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| African Telecommunication Union Administrations |
| Proposed modification of Resolution 18 - Principles and procedures for the allocation of work to, and coordination between, the ITU Radiocommunication and ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sectors |
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| **Abstract:** | In this document, African administrations propose modifications to Resolution 18. |

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RESOLUTION 18 (REV. HAMMAMET, 2016)

Principles and procedures for the allocation of work to, and
coordination between, the ITU Radiocommunication
 and ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sectors

(Helsinki, 1993; Geneva, 1996; Montreal, 2000; Florianópolis, 2004; Johannesburg, 2008; Dubai, 2012; Hammamet, 2016)

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Hammamet, 2016),

recalling

a) Resolution 59 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on "Strengthening coordination and cooperation among the three ITU Sectors on matters of mutual interest";

b) Resolution 17, 26, 44 and 45 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on mutual cooperation and integration of activities between ITU-T and ITU-D,

considering

*a)* the responsibilities of the Radiocommunication Sector (ITU‑R), the Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU‑T) and the Development Sector (ITU-D) according to the principles laid down in the ITU Constitution and Convention, i.e.:

• that the ITU‑R study groups are charged (Nos. 151 to 154 of the Convention) to focus on the following in the study of Questions assigned to them:

i) use of the radio-frequency spectrum in terrestrial and space radiocommunication (and of the geostationary-satellite orbit);

ii) characteristics and performance of radio systems;

iii) operation of radio stations;

iv) radiocommunication aspects of distress and safety matters;

• that the ITU‑T study groups are charged (No. 193 of the Convention) to study technical, operating and tariff questions and prepare Recommendations on them with a view to standardizing telecommunications on a worldwide basis, including Recommendations on interconnection of radio systems in public telecommunication networks and on the performance required for these interconnections

• that the ITU-D study groups shall deal (No. 214 of the Convention) with specific telecommunication questions of general interest to developing countries, including the matters enumerated in No. 211 of the Convention. Such study groups shall be limited in number and created for a limited period of time, subject to the availability of resources, shall have specific terms of reference on questions and matters of priority to developing countries and shall be task-oriented;

*b)* Taking into account No. 119 of the Constitution, the Radiocommunication, Telecommunication Standardization and Telecommunication Development Sectors shall keep the matters under study under continuing review with a view to reaching agreement on the distribution of work, avoiding duplication of effort and improving coordination. The Sectors shall adopt procedures to conduct such reviews and reach such agreement in a timely and effective manner;

*c)* that joint meetings of the Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG), Telecommunication Standardization (TSAG) Advisory Groups and Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) shall review the distribution of new and existing work between the Sectors, subject to confirmation by the applicable procedures of each Sector, the objective being to:

• minimize the overlap of activities of the Sectors;

• group the standardization activities in order to foster cooperation and coordination of the work of ITU‑T with regional standardization bodies;

*d)* that there is a growing number of issues of mutual interest and concern to all Sectors including the following: electromagnetic compatibility (EMC); International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT); middleware; audio-visual delivery; accessibility for persons with disabilities; emergency communications; ICTs and climate change; and cybersecurity,

recognizing

*a)* that there is a need to improve the participation of developing countries in the work of ITU, as outlined in Resolution 5 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference;

*b)* that one such mechanism – the Inter-sectoral Emergency Telecommunication Team – has been established to ensure close collaboration within the Union as a whole, as well as with interested entities and organizations outside ITU, on this key priority issue for the Union;

*c)* that all advisory groups are collaborating in the implementation of Resolution 123 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries,

taking into account

*a)* that mechanisms for cooperation, beyond those already established, need to be identified to address a growing number of subjects of mutual interest and concern in ITU R, ITU T and ITU D;

*b)* the ongoing consultation among representatives of the three advisory bodies in the discussion of modalities for enhancing cooperation among the advisory groups,

resolves

1 that TSAG, TDAG and RAG, meeting jointly as necessary, shall continue the review of new and existing work and its distribution between ITU‑T, ITU-D and ITU‑R, for approval in accordance with the procedures laid down for the approval of new and/or revised Questions;

2 that, if considerable responsibilities in the three Sectors in a particular subject are identified:

i) the procedure as given in Annex A to this resolution should be applied; or

ii*)* a joint group should be established; or

iii) the matter should be studied by relevant study groups of the three Sectors, with appropriate coordination (see Annexes B and C to this resolution)

3 to invite the Directors of the Radiocommunication (BR), Telecommunication Standardization (TSB) and Telecommunication Development (BDT) Bureaux to collaborate and report to the respective Sector advisory bodies on options for improving cooperation at the secretariat level to ensure that close coordination is maximized.

