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|  | **Document CWG-FHR-16/23** |
| **27 September 2023** |
| **English only** |
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| Contribution from China (People’s Republic of) | |
| THE PROPOSAL FOR THE STRATEGY FOR INTER-SECTORAL COORDINATION | |
| **Purpose**  The Administration of the People’s Republic of China invites the CWG-FHR to consider the proposal for the strategy for Inter-Sectoral coordination.  **Action required**  The CWG-FHR is invited to **consider** the proposal and **take actions** as appropriate.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **References**  [*Resolution 191 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022)*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts-2023/RES-191-E.pdf)*,* [*C23/27*](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-CL-C-0027/en)*,* [*CWG-FHR-16/5*](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-CWGFHR16-C-0005/en) | |

1. **Background**

The PP-14 approved Resolution 191 “STRATEGY FOR THE COORDINATION OF EFFORTS AMONG THE THREE SECTORS OF THE UNION” (Rev. Bucharest, 2022), which identifies the Inter-Sectoral Coordination Task Force (ISC-TF) and the Inter-Sector Coordination Group on issues of mutual interest (ISCG) as the core mechanisms for inter-sectoral coordination in order to eliminate duplication of efforts and optimize the use of resources.

In the report “STRATEGY FOR THE COORDINATION OF EFFORTS AMONG THE THREE SECTORS OF THE UNION” (C23/27) presented to the 2023 session of the Council (C-23), the General Secretariat proposes a new inter-sectoral coordination mechanism composed of the Coordination Committee (CoCo)[[1]](#footnote-1), the Management Coordination Group (MCG)[[2]](#footnote-2) and the D2 Group[[3]](#footnote-3) to replace ISC-TF.

During the 2023 Session of ITU Council, quite a lot of Councillors stated that the Resolution 191 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) should be respected, and that the basic framework for inter-sectoral coordination, consisting of two core mechanisms: ISC-TF and ISCG, should be retained.

The General Secretariat submitted document of CWG FHR-16/5 “STRATEGY FOR INTER-SECTORAL COORDINATION” for the CWG-FHR’s consideration. We noticed that the mechanism of ISC-TF is retained but with relative narrow ToR, and other 3 tracks namely CoCo, MCG and the D2 Group are proposed to play important role in the inter-sectoral coordination mechanism.

1. **Discussion**

The proposed 4 tracks inter-sectoral coordination mechanism may lead to confusion of responsibilities and complicated decision-making procedures.

Firstly, the Coordination Committee (CoCo) acts as an internal management team which advises and gives the Secretary-General practical assistance on all administrative, financial, information system and technical cooperation matters, which has been stipulated in the Constitution of the ITU.

Secondly, The Management Coordination Group (MCG) acts as the advisory body to the Coordination Committee (CoCo) tasked with exchanging information and views on various policies and activities and agreeing on coordinated approaches to carry them out[[4]](#footnote-4). Based on the report from Joint Inspection Unit (JIU/REP/2016/1), the Inspectors believe that it is not fully aligned with MCG’s mandate as an advisory body by dealing with administrative and management affairs without requesting for direct intervention by the CoCo. But according to the document CWG-FHR-16/5, the MCG is requested to oversee programmatic themes for the second track (“Programmatic coordination”), which indicates that the MCG could be responsible for inter-sectoral coordination matters independently. It appeared to be not fully aligned with its mandate as an advisory body.

Thirdly, ISC-TF is supposed to enhance the coordination and collaboration among the three Bureaux and the General Secretariat, and is mandated to report to the CoCo through the MCG[[5]](#footnote-5), according to the Service Orders No. 16/13.

Based on this, the inter-sectoral coordination mechanism as proposed in CWG FHR-16/5, may cause confusion of the current ITU internal management mechanisms and the collaboration among these 4 tracks itself will complicate the inter-sectoral coordination activities and unable to ensure the inter-sectoral coordination is undertaken efficiently and effectively.

In view of the increasing number of areas of mutual interest in the ITU, the General Secretariat may improve the compositions, working methods and procedures within the ISC-TF if necessary, while maintaining the existing coordination mechanism of ISCG and ISC-TF as the core mechanism defined in Resolution 191.

1. **Proposals**

China proposes ITU to comply with Resolution 191 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) and maintain ISC-TF and ISCG as the formal inter-sector coordination mechanism, in order to avoid duplication of efforts and optimize the use of resources. When necessary, the CWG-FHR can discuss the improvements of ISC-TF and ISCG to adapt to the Union’s needs and submit to Council for approval.

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1. The Coordination Committee (CoCo) is composed of five elected officials, including Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General and the Directors of the Three Bureaux. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The Management Coordination Group (MCG) 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)
4. Management Coordination Group, document 97/10: Establishment of the Management Coordination Group, January 2015. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. See Service Order No. 16/13. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)