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| ITU logo | INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION  **TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION SECTOR**  STUDY PERIOD 2017-2020 | | | TSAG-TD774 |
| **TSAG** |
| **Original: English** |
| **Question(s):** | | | N/A | E-Meeting, 21-25 September 2020 |
| **TD** | | | | |
| **Source:** | | | TSAG Chairman | |
| **Title:** | | | Draft Report of the sixth TSAG meeting (E-Meeting, 21-25 September 2020) | |
| **Purpose:** | | | Admin | |
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| **Keywords:** | TSAG; report; |
| **Abstract:** | The draft report of the sixth meeting of the ITU-T Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (virtual, 21-25 September 2020) in the 2017-2020 study period. |

NOTE 1 –This report contains the conclusions and actions decided at this TSAG meeting.

NOTE 2 – Unless otherwise noted, all Contributions and TDs referenced in this report are of the TSAG series of documents.

**CONTENTS**

[1 Opening of the meeting, TSAG Chairman 3](#_Toc53038147)

[2 Approval of the agenda, document allocation and time management plan 5](#_Toc53038148)

[3 Reports by the TSB Director 5](#_Toc53038149)

[4 Appointments 6](#_Toc53038150)

[5 Focus Groups 6](#_Toc53038151)

[5.1 ITU-T Focus Group on Quantum Information Technology for Networks (FG-QIT4N) 6](#_Toc53038152)

[5.2 ITU-T Focus Group on Machine Learning for Future Networks including 5G (FG-ML5G) 7](#_Toc53038153)

[5.3 ITU-T Focus Group on Technologies for Network 2030 (FG NET-2030) 7](#_Toc53038154)

[6 Joint Coordination Activities (JCAs) 7](#_Toc53038155)

[6.1 Joint Coordination Activities on Accessibility and Human factors (JCA-AHF) 7](#_Toc53038156)

[6.2 Joint Coordination Activity for IMT-2020 (JCA-IMT2020) 7](#_Toc53038157)

[7 "New IP", "Future Vertical Communications Networks and Protocols (FVCN)", Network 2030 7](#_Toc53038158)

[8 Languages 10](#_Toc53038159)

[9 Kaleidoscope 10](#_Toc53038160)

[10 ITU Journal on Future and Evolving Technologies 11](#_Toc53038161)

[11 Inter-regional meeting 11](#_Toc53038162)

[12 Results of TSAG Rapporteur Groups 11](#_Toc53038163)

[12.1 TSAG Rapporteur Group on Review of Resolutions (RG-ResReview) 11](#_Toc53038164)

[12.2 TSAG Rapporteur Group on Strengthening Collaboration (RG-SC) 11](#_Toc53038165)

[12.3 TSAG Rapporteur Group on Strategic and Operational Plan (RG-SOP) 12](#_Toc53038166)

[12.4 TSAG Rapporteur Group on Standardization Strategy (RG-StdsStrat) 12](#_Toc53038167)

[12.5 TSAG Rapporteur Group on Work Programme (RG-WP) 13](#_Toc53038168)

[12.6 TSAG Rapporteur Group on Working Methods (RG-WM) 14](#_Toc53038169)

[13 ITU-T meeting schedule including date of next TSAG meeting 14](#_Toc53038170)

[14 Any other business 15](#_Toc53038171)

[15 Consideration of draft meeting Report 15](#_Toc53038172)

[16 Closure of meeting 15](#_Toc53038173)

[Annex A Summary of results of the TSAG Plenary and of the TSAG Rapporteur Groups 16](#_Toc53038174)

[Annex B TSAG work programme 17](#_Toc53038175)

# Opening of the meeting, TSAG Chairman

The TSAG Chairman, Mr Bruce Gracie (Ericsson Canada), welcomed the TSAG participants to the sixth meeting of the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) for the 2017-2020 study period, which was held fully virtually, 21-25 September 2020. Mr Gracie was assisted by Mr Bilel Jamoussi, Chief of ITU-T study groups department.

