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|  | **Document CWG-LANG-13/7** |
| **28 November 2023** |
| **English only** |
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| REPORT BY THE CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL WORKING GROUP ON THE USE OF THE SIX OFFICIAL LANGUAGES OF THE UNION (CWG-LANG) |
| **Purpose**This document contains the annual report of the Chair of the Council Working Group on Languages (CWG-LANG) to the Council, pursuant to Resolution 154 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) and Council Resolution 1372 (Rev. 2019).**Action required**This report will be submitted to the 2024 session of Council **for endorsement**.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**References**[*Report by the Secretary-General*](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-RCLCWGLANG13-C-0002/en)*;* [*Resolution 154 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022)*](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Ccarrara%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Outlook%5CCRFOYW5J%5CAgenda%20S23-RCLCWGLANG13-C-0001%21R2%21MSW-E%20%282%29.docx)*;* [*Council Resolution 1372 (Rev. 2019)*](http://web.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0138/en) |

1. **Opening of the meeting and approval of the agenda
(Document [CWG-LANG-13/1(Rev.2))](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-RCLCWGLANG13-C-0001/en)**
	1. The meeting was opened by the Chair of CWG-LANG, Ms Sharon Bosire (Kenya). After welcoming the delegates and congratulating the new vice-chairs on their election, the floor was given to the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, Mr Seizo Onoe.
	2. In his opening remarks, Mr Onoe highlighted the importance of multilingualism to ITU as both a key asset, essential to allowing effective participation, inclusivity and diversity, and a shared responsibility. On behalf of ITU, he welcomed the ideas and perspectives of delegates on improving the efficiency of ITU in the use of the six official languages on an equal footing, in particular in the light of the enormous progress in the use of new technologies in language services. He introduced the meeting’s agenda and welcomed the engagement of all delegates in implementing multilingualism throughout the work of ITU.
	3. The Chair submitted the draft agenda for approval. The agenda was approved as submitted.
	4. The Chair introduced the Report by the Secretary-General (CWG-LANG-13/2), noting that an earlier version had been presented to Council in its July 2023 session.
2. **Report by the Secretary-General (****Document** [**CWG-LANG-13/2)**](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-RCLCWGLANG13-C-0002/en)
	1. Participants received detailed information on the evolution of the budget for translation and interpretation services as well as actual expenditures related to language services since 2018. Information was also submitted on the evolution of translation volumes over this period, reflecting the equality of treatment of all six languages of the Union and the exceptional holding of three world conferences and assemblies in 2022.
	2. The secretariat reported that translation and interpretation services had been provided for ITU conferences, meetings, documents, web pages and publications as usual and in line with the governing requirements set out in the document of measures and principles for translation and interpretation endorsed by Council in its 2022 session.
	3. Additional efforts were being made to increase efficiency and cost savings in the provision of language services, while increasing the availability of ITU content in all six languages, principally through the use of new technologies. The secretariat highlighted the increasing use of the ITU Translate machine translation tool for instant translation of web pages and documents, noting its use on the new ITU Council 2023 website and in a beta version to provide interim translations of Council and Council Working Group documents. Remote simultaneous interpretation was used in certain ITU meetings, whilst AI interpretation solutions were tested for quality and suitability in some informal or internal meetings.
	4. The secretariat reported on the continuing activities of the ITU Coordination Committee for Terminology in harmonizing terminology and definitions within ITU, including the development of a new workflow to improve efficiency and a new website to provide easy access to documents. It was noted that ITU is now responsible for the ICT and telecommunication domains within UNTERM, the UN system terminology database.
	5. The secretariat noted that efforts to harmonize ITU websites in six languages continue, using a common infrastructure and design for all conference and event websites on the WordPress platform. This issue would be discussed further in this meeting within the context of Document [CWG-LANG-13/4](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-RCLCWGLANG13-C-0004/en).
	6. CWG-LANG was informed that ITU continued to closely monitor procedures adopted by other international organizations inside and outside the United Nations system, participating actively in meetings and activities of the international language professionals community, including IAMLADP (International Annual Meeting on Language Arrangements, Documentation and Publications).
	7. The secretariat additionally reported the planned provision of publications in HTML format to increase the availability, visibility and accessibility of multilingual content; and acknowledged issues raised by councillors in the July 2023 session of Council, including provision of interpretation services, sign language, improved access to multilingual content on the ITU website and increasing the use of new technologies whilst monitoring closely to ensure quality.
