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| **Abstract:** | The report of the second meeting of the ITU-T Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (Geneva, 26 February – 2 March 2018) in the 2017-2020 study period. |

NOTE – All documents submitted and discussed or noted at this TSAG meeting are referenced in the agenda [TD125-R1](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0125/en) and [TD125-R3](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0125/en). This report contains the conclusions and actions decided at this TSAG meeting.[[1]](#footnote-2)

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# Opening of the meeting, TSAG Chairman

The TSAG Chairman, Mr Bruce Gracie (Ericsson Canada), welcomed the TSAG participants to the second meeting of the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) for the 2017-2020 study period, which was held at the ITU premises in Geneva, 26 February – 2 March 2018.

* 1. Real-time captioning, interpretation in six languages, remote participation, and webcasting were provided at this TSAG meeting including its six Rapporteur Group meetings.
  2. Mr Gracie welcomed the elected officials, Mr Malcolm Johnson (Deputy Secretary General), Mr Chaesub Lee (TSB Director) and Mr Brahima Sanou (BDT Director). .
  3. The following TSAG Vice-Chairmen attended the meeting: Ms Rim Belhassine-Cherif (Tunisia), Ms Weiling Xu (China, P.R.), Mr Reiner Liebler (Germany), Mr Victor Manuel Martinez Vanegas (Mexico), Mr Vladimir Minkin (Russian Federation), and Mr Matano Ndaro (Kenya). Ms Monique Morrow (United States) and Mr Omar Tayseer Al-Odat (Jordan) were not able to attend.

# Opening remarks by the Deputy Secretary-General

The ITU Deputy Secretary-General presented his opening remarks (in [TD168](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0168)).

# Opening remarks by the TSB Director

The TSB Director welcomed all delegates to this second meeting of TSAG in this 2017-2020 study period (see [TD169](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0169)).

# TSAG Chairman's comments and observations

* 1. The TSAG Chairman highlighted that TSAG is now meeting roughly every nine months, with the third TSAG meeting planned in December 2018. The current TSAG meeting was organized such that documents were presented only once, either in Plenary or in one of the Rapporteur Groups, of which five had already been activated. He reminded the meeting to take into account the forthcoming ITU Council and ITU Council Working Group sessions in April 2018, and the Plenipotentiary Conference in October 2018. Mr Gracie announced a special session on TD255 and TD154, both addressing copyright issues, which would take place during the lunch break on Monday, 26 February 2018.
  2. The SG20 Chairman informed the meeting about the planned SG20 meeting in China (P.R.) in December 2018, which overlaps with a planned TSAG meeting, and asked whether an alternative date could be found for TSAG.

# Approval of the agenda, document allocation and time management plan

* 1. The TSAG Chairman presented the draft agenda, document allocation and work plan ([TD125-R1](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0125)). TD125-R1 was adopted, with being C35 moved to agenda item 10.2. TSAG accepted the time management plan in [TD124](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0124)-R1, and the overview of the agendas and reports in [TD123](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0123).
  2. [TD125-R3](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0125) contains the agenda for the closing TSAG plenary on 2 March 2018, which was adopted.
  3. Due to a sudden family emergency, Mr Gracie was not able to participate for the last three days of the meeting. TSAG Vice-Chairman, Mr Vladimir Minkin (Russian Federation), kindly agreed to perform as acting chairman for the remainder of the meeting and chaired the closing plenary on 2 March 2018.

# Report by the TSB Director

* 1. The TSB Director presented the activity report ([TD138](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0138), slide set in Addendum 1) highlighting the key results achieved in ITU-T standardization from April 2017 to January 2018. TSAG noted the TSB Director’s report.
  2. TSB presented the updated WTSA-16 Action Plan ([TD139-R1](http://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0139)), which is a monitoring and reporting tool to keep track of the implementation of WTSA-16 Resolutions and Opinion. The updates covered the period from April 2017 to February 2018. TSAG took note of the document.

# Organization of the work of TSAG for the 2017-2020 study period

* 1. Mr Minkin, TSAG Vice Chairman, based on the May 2017 TSAG decision to establish of a new Rapporteur Group on the review of WTSA Resolutions (RG-ResReview), proposed in [TD143](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0143) the RG-ResReview terms of reference. Some administrations, while supporting the principle, noted the rather limited results that similar exercises has in the past across the three Sectors and the Plenipotentiary conference. It was suggested to consider streamlining Plenipotentiary Resolutions with respect of Sector Resolutions for the time frame after PP-18 and the subsequent four years. A coordinated action by the Member States would be needed across the three Sectors for this initiative to have a chance to be effective.