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| 1.1 | Real-time captioning[[1]](#footnote-2), interpretation in six languages, remote participation using an enhanced MyMeetings tool and webcasting[[2]](#footnote-3) were provided at this TSAG meeting including its four Rapporteur Group meetings. At the beginning of the meeting, the Chairman read out the note contained in [TD847](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0847), which provided guidance on using the MyMeetings remote participation platform, the public chat, and the intention to make decisions by consensus as had been the practice in all virtual study group meetings. |
| 1.1.1 | As there was an unprecedented malfunction of MyMeetings platform during the opening plenary preventing some delegates from expressing their views and positions, the meeting refrained from making decisions during the opening plenary. Mr Vladimir Minkin (Russian Federation) took over chairing the opening plenary briefly, during the absence of Mr Gracie who was temporarily disconnected.  As the persistent problems did not allow a reasonable continuation of the meeting the opening plenary session had to be suspended. |
| 1.1.2 | An extra-ordinary plenary session for continuation of the opening plenary session was organized on 22 September 2020.  The TSB Director sincerely apologized about the unprecedented malfunctioning of MyMeetings during the TSAG meeting. Unprecedented because TSB has been using this platform successfully for all ITU-T SG meetings this year since March. TSB has been continuously improving the tool and adding new features based on feedback and requests from Membership and staff.  On Monday, a new feature for interpretation was used for the first time in a large meeting. This feature uses software switching of the interpretation channel instead of the hardware channel switching. In addition, another feature filtering delegation by affiliation (e.g., HoD) was also implemented. However, those features added significant load to the server especially as the meeting reached 240 participants.  On Tuesday, TSB rolled back to an older version of MyMeetings that was more stable but did not have all the latest features. It was in fact the same version as successfully used by ITU-T SG3 with interpretation in August 2020.  ITU staff conducted a stress test of this software version on Tuesday morning and could reach 230 participants comfortably. Therefore, the TSB Director requested delegates to connect with a single device if possible, to keep the load down. In addition, TSB staff that did not have an active role in a given session were requested to follow the meeting on the webcast.  Captioning was made available but on a separate link also to keep the load down. Related URL was indicated at the top of Tuesday's agenda.  Finally, the TSB Director informed that in case TSAG would encounter any other scalability issues during the meeting, TSB would switch over to an English only version of MyMeetings used successfully by SG15 the week before TSAG with a total of 340 participants. TSB was prepared to do the switch over in less than five minutes.  The meeting agreed to continue in English-only should any serious degradation on audio quality occur again, and to handle any other unforeseen matters pragmatically on a case-by-case basis.  The meeting reaffirmed the possibility to make decisions remotely by consensus at this TSAG meeting. |
| 1.1.3 | During the closing plenary on 25 September 2020, the MyMeetings platform encountered another technical problem due to a temporary ITU Network overload, the meeting had to run in English only for a short while, and then the meeting had to be suspended to restart the platform, such that quality and live interpretation worked again. |
| 1.2 | Mr Gracie welcomed the ITU Secretary General, Mr Houlin Zhao, the TSB Director, Mr Chaesub Lee; the BDT Director, Ms Doreen Bogdan-Martin; and the BR Director, Mr Mario Maniewicz. |
| 1.3 | The following TSAG Vice-Chairmen attended the meeting: Ms Rim Belhassine-Cherif (Tunisie Telecom), Mr Reiner Liebler (Germany), Mr Victor Manuel Martinez Vanegas (Mexico), Mr Vladimir Minkin (Russian Federation), Ms Weiling Xu (China, P.R.), and Mr Matano Ndaro (Kenya). Mr Omar Tayseer Al-Odat (Jordan) and Ms Monique Morrow (United States) were not able to attend and sent their regrets. |
| 1.4 | [TD821](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0821) reflects the final list of participants. In total, 337 participants attended this sixth TSAG meeting: 49 Member States, ten Sector Members (ROAs), 25 Sector Members (SIOs), ten Sector Members (RIOs), one Sector Member (Other entities), two Regional Organizations, five Permanent Missions, four Academia, one as per Resolution 99, two invited experts, and 62 ITU staff, and four elected officials of the ITU. |
