff Associations.  <https://www.unsystem.org/content/human-resources-network> | Access to information of polices and best practices in other UN agencies. Assists in aligning the ITU policies with the UN system. Assists in ensuring that the ITU specific needs are taken into consideration in developing coordinated proposals and approaches for UN HR policies and Regulations. | Twice a year | 2-3 days per meeting | Travel and DSA for one staff |
| Finance and Budget Network | Exchange information and discuss Financial matters | Ensure and approve the common budget of UN cost sharing activities | Once | 2 days | Travel and DSA |
| Procurement network | Mandate is to promote the strategic role of Procurement and Supply Chain Management in programme and service delivery in a transparent and accountable manner. | Improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the procurement function within the ITU, through collaborative arrangements, simplification and harmonisation of procurement practices. | Twice per year | 2 days | Travel and DSA |
| IPSAS Task Force | Mandated to provide support, coordination and leadership to the implementation of International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) in the United Nations (UN) system. | Twenty-five UN system organizations, including ITU are involved in IPSAS implementation. | Once | 2 days | Travel and DSA |
| United Nations Sustainable Development Group **(UNSDG)** | Provide leadership, strategic guidance and support to Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams for the achievement of country level results. | [PP Res. 200 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-200-E.pdf)  Connect 2030 Agenda for global telecommunication/information and communication technology, including broadband, for sustainable development | Twice per year at Principles level | Weekly meetings done remotely | As approved by ITU Council, ITU contributes USD 200,000 annually |
| [United Nations Group Information Society **(UNGIS)**](http://www.ungis.org/Home.aspx) | Collaboration and partnerships among the CEB members in order to contribute to the achievement of the WSIS objectives | [PP Res. 140 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-140-E.pdf)  ITU’s role in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as in their follow-up and review processes | Regular remote meeting.  2 meetings at the WSIS Forum  Meeting and side event at the HLPF and STI (planned) | 2 days  High level and working level  2-3 Days | No additional costs  DSA |
| [Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs **(ECESA)** **Plus**](https://www.unsceb.org/content/executive-committee-economic-and-social-affairs-ecesa-0) | As a coordination vehicle for the United Nations in Economic and Social Affairs, ECESA commits itself to the following objectives: Ensuring greater coherence within the United Nations; Facilitating more effective participation of developing countries in global processes; Achieving a better balance between the global and regional dimensions of development, in terms of analysis, norm and standard setting, and technical assistance; Strengthening the linkages among the UN normative, analytical, and operational work. | ITU benefits by High-Level exchange of information towards ensuring greater coherence within the United Nations, including on ICT related issues. | Once per year – usually during HLPF at Principles level | One morning or afternoon | No additional cost |
| [Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities **(CCSA)**](https://www.unsceb.org/content/committee-coordination-statistical-activities-ccsa) | Efficient functioning of the statistical system; Common standards and platforms; Development of methodologies; Inter-institutional support Outreach; Advocacy for statistics | [PP Res. 131 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-131-E.pdf)  Measuring information and communication technologies to build an integrating and inclusive information society | Twice per year | One afternoon in March, 2 days in autumn | Travel and DSA for one staff |
| [UN Statistical Commission](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/) | Highest decision-making body for international statistical activities especially in setting of statistical standards, development of concepts and methods and their implementation at the national and international level. | [PP Res. 131 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-131-E.pdf)  Measuring information and communication technologies to build an integrating and inclusive information society | Once per year | Five days | Travel and DSA for one staff |
| [Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators **(IAEG-SDGs)**](https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/iaeg-sdgs/) | Develop and implement the global indicator framework for the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda. | [PP Res. 131 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-131-E.pdf)  Measuring information and communication technologies to build an integrating and inclusive information society | Twice per year | Three days per meeting | Travel and DSA for one staff |