Annex A
(to Resolution 18)

Procedural method of cooperation

With respect to *resolves* 2 i), the following procedure should be applied:

*a)* The joint meeting, as indicated in *resolves* 1, will nominate the Sector, which will lead the work and will finally approve the deliverable.

*b)* The lead Sector will request the other Sectors to indicate those requirements, which it considers essential for integration in the deliverable.

*c)* The lead Sector will base its work on these essential requirements and integrate them in its draft deliverable.

*d)* During the process of development of the required deliverable the lead Sector shall consult with the other Sectors in case it has difficulties with these essential requirements. In case of agreement on revised essential requirements the revised requirements shall be the basis for further work.

*e)* When the deliverable concerned comes to maturity, the lead Sector shall once more seek the views of the other Sectors.

Annex B
(to Resolution 18)

Coordination of radiocommunication, standardization and development activities through intersector coordination groups

With respect to *resolves* 2 iii), the following procedure shall be applied:

*a)* The joint meeting of the advisory groups as indicated in *resolves* 1, may, in exceptional cases, establish an intersector coordination group (ICG) to coordinate the work of two or the three Sectors and to assist the advisory groups in coordinating the related activity of their respective study groups.

*b)* The ICG shall at the same time, nominate the Sector, which will lead the work.

*c)* The mandate of each ICG shall be clearly defined by the joint meeting, based on the particular circumstances and issues at the time the group is established; the joint meeting shall also establish a target date for termination of the ICG.

*d)* The ICG shall designate a chairman and a vice‑chairman, one representing each Sector.

*e)* The ICG shall be open to members of the engaged Sectors in accordance with Nos. 86 and 110 of the Constitution.

*f)* The ICG shall not develop Recommendations.

*g)* The ICG shall prepare reports on its coordinating activities to be presented to each Sector's advisory group; these reports shall be submitted by the Directors to the engged Sectors.

*h)* An ICG may also be established by the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly or by the Radiocommunication Assembly or by the World Telecommunication Development Conference following a recommendation by the advisory group of the other Sector.

*i)* The cost of an ICG shall be supported by the two Sectors on an equal basis and each Director shall include budgetary provisions for such meetings in the budget of their Sector.

Annex C
(to Resolution 18)

Coordination of radiocommunication, telecommunication standardization, and development activities through intersector rapporteur groups

With respect to *resolves* 2 iii), the following procedure shall be applied when work on a specific subject could be best performed by bringing together technology experts from the study groups or working parties concerned of two or the three Sectors to cooperate on a peer-to-peer basis in a technical group:

*a)* the study groups concerned in each Sector may, in special cases, agree by mutual consultation to establish an Intersector Rapporteur Group (IRG) to coordinate their work on a specific technical subject, informing TSAG, TDAG and RAG of this action through a liaison statement;

*b)* the study groups concerned in each Sector shall, at the same time, agree on clearly defined terms of reference for the IRG, and establish a target date for completion of the work and termination of the IRG;

*c)* the study groups concerned in each Sector shall also designate the chairman (or co-chairmen) of the IRG, taking into account the requested specific expertise and ensuring equitable representation of each Sector;

*d)* an IRG shall be regulated by the provisions applicable to rapporteur groups, given in Resolution ITU-R 1-6 and in Recommendation ITU-T A.1 and in Resolution ITU-D 1-2; participation is limited to members of ITU-T, ITU-D and ITU-R;

*e)* in fulfilling its mandate, an IRG may develop draft new Recommendations or draft revisions to Recommendations, as well as draft technical reports, to be submitted to its parent study groups for further processing as appropriate;

*f)* the results of an IRG's work should represent the agreed consensus of the IRG or reflect the diversity of views of the participants in the IRG;

*g)* an IRG shall also prepare reports on its activities, to be submitted to each meeting of its parent study groups;

*h)* an IRG shall normally work by correspondence and/or by teleconference; however, it may occasionally hold short face-to-face meetings, preferably collocated with meetings of the parent study groups.