| 1.5 | The ITU Secretary General, Mr Houlin Zhao, provided his opening remarks. He reflected that since force majeure of COVID-19 mid of March 2020, all ITU-T meetings were successfully conducted virtually, including also important decision-making meetings like RRB, and virtual Council consultation meeting. He praised the efforts of TSB to develop the MyMeetings platform and tools.  The next WTSA will be a key event to give the strategic directions and working methods for the future of ITU-T for the next four years ahead. He encouraged members to provide leadership for WTSA-20. He pointed to the forthcoming virtual Council meeting in November 2020, which is assumed to determine the issue of the location of WTSA-20. |
| 1.6 | The TSB Director welcomed all delegates to this sixth meeting of TSAG in this 2017-2020 study period. His speech is contained in [TD825](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0825). |
| 1.7 | Ms Doreen Bogdan Martin Garcia, BDT Director, welcomed the meeting by pointing out that on this very day the UN is commemorating its 75th birthday. The UN engaged on a global conversation on our future, which clearly demonstrated that there is more that unites us than divides. Connectivity is something that unites today and making this meeting possible. COVID-19 has made the case for connectivity and it has also shown that the ITU mission to connect the world has never been so important. The greatest digital challenge before us is to meet the needs and the expectations of the 3.6 billion that are unconnected. It is necessary to bring them more connectivity and better digital skills improved affordability and safety amongst other things. These are all areas that the ITU Development Sector has prioritized. She acknowledged great collaboration between the TSB and the BDT both here in ITU headquarters and in the field; such as helping to bridge the standardization gap, inclusion, accessibility, broadband climate change, Smart Cities, smart villages, digital financial inclusion and many other topics. It is important to leverage the spirit of collaboration in the run of WTSA and WTDC next year and help ITU members build back better by putting digital at the centre of their recovery efforts. |
| 1.8 | Mr Mario Maniewicz, BR Director, recognized the concept of collaboration between ITU-T and ITU-R Sector to address commonalities, where both Sector are committed to provide training and necessary support to increase the participation and leadership of women in ITU meetings. The 2020 edition of the Radio Regulations, which incorporates the decisions of WRC-19 to the international treaty that governs the use of spectrum and satellite orbits, is now available for download from the ITU website in six languages. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, ITU-R has seen a 100 per cent increase of participation in their remote meetings. ITU-R is developing regulations and standards for IMT-2020 or 5G systems and is collaborating with ITU-T on aspects of network architecture, network management and fixed mobile conversion. ITU-R is finalizing the technical specifications for the terrestrial radio interface technologies of IMT-2020. ITU is considering electromagnetic radiation and developing a clear guidance on measurement and assessment of human exposure to electromagnetic fields. Circular economy is being looked at towards the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 12 on responsible consumption and production. |
| 1.9 | Mr Gracie identified the challenge for this virtual TSAG meeting, with the necessity to adjust the working methods accordingly, having limited time available to consider the large number of documents. The time management plan took those factors into account with reduced number of sessions, and shortened daily working hours to accommodate for the different time zones. He saw this TSAG meeting in the context of preparing the grounds for WTSA-20. |
| 1.10 | The TSAG Rapporteur Groups on Strengthening Collaboration (RG-SC), on Standardization Strategy (RG-StdsStrat), on Work Programme (RG-WP) and on Working Methods (RG-WM) met during this TSAG meeting. The TSAG Rapporteur Groups on Strategic and Operational Plan (RG-SOP) and on Review of WTSA Resolutions (RG-ResReview) could not meet during this TSAG meeting. |
| 1.11 | [Annex A](#_Annex_A_Summary_1) of this report summarizes the key outcomes (reports, liaison statements, next meetings) of this TSAG meeting. |