| [UN Global Working Group (**GWG**) on Big Data for Official Statistics](https://unstats.un.org/bigdata/bureau/) | Provide a strategic vision, direction and coordination for a global programme on big data for official statistics; promote practical use of big data sources; promote capacity-building, training and sharing of experience; foster communication and advocacy of the use of big data for policy; build public trust in the use of big data for official statistics. | Mobile phone data; A.I. summit | Once per year | Four days per meeting | Travel and DSA for one staff |
| [Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/iaeggs/ToR_Final.pdf) | Serve as the coordination mechanism for the Global Programme on Gender Statistics; provide guidance for the development of manuals and methodological guidelines for the production and use of gender statistics; and review gender statistics with the aim of establishing a minimum set of gender indicators. | [PP Res. 131 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-131-E.pdf)  Measuring information and communication technologies to build an integrating and inclusive information society  [PP Res. 70 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-070-E.pdf)  Mainstreaming a gender perspective in ITU and promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women through telecommunications/ information and communication technologies | Once per year | 2 days | Travel and DSA for one staff |
| [Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality](https://www.unsceb.org/content/inter-agency-network-women-and-gender-equality-ianwge-0) **[(IANWGE](https://www.unsceb.org/content/inter-agency-network-women-and-gender-equality-ianwge-0)**[)](https://www.unsceb.org/content/inter-agency-network-women-and-gender-equality-ianwge-0) | The network supports and monitors the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action; gender-related recommendations emanating from other recent UN General Assembly special sessions, conferences and summits, especially by ensuring effective co-operation and coordination throughout the UN system. | [PP Res. 70 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-070-E.pdf)  Mainstreaming a gender perspective in ITU and promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women through telecommunications/ information and communication technologies  [PP Res. 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-071-E.pdf)  Strategic plan for the Union for 2020-2023 - Goal 2 – Inclusiveness: Bridge the digital divide and provide broadband access for all | 1 per year | 3 days | Travel & DSA |
| [Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development (IANYD)](https://www.unsceb.org/content/inter-agency-network-youth-development-ianyd) | Increase the effectiveness of UN work in youth development by strengthening collaboration and exchange among all relevant UN entities, while respecting and harnessing the benefits of their individual strengths and unique approaches and mandates. | [PP Res. 198 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-198-E.pdf)  Empowerment of youth through telecommunication/information and communication technology  [PP Res. 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-071-E.pdf)  Strategic plan for the Union for 2020-2023 - Goal 2 – Inclusiveness: Bridge the digital divide and provide broadband access for all  Gender Declaration (Sharm el-Sheik, 2019)  Promotion of Gender Equality, Equity and Parity in the ITU Radiocommunication Sector. | 1 per year | 1.5 days  plus monthly conference calls | Travel & DSA |
| [Young UN Network](http://www.young-un.org/) | Crowdsource ideas, a platform to pilot and drive innovation and experimentation, and a bottom-up mechanism for cultural change for UN values and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). | [PP Res. 198 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-198-E.pdf)  Empowerment of youth through telecommunication/information and communication technology  [PP Res. 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-071-E.pdf)  Strategic plan for the Union for 2020-2023 - Goal 2 – Inclusiveness | It is an informal network. The communication is mainly through online channels. | Voluntary approach of ITU staff (during lunch time and outside working hours) | None at the current stage |