	8. Another representative of the secretariat presented Annex 2 to the Report, the Proposal for collaboration with Member Sates on terminology in all six official languages, drawn up in response to Resolution 154 (rev. Bucharest, 2022), which instructs the Secretary-General *in close collaboration with the Directors of the Bureaux* *to continue to collaborate with interested Member States and, to the extent practicable, to refine the translation of terminology and definitions in all six official languages.*
	9. The secretariat explained that ITU’s Conferences & Publications department (C&P) worked on two databases: UNTERM, the UN multilingual database used by staff across the UN system and accessible to the public; and the ITU Terms and Definitions database, maintained by the Bureaux, with terms and definitions provided by the various ITU Study Groups and validated by the ITU Coordination Committee for Terminology (CCT). C&P provided translation for these terms and definitions in the six languages of the Union and includes CCT terminology in UNTERM. ITU was also responsible for maintaining the ICTs and telecommunication domains within UNTERM.
	10. The secretariat outlined how C&P could work with interested Member States to build a global network of entities working collaboratively on multilingual terminology related to ICTs by asking Member States to recommend relevant institutes, universities and academia. The specific areas identified for collaboration outlined in Annex 2 included proposing equivalents and definitions for existing entries in UNTERM, as well as suggesting new concepts for inclusion and working on the translation of terms and definitions coming from CCT. All proposals made by interested entities would be revised and validated by C&P language sections to ensure ITU standards on translation and terminology were respected.
	11. The proposal was submitted to CWG-LANG for acknowledgement and approval, after which a circular letter could be prepared and sent to all Member States asking for recommendations of entities to collaborate with C&P on terminology work..
	12. Another delegation requested a change in the wording of the Report to better reflect the work of the CCT. The CCT did not standardize terminology, as currently stated in the document. Standardization work was done by the respective Study Groups. CCT instead harmonized terminology, so the word standardization should be replaced with harmonization in the context of this report.
	13. The delegation also congratulated ITU-T for incorporating the ITU Translate machine translation tool into the MyWorkspace online tool, where it was of vital importance.
	14. Supporting the proposal on Member State collaboration on terminology and the issue of a circular letter to this effect, delegations saw the value added of the work. They also looked forward to continuing to work with CCT on elaborating terminology in their respective languages. One delegation urged ITU-D and its Study Groups to be more actively involved in terminology work and the ITU Terms and Definitions database to increase efficiency.
	15. The secretariat confirmed that the word harmonization, rather than standardization, would be used in future to describe the activities of CCT. The interest expressed by CWG-LANG in collaborating on terminology in line with the proposal presented was noted, as was the appreciation of the incorporation of ITU Translate into MyWorkspace.
	16. CWG-LANG asked for more information on the development of the new, user-friendly ITU website reflecting all sectoral activities in an equal manner in all languages, with one delegation expressing concern that the term One ITU style was not clearly defined or easy to understand in the context of this Report.
	17. Responding to these points, the secretariat confirmed that the term One ITU style referred to the harmonized look and feel of new web pages with a common menu and information architecture, such as Council 2023, PP 22 and WTDC. The secretariat acknowledged that much work remained to be done on the website and asked to present a full progress report later in the meeting in response to the contribution from the Russian Federation on the improvement of the search engine and harmonization of ITU websites (Document CWG-LANG/13/4).
	18. The Chair confirmed that the Report under agenda item 4 had been noted by CWG-LANG with its Annex 2 on the proposal for collaboration with Member States on terminology. CWG-LANG acknowledged and endorsed this proposal, and the secretariat would move forward accordingly with the circular letter providing more details to all Member States on this interesting collaboration.
3. **Guide to current and future practices in multilingualism at ITU and its accompanying staff guidelines on the use of machine translation (Document** [**CWG-LANG-13/3**](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-RCLCWGLANG13-C-0003/en)**)**
	1. The secretariat introduced the Guide to current and future practices in multilingualism at ITU, produced following the 2020 JIU report on Multilingualism in the UN system, which recommended that UN system organizations prepare a strategic policy framework on multilingualism, accompanied by administrative and operational guidelines for its implementation. The Policy Framework on Multilingualism at ITU was developed and endorsed by ITU Council in its March 2022 session, which then requested the ITU secretariat to develop the accompanying guidelines.