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

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| 2.1 | The TSAG Chairman presented the draft agenda, document allocation and work plan ([TD772-R1](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0772)). The agendas in TD772-R1, and additional agendas for continuation of the opening plenary on Tuesday 22 September 2020 in [TD911](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0911), and on Thursday 24 September 2020 in [TD772-R2](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0772), were adopted. TSAG accepted the time management plan in [TD771-R1](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0771), which was further revised into TD771-R2, and the overview of the agendas and reports in [TD775](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0775). |
| 2.2 | TSAG adopted [TD773](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0773)-R1 containing the agenda for the TSAG closing plenary meeting that took place on 25 September 2020. |
| 2.3 | [TD829](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0829) lists all the contributions submitted and considered during this 6th TSAG meeting and its Rapporteur Groups. [TD830](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0830) provides the list of all the TDs of the meeting and of the Rapporteur Groups. [TD828](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0828)-R3 summarizes the incoming statements received by TSAG since 15 February 2020, and the outgoing liaison statements approved by the meeting and sent up to 28 October 2020. |

# Reports by the TSB Director

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| 3.1 | The TSB Director presented the ITU-T activity report ([TD788](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0788), slide set in Addendum 1) highlighting the key results achieved in ITU-T standardization from January to August 2020. |
| 3.1.1 | TSAG took note of the TSB Director's report in TD788. |
| 3.2 | TSAG deferred presentations and discussions of [TD791](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0791) "ITU draft Operational Plan for 2021-2024" and of [TD795](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0795) "Contribution of the ITU Regional Offices to the ITU-T Operational Plan and Coordination activities with TSB" to an interim e-meeting of RG-SOP. |
| 3.3 | TSAG took note of the updated WTSA-16 Action Plan (in [TD789](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0789)), and of the updated PP-18 Action Plan (in [TD790](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0790)) and deferred both documents for further consideration to the RG-ResReview interim meeting. |

# Appointments

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| 4.1 | Due to changes of the affiliations and composition of the TSAG representatives to the ISO-IEC-ITU-T Standardization Program Coordination Group (SPCG), TSAG appointed:   * Ms Miho Naganuma (NEC Corporation) replacing Mr Yoichi Maeda (Japan), * Mr Per Fröjdh (Telefon AB - LM Ericsson), and * Ms Gaelle Martin-Cocher (InterDigital Canada Ltee),   as TSAG representatives to the ISO-IEC-ITU-T SPCG. |
| 4.2 | The Administration of the United States, after the end of the opening plenary session, confirmed its support of the continuation of Mr Ajit Jillavenkatesa (United States) in the TSAG delegation to the SPCG. |
| 4.3 | TSAG thanked Mr Yoichi Maeda for his excellent support for the SPCG. The meeting welcomed the new reconstituted ITU-T delegation from TSAG to the SPCG. |

# Focus Groups

## 5.1 ITU-T Focus Group on Quantum Information Technology for Networks (FG-QIT4N)

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| 5.1.1 | The meeting considered in [TD796](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0796) the proposed extension of the lifetime of ITU-T FG QIT4N. |
| 5.1.2 | The United States requested to include the following reservation statement regarding the proposed extension of the FG-QIT4N into the meeting report:  While the United States does not object to the extension of the Focus Group on Quantum Information Technology for Networks (FG-QIT4N), it expresses concern regarding the utility of the output of the Focus Group at the end of this extension to advance the work of the Study Groups. The Terms of Reference request the Focus Group to complete its work (*i.e.*, pre-standardization work, terminology, analysis of the ecosystem, gap analyses, etc.) prior to the initiation of standardization activities in the Study Groups. Nevertheless, concurrent with the extension of the Focus Group, several Study Groups already have ongoing, newly approved, or even completed work items related to quantum communications technologies. As a result, the output of FG-QIT4N will not contribute to the Study Groups, contrary to the purpose of ITU-T Focus Groups as set forth in Recommendation ITU-T A.7. A Focus Group requires resources from the TSB as well as its participants, and these resources are better served by the Study Groups themselves. |
| 5.1.3 | TSAG reached agreement to extend the lifetime of the ITU-T FG-QIT4N by one additional year to December 2021. |

## 5.2 ITU-T Focus Group on Machine Learning for Future Networks including 5G (FG-ML5G)

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| 5.2.1 | The meeting took note of the liaison statement from ITU-T SG13 in [TD891](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0891) on Deliverables of Focus Group ML5G to ITU-T, ITU-R study groups and other groups, and the meeting took note of the termination of ITU-T FG ML5G, and of its deliverables. |

## 5.3 ITU-T Focus Group on Technologies for Network 2030 (FG NET-2030)

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| 5.3.1 | The meeting took note of the liaison statement from ITU-T SG13 in [TD892](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0892) on Deliverables of Focus Group NET2030, and the meeting took note of the termination of ITU-T FG NET2030, and its deliverables. |

# Joint Coordination Activities (JCAs)

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

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| 6.1.1 | TSAG took note of the ITU-T JCA-AHF progress report in [TD808](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0808), observing that the JCA-AHF meeting on 21 May 2020 was joint with Q26/16, and that the next meeting of JCA-AHF would also likely be joint with Q26/16, with particular emphasis on the impact of COVID-19 on accessibility for persons with disabilities and special needs. |

## 6.2 Joint Coordination Activity for IMT-2020 (JCA-IMT2020)

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| 6.2.1 | TSAG, recognizing the importance of IMT-2020 to the Union, supported the continuation of JCA-IMT2020 through the year 2021 with the revised Terms of Reference in [TD890](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0890). |

# 7 "New IP", "Future Vertical Communications Networks and Protocols (FVCN)", Network 2030

The meeting considered and discussed a number of liaison statements (in reply to [TSAG-LS23](https://www.itu.int/ifa/t/2017/ls/tsag/sp16-tsag-oLS-00023.zip)) and new liaison statements, TDs and Contributions. The meeting agreed to provide a short summary of the presentations, and the key points of the debate in the TSAG meeting report, without making any judgements.