It was agreed to send a liaison statement to RAG and TDAG on the creation of the RG-ResReview and on the work expected to be done by this group. The TSB Director was invited to include this information in his report to the next ITU Council meeting for preparation of the PP-18 Conference.

G3ict expressed caution on any further watering-down of Resolution 175 (Rev. Busan 2014) and of Resolution 70 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016), and proposed that those Resolutions should rather be extended.

Other Member States observed an increasing duplication of Resolutions across the Sectors, and called for a contribution-driven approach and team spirit towards streamlining WTSA Resolutions.

TSAG adopted the proposal in TD143 and created the new Rapporteur Group on the review of WTSA Resolutions (RG-ResReview).

* 1. TSAG appointed Mr Vladimir Minkin (Russian Federation) as Rapporteur for the RG-ResReview.

# Focus Groups

* 1. TSAG took note of the progress report (in [TD145](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0145)) presented remotely by Mr David Watrin, Chairman of ITU-T Focus Group on Application of Distributed Ledger Technology (FG-DLT).
  2. TSAG took note of the progress report (in [TD146](http://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0146)) presented by Mr Ahmed Said, Vice Chairman of ITU-T Focus Group on Digital Currency including Digital Fiat Currency (FG-DFC).
  3. TSAG took note of the established new Focus Group by SG13, the ITU-T Focus Group on Machine Learning for Future Networks including 5G (FG-ML5G). TSAG also took note of report from the first FG-ML5G meeting (in [TD216](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0216) and [TD247](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0247)), which was presented by the ITU-T SG13 Chairman, Mr Leo Lehmann (Switzerland).
  4. TSAG took note of the report of the first meeting of the ITU-T Focus Group on Data Processing and Management to support IoT and Smart Cities & Communities (FG-DPM) (in [TD191](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0191)), presented by the Chairman of ITU-T SG20, Mr Nasser Saleh Al Marzouqi (UAE).
  5. TSAG took note of the reply liaison statement (in [TD207](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0207)) received from SG12 on the transfer of outputs from the Focus Group on Digital Financial Services (FG DFS) to the various ITU-T Study Groups.

# International Telecommunication Regulations (ITRs)

* 1. TSAG took note of the liaison statement in [TD190](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0190) that the TSAG management team sent in August 2017 to all ITU-T study groups requesting information specifically on the implementation of the existing (2012) ITRs.

The TSB Director explained the background of a request he received in January 2018 from the ITU Council Expert Group on ITR (EG-ITR), and in turn his request to the chairmen of Study Groups 2, 3, 12, and 17 to provide an update on relevant affected Recommendations. The collected information was provided to the TSAG meeting (in [TD265-R1](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0265)).

* 1. TSAG took note of the reply liaison statement in [TD197](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0197) from SG2, presented by Mr Phil Rushton, Chairman of SG2.
  2. Russian Federation presented [C39](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-C-0039) "Application of ITRs provisions in the work of ITU-T SG2" that reports numbering resource misuse in communications networks, submitted to the ITU (SG2) and posted on the web-site actual cases of ITRs applicability by SG2. The contribution submits proposals which take note of the relationship between ITU-T SG2 activity and ITRs application (of relevant articles), as well as proposals on promoting the use of these articles.

TSAG concluded by recognizing the importance of numbering misuse; and invited the Russian Federation to provide their contribution to the EG-ITRs and to the ITU Council, as well as to ITU-T SG2; and invited contributions on that subject matter to ITU-T SG2.

* 1. TSAG took note of the other liaison responses to the TSAG LS in [TD190](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0190) that were received from SG3 (in [TD233](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0233)), SG5 (in [TD224](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0224)), SG9 (in [TD249](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0249)), SG11 (in [TD218](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0218) and [TD196](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0196)), SG13 (in [TD217](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0217)), SG17 (in [TD194](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0194)), and SG20 (in [TD198](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0198)).

# Status of implementation of Resolution 187 (Busan, 2014)

* 1. Argentina presented [C42](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-C-0042) "Participation of SMEs in ITU-T Study Groups" which proposes within ITU-T, to foster the participation of SMEs in its Study Groups, in accordance with the decision adopted by ITU Council 2017 to carry out a pilot project for the participation of SMEs in ITU-T and ITU-D Study Groups.
  2. Several members reported positive experiences on and supported the participation of SMEs in the works of ITU-T study groups.
  3. TSAG noted that ITU-T SG5, SG16 and SG20 already agreed to take part of the SME trial.