	2. The Guide aimed to provide a clear overview for JIU, ITU membership and ITU staff of governance, activities and practices in implementing multilingualism throughout ITU, as well as future strategies and steps to increase the availability of ITU content in all six official languages and staff guidelines on the use of machine translation at ITU.
	3. The secretariat highlighted the key areas within the Guide, including:
* **Translation services**: undertaken by human translators in line with the Measures and Principles on Interpretation and Translation, and complemented by ITU’s machine translation tool, ITU Translate. All machine translation must be accompanied by a mandatory disclaimer. Strategies to expand the use of machine translation to increase access to information and content in all six languages in a cost-effective and timely manner focused on the use of ITU Translate on ITU web pages, based on a categorization of type of content and audience outlined as a matrix in Annex 2 to the Guide. ITU Translate could also be used to provide delegates with machine translation of documents in the document management system where human translation was not or not yet available.
* **Interpretation services**: offered via in-person interpretation in conferences and meetings, with some remote interpretation services provided in selected meetings. ITU was exploring and evaluating the application of new technologies such as remote simultaneous interpretation and AI-powered interpretation to improve processes whilst guaranteeing high quality services.
* **Additional multilingual activities and approaches** including HRMD policies on language learning and recruitment, as well as administrative processes and internal communications; the role of Regional Offices in promoting ITU work through local official languages, including increasing the availability of social media posts; the use of local non-official languages within the scope of specific projects or initiatives; and the promotion of the importance and practice of multilingualism throughout ITU.
	1. CWG-LANG was invited to approve the Guide and its Annexes for presentation at Council 2024.
	2. CWG-LANG welcomed this report on the new strategy for multilingualism and increasing the availability of ITU content in all six languages.
	3. One delegation stressed the importance of acknowledging that AI interpretation was not yet ready to replace in-person interpretation as human translators were still better equipped to understand the activities of the language.
	4. Responding to this point, the secretariat fully agreed that AI interpretation was not yet suitable for meetings or debates such as this one, but it was important to keep up to date with the newest technologies and to continue to monitor the quality of AI interpretation as it developed in the context of informal or staff-only meetings.
	5. Another delegation referred to a letter sent by the OIF on 19 July 2023 expressing concerns on the substantial reduction in the budget allocated to translation and interpretation, given also that AI-powered interpretation tools were not yet sufficiently advanced. The delegation asked the secretariat to respond to the proposal within the letter querying whether savings made on the translation budget through the use of AI could be allocated to interpretation services to enable the provision of interpretation on demand.
	6. The secretariat acknowledged receipt of the OIF letter, the request and its own response outlining that budget numbers were different for the two biennial periods in question, but ITU remained fully committed to providing interpretation for all meetings as mandated by the measures and principles on interpretation and translation document endorsed by Council.
	7. A delegation highlighted the importance of promoting multilingualism, as referred to in the Guide, in the context of a country with an official language other than one of the six official languages of the Union. There was a great need for activities in non-official languages and the plan of action on multilingualism and non-official languages with the regional offices outlined in this Guide, including partnering with Member States, Sector Members and academia, was very important. In addition, CWG-LANG and ITU in general should work more towards leveraging the importance of local additional languages to ensure accessibility, meaningful connectivity and inclusivity, as referenced in the Guide.
	8. The secretariat noted the support of CWG-LANG in the use of local and non-official languages for emergencies and specific projects, as outlined in the Guide. The plan of action with regional offices could be developed with the regional offices and Member States at the request of CWG-LANG.
	9. A delegation further noted that the remit of CWG-LANG was to implement and monitor the equal use of the six official languages of the Union throughout ITU’s activities, and it was not the role of ITU to generate content. It would however be very interesting to consider how to tackle the issue of providing content in local or non-official languages not only in cases of emergency but on a regular basis, including the technical expertise that ITU could facilitate, to the benefit of the many Member State populations that did not speak any of the official languages. Further explanation on the proposal within the Guide on collaborating with regional and area offices and corporate communications to provide content in relevant local languages, including in emergencies, would be welcomed.
	10. Another delegation commended the good work of the secretariat on the issue of local or non-official languages, noting that one of the biggest challenges in meeting ITU’s objective of connecting the unconnected remained accommodating local languages to ensure connectivity was meaningful. If the regional offices could help in providing tools or content in additional languages, it would be very useful in meeting this objective and increasing productivity.