| [United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board (UNJSPB)](https://www.unjspf.org/pension-board/) | The United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board (UNJSPB) has the ultimate responsibility for the administration of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF) | UNJSPB protects the interest of the UNJSPF participants and beneficiaries by setting strategic goals and policies, providing general oversight and monitoring. Representatives from the ITU Staff Pension Committee sit yearly on the Pension Board sessions and the Standing Subcommittee of the Board. Since 2019 ITU has also had one representative sit on the Pension Board Budget Working Group. | UNJSPB meetings take place in July of every year. | 1 to 2 weeks a year in annual meeting. Plus preparation via the ITU SPC all through out the year | Travel and DSA for 1 Executive Head representative, 1 Participant Represetnative, 1 Governing Body representative and the SPC Secretary |
| Inter-Agency Group on Ageing (IAGA) | Facilitate and promote the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, including designing guidelines for policy development and implementation; advocating means to mainstream ageing issues into development and inclusiveness agendas; engaging in dialogue with all Parties including civil society and the private sector; and call for information exchange.  Due to age related disabilities the IAGA is also linked and influenced by the work done by UNDIS and IASG (see below) | [WTDC RESOLUTION 58 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017)](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Conferences/WTDC/WTDC17/Documents/WTDC17_final_report_en.pdf#page=481) & [PP Res. 175 (Rev. Dubai (2018) on](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-175-E.pdf) Telecommunication/information and communication technology accessibility for persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs  ITU Strategic Goal Nr 2 Inclusiveness target 2.9*”Enabling environments ensuring accessible telecommunication/ICT for persons with disabilities should be established in all countries by 2023”*  United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy (CEB/2019/1/Add.6) | a) 1 or 2 physical meetings.  b) online monthly or regular meetings.  c) reporting and requests for inputs | Min. 10 working days/year | Travel +DSA  (Approx. 3 days)  *Financial implications not fully known at present)* |
| United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS) | The Strategy provides the foundation for sustainable and transformative progress on disability inclusion through all pillars of the work of the United Nations and target to strengthen system-wide accessibility for persons with disabilities and the mainstreaming of their rights. | Disability Inclusion Strategy (CEB/2019/1/Add.6) | a) possible 1 physical meeting  b) online monthly or regular meetings  c) reporting and requests for inputs | Approx. 10 working days/year | Possible travel + DSA  (Approx. 2 or 3 days)  *Financial implications not fully known at present)* |
| [Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues (IASG – Indigenous Issues](https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/about-us/inter-agency-support-group.html)) | Tasked to ensure that Indigenous People cultural legacy and needs are taken into account and addressed within the global 4th Industrial revolution. | [RESOLUTION 1225405 UN Resolution  (2012)](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Digital-Inclusion/Doc/Indigenous%20Women%20UN%20ResolutionN1225405.pdf) - Indigenous women: key actors in poverty and hunger eradication  [PP RESOLUTION 184 (Guadalajara, 2010)](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Digital-Inclusion/Doc/PP-10%20RESOLUTION%20%20184-Indigenous.docx) - Facilitating digital inclusion initiatives for indigenous peoples  [WTDC RESOLUTION 11 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017)](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Conferences/WTDC/WTDC17/Documents/WTDC17_final_report_en.pdf#page=296) -Telecommunication/information and communication technology services in rural, isolated and poorly served areas and indigenous communities  [WTDC RESOLUTION 46 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017)](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Conferences/WTDC/WTDC17/Documents/WTDC17_final_report_en.pdf#page=433) - Assistance to indigenous peoples and communities through information and communication technology. | a) 1 physical meeting  b) online monthly or regular meetings  c) reporting and requests for inputs | Min. 10 working days/year | Possible travel + DSA  (Approx. 2 or 3 days) |
| [Inter-Agency Support Group on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (IASG)](https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/about-us/inter-agency-support-group-for-the-convention-on-the-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities.html) | Tasked with promoting compliance with the Principles of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and increasing the scale and effectiveness of the United Nations’ involvement in the global implementation processes related to disability and accessibility issues to ensure independent life and inclusiveness of persons with disabilities (PWDs) in society. | [PP Res. 175 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-175-E.pdf) & [WTDC RESOLUTION 58 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) on](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Conferences/WTDC/WTDC17/Documents/WTDC17_final_report_en.pdf#page=481) Telecommunication /information and communication technology accessibility for persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs  ITU Strategic Goal Nr 2 Inclusiveness target 2.9 *“Enabling environments ensuring accessible telecommunication /ICT for persons with disabilities should be established in all countries by 2023”*  United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy (CEB/2019/1/Add.6) | a) 2 physical meetings  b) online monthly / regular meetings  c) monthly and /or regular requests for reporting and inputs | Approx. 25 working days/year | Travel +DSA  (Approx. [3X2] = 6 days) |