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| 7.1 | The acting ITU-T SG5 Chairman presented in [TD879](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0879) SG5's liaison response on New IP, Shaping Future Network (reply to TSAG-LS23). TSAG took note of TD879. |
| 7.2 | The WP3/12 Chairman presented in [TD906](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0906) SG12's liaison response in reply to [FG NET2030-LS5](https://www.itu.int/ifa/t/2017/ls/fgnet2030/sp16-fgnet2030-oLS-00005.docx)) about TSAG Information Session on Network 2030. He also presented in [TD832](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0832) SG12's response about TSAG Information Session on Network 2030. TSAG took note of TD906 and of TD832. |
| 7.3 | The ITU-T liaison officer to IETF presented in [TD837](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0837) IETF's response on new IP, shaping future network (reply to TSAG-LS23). |
| 7.3.1 | Many questions have been discussed since last year, and the term now in use is Future Vertical Communications Networks and Protocols (FVCN). However, several members found the term FVCN unclear and that there is a need to clarify corresponding terminology and technical concepts, and how they relate to the Internet and to Internet Protocols (IP). |
| 7.3.2 | There are technical aspects and procedural aspects. TSAG was asked to give guidance to study groups how to handle the procedural aspects, and how a study group should find consensus on this matter, and asked TSAG to coordinate the activities in SG11 and SG13. |
| 7.3.3 | Technical matters and details should be addressed in the study groups. |
| 7.3.4 | The current TCP/IP technology and protocols have certain gaps such as on handling bandwidth, security. There is a need to have a technology available that is suitable to support many new future applications. Collaboration between ITU-T and IETF on any such gaps should be encouraged. |
| 7.3.5 | Some members supported to forward the liaison to Study Group 11 and 13 for their consideration during the ongoing discussions; other members did not see that necessity. |
| 7.3.6 | Processes and working methods for collaboration between ITU-T and IETF are available in [ITU-T A-series Supplement 3](https://www.itu.int/rec/T-REC-A.Sup3) (also in [IETF RFC 6756](https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc6756#:~:text=RFC%206756%20%2D%20Internet%20Engineering%20Task,Telecommunication%20Standardization%20Sector%20Collaboration%20Guidelines)). |
| 7.3.7 | Different views were expressed if [C140](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-C-0140) on ecosystem collaboration as currently drafted provides a suitable solution alone highlighting the possible need for engagement with this subject and many others in the standardization ecosystem. Work will continue on the application of the concept of gap analysis in the work of various groups in ITU-T. |
| 7.4 | The ITU-T SG11 Chairman presented SG11's liaison in [TD887](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0887) on New IP, Shaping Future Network, informing TSAG on the results of SG11's discussions on new Questions O/11 and P/11 proposed for next Study Period. SG11 is using the term Future Vertical Communications Networks and Protocols (FVCN); the discussions in SG11 are ongoing and the December SG11 meeting will make a decision on how to proceed. TSAG took note of TD887. |
| 7.5 | Germany presented the concerns on "New IP" in [C139](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-C-0139) (sourced by Austria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, the European Commission, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, GSMA, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, RIPE NCC, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, UK). The presenter noted that the name has changed from NewIP to Future Vertical Communications Networks and Protocols, whereas the content has not, and such is not understandable. While it is necessary to talk about IP and Internet, it was questioned if ITU has enough expertise and information in that area, and considered the activities having too much research character. Not enough evidence was seen that the current network could not satisfy the needs of NewIP, or could suitably be enhanced. Thus, the contribution says that ITU-T should not start such new work, without having conducted a detailed gap analysis. The proponents of C139 were of the view that the Internet architecture should be led by the IETF. |
| 7.5.1 | The United States, Canada, and Japan supported C139. |
| 7.5.2 | Collaboration of ITU-T SG15 with IEEE on deterministic networking was not seen related to Future Vertical Communications Networks and Protocols, and believed that FVCN does not equal Internet or Internet Protocols. |
| 7.5.3 | The ITU-T Focus Group on Network 2030 developed requirements for virtual networks. ITU-T, in particular, SG13 was seen as a good platform to continue the standardization, rather than doing it in other SDOs. |
| 7.5.4 | TSAG should not leave all (technical) matters to the study groups. Is it appropriate or necessary for ITU-T to ask other SDOs for permission for ITU-T to start new work? |
| 7.5.5 | A number of WTSA Resolutions relevant to the subject matter were identified, such as Resolution 47 on country-code top-level domain names, Resolution 48 on internationalized (multilingual) domain names, Resolution 64 on Internet protocol address allocation and facilitating the transition to and deployment of IPv6, and thus ITU-T was seen entitled to discuss the technical matters related to TCP/IP protocols. |