	11. The Chair recalled the address made in Kiswahili by the delegation from Tanzania in the course of Council 23 and acknowledged that the issue of additional languages was put forward in the Guide as a test to see what could be done within the remit of CWG-LANG and ITU whilst respecting budgetary limitations. This discussion should continue to establish how best to achieve the mandate of the regional and area offices on this very important issue.
	12. A procedural question was raised as to whether the Guide would be approved at this meeting for submission to Council 24, or whether comments on the Guide could be submitted for consideration at the next CWG-LANG meeting in January 2024.
	13. Responding to this query, the Chair proposed that the Guide be updated in advance of the next CWG-LANG meeting to take into consideration any emerging issues and technological advances, as well as to reflect comments given during this meeting and provide more concrete responses to some of the issues raised. An updated version of the Guide would be presented to and discussed at CWG-LANG in its January 2024 meeting.
	14. It was so agreed.
1. **Contribution by the Russian Federation – Draft revision of Resolution 1386 (C17) on ITU Coordination Committee for Terminology (ITU CCT) (Document** [**CWG-LANG-13/6**](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-RCLCWGLANG13-C-0006/en)**)**
	1. The representative of the Russian Federation submitted a proposal for the revision of Resolution 1386 aimed at decreasing some of the text to avoid duplication with the language of Resolution 154 as revised at Plenipotentiary 2022. New items proposed including stating that ITU CCT should examine proposals submitted by Study Groups and Working Groups in English and validate translations into other official languages; the inclusion of an additional point on the creation of a separate ITU CCT website; and new terms of reference for CCT based on existing terms of reference for SCV and CCV. The proposed revision had already been presented to the most recent CCT meeting.
	2. One delegation supported the proposal, agreeing on the importance of revising this resolution and clarifying the responsibilities of CCT, but queried whether the exact language used in the terms of reference on *providing* terms and definitions for vocabulary work in all official languages was correct. CCT was instead responsible for examining proposals submitted by the Study Groups and Working Groups in English, and validating translations into other official languages.
	3. The secretariat confirmed that this issue had been discussed in the recent CCT meeting, where it was agreed that CCT does not provide terms. Alternative language for Annex 1 Terms of Reference was proposed to replace “*provide terms and definitions for vocabulary work for ITU*” with “*advise on and validate terms and definitions for vocabulary work for ITU*”.
	4. CWG-LANG agreed to this editorial change, noted the document in its revised form and proposed that the Council:
* endorse the draft revised Resolution 1386 (C17, Mod. 2024) ITU Coordination Committee for Terminology (ITU CCT) attached here as [Annex A](#AnnexA).
1. **Contribution by the Russian Federation – Draft revision of Resolution 1372 (C15, last amended C19) on Council Working Group on Languages (CWG-LANG) (Document**[**CWG-LANG-13/5**](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-RCLCWGLANG13-C-0005/en)**)**
	1. The representative of the Russian Federation presented a proposal for the revision of Resolution 1372 to harmonize with the language of Resolution 154 as revised at Plenipotentiary 2022. New items proposed included reference to Decision 11 on all Council Working Groups; additional language on instructing the Secretary-General to improve the ITU website search engine in all official languages; and new language in item 10 of the terms of reference stating the CWG-LANG should implement the relevant decisions of Resolution 154 in addition to monitoring its progress.
	2. Delegations welcomed the update to the resolution but expressed concern that the proposed amendment to item 10 of the terms of reference changed the mandate of CWG LANG from monitoring and making recommendations to directly implementing Resolution 154. The secretariat should clarify whether it was the responsibility of CWG-LANG to implement the resolution or the responsibility of ITU as a whole.
	3. The secretariat clarified that the decisions made by Member States in CWG-LANG in the application of Resolution 154 were implemented, whilst other aspects of Resolution 154 were reported on or monitored.
	4. The Chair proposed modifying the language of the proposal to clarify where it would be appropriate to refer to implementation and where appropriate to refer to monitoring.
	5. Other delegations queried the use of the term “the image of One ITU” within the proposed revisions to the resolution. This would appear to put an unrealistic burden on CWG LANG to achieve One ITU rather than its principal work on the equitable treatment of all languages; discussions were still ongoing throughout ITU as to the meaning of the term One ITU; the requested improvements to the ITU website in terms of search and harmonization would be discussed in the context of a further contribution by the Russian Federation (Document [CWG-LANG-13/4](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-RCLCWGLANG13-C-0004/en)) both at CWG-LANG and at CWG FHR.
