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| **Agenda item: PL 2** | **Document C23/27-E** |
| **25 May 2023** |
| **Original: English** |
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| Report by the Secretary-General |
| Strategy for the coordination of efforts among the three Sectors of the Union  |
| **Purpose**This document presents the strategy for the coordination of efforts among the three Sectors of the Union and the General Secretariat following the Member States’ decisions taken at the Plenipotentiary Conference (Bucharest, 2022) (PP-22).**Action required by the Council**The Council is invited **to note** this report and to request the secretariat **to transmit** it for information to the Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG), the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG), and the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) **Relevant link(s) with the Strategic Plan**Excellence in human resources and organizational innovation.**Financial implications**None.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**References**[*Resolution 71*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts-2023/RES-071-E.pdf) *(Rev. Bucharest, 2022) and Resolution* [*191*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts-2023/RES-191-E.pdf) *(Rev. Bucharest, 2022), and* [*Decision 5*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts-2023/DEC-005-E.pdf) *(Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of the Plenipotentiary Conference* |
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**1** **Strategy for Inter-Sectoral Coordination**

1.1 The 2022 Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-22), through Resolution 191 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022), instructs the Secretary-General to continue enhancing a coordination and cooperation strategy for effective and efficient efforts in areas of mutual interest to the three Sectors and the General Secretariat, so as to avoid duplication of effort and optimize the use of resources of the Union. Furthermore, the Secretary-General is instructed to identify all forms and examples of overlapping functions and activities among the Sectors as well as the General Secretariat, and to propose solutions to address them.

1.2 Based on Service Order No. 23/06, the Secretary-General has delegated to the Deputy Secretary-General the implementation of inter-Sectoral coordination strategies and mechanisms to facilitate collaboration and coordination of activities within the Union, through inter-Sector teams, in order to achieve "One ITU".

1.3 The mapping of resolutions from the ITU’s main conferences and assemblies (Plenipotentiary Conference, Radiocommunication Assembly, World Radiocommunication Conference, World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, and World Telecommunication Development Conference) carried out after PP-22 had concluded its work in October 2022, can be found on the ITU’s website under [Intersectoral Coordination](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/Pages/intersectoral-coordination.aspx).

1.4 Further analysis was led by the Deputy Secretary-General to propose a strategy that could address the growing number of areas of mutual interest, with a clear purpose and reporting lines, as well as monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, to facilitate follow-up on the implementation of Resolution 191 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of the Plenipotentiary Conference.

1.5 The new strategy proposes an inter-Sectoral coordination mechanism to be driven through three tracks depending on the themes and the level of coordination needed. These tracks are:

a) Strategic leadership

The Deputy Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux will “champion” themes considered as strategic for the Union to lead and position its work, based on its mandate and its strategic goals (universal connectivity and sustainable digital transformation), and the importance of keeping momentum within the United Nations system towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

This track will be coordinated and reviewed at the Coordination Committee (CoCo)[[1]](#footnote-1)level.

b) Programmatic coordination

This track will replace the Inter-Sectoral Coordination Task Force (ISC-TF) and will be led by the Management Coordination Group (MCG),[[2]](#footnote-2) including the regional directors, to ensure synergies, avoid duplication of efforts, and optimize the use of resources, to leverage the impact of programmatic themes, as well as to enhance coordination and collaboration between the three ITU Sectors and the General Secretariat in the implementation of activities through the regional offices.

An annual workplan and semi-annual reports by theme will be developed for monitoring and evaluation purposes.

c) Performance and transformation decisions

This track will address themes related to organizational excellence. Under the lead of the Deputy Secretary-General, coordinated actions will be agreed together with the deputies to the Directors of the Bureaux within the D2 group,[[3]](#footnote-3) to reflect the work in accordance with “One-ITU”.

1.6 Themes that may not be included for close coordination under any of the three tracks proposed, will report through an “information-sharing mechanism”. CoCo, MCG and the D2 group (depending on which of the above-described categories the specific theme falls under) will decide on the lead to coordinate all the agreed themes. The ITU secretariat will develop guidelines to monitor the implementation and evaluate the impact of inter-Sectoral coordination as a whole, including the ITU-wide mechanism for sharing information.

1.7 The secretariat, under the coordination of Deputy Secretary-General, will also continue liaising with the Sector advisory groups and with the Inter-Sector Coordination Group of the Sector advisory groups to identify the membership’s needs.

**2** **Inter-Sector Coordination Group**

2.1 The Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG), in its capacity as the membership coordination mechanism, met on 2 May 2023, in conjunction with the Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG), and continued to discuss accessibility, climate change and e-meetings, with the aim of identifying members' needs and providing the secretariat with the necessary advice on areas of mutual interest. An oral report was made to the RAG meeting. The report of the meeting was also presented to the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) and to the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG), in June 2023, for information and action.

2.2 Among the themes discussed, ISCG expressed interest in being involved in the new building project so as to ensure that all accessibility matters are taken into consideration. Moreover, the need to establish standard procedures for ITU meetings was raised. ISCG also encouraged the ITU secretariat to advance work on the harmonization of the ITU Sectors' websites to ensure clarity, ease of navigation and an image of “One ITU”, including the use of the six official languages of the Union on an equal footing, and the improvement of the searching system. For further information on ISCG, the Council is invited to visit the [ISCG website](https://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/Pages/ISCG/default.aspx).

**3 Proposal**

The Council is invited to **note** this report and to request the secretariat to **transmit** it for information to RAG, TSAG and TDAG.

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1. The Coordination Committee ([CoCo](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Pages/coco.aspx)) shall assist and advise the Secretary-General on all matters mentioned under the relevant provisions of Article 26 of the ITU Constitution and the relevant Articles of the ITU Convention (Art. 6). It is composed of the five elected officials. See Basic Texts of the Union [here](https://www.itu.int/pub/S-CONF-PLEN-2022). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The Management Coordination Group ([MCG](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Pages/mcg.aspx)) prepares advice and recommendations for consideration by the Coordination Committee. It is composed of the five elected officials, the D2 posts (currently the deputies to the Directors of the Bureaux), and chiefs of the Strategic Planning and Membership Department (SPM), Human Resources Management Department (HRMD), the Financial Resources Management Department (FRMD) and Legal Affairs Unit (JUR). MCG+ includes the regional directors. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. The D2 group is composed of the deputies to the Directors of the Bureaux (D2 posts) and chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)