| [Inter-Agency Consultative Group (IACG) on LDCs/SIDS](https://www.unsceb.org/content/inter-agency-consultative-group-iacg-sids-0) | Provide a forum for representatives of its member organizations to meet regularly to exchange information in regards to their work on SIDS including critical issues, challenges and opportunities, weaknesses, gaps and best practices on the implementation of the BPoA, MSI and the SAMOA Pathway in the respective countries and regions of the member agencies or organizations. | [PP Res. 139 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-139-E.pdf)  Use of telecommunications/ information and communication technologies to bridge the digital divide and build an inclusive information society |  | Preparations begin this year for 5th UN conference on the LDCs (21-25 March 2021) | Financial implications not known at present. |
| Inter-Agency Mechanism on South-South and Triangular Cooperation | Development of a United Nations system-wide strategy on South-South cooperation, which is being led by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation | [PP Res. 139 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-139-E.pdf)  Use of telecommunications/ information and communication technologies to bridge the digital divide and build an inclusive information society |  |  | Financial implications not known at present. |
| [Inter-Agency Task Force for Financing for Development](https://developmentfinance.un.org/about-iatf) | Coordinates and report annually on progress in implementing the FfD outcomes and the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda, through an annual publication. | [PP Res. 139 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-139-E.pdf)  Use of telecommunications/ information and communication technologies to bridge the digital divide and build an inclusive information society | 2-3 times per year | Meetings are normally 1-1.5 hours. Chapters on specific themes go to the relevant ITU staff expert for input/review. Review takes c. 1.5 hours per year | No financial implications. Remote and physical meetings in New York |
| [Inter-Agency Task Teams of STI](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/8569TOR%20IATT%2026%20Oct%202015rev.pdf) | Promote coordination, coherence and cooperation within the United Nations system on science, technology and innovation related matters, enhancing synergy and efficiency, in particular to enhance capacity-building initiatives; prepare proposals for the modalities for the forum and the online platform | [PP Res. 139 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-139-E.pdf)  Use of telecommunications/ information and communication technologies to bridge the digital divide and build an inclusive information society  [PP Res. 200 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-200-E.pdf)  Connect 2030 Agenda for global telecommunication/information and communication technology, including broadband, for sustainable development | 2 times per year | Meetings are normally 1-1.5 hours. | No financial implications. Remote and physical meetings in New York |
| [The Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT)](https://icat.network/about-us) | Improve coordination among UN agencies and other relevant international organizations to facilitate a holistic and comprehensive approach to preventing and combating trafficking in persons, including protection and support for victims of trafficking. | [PP Rec. 7 (Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/REC-007-E.pdf)  The role of ITU in supporting the use of information and communication technologies to combat trafficking in persons |  |  | No financial implications. Remote and physical meetings in New York |
| [United Nations Environment Management Group (**EMG**)](https://www.unsceb.org/content/united-nations-environment-management-group-emg-0) | Identifies issues on the international environmental agenda that warrant cooperation and finds ways of engaging its collective capacity in coherent management responses to those issues. | [ITU strategic plan for 2020-2023](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-071-E.pdf) – Goal 3 on sustainability (e-waste) | 2 times a year | Meetings last half day | No financial implications, remote participation |
