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|  | **Document CWG-FHR-21/19** |
| **27 August 2025** |
| **English only** |
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| Contribution by the Russian Federation, and the Kyrgyz Republic |
| PARTICIPATION OF THE JOINT INSPECTION UNIT IN ITU COUNCIL SESSIONS |
| **Purpose**To improve governance and enable well-informed decision-making when considering JIU reports.**Action required**The Council Working Group on financial and human resources is invited to **approve** the proposal contained in the contribution.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**References** *[to specific documents, webpages, only if needed]**Council Document* [*C25/105*](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CL-C-0105/en) |

**1 General information**

The ITU Council reviews JIU reports and considers relevant recommendations on an annual basis. The corresponding agenda item is presented by the General Secretariat. The usual governance practice across the UN system is to also invite JIU Inspectors to participate in sessions of governing bodies. This provides the opportunity for member states to exchange views with the Unit and clarify issues, which enables well-informed decision-making. The relevance of such practice has been underscored by the JIU in its report Review of consideration of and action taken on the reports and recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unity by United Nations system organizations (2024/2).

**2 Status**

During the 2025 ITU Council session, some member states brought up the topic of inviting JIU to the Council sessions. The General Secretariat responded that JIU was not a subsidiary body of ITU, and the presentation of JIU reports fell under the responsibility of the Secretary-General. The General Secretariat also noted that an invitation could be contemplated for a JIU representative to be present during the consideration of JIU reports.

According to the general UN system practice, the participation of JIU in governing bodies’ sessions does not infringe upon the responsibilities of respective secretariats: JIU Inspectors complement the discussion by providing their assessment and answering questions of the member-states. The participation of External Auditor in the ITU Council sessions has a similar nature and follows the same logic. In this sense the General Secretariat would remain to be the one responsible for presenting the JIU reports with the JIU itself being present as another stakeholder.

JIU is not a subsidiary body not only in ITU, but also in other agencies. However, this does not preclude such agencies (e.g. UNESCO, UPU, WIPO) from extending invitations to the Unit Inspectors to participate in governing bodies’ sessions.

It is worth noting that the adoption of this proposal would not create a legal precedent, as the JIU previously was invited to the ITU Council sessions following the single entity review of ITU management and administration.

**3 Proposal**

To improve governance and enable well-informed decision-making it is proposed to request the Secretary-General to invite JIU Inspectors to participate in ITU Council sessions.

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