	6. Taking into consideration the discussions on One ITU and the website taking place in the upcoming CWG-FHR, and the difficulties in clarifying the mandate of CWG-LANG, the Chair proposed tabling document [CWG-LANG-13/5](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-RCLCWGLANG13-C-0005/en) for the next meeting of CWG LANG in January 2024. She invited members to submit contributions and revised proposals on the amendment of this resolution.
	7. It was so agreed.
2. **Contribution from the Russian Federation – Improvement of search engine and harmonization of ITU websites (Document** [**CWG-LANG-13/4**](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-RCLCWGLANG13-C-0004/en)**)**
	1. Thanking the secretariat for the efforts made to date to harmonize the ITU website in all six official languages, the representative of the Russian Federation highlighted that much work remained to be done to implement fully the decisions of the Plenipotentiary on the use of the six languages in relation to the web. A list of specific issues was presented, including difficulties in using the ITU search system; the need to access individual ITU-D resolutions and recommendations; difficulties in navigating the new Council website or finding it in languages other than English; difficulties in downloading documents from the CWG-FHR web page; difficulties in locating the ITU CCT and ITU ISCG web pages; and how using the latest versions of software on the ITU website may complicate access in particular for developing countries.
	2. CWG-LANG was invited to consider the concrete proposals for action submitted by the Russian Federation, including accelerating work on harmonizing the ITU website, in conjunction with the newly created Transformation Group; improving the ITU search system; providing direct access to individual ITU-T resolutions and recommendations; providing direct and easy access to the websites of ITU CCT and ITU ISCG, as well as to CWG within the main Council webpage; and enabling older versions of software to be used when working with ITU websites.
	3. The Chair noted that this proposal had also been tabled for consideration at CWG-FHR as the website was a cross-cutting issue with important financial implications. She proposed any comments or proposals from CWG-LANG be reflected in a document to be shared with CWG-FHR ahead of their meeting.
	4. One delegate shared the concern on the current ITU search engine and harmonization of the website, urging full harmonization so that information could be easily accessible for interested parties both within and outside the ITU community. Another delegate agreed that more work was necessary to improve the website and make it more accessible, including accessing CWG documents more easily.
	5. Responding to these issues, the secretariat presented a progress report on work towards a new ITU-wide website on a new ITU platform, highlighting the new PP-22 and Council 2023 websites. ITU Translate machine translation was available on the new Council website and on daily news and updates. CWG-LANG was informed that the new Council website would be updated to include direct access to the CWG websites in the new design; the secretariat was working to ensure individual ITU-D resolutions and recommendations would be made available; and the ITU CCT website would be harmonized with other pages and moved to a centralized position with the General Secretariat. Work on an ITU-wide website should be considered within the context of the IT transformation plan and would focus on governance, information architecture and taxonomy as essential first steps to improve the ITU search system, navigation and ease of use. The ITU secretariat would present an update on the ITU website at the next CWG LANG session in January 2024.
	6. Another delegation strongly endorsed the proposals made by the Russian Federation, in particular on improving the ITU search system and ensuring access to individual ITU-D resolutions and recommendations, which was important to help Member States in conference preparations. This recommendation to ITU-D should be included in the Chair’s report.
	7. Noting this request, the secretariat stated that work had already begun on providing direct access to individual ITU-D resolutions.
	8. The Chair emphasized that an update on this issue would be provided in the next CWG-LANG. It was important to have this level of feedback and know what had been implemented and what still remained to be done.
	9. The secretariat requested clarity from the Russian Federation on the final point within the proposal concerning new versions of software used on the website.
	10. The Russian Federation explained that some older versions of software used widely in particular in developing countries did not enable access to the updated website, causing difficulties in downloading documents or accessing pages.
	11. Noting these interventions, the Chair requested that the secretariat collate all comments made within CWG-LANG on the ITU website into a document to be shared with CWG-FHR ahead of the discussions in CWG-FHR on the same issue. The conclusion of discussions on this issue at both CWG-LANG and CWG-FHR should be presented to the next CWG-LANG meeting in January 2024.
	12. The Russian Federation requested that the secretariat provide an information document to CWG-LANG in advance of its next meeting of CWG-LANG
	13. It was so agreed.
3. **Closure of the meeting**
	1. In the absence of any other business, the Chair thanked the participants for their valuable contributions and engaging discussion, as well as the Vice-Chairs and the ITU secretariat for their support provided. It would be interesting to see how the discussions could be continued, proposals addressed, and work improved in the next meeting of CWG-LANG in January 2024.

