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| **English only** |
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| PROPOSALS RELATED TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AN ALTERNATIVE PROJECT FOR THE NEW ITU HEADQUARTERS BUILDING |
| **Purpose**The contribution aims to promote an efficient and effective approach to the implementation of the new ITU headquarters building project.**Action required**The Council Working Group on Financial and Human Resources is invited to **adopt** the general approach outlined in this document.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**References** *PP Resolution 212 (Rev. Dubai, 2022),* [*Decision 640*](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CL-C-0132/en)*,* [*CL-24/52*](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-SG-CIR-0052/en) |

# 1 General information

The approach to the new ITU headquarters building’s project, as set out in Resolution 212 (Rev. Dubai, 2022) of the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference, also provided in Council Decisions 588 and 619 for the replacement of the Varembé building with a new building that would also take into account the office and other functional spaces of the Tower building, in addition to the Montbrillant building, which would be retained and refurbished.

At the same time, it was planned to sell the Tower building.

However, it turned out to be difficult to implement the project in this form due to the sharply increased projected costs, significantly exceeding the planned budget of the project.

# 2 Status

During its 2024 session, the ITU Council decided to proceed with the implementation of an alternative project for the ITU headquarters premises, with a re-evaluation ([Decision 640](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CL-C-0132/en)), which has now received the agreement of the majority of the Member States of the Union (Circular Letter [CL-24/49).](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-SG-CIR-0049/en)

In accordance with this decision, ITU has started developing a new project based on the revised and approved scope of work.

A new tender will be launched for the provision of planning, architecture and design services for the new Varembé building project.

# 3 Proposal

To make efficient use of the Union's resources in implementing a project that fully considers the needs of Member States and Sector Members for the premises and equipment of the new ITU headquarters in Geneva, the authors of the contribution propose the following:

3.1 To focus the planning, architectural and design work for the new ITU headquarters building project exclusively on the development of a building design to replace the existing Varembé building that will comply with the set of parameters already agreed by the Council in its Decision 640 (C24) and have technical autonomy (electricity, heating, air conditioning, water supply, sewerage) and flexibility (walk-through access with the access differentiation), to allow the new Varembé building to operate with the Tower and/or Montbrillant buildings either separately or with both as part of the overall ITU headquarters building complex. This approach will enhance future opportunities for informed decision-making by Member States at the 2026 Plenipotentiary Conference.

3.2 To study the issue and prepare recommendations to the Council and subsequently to the 2026 Plenipotentiary Conference on the following options:

– to retain the Tower and Varembé buildings in a single complex of buildings for the future ITU headquarters, taking into account their existing unified architectural and technical coherence, their compliance with the needs for meeting and staff space, and the recognition of the Tower building as a symbol of ITU;

– to identify other alternative financing strategies to offset capital expenditure, including but not limited to considering the sale of the Montbrillant building, which is inferior in both architectural style and technical terms to the Tower buildings and the future Varembé building, to cover part of the funds spent on the project.

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