| [Issue Management (IMG) Group on Sustainability Management](http://www.greeningtheblue.org/focal-point-area) | Focuses on the implementation of the UN Climate Neutral Strategy. Develops a system for delivering annual greenhouse gas inventories, reporting and offsets to achieve climate neutrality in UN. Works on a common Sustainability Management System for the UN. | Coherence with the UN Climate Neutral Strategy and the Strategy for Sustainability Management in the United Nations system (2020-2030).  Strengthening internal Sustainability Management practices. | Twice per year | |  | | --- | | 1 half-day online meeting  1 physical meeting (4 days) | | Travel and DSA for 1 staff (4 days) |
| [Inter-Agency Standing Committee - Emergency Telecommunications Cluster](https://www.etcluster.org/about-etc) | Convening the humanitarian technology community, and brokering full-service communication solutions between private industry, governments, humanitarians, and communities. | [PP Res. 136 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-136-E.pdf)  The use of telecommunications/ information and communication technologies for humanitarian assistance and for monitoring and management in emergency and disaster situations, including health-related emergencies, for early warning, prevention, mitigation and relief | Quarterly calls (half day) and annual meeting per year | Calls are half-day and annual meeting is 3 days excluding travel | Staff time and travel costs annual meeting (DSA & travel) |
| [Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities (**UN-Space**)](https://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/un-space/iam.html) | Aimed at enhancing coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system. The Meeting convenes annual sessions and issues a report on its deliberations for the consideration of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, the primary UN body that deals with peaceful uses of space and international cooperation in outer space. | [PP Res. 186 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-186-E.pdf) Strengthening the role of ITU with regard to transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities.  Ensuring coordination and avoiding duplication of work related to space systems between ITU and other UN agencies. | one 1-day meeting per year | 2 days of work (1 for preparation and reporting, 1 for attending) + travel time | Travel and DSA for 1 staff |
| [UN Task Force on the Prevention and Control of NCDs](https://www.who.int/ncds/un-task-force/en/) | Coordinates the activities of relevant UN organizations and other inter-governmental organizations to support governments to meet high-level commitments to respond to NCD epidemics worldwide. | ITU/WHO B-Healthy B-mobile initiative | Two 1-day meetings per year | 1-day preparation for the meeting and for filling the report | Staff time, DSA and travel |
| Ethics Network of Multilateral Organizations **(ENMO**) | Exchange information, experience and collaborate on issues of common interest. It is also focused on broadening the professional capacity of its members and promoting standards of practice. | Contributing to efforts aimed at ensuring that ITU provides an enabling workplace environment that is free of harassment or any form of abuse. | One face-to-face meeting a year | 4 days | DSA and travel |
| UN Representatives of Internal Audit Services (UN-RIAS) | Forum through which the UN system’s Internal Audit Services interact and collaborate on issues of general applicability to its membership | 1) Strengthening internal auditing practices and professionalism; 2) Adopting common professional positions and providing, as necessary, information and advice to other UN bodies (such as the CEB, HLCM, UNDG) on audit-related matters; and 3) Coordinating and harmonizing internal audit activities and processes between UN-RIAS members. | 1 face-to-face meeting a year; 5 to 7 virtual meetings in between | 3.5 days for face-to-face.  2 hours per virtual meeting | DSA and travel |
| [UN Representatives of Investigation Services (**UN-RIS**)](https://www.unsystem.org/content/action-harmonized-system-wide-approaches-fraud-cases) | Development of common standards and procedures for conducting investigations, the sharing of expertise to be drawn upon when advice or assistance is required, the sharing of methodologies, developing joint training opportunities, exchanging personnel (e.g., on secondment). | Deal with matters of specific concern to ITU administrative investigations, and work on harmonization of the investigation functions throughout and in line with the United Nations system. | 1 face-to-face meeting a year; 2 to 4 virtual meetings in between | 3.5 to 5 days for face-to-face.  2 hours per virtual meeting | DSA and travel |
