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| ITU Logo | INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION**TELECOMMUNICATIONSTANDARDIZATION SECTOR**STUDY PERIOD 2017-2020 | TSAG-C.20 |
| **TSAG** |
| **Original: English** |
| **Question(s):** | N/A | Geneva, 1–4 May 2017 |
| **CONTRIBUTION** |
| **Source:** | Russian Federation |
| **Title:** | On implementation Resolution 44 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) – Bridging the Standardization Gap between developing and developed countries |
| **Purpose:** | Proposal |
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| **Keywords:** | Resolution 44; Bridging the Standardization Gap; BSG; WTSA-16; development countries’  |
| **Abstract:** | Recognizing the importance of actions to bridge the standardization gap between developed and developing countries, this contribution proposes to identify the necessary steps on implementation of the Resolution 44 in order to maximize the effectiveness of such steps and optimize of the Sector's resources expenditure. |

**I. Introduction**

Resolution 44 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) – Bridging the Standardization Gap between developing and developed countries, was revised by World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly 2016 (WTSA 16). This Resolution contains some sections which calls to actions are dedicated to different approaches and measures to improve the application of ITU-T Recommendations in developing countries in order to bringing the standardization gap, in particular:

In this resolution, many "decisive" sections are dedicated to various approaches and measures that will improve the application of ITU-T Recommendations in developing countries in order to narrow the standardization gap, in particular:

«…

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, in collaboration with the Directors of the Radiocommunication Bureau and the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

*…*

3 to consider, whenever possible, holding workshops concurrently with meetings of the ITU‑T regional groups, in coordination and collaboration with the Director of BDT;

4 to assist developing countries with their studies, particularly in respect of their priority questions and towards developing and implementing ITU‑T Recommendations;

…

9 to provide support and assistance to developing countries, if requested, in drafting/developing a set of guidelines on the application of ITU‑T Recommendations at the national level in order to enhance their participation in ITU‑T study groups, with the assistance of the ITU regional offices, for bridging the standardization gap;

…

*instructs study groups of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector and the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group*

…

2 to consider including implementation guidelines for ITU‑T Recommendations where these could provide advice to assist developing countries in adopting them, with emphasis on Recommendations having regulatory and policy implications;

…

*further instructs the study groups*

…

3 to continue liaising with ITU‑D study groups, where appropriate, when developing new or revised ITU‑T Recommendations, on the specific needs and requirements of developing countries, in order to broaden the appeal and applicability of the Recommendations in those countries;

4 to identify the challenges that developing countries are facing with a view to bridging the standardization gap among Member States,

…

*invites regions and their Member States*

1 to pursue the creation of regional groups of parent ITU‑T study groups in their respective regions in accordance with *resolves* 4 of this resolution and Resolution 54 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of this assembly, and to support their meetings and activities, as appropriate, in coordination with TSB;

…

5 to share information on utilizing ITU‑T Recommendations,

…»

At the same time, United States have been contributed to Study Groups proposals with steps to implement Resolution 44 based only on one of the provisions – bullet 9 of the section “instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, in collaboration with the Directors of the Radiocommunication Bureau and the Telecommunication Development Bureau”. In particular, SGs are invited to encourage developing countries to identify the necessary list of ITU-T Recommendations, and the relevant editors and rapporteurs to develop the appropriate guidelines on ITU-T Recommendations application referred to in bullet 9.

**II Proposal:**

Taking into account abovementioned sections and bullets form Resolution 44 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) Russian Federation believes that TSAG should consider issues of practical steps to implementation revised Resolution 44, considering following proposition:

* an initiative to identify ITU-T Recommendations requiring further clarification and/or development of guidelines of implementation on national level should started by interested Member States themselves from developing countries;
* taking into account that level of ITU-T Recommendations’ implementation in the developing countries may differ, as well as these developing countries may have different interests and priorities in regard to topics of these ITU-T Recommendations, it would be preferable to use the capabilities of the ITU-T Regional groups in related Study Groups (as the indicator of most demanded directions on standardization) and ITU Regional Offices to identify such Recommendations’ list. In addition, if possible, to use the Regional Groups as platforms for discussing and developing guidelines on the ITU-T Recommendations’ implementation;
* the development of the application guidelines should not become a "mandatory" part of the ITU-T Recommendations de-facto, but should be considered as a solution for the difficulties faced by developing countries only in case when the ITU-T Regional Groups and ITU Regional Offices cannot provide appropriate instructions;
* the tasks on guidelines’ development send to the SG level for consideration should cover the largest possible number of countries interested and in need of assistance in the implementation of ITU-T Recommendations, to guarantee the effectively use of ITU-T financial and human resources;
* the development of such guidance should not affect the timeframe of the ITU-T Recommendations’ development itself in the case of new Recommendations. In addition, it seems rational to assess the necessity of preparation such application guidance only after obtaining a stable text of the ITU-T Recommendation;
* Guideline(s) on application of the ITU-T Recommendations should be developed after its adoption.

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