ANNEX A

DRAFT REVISION OF RESOLUTION 1386 (C17, last amended C24)

ITU Coordination Committee for Terminology (ITU CCT)

The ITU Council,

recalling

*a)* Resolution 154 (Rev. Bucharest,2022) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the use of the six official languages of the Union on an equal footing;

*b)* Resolution 1372 of the Council, as revised at its 2024 session on Council Working Group on Languages (CWG-LANG);

*c)* the decisions of the Council centralizing the editing functions for languages in the General Secretariat (Conferences and Publications Department), calling upon the Sectors to provide the final texts in English only (this applies also to terms and definitions);

*d)* Resolution ITU-R 36-6 of the ITU Radiocommunication Assembly on coordination of vocabulary;

*e)* Resolution 67 (Rev. Geneva, 2022) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly on use in the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector of the languages of the Union on an equal footing,

considering

that all the advisory groups at their meetings in 2017 expressed support for the creation of a joint "ITU Coordination Committee for Vocabulary",

considering further

*a)* that the Council in Resolution 1372 (Modified [2024]), following the decision of the Plenipotentiary Conference, resolved to continue the work of the Council Working Group on Languages (CWG-LANG), in order to monitor progress and report to the Council on the implementation of Resolution 154 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*b)* that it is important for the work of ITU, and in particular of the Radiocommunication Sector (ITU‑R), to liaise with other interested organizations about terms and definitions, graphical symbols for documentation, letter symbols and other means of expression, units of measurement, etc., with the objective of standardizing such elements, etc.;

*c)* the difficulty of achieving agreement on definitions when more than one study group is involved, especially in different Sectors;

*d)* that ITU is collaborating with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) in order to provide and maintain an internationally agreed vocabulary of telecommunications/ICT and in order to provide internationally agreed graphical symbols for diagrams and for use on equipment, and approved rules for the preparation of documentation and for item designation;