After discussions, it was concluded that it is not for TSAG to decide which ITU-T study groups participate in the SME pilot trial, but that it is up to each study group to make such a decision.

The meeting agreed that for the implementation of Resolution 187 (Busan, 2014), and future participation of SMEs in the work of ITU, more information and data is needed. This issue and its financial implications will be dealt with by the ITU Council and the Plenipotentiary Conference;

The TSAG meeting requested the TSB Director identify ways on how to make SMEs aware of the SME trial and to inform them on how to participate in study group meetings (such as through a Circular letter to Member States and/or to SMEs, or information on the ITU-T web page).

# ITU Inter-Sector Coordination Team (ISCT) on issues on mutual interest

* 1. The ISCT Chairman, Mr Fabio Bigi (Italy), gave a verbal report of the ISCT activities in 2017 and made reference to document no.8 of the ITU ISCT. ISCT documents are available at: <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Conferences/TDAG/Pages/inter-sectoral-team-on-issues-of-mutual-interest.aspx>
  2. Later during the meeting, BDT provided written reports (see [TD270](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0270) and [TD271](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0270)), which were discussed in the [RG-SC session](#_TSAG_Rapporteur_Group).
  3. TSAG is interested in receiving future reports from the ISCT, and encouraged the ISCT to look into relevant General Secretariat activities. TSAG recognized this as an additional opportunity for the Plenipotentiary Conference to streamline Resolutions (see also §7.1).

# Joint Coordination Activity on Accessibility and Human factors (JCA-AHF)

* 1. The JCA-AHF Chairman, Ms Andrea Saks (USA), presented the progress report of JCA-AHF in [TD158](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0158/en). She reported on duplication of work and the challenges of experts to work together. She advocated the ITU Accessibility Fund and encouraged members to make voluntary contributions to it. TSAG noted the report and encouraged its members to contribute to the fund.

# Communication plan

* 1. Argentina presented [C43](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-C-0043) "ITU-T to implement a Communication Plan", which proposes the implementation of an internal and external Communication Plan for ITU-T that should include all the different and available media means.
  2. TSB presented [TD260](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0260) which gives an overview of the TSB Communications Services and outlined the TSB communications strategy.
  3. TSAG invited those ones interested to contact Mr Fred Werner, from TSB Communications Services.

# Languages

* 1. Central African Republic presented [C26](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-C-0026) "The effective use of the six official languages of the Union on an equal footing in the work of ITU-T", which suggests that it is vital to remind the chairmen of the study groups of the importance of interpretation during the plenary sessions and working groups of the ITU-T study groups. This is important to avoid language barriers from further accentuating the standardization gap between developed and developing countries, especially in French speaking countries. The Contribution states that interpretation is essential to enable all delegates, particularly those from developing countries, to be fully informed of ITU-T standardization decisions taken at ITU-T meetings, and to participate effectively in these decisions.
  2. The TSB Director announced plans for TSB, within budgetary constraints, to provide translation of BSG training material into the six official languages. TSB is also continuing to investigate advances and explore usage of automatic translation tools.
  3. TSAG recognized the importance of languages and was aware that the Council working group on languages is handling matters related to the use of the six official languages in the Union, yet ITU Sectors are also constrained by budgetary limitations.
  4. TSAG advised the TSB Director to provide to ITU Council an analysis of the situation when providing interpretation in the six official languages at ITU-T working party and plenary meetings and its budgetary limitations.
  5. Voluntary contributions to the BSG fund may help mitigate the financial constraints when providing interpretation in the six official languages.
  6. TSAG took note of the liaison statement from SG9 in [TD250](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0250) on the terms and definitions database, which was addressed for action by the SCV and CCV.

# Standards for a data-driven society

* 1. Invited expert Mr Ken Krechmer remotely presented [TD153](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0153), his keynote speech and paper ("*The Entrepreneur and Standards*") delivered at the ITU Kaleidoscope 2017 academic conference (K-2017), "Challenges for a data-driven society", which provides food for thought concerning standardization in the 21st century.
  2. TSAG took note of the presentation and invited delegates to study the material in TD153.

# Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)

* 1. TSB presented [TD241](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0241) "Statistics on ITU-T Recommendations and patent declarations", and TSAG took note of it.
  2. **Outcome of special session on copyright (Monday 26 February 2018)**

TSAG was informed on the outcomes of a special session on copyrights, which was chaired by the TSAG Chairman Mr Bruce Gracie on Monday, 26 February 2018 from 1300-1400 hours and was attended by some 50 delegates. The ITU Legal Advisory Unit (LAU) participated in this session. That special session discussed a liaison statement received from SG15 in [TD255](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0255) on ITU copyright authorization practices, and [TD154](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0154) wherein ITU LAU provides clarifications on the implementation of Resolution 66 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) "Documents and publications of the Union". The special session recognized the long-standing practice of facilitating widest possible dissemination of ITU documents and reached two conclusions:

1. If the membership believes that Resolution 66 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) "Documents and publications of the Union" should be modified, the membership is invited to submit contributions to the next Plenipotentiary Conference.
2. TSB, LAU, and SG15 will see with TSDSI that the ITU’s non-normative status of the material incorporated from SG15 will be reflected in the standard published by TSDSI.

TSAG took note of that report and of the two conclusions.

* 1. One Member State raised a possible trademark problem in Rec. ITU-T Y.4500.1 concerning the usage of the term "oneM2M" which may be a trademark. TSB agreed to consult with ITU LAU and the SG20 Chairman on this issue to ensure the current ITU-T guidelines on the use of trademarks in ITU-T Recommendations are respected.

# Kaleidoscope

* 1. TSB presented [TD240-R1](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0240) "Evaluation of Kaleidoscope 2017 papers with respect to relevance in ITU activities", which provides an overview of the ITU Kaleidoscope academic conference 2017 (K-2017) that was held in Nanjing, China, from 27-29 November 2017. The Annex to this document presents accepted papers, invited papers and keynote speeches selected by the K-2017 steering and technical programme committees, and identifies links to related activities in ITU-T and other ITU sectors. TSAG noted the document with appreciation.

# ITU Telecom (Durban, South Africa, 10-13 September 2018)

* 1. TSB presented [TD273](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0273) highlighting the Smart ABC (Artificial Intelligence, Banking and digital finance, smart Cities) programme. TSAG took note of the presentation.

# New ITU meeting registration system

* 1. TSB presented [TD267](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0267), which provides an introduction to the new ITU customer relationship management (CRM) system that will start being used for registration for ITU-T meetings in the 1st quarter of 2018. Delegates self-register for a meeting using their ITU (TIES or Guest) accounts and the member-designated focal point for registration approves the request. Alternate focal points can be designated. The new system provides a streamlined process for the request of interpretation, visa support letters as well as fellowships. TSB Circular TSB Circular 68 was sent to ITU-T members on 16 January 2018 and specifies certain actions required from ITU-T members.
  2. Some members asked whether the CRM system could support more than one focal point, and TSB confirmed that such is possible with the new system. TSAG recommended to register early, as well as to use of generic, non-personalized accounts for member focal points.
  3. TSAG noted the document and welcomed a report at the next TSAG meeting on the use and improvements of the new CRM-based registration system.

# Bridging the Standardization Gap

* 1. Three contributions ([C25](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-C-0025), [C30](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-C-0030), and [C33](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-C-0033)) were submitted to this meeting addressing bridging the standardization gap (BSG) activities. [C25](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-C-0025) (University of Nigeria) on the implementation of Resolution 44 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) could not be presented remotely due to connection difficulties and its presentation was deferred to the next TSAG meeting.
  2. India presented [C33](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-C-0033) "The importance of ITU-T Regional Groups in Bridging the Standardization Gap".
  3. The delegate from Zambia remotely presented [C30](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-C-0030) (contributed by Côte d’Ivoire, Togo, Zimbabwe, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Senegal, Gambia, Mali, Burkina Faso, Sudan, Rwanda, Democratic Republic of Congo, Comoros, Madagascar, Niger, Nigeria, Sao Tome e Principe, and Zambia) on "The importance of ITU-T Regional Groups in Bridging the Standardization Gap".
  4. India and Italy supported C30; Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and AICTO supported C30 and C33.
  5. Several members acknowledged that regional groups provide opportunities for members of the region to send contributions that take into consideration the needs of the regions to the parent study group, and thus, regional groups play an important role in bridging the standardization gap and in closing the digital divide. While regulatory and policy aspects may have need for regional variation, a unique opportunity of ITU-T is to create international standards but to avoid regional fragmentation of the technical standards.
  6. One Member State observed that the nature of the SG3 regional groups have changed significantly over the last 50 years.
  7. Some Member States observed that the notion of what comprises a region, and which countries belong to a region, is not so clear and requires a solution, while the barrier of language sometimes had countries joining a different region. While the classification of what constitutes a region varies within ITU (i.e. the six administrative regions are not defined, although three regions are defined in the Radio Regulations), and there might be factors such as culture and language, which need to be taken into account. Nevertheless, regional groups aim for inclusiveness, and matters should be handled on a case-by-case basis.
  8. TSB explained that Resolution 54 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) defines the procedures for creation of regional groups and requires the definition of terms of reference. The region proposing the creation of a regional group defines the countries entitled to participate in the regional group.
  9. Other comments by Member States were that the establishment of regional area offices or sub-regional hubs is beyond the mandate of TSAG, and that the ITU Council or the Plenipotentiary Conference should handle such matters.
  10. TSAG was reminded that the reports of ITU-T study groups or of regional group need to report on the fellowships provided for each of their meetings. TSB clarified that Regional Group meeting reports contain an account of fellowships provided in line with Resolution 1 (Rev Hammamet, 2016) Section 5.4bis.
  11. The TSB Director informed TSAG that TSB in collaboration with BDT is conducting regular conference calls with the ITU Regional Offices to coordinate events and activities in order to avoid duplication of work.
  12. One Member State believed that Resolution 25 (Rev. Busan, 2014) has not been fully implemented yet, and that ITU Regional Offices are focused more on the activities under BDT and should be included in the operational plans of all Sectors.
  13. TSAG concluded:

1. TSAG welcomed and appreciated all three contributions and took note of them.
2. TSAG congratulated SG3 for the 50th anniversary of its regional group activity and recognized that developing countries increasingly find much value in the use of regional groups.
3. TSAG recognizes the importance of regional groups formed in compliance with Resolution 54 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) and their role in implementing the Resolution 44 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) on bridging the standardization gap.
4. TSAG requested TSB to provide an analysis with statistics and information on the work by regional groups, and to better understand the interactions between those groups.
5. TSAG recognized the importance of close interaction and cooperation between regional groups and regional organizations. There should also be close cooperation with the ITU Regional Offices and Area Offices. TSAG noted that Resolution 58 (Rev. Busan, 2014) stipulates that countries that are not members of regional organizations should also be involved in ITU-T’s work.

# Results of TSAG Rapporteur Groups

The six TSAG Rapporteur Groups conducted their work and brought their results to the TSAG closing plenary. Reports were noted and the Plenary decisions are summarized below. [Annex A](#_Annex_B_Summary_1) provides a table listing the TDs with the reports of the various Rapporteur Groups, the liaison statements they produced, as well as the interim activities that are planned.

## TSAG Rapporteur Group on Standardization Strategy (RG-StdsStrat)

* + 1. The Rapporteur of RG-StdsStrat, Mr Yoichi Maeda (Japan), presented the results and meeting report in [TD133-R1](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0133).
    2. TSAG accepted the report with several corrections and amendments as requested by some members; the final report is contained in [TD133-R2](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0133).
    3. TSAG approved the revised terms of reference for RG-StdsStrat in [Annex C](#_Annex_D_Terms) of this report.
    4. TSAG approved the outgoing liaison statement in [TD268](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0268)-R1 on hot topics for action by all ITU-T study groups.
    5. TSAG authorized RG-StdsStrat to hold up to five interim e-meetings (see [Annex A](#_Annex_A_Summary)) on the basis that contributions will be received.
    6. TSAG agreed that the Associate Rapporteurs of RG-StdsStrat be changed to co-Rapporteurs, such as to facilitate rotation of the lead Rapporteur from one meeting to another. TSAG noted the plan of the management team of RG-StdsStrat of rotating the chair position after each TSAG meeting; and in particular that the RG-StdsStrat meetings after the second TSAG meeting will be chaired by Mr Stephen Hayes (Ericsson Canada).

## TSAG Rapporteur Group on Work Programme (RG-WP)

* + 1. The Rapporteur of RG-WP, Mr Reiner Liebler (Germany), presented the report found in [TD137](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0137). [TD137-R1](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0137) reflects the agreed amendments made by TSAG.

TSAG agreed that issues between ITU-T SG3 and SG12, and SG11 and SG12, would be resolved with consultation involving the respective study group chairmen with the assistance of the TSB Director.