| 7.5.6 | The meeting concluded to recognize ongoing discussions within Study Group 11 and 13 in the context of new Questions. Interested experts were invited to join the correspondence group activities in the study groups.  The role of TSAG is to identify key issues or any difficulties.  The meeting recommended to follow the collaboration process in ITU-T A-series Supplement 3 between ITU-T and IETF. |
| 7.6 | Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd. presented [C148](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-C-0148) "About the WTSA-20 preparation activities of ITU-T SG13 and SG11 concerning the proposed new Questions Q.F/13, Q.G/13, Q.O/11 and Q.P/11" from Huawei Technologies Co. Ltd., China Telecom, and China Mobile. The contribution provides suggestions for TSAG's consideration and promotion with respect to the WTSA-20 preparation activities of ITU-T SG13 and SG11 concerning the proposed new Questions QF/13, QG/13, QO/11 and QP/11 related to FVCN. It is proposed that SG11 and SG13 continued their discussion of the four proposed new Questions; whereas TSAG should encourage the strengthening of the collaboration between ITU-T and other SDOs. |
| 7.6.1 | Two Sector Members indicated having technical and other concerns with the debates of the study groups, disagreed with the characterization in C148, and disagreed with C148. |
| 7.7 | The Russian Federation presented [C154](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-C-0154) "On conducting studies toward the new architecture of telecommunication networks and protocols in ITU-T SGs", expresses concerns by trying to stop the possibility of research on topics that are within the mandate of ITU-T and its SGs; and pointed out that SGs 11 and 13 are having separate discussions on the same issue, but both study groups are stuck in moving forward. Russian Federation stresses that the development of new protocols and architecture of telecommunication networks is fully consistent with the ITU-T mandate, which is a comprehensive and representative platform for addressing standardization issues for all ITU-T members; and encourages relevant interested SDOs to increase their participation and substantive technical discussion of Questions within ITU through its ITU members or through its representatives in case of having ITU membership or through Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) and other forms of cooperation and participation in the work of ITU (if up to this point they are absent). |
| 7.7.1 | It was agreeable to discuss the issues raised in a general manner. |
| 7.8 | IEEE presented [C156](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-C-0156) "Statement on Standards Development for the Internet", which notes that collaborative standards development for the Internet of which IEEE SA is a participant. TSAG took note of C156 and noted the importance of collaboration on all discussions which take place in this space. |
| 7.8.1 | Saudi Arabia supported C156. The relevant SDOs should contribute on challenges and gaps in the protocols, and that such collaboration needs to be mutual between all the relevant SDOs. |
| 7.8.2 | As a starting point for collaboration, a workshop could be held between ITU-T, IETF, and IEEE on the future network related topics. |
| 7.9 | RTFM LLP presented [C151](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-C-0151) "Review of ITU-T Focus Groups", which requests TSAG to conduct a review into the oversight mechanisms for ITU-T Focus Groups, with the aim to help ITU Focus Groups to become more productive. C151 was not meant to be any criticism of FG-Net2030. |
| 7.9.1 | The current Focus Group process was considered as being already fully transparent. Making Focus Groups operate like study groups would kill all the flexibility and result in micro-management of the Focus Groups; those views were supported. |
| 7.9.2 | The FG on Network 2030 reported regularly to its parent SG13, to whom this FG also sent its final deliverables. This FG engaged in many liaison activities and achieved good collaboration inside and outside of ITU-T. |
| 7.9.3 | Focus Groups are a good platform where industry could contribute. Also, ITU-T has a responsibility to start new work in emerging areas. |
| 7.9.4 | More requirements for definitions and discussions on use cases should take place first in order to find common grounds, before starting technical standardization. Caution is necessary to carefully and conservatively consider replacing one infrastructure technology by another one, as when doing so would require huge amounts of human capital. |
| 7.9.5 | TSAG considered C151 for the general discussion of ITU-T Focus Groups. The raised matter is subject for consideration by the Rapporteur group on working methods on the general aspects related to Recommendation ITU-T A.7 on Focus Groups, and RG-WM may want to consider some of the proposed procedures and processes for inclusion into ITU-T A.7 toward yielding improved transparency. |
| 7.10 | In summary, TSAG heard a diversity of views on the documents on many points, but consensus was elusive at this point.  TSAG recognized the need to consider work being undertaken on this topic in the standardization ecosystem and the need for collaboration and cooperation in this regard.  TSAG encourages open-minded discussions to be continued in the meetings organized over the next two months, including the December meetings of Study Groups 11 and 13, in order to find a suitable and equitable solution if possible.  TSAG agreed to prepare a liaison statement forwarding all documents presented and discussed to Study Groups 11 and 13 for information, along with a brief synopsis of the contents and reflecting the main conclusions of the debate.  TSAG agreed to send the outgoing draft liaison in [TD913](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0913)-R2 on "New IP", "Future Vertical Communications Networks and Protocols (FVCN)", Network 2030 [to ITU-T SGs 11 and 13]. |

