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| **Council Working Group on Financial and Human Resources Fifteenth meeting – 11 and 12 January 2022** |  |
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| PRELIMINARY DRAFT REVISION DECISION 11 (REV. DUBAI, 2018) CREATION AND MANAGEMENT OF COUNCIL WORKING GROUPS | |
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| **Summary**  This document presents a preliminary draft revision Decision 11 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) “Creation and management of Council working groups” taking into account the practical experience gained in 2018-2022 related to management of CWG as well as result of informal discussion concerning possible further improvements of this Decision. It is also proposed that the scope of this decision be extended to the expert groups of the Council.  **Proposal**  The Council Working Group on Financial and Human Resources is invited to consider this document and make comments and suggestions regarding the proposed modifications and additions. |

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DECISION 11 (Rev. bucharest, 2022)

Creation and management of Council working and expert groups

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Bucharest, 2022),

considering

*a)* that the purposes of the Union are set out in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution;

*b)* that Article 7 of the Constitution states that the ITU Council acts on behalf of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*c)* that Article 10 of the Constitution states that, in the interval between plenipotentiary conferences, the Council shall act, as governing body of the Union, on behalf of the Plenipotentiary Conference within the limits of the powers delegated to it by the latter;

*d)* that Resolution 71[[1]](#footnote-2)) of Plenipotentiary conference, on the strategic plan for the Union, identifies key issues, goals, strategies and priorities for the Union as a whole, for each of the Sectors and for the General Secretariat;

*e)* that in order to prepare proposals regarding the implementation of the goals, objectives and priorities defined in the Strategic Plan, the Financial Plan of the Union and in the decisions of plenipotentiary conferences, the Council creates Council Working Groups (CWG);

*f)* that in accordance with the decisions of plenipotentiary conferences for considering specific issues, prepare reports and recommendations for the Plenipotentiary Conference, the Council, as appropriate, also creates expert groups (EGs);

*g)* that Annex 2 to Decision 5 of Plenipotentiary conference, on options for reducing expenses, includes, *inter alia*, reduction of the number of Council working groups (CWGs) to the absolute minimum necessary and reduction, to the extent possible, of the number and duration of physical meetings of CWGs;

*h)* that the Council adopted Resolution 1333, on guiding principles for the creation, management and termination of CWGs;

*i)* Resolution 208 of Plenipotentiary conference on appointment and maximum term of office for chairmen and vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups;

*j)* Resolution 70 of Plenipotentiary conference, on gender mainstreaming in ITU and promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women through information and communication technologies,

considering further

*a)* that the current Council, CWG and EG schedule has caused considerable strain on Member State and Sector Member resources;

*b)* the growing demands placed on the activities of the Union and the limited resources available from Member States and Sector Members;

*c)* that there is an urgent need to seek innovative ways to rationalize internal costs, optimize resources and improve efficiency,

recognizing

that the Council has consistently appointed competent and qualified candidates for the leadership of CWGs and EGs, but that there remains a need to continue to promote and enhance equitable geographical distribution and gender balance,

decides

1 that the decision to create, continue or terminate CWGs and EGs is taken by the Plenipotentiary Conference or by the Council, as appropriate;

2 that the Council shall decide to create CWGs and EGs based on decisions of the Plenipotentiary Conference and/or resolving key issues, achieving goals, implementation of strategies and priorities identified in Resolution 71;

3 that the Council shall decide the CWG and EG mandates and working procedures consistent with the Rules of Procedure of the Council;

4 that the Council shall examine CWG and EG activities, including progress on the implementation of their mandates, taking into account the decisions of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

5 that, based on the results of the review carried out in accordance with *decides* 4 above, the Council shall:

a) maintain, terminate or establish CWGs and EGs; and

b) modify or establish the terms of reference (ToRs) of CWGs and EGs,

as appropriate, and in accordance with relevant decisions of the Plenipotentiary Conference, as applicable;

6 that the Council shall decide the leadership of CWGs and EGs, taking into account provisions of Resolution 208 Plenipotentiary conference and *recognizing* above, with a view to promoting and enhancing, *inter alia*, equitable geographical distribution and gender balance;

7 that the Council, when creating a CWG and/or EG and defining the ToR in line with *decides* 3 above, shall avoid duplication of activities among CWGs and EGs, as well as between CWGs/EGs and study groups and other groups of the ITU Sectors;

8 that the term of office of CWG and EG chairmen and vice-chairmen shall not exceed two intervals between consecutive plenipotentiary conferences, that a period in office in one CWG or EG does not count towards a period in office in another CWG or EG, and that steps shall be taken to provide some continuity between CWG and EG chairmen and vice-chairmen;

9 that if a CWG or EG chairman is unable to remain in office, a new chairman shall, as a rule, be appointed from among the current vice-chairmen of that CWG/EG, in which case the "partial" term of office shall not be taken into account in any appointment for the subsequent term;

10 that, to the extent possible, the Council shall merge existing CWGs and EGs with a view to reducing their number and the number and duration of their meetings, and with the aim of avoiding duplication of effort, and minimizing budgetary impacts;

11 that, to the extent possible, the Council shall integrate CWG and EG meetings into the agenda and time allocation of the annual sessions of the Council;

12 that, if it is not possible to fulfil *decides* 11 above, the meetings of various CWGs and EGs shall be collocated in order to hold them in sequence or back-to-back in a cluster;

13 that meetings of the CWG and EGs shall not be held during major conferences and assemblies of the Union, as well as meetings of the Sector Advisory Groups;

14 that the Council, at its ordinary session before the plenipotentiary conference, shall consider the four-year reports of CWGs, as well as EGs, subject to the appropriate decision of the Plenipotentiary Conference, and submit recommendations to the plenipotentiary conference on the need to maintain, modify, terminate or establish CWGs/EGs for the next period.

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1. Hereafter a reference to a resolution or a decision without specifying date and place of its adoption is considered as a reference to the most recent version of that resolution or decision, unless otherwise specified [↑](#footnote-ref-2)