* + 1. TSAG noted the deletion of Question 10/5 "Adaptation to climate change and low cost and sustainable resilient information and communication technologies (ICTs)", and endorsed the revision of Question 6/5 "Achieving energy efficiency and smart energy", Question 7/5 "Circular economy including e-waste", and Question 9/5 "Climate change and assessment of information and communication technology (ICT) in the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)" (see [TD182](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0182)).
    2. TSAG endorsed the merger of Question 1/9 "Transmission of television and sound programme signal for contribution, primary distribution and secondary distribution" and Question 3/9 "Digital programme delivery controls for multiplexing, switching and insertion in compressed bit streams and/or packet streams", and agreed the revised text of Question 1/9 "Transmission and delivery control of television and sound programme signal for contribution, primary distribution and secondary distribution" (see [TD248](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0248)).
    3. TSAG endorsed the merger of Question 18/15 "Broadband in-premises networking" and Question 19/15 "Requirements for advanced service capabilities over broadband cable home networks", and agreed the revised text of Question 18/15 "Broadband in-premises networking" (see [TD186](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0186)); TSAG noted the deletion of Question 3/15 "Coordination of optical transport network standards" and endorsed revised text of Question 12/15 "Transport network architectures" (see [TD254](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0254)).
    4. TSAG endorsed creation of a new Question 14/17 "Security aspects for Distributed Ledger Technologies" (see [TD193](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0193)).
    5. TSAG endorsed the future direction of lead study group activity reports as reflected in TD137-R1 §7.12.

## TSAG Rapporteur Group on Working Methods (RG-WM)

* + 1. The Rapporteur of RG-WM, Mr Stephen Trowbridge (USA), presented the report of RG-WM in [TD135](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0135).
    2. TSAG requested TSB and ITU Legal Affairs Units to submit a TD to the next RG-WM e-meeting providing guidelines and interpretation on the usage and applicability of Recs. ITU-T A.1 (in particular, clause 3.1.6), A.13, and A.25 as it concerns the contributory process and the development of ITU-T deliverables.
    3. It was noted that draft revised Rec. ITU-T A.13 is under development and that many open issues still need to be discussed before the draft can be considered for Determination.
    4. It was noted that the RG-WM meeting did not discuss electronic working methods this time: C38 "Issues of ITU-T work organization" should be discussed in the context of EWM.
    5. TSAG authorized RG-WM to hold two e-meetings (with one joint e-meeting with RG-SC).
    6. TSAG invited contributions to the next RG-WM meetings with concrete proposals on the various open issues.

## TSAG Rapporteur Group on Strengthening Cooperation (RG-SC)

* + 1. The Rapporteur of RG-SC, Mr Glenn Parsons (Canada), presented the report of RG-SC in [TD129](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0129).

One Member State felt that the report does not reflect what was discussed in the meeting, felt the report somewhat incomplete and not balanced and believed that better balance is needed; however, other Member States found the report balanced. TSAG agreed to reflect the views in the TSAG report.

TSAG agreed that language in §8 of the report should better say "The meeting concluded that the TSB Director should request the IPR-Adhoc group to provide informational/educational material on open source licences, or alternatively, software licensing models;".

TSAG noted the report.

* + 1. TSAG agreed to send a liaison statement (in [TD211](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0211)) for comment to ISCT, TDAG, ITU-D SGs, RAG, ITU-R SGs, and all ITU-T SGs on ITU inter-Sector coordination.

## TSAG Rapporteur Group on Strategic and Operational Plan (RG-SOP)

* + 1. The Rapporteur of RG-SOP, Mr Victor Martinez Vanegas (Mexico), presented the report of RG-SOP in [TD131](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0131), which TSAG noted.

## TSAG Rapporteur Group on Review of WTSA Resolutions (RG-ResReview)

* + 1. The Rapporteur of RG-ResReview, Mr Vladimir Minkin (Russian Federation), presented the report of RG-ResReview in [TD245](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0245), which TSAG noted.
    2. TSAG endorsed the revised terms of reference of RG-ResReview (see [Annex B](#_Annex_B_Terms) of this report).
    3. TSAG authorized RG-ResReview to hold one interim e-meeting if contributions are submitted by the deadline (1 June 2018) on the scope of this Rapporteur Group.

# ITU-T meeting schedule including date of next TSAG meeting(s)

* 1. TSB prepared [TD144](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0144), which outlines the schedule of ITU-T meetings in 2018. Some issues were identified updated in [TD144-R1](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0144).
  2. The last column of the table in [Annex A](#_Annex_B_Summary) provides a summary of the interim meetings planned for TSAG Rapporteur Groups.
  3. It was pointed out that the next TSAG meeting should not conflict with other important ITU meetings, nor be in parallel with other major events in Geneva.
  4. Some TSAG Rapporteurs informed TSAG about their unavailability in case the next TSAG meeting would be moved to January 2019.
  5. TSAG asked the TSB Director and TSB to find an acceptable solution for the next TSAG meeting.
  6. Japan raised the issue that SG11 and SG13 Rapporteur Group meetings (22 October – 2 November 2018) are not yet confirmed due to overlap with the CJK meeting 24 and 25 October 2018 in Japan, and asked TSB to find a better solution.