*e)* that ITU is collaborating with IEC (TC 25) in order to provide internationally agreed letter symbols and units, etc.;

*f)* that there is a continuing need for the publication of terms and definitions appropriate to the work of ITU;

*g)* that unnecessary or duplicated work can be avoided by effective coordination and adoption of all work on vocabulary and related subjects carried out by ITU study groups;

*h)* that the long-term objective of the terminology work must be the preparation of a comprehensive vocabulary of telecommunications/ICT in the official languages of ITU,

recognizing

the work accomplished by the ITU-R CCV and ITU‑T SCV on the adoption and agreement of terms and definitions in the field of telecommunications/ICTs in all six official languages of the Union,

resolves

1 that the joint ITU Coordination Committee for Terminology (CCT) consists of ITU-R CCV and ITU-T SCV functioning in accordance with relevant Resolutions ITU-R and WTSA, and representatives of ITU-D, in close collaboration with the secretariat and is responsible for coordinating ITU terminology work and for developing and supporting the vocabulary of telecommunications and ICT;

2 that the ITU CCT shall be guided by the decisions of Resolution 154 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of the Plenipotentiary Conference and examine proposals submitted by the study groups and working groups of the Council in English, and validate translations in the other official languages;

3 that the ITU-R and ITU-T study groups, within their terms of reference, should continue their work on technical and operational terms and their definitions in English only;

4 that, where more than one ITU study group is defining the same term and/or concept, efforts should be made to select a single term and a single definition which is acceptable to all of the study groups concerned;

5 that, when selecting terms and preparing definitions, study groups and then ITU CCT shall take into account the established use of terms and existing definitions in ITU, in particular those included in the online ITU Terms and Definitions database;

6 that ITU-R CCV will continue to review and revise where necessary the existing Recommendations of the V series; new and revised Recommendations should be adopted by ITU-R CCV and submitted for approval in accordance with Resolution ITU‑R 1, through the Director of BR;

7 that the relevant Bureau should collect all new terms and definitions proposed by ITU study groups in consultation with the ITU CCT and enter them in the online ITU Terms and Definitions database;

8 that ITU CCT should work in close collaboration with CWG-LANG;

9 that information on ITU CCT activities should be displayed on a separate ITU CCT website with cross-links to the ITU-R CCV and ITU-T SCV websites;

10 that the Radiocommunication Assembly and the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly should nominate a Chairman and six Vice-Chairmen, each representing one of the official languages from each Sector; if two chairmen are nominated by both Sectors they shall act as co-chairmen of ITU CCT;

11 that the World Telecommunication Development Conference should appoint two vice-chairmen to represent ITU-D in ITU CCT;

12 that the terms of reference of the ITU CCT are given in the annex to this resolution,

instructs the Secretary-General, in close coordination with the Directors of the Bureaux and in consultation with the Council Working Group on Languages,

1 to provide ITU CCT with all relevant information and assistance;

2 to monitor the quality of translation and associated costs.

Annex

Terms of reference for the ITU Coordination Committee for Terminology
(ITU CCT)

1 To advise on and validateterms and definitions for vocabulary work for ITU in all the official languages, including graphical symbols for documentation, letter symbols and other means of expression, units of measurements etc., in close collaboration with the General Secretariat (Conferences and Publications Department), the Bureau of Sectors, editors for the English language as well as the relevant study group rapporteurs for vocabulary, and to seek harmonization among all ITU study groups concerned regarding terms and definitions.

2 To liaise with other organizations dealing with vocabulary work in the telecommunication field, for example the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) as well as the ISO/IEC Joint Technical Committee for information technology (ISO/IEC JTC 1), in order to eliminate duplication of terms and definitions.

3 To be guided in their work by the decisions of Resolution 154 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of the Plenipotentiary Conference and this resolution.

4 To inform annually Sector Advisory Groups and CWG-Lang on the ITU CCT activities, including through the ITU-R CCV and ITU-T SCV.

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