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| ITU logo | INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION  **TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION SECTOR**  STUDY PERIOD 2017-2020 | | TSAG-TD579 |
| **TSAG** |
| **Original: English** |
| **Question(s):** | | N/A | Geneva, 23-27 September 2019 |
| **TD** | | | |
| **Source:** | | ITU-T SG13 Chairman, ITU-T SG17 Chairman | |
| **Title:** | | Quantum Work Consolidation | |
| **Purpose:** | | Proposal | |

TSAG considered a proposal to create a Focus Group on Quantum Information Technologies in its December 2018 meeting and [concluded](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-R-0003/en) to have a workshop to better understand this emerging technology area and identify its standardization needs.

The [ITU Workshop](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/Workshops-and-Seminars/2019060507/Pages/default.aspx) on Quantum Information Technologies (QIT) was held in early June 2019 in Shanghai, China and concluded with a call for consolidation of standardization efforts into a single platform that allows the quantum-related standards experts to:

1. Harmonize and coordinate the standards efforts across the various groups (ITU-T SG13 and SG17, ETSI, ISO, etc.)
2. Minimize the number of meetings they must attend (i.e. global travels)
3. Meet the time to market of standards for emerging technologies
4. Identify new topics for standardization
5. Interact with non-member experts

This call was also emphasized at the CJK CTO meeting in July 2019 through its [communiqué](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/tsbdir/cto/Documents/Communique_CJK_CTO_16-07-19.docx).

Study Group 13 and 17 Chairmen have agreed on a plan to collocate relevant Questions of their respective Study Groups. SG17 and SG13 Chairmen issued [guidance](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-SG17-190827-TD-PLEN-2320/en) to this effect.

ETSI ISG QKD Chairman expressed an interest in meeting colocation.

While considering [C97](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-C-0097/en) about the creation of an ITU-T Focus Group on Quantum Information Technology for Networks (FG-QIT4N), this document, prepared in consultation with the TSB Director, suggests an approach where the FG would serve as the consolidation platform of global QIT standardization efforts as follows:

1. Work underway in SG13 and SG17 would continue in the respective Questions (Q16/13 and Q4/17).
2. Q16/13 and Q4/17 Rapporteur Group meetings would take place immediately after and collocated with each FG meeting to decide on the progress of the FG deliverables and submit mature deliverables for approval to the respective parent SG. Remote participation would be made available for RGM meetings.
3. New work, within the scope of the FG QIT, that is not underway in SG13, SG17, or other SG, would progress in the FG and the corresponding SG would be identified after an incubation phase allowing clarity on the deliverable. The use of Appendix I of A.7 is encouraged.
4. ETSI ISG QKD could join the FG meeting and could have its “Decision” meetings collocated and immediately after the FG meeting to progress its work.
5. Non-member experts could join the FG meetings and propose ideas and contribution.

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