# Nomination of liaison representatives

* 1. TSAG appointed Mr Shigeru Miyake (Hitachi, Japan) as liaison officer to ISO/IEC JTC 1, and Mr Yoichi Maeda (Japan) as representative to IEC/SG11 and to IEC/ISO/ITU-T Joint Task Force on effective collaboration (JTFEC).
  2. Upon request of the TSAG RG-SC, TSAG appointed two additional representatives to the ISO/IEC/ITU-T JTFEC: Ms Gaelle Martin-Cocher (Blackberry, Canada), and Mr Ajit Jillavenkatesa (United States).
  3. TSAG requested that the TSB Director continue to provide TSB support in the JTFEC activity.

# Any other business

None.

# Consideration of draft meeting Report

The TSAG Chairman informed TSAG that a draft version of the meeting report would be uploaded within two weeks. The report will be open for review and commenting for two weeks.

# Closure of meeting

* 1. The TSB Director thanked Mr Minkin for stepping-in as acting Chairman this week, and thanked all participants for their contributions. He observed that some good progress was made during the meeting, which took place in a friendly atmosphere. He stressed the importance of the Plenipotentiary Conference this year for the future of ITU-T and TSB.
  2. The TSAG acting Chairman thanked Mr Bruce Gracie and wished his family all the best, thanked the TSAG Vice Chairmen and Rapporteurs and associate Rapporteurs, the chairmen of the study groups, the delegates for the efficient work, the TSB, the interpreters and captioners for their support and work.

**26.2** The TSAG meeting was closed on 2 March 2018 at 1542 hours.

# Annex A Summary of results of the TSAG Rapporteur Groups

| Group | RG Report | Outgoing liaison statements | Future meetings |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| RG-ResReview | [TD245](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0245) | None. | * One interim e-meeting on a date TBD, if contributions on the scope of this Rapporteur Group are submitted by 1 June 2018. * Next TSAG meeting. |
| RG-SC | [TD129](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0129) | * [TD211](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0211)/[TSAG-LS11](https://www.itu.int/ifa/t/2017/ls/tsag/sp16-tsag-oLS-00011.zip) for comment by 30 November 2018 to ISCT, TDAG, all ITU-D SGs, RAG, all ITU-R SGs, ITU-T SGs on ITU inter-Sector coordination | * Joint RG-SC & RG-WM e-meeting: 14 May 2018 (1500-1700 hours CEST):  ToR: Harmonization of ITU-T A.1 and ITU-T A.25, and any related aspects of ITU-T A.4 and ITU-T A.6. * RG-SC e-meeting: 24 September (1500-1700 hours CEST) ToR:  1. Review of ITU-T A.25, ITU-T A4 and ITU-T A6 in view of the results from the previous joint rapporteur meeting with RG-WM. 2. Consider processes for collaboration and engagement with Open Source activities.  * Next TSAG meeting. |
| RG-SOP | [TD131](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0131) | None. | * Next TSAG meeting. |
| RG-StdsStrat | [TD133-R2](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0133) | * [TD268-R1](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0268)/[TSAG-LS10](https://www.itu.int/ifa/t/2017/ls/tsag/sp16-tsag-oLS-00010.doc) for action by 30 October 2018 to all ITU-t study group on hot topics | Up to five interim e-meetings on the basis that contributions will be received:   * 27 April 2018: 1300-1500 hours CEST * 29 June 2018: 1300-1500 hours CEST * 31 August 2018: 1300-1500 hours CEST * 28 September 2018: 1300-1500 hours CEST * 30 November 2018: 1300-1500 hours CET.   The interim e-meetings are open to all ITU-T members and will accept contributions of a strategic nature. In particular, contributions are sought which focus on areas which do not clearly fall within the remit of already existing study groups.   * Next TSAG meeting. |
| RG-WM | [TD135](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0135) | None. | * Joint RG-SC & RG-WM e-meeting: 14 May 2018 (1500-1700 hours CEST):  ToR Harmonization of ITU-T A.1 and ITU-T A.25, and any related aspects of ITU-T A.4 and ITU-T A.6. * RG-WM e-meeting: 18 June 2018 (1500-1700 hours CEST): ToR: progressing of ITU-T A.1 and ITU-T A.13 as well as review of the editor and Rapporteur manual, if time allows. * Next TSAG meeting. |
| RG-WP | [TD137-R1](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-180226-TD-GEN-0137) | None. | * Next TSAG meeting. |