| [United Nation Geospatial Network](https://www.un.org/geospatial/mandates/agencies) | Strengthening the coordination and coherence of global geospatial information management, in capacity-building, norm-setting, data collection, data dissemination and data sharing, among others. | - ITU member of the Steering Committee and co-chair of the Innovation and Transformation pathway  - Contribute to the development and harmonization of geospatial capability for the ITU (data, service, knowledge) leveraging resources available in the UN system.  - Highlight strategic role of geospatial data for efficient development of telecommunication infrastructure, including 5G;  - promotes GeoAI for developing technologies and applications (smart cities, ITS, emergency telecommunications etc.) to accelerate progress towards achieving SDGs and monitoring relevant indicators | Once-Twice per year participation in UN GGIM events.  Several online monthly meetings | 3-5 days  One day per month. | Travel and DSA for 1 or 2 staff |
| International Annual Meeting on Language Arrangement, Documents and Publication (IAMLADP) | Enhance the efficiency, quality and cost-effectiveness of conference, language and publishing services system-wide and within each participating organization. More specific objectives include: exchange information and share experiences on policies and practices; establish best practice for quality of service and cost-effectiveness; pool resources for tasks of common interest; harmonize practices, workload standards and indicators; promote training and exchanges of staff. | [PP Res. 154 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-154-E.pdf)  Use of the six official languages of the Union on an equal footing  [PP Dec. 5 (Rev. Dubai 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/DEC-005-E.pdf)  [Council R 1372 (C15, last amended C19)](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0138/en) | Once a year | 3/4 workdays plus travel (2020 in Nairobi, Kenya) | Travel and DSA for 3/4 staff |
| International Annual Meeting on Computer-Assisted Translation and Terminology (JIAMCATT) | JIAMCATT is a task force of IAMLADP and a forum for debate, exchange of expertise and cooperation in the fields of computer-assisted terminology and translation, interpretation and documentation retrieval. | [PP Res. 154 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-154-E.pdf)  Use of the six official languages of the Union on an equal footing  [PP Dec. 5 (Rev. Dubai 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/DEC-005-E.pdf)  [Council R 1372 (C15, last amended C19)](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0138/en) | Once a year + 1 local meeting | 3+1 working days plus travel | Travel and DSA for 3/4 staff |
| [Inter-Agency Security Management Network (**IASMN**)](https://www.unsystem.org/content/inter-agency-security-management-network-iasmn) | Supports the HLCM in its comprehensive review of safety & security policies and resource-related issues pertaining to the entire United Nations security management system (UNSMS). The network reviews existing and proposed policies, procedures, guidelines and best practises of the UNSMS and reports and makes recommendations on these to the HLCM | Safety and security mitigation measures at ITU HQ and field office premises.  Safety and security mitigation measures for duty of care for ITU staff, dependants, delegates and visitors at ITU premises and events globally.  ITU showcases as the ICT Specialized Agency its security modernization project and the convergence/integration of physical and cyber IT security. | Twice per year | 3 days per meeting; | Travel and DSA for 1 staff |
| [UN Communication group](https://unic.un.org/aroundworld/unics/en/partnerships/communicationGroup/index.asp) | Strengthen inter-agency cooperation in the field of communications and to increase the media profile of United Nations activities at the national level. UNCGs do this by providing leadership in communications for the UN Country Team (all the UN funds, programmes and agencies located there), identifying new and creative ways to show how UN programmes are delivering results and promoting a coherent image of the United Nations. | * Enhance ITU’s visibility and lead on tech for good * Share and introduce UN best practice to ITU’s activities, such as human-touch storytelling and crowd engagement * Support and align with UN global communication initiatives such as EXPO 2020, 75th Anniversary and SDG Decade of Action | Global group: Once a year in the US (attended for the first time in 2019)  Geneva group: Once a year, plus ad-hoc | Global: 2 days  Geneva: a few hours | Travel and DSA for Head of Strategic Communication Division to US |
| [United Nations Strategic Planning Network (**UNSPN**)](https://www.unsystem.org/content/united-nations-strategic-planning-network-unspn) | Facilitate knowledge sharing and good practice experiences; Promote innovation and joint initiatives; Encourage common UN application of practices; Facilitate partnerships and capacity development including training initiatives; Explore mechanisms to provide strategic thinking on UN wide planning issues | [PP Res. 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-071-E.pdf)  Strategic plan for the Union for 2020-2023; OPs, Results-framework, RBM | Once a year | 2 days per meetings | Participation at the meeting; ITU is also the secretary of this Network since 2013 and has Chaired it (D. Bogdan-Martin) in 2017-18 |