# Annex B Terms of reference for the new Rapporteur Group on the review of WTSA Resolutions (RG-ResReview)

The TSAG Rapporteur Group on the review of WTSA Resolutions (RG-ResReview) is established:

1. To review existing World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) Resolutions with a view to streamlining them, taking into account the Resolutions in Plenipotentiary Conference and other Sectors as appropriate.
2. To examine the WTSA Resolutions with a view to avoid repetitions and duplication with the Resolutions in Plenipotentiary Conference.
3. The Rapporteur Group is open to all ITU-T membership.
4. The Rapporteur Group shall operate in English.
5. The meetings of the Rapporteur Group shall be paperless and shall make use of electronic working methods.
6. The Rapporteur Group shall meet during TSAG and will normally not meet at the same time as another Rapporteur Group.
7. The Rapporteur Group, if necessary, should schedule additional meetings between TSAG meetings. Those additional meetings should normally be held electronically. If necessary, the Rapporteur Group may schedule a face to face meeting which shall not exceed three working days and which should be collocated back to back with other Rapporteur Group meetings as much as possible.
8. Periodic progress reports will be submitted to TSAG by its chairman as deemed appropriate.

# Annex C Terms of reference for TSAG Rapporteur Group on standardization strategy (RG-StdsStrat)

**General**

In order to address the need for a strategic coordination function under the ITU-T, a function of standardization strategy is established as follows:

a. The creation of a Rapporteur Group of TSAG, to be named the "Rapporteur Group on Standardization Strategy" (RG-StdsStrat). The RG-StdsStrat will serve to provide TSAG with strategic information, for TSAG’s consideration in advising the sector on strategic actions.

b. The TSAG RG-StdsStrat should attract intensive industry participation in order to take account of latest technical trends and market needs.

c. CTO meetings could assist the RG in addressing strategic issues for the ITU-T Sector, and bring into the debates the views from the industry, as industry is the main component of ITU-T activities in the technical work. In practice, RG could analyse the industry and markets trends, identify future standardization directions and, accordingly, suggest new topics for TSAG to consider on behalf of the ITU-T, bearing in mind the need for cooperation with other SDOs and the scarce resources of ITU-T and the prerogative of the ITU-T membership to propose new topics for study.

d. RG-StdsStrat could liaise with relevant groups in other SDOs, as appropriate, *inter alia* to identify their relevant work.

e. RG-StdsStrat should meet frequently enough to address the rapid technological and market developments.

f. Discussions in RG-StdsStrat on procedural matters should be minimized.

g. RG-StdsStrat discussions should be focused on the substance of standardization topics of potential interest to ITU-T.

h. This group should solicit and consider a wide range of inputs including, but not limited to, consultations, invited experts, etc., in order to address industry needs and emerging strategic topics.

**Terms of Reference**

The terms of reference for this Rapporteur Group are as follows, keeping in mind the objectives of the ITU-T Strategic Plan (Resolution 71, Busan, 2014):

1. Advise TSAG and inform SG about potential standardisation strategies for the Sector by identifying the main technological trends, and market, economic and policy needs in the ITU-T's fields of activity. This may include, for example, conducting informal gap analysis, industry consultations, dialogue and market enquiries, taking into account input and feedback from relevant groups and activities inside ITU-T (such as the CTO group and Technology Watch) and outside ITU-T. RG-StdsStrat outcomes will not direct work of the study groups. The RG-StdsStrat will:

* Identify potential standardization strategies to take account of the main technical trends, and market, economic and policy needs, for consideration by TSAG.
* Identify possible topics and issues for consideration by TSAG from a strategic standardisation perspective.
* Provide input to TSAG, in the development of long-term strategic plans for the Sector.

b. In order to progress and facilitate discussion in the Rapporteur Group, "facilitators" may be selected from among the members of the Group to provide information on the substance of individual issues and topics.

c. The Rapporteur Group meeting is open to participation from all ITU-T members. At the discretion of the management team of the Rapporteur Group, individual experts may be invited to join relevant meetings.

d. The TSB Director is invited to play an active consultative or informative role in the RG, in particular to provide the output of Technology Watch as instructed by WTSA Resolution 66 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) and of the chief technology officer (CTO) meetings that are organised in accordance with WTSA Resolution 68 (Rev. Dubai, 2012).

e. RG-StdsStrat shall use e-meetings and/or collocate with existing meetings as much as possible.

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1. Webcast recording is available at <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/tsag/2017-2020/Pages/webcasts-l.aspx>. The direct link to the archived webcast is [here](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/tsag/2017-2020/Pages/webcasts-a.aspx). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)