| UN Governing Bodies Secretariat Group | Informal UN network to exchange practices on issues specific to governance of their respective organizations (issues include common principles, rules of procedure of governing bodies, participation of stakeholders, briefing of chair, gender inclusion, governance reform and efficiency) | Modernisation of ITU PP and Council rules of procedures, and roll-out. | Once a year | 2-3 days per meetings | Travel and DSA for 1 or 2 staff |
| [UN Information Security Special Interest Group (**UNISSIG**)](https://www.unsystem.org/content/information-security-special-interest-group) | Explores integrating information systems security as a standard function, alongside infrastructure operations, applications development and other typical ICT activities. Through both expert and case-study presentations, examine inter-agency areas of action, including incident response, information security & policies and information security awareness. | Cybersecurity – ITU Member States have resolved to strengthen the role of ITU in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs, such as by promoting a culture in which security is seen as a continuous and iterative process and by supporting the standard-setting activities of ITU. The number, severity and diversity of cyber-threats and -attacks have increased. They can compromise the availability, integrity and confidentiality of critical information and infrastructure. They can impact countries’ economic and social development. | Once a year | 2-3 days per meeting | Travel and DSA for 1 staff |
| [UN Global Pulse Data Privacy Advisory Group](https://www.unglobalpulse.org/data-privacy-advisory-group) | **A**ddresses the challenges posed by the use and non-use of data for global development, as well as issues related to data protection and privacy. In 2019 the Group is expanding to incorporate greater expertise in AI ethics and human rights, given the rapid development and use of emerging technologies across all sectors globally. | [PP Res. 130 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-130-E.pdf)  Strengthening the role of ITU in building confidence and security in the use of information and communication technologies | Once a year | 2-3 days per meeting | Travel and DSA for approx. 2 staff |
| [United Nations Innovation Network (**UNIN)**](https://www.uninnovation.network/about-us) | Knowledge sharing sessions to review and discuss the application of innovation trends and how they can contribute to achieving the SDGs. It also helps Agencies share tools, resources and best practices for innovating in the UN. | [PP Res. 205 (Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-205-E.pdf)  ITU’s role in fostering telecommunication/information and communication technology-centric innovation to support the digital economy and society  ITU joined officially this group which reports regularly to CEB  Enhance ITU’s role in the area of innovation. Access best practices from other UN agencies | Via teleconference, on an ad-hoc basis, when necessary or with urgency. | About one day of ITU’s staff time per month |  |
| [ERP Special Interest Group **(ERP-SIG)**](https://www.unsystem.org/content/special-interest-group-sap-sap-sig) | This ICT Special Interest Group (SIG) focuses on the needs of agencies using SAP, Oracle or other solutions for their ERP and aims to further the coordinated use and enhancements of these products. | Identification of common needs and influence SAP/Oracle/other of future developments  Negotiation power vis-a-vis software vendors.  Promotion of best business practices  Enable standardisation of infrastructure and methods | Once a year main meeting, with ad-hoc meetings/ conference calls | 3-day meeting + travel | Travel and DSA for staff attending |
| UN private sector focal points network | Group convened by UN Global Compact to share best practices. Major focus has been on due diligence and managing risks in partnerships with private sector and foundations. This group contributed to the JIU report on this subject. | This group evaluated and negotiated reduced rates to access two key partner screening databases. ITU subscribes to these databases, managed by PROC. Any service in ITU can request that an entity be screened. The SO on ITU event related sponsorships requires that non-members be screened prior to accepting sponsorships above CHF 5,000. | Once a year main meeting, with occasional conference calls and capacity building online workshops. | Minimal time required to participate. | Mission costs if we participate in annual meeting outside of Geneva. NY office attends if held there. Cost of due diligence database licences is CHF 7,500 a year, currently covered by SPM. |
| [UN E-waste Coalition](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Climate-Change/Pages/ewaste/E-waste-Coalition.aspx) | Aims to raise awareness, increase knowledge and provide integrated support to countries in preventing, reducing, collecting, recycling and disposing of e-waste sustainably through enhanced coordination of the UN and its partners at all levels. | Enhance ITU’s role in the e-waste discussion globally and in-country activities nationally. A forum through which to connect with all other e-waste-active UN entities and to identify potential partnerships for ITU. | Roughly once every three months. | About one to two days of ITU’s staff time per month, roughly. | Travel and DSA required dependent on location of meeting/activities. And sometimes, travel and DSA of expert from the ICT sector to attend e-waste meetings. |
| [United for Smart Sustainable Cities (U4SSC)](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/ssc/united/Pages/default.aspx) | U4SSC serves as the global platform to advocate for public policy and to encourage the use of ICTs to facilitate and ease the transition to smart sustainable cities. | [PP Res. 197 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-197-E.pdf)  WTSA-16 RES.98 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016)  The U4SSC is working through 11 Thematic Groups on a series of deliverables, *inter alia*, on Guiding principles for artificial intelligence in cities, blockchain for cities and U4SSC Index.  U4SSC developed a set of international key performance indicators (KPIs) for Smart Sustainable Cities (SSC) to establish the criteria to evaluate ICT´s contributions in making cities smarter and more sustainable, and to provide cities with the means for self-assessments in order to achieve the sustainable development goals (SDGs).  Over 100 cities worldwide are already implementing these KPIs.  The U4SSC Implementation Programme (U4SSC-IP) carries out projects and builds partnerships, which aim to build smarter and more sustainable cities worldwide. | A physical meeting per year + an e-meeting per week | About 15 days of ITU’s staff time per month roughly. | Staff costs, including travel and DSA, and expert costs and other workshop participants. |
| [UN COVID-19 MEDEVAC Medical Coordination Unit](https://www.un.org/en/coronavirus/covid-19-coordinators) | The UN Secretary-General created a UN System-Wide Medevac Task Force in response to COVID-19. The Task Force has operationalised a unified COVID-19 MEDEVAC System. Under this System, eligible individuals who have a clinical need for healthcare not available at their duty location have access to regional treatment facilities, subject to availability and capacity. This includes support by the appropriate medical personnel, the deployment of air assets (aircraft and air ambulances), and a dedicated operations centre (the UN MEDEVAC Cell) to coordinate the joint resources of the UN system in operationalising COVID-19 MEDEVACs and related services. | ITU’s Staff Nurse and Medical Advisor, are enrolled in the Medevac Cell, as Health operator and clinical coordinator.  The key benefit for ITU is to increase medical workforce skills in medical evacuations, other benefits are to increase inter-agency medical workforce cooperation and grow knowledge of the UN-led dedicated COVID-19 medical providers (that have proven beneficial for ITU staff in outside HQ duty stations or home-leave locations). |  | 1 day shift a week, 2 night shifts a month, 1 week-end shift every 6 week | Staff costs |
| [UN Inter-Agency Team on SDG Good Practices](https://sdgs.un.org/sdg-good-practices) | Five years into the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs, many governments, UN entities, international and regional organizations, and stakeholders from all sectors, have accumulated experiences and lessons learned towards the implementation of SDGs.  A dedicated UN inter-agency team was created to identify SDG good practices and success stories, which can be replicated and scaled up to address existing aps and constraints. | A second open call for SDG good practices has been open since 2 December 2020 till 14 March 2021.  As part of the IAT, ITU will analyze the submission and decide whether they can be idenfied as a SDG Good Practices. Where applicable, ITU will also submit its good practices to achieve SDGs.  Enhance the role of ITU as the Specialized Agency for ICTs, and demonstrate its expertise on using ICTs to accelerate the achievement of SDGs. | Many (7-10) virtual meetings as necessary. | 1.5 hours per meeting, and 1~3 days of ITU staff time, roughly. | No additional cost |

(\*) More than half of the meetings are conducted via electronic means. This practice is also increasing.

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1. [Secretary-General’s High-level Panel on Digital Cooperation](https://www.un.org/en/digital-cooperation-panel/) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)