# 8 Languages

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| --- | --- |
| 8.1 | Ms Rim Belhaj, Chairman SCV, (Tunisia) presented [TD818](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0818) "Status report of SCV activities". |
| 8.1.1 | TSAG took note of TD818. |
| 8.2 | Mr Heung-Youl Youm, Chairman ITU-T SG17, presented [TD834](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0834) "LS on Request for guidance from TSAG on contribution to promote neutral language in SG17 Recommendations [from ITU-T SG17]". |
| 8.2.1 | TSAG recognized that the issue raised not only affects all ITU-T study groups, but also, the entire Union for which a solution is to be found such as to have ITU-wide principles for changing the documents.  TSAG advised the TSB Director to bring the matter to the attention of the Council Working Group on Languages. |
| 8.3 | Mr Greg Ratta, United States, presented [C149](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-C-0149) "Perspective on Resolution 67 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016)". |
| 8.3.1 | TSAG recommended to hold consultations with other regions on the matters of common interest such as on modification of WTSA Resolution 67 (rev., Hammamet, 2016), with the aim to reach a preliminary agreement prior to WTSA-20. |

# 9 Kaleidoscope

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| --- | --- |
| 9.1 | TSAG took note of [TD826](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0826) (TSB) "ITU Kaleidoscope 2020 – Industry-driven digital transformation", which announced that the 12th edition of the ITU Kaleidoscope academic conferences, will be held online 7-11 December 2020 with the theme "Industry-driven digital transformation". Delegates are encouraged to attend and promote the conference among their relevant contacts. |

# 10 ITU Journal on Future and Evolving Technologies

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| --- | --- |
| 10.1 | TSAG took note of [TD827](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0827) (TSB), which provides information on the launch of the new ITU Journal on Future and Evolving Technologies (ITU J-FET) and announces the publication of the first special issue of the ITU-TUP[[3]](#footnote-4) joint Journal on Intelligent and Converged Networks (ICN). |

# 11 Inter-regional meeting

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| 11.1 | TSAG approved [TD831](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0831) "Draft meeting report of the interregional meeting for preparation of WTSA-20 (18 September 2020, virtual)". |
| 11.2 | TSAG agreed to send the outgoing liaison statement in [TD868](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0868) on ITU-T inter-regional meetings, which informs the regional organizations on the outcome of the first ITU-T inter-regional meeting of 18 September 2020, and invites them to contribute to and participate in the second inter-regional meeting on 8 January 2020, and the further planned ITU-T inter-regional activities until WTSA-20. |
| 11.3 | Nominations for the WTSA-20 Committee Chairmen should be sent to the TSB Director. |
| 11.4 | A request was made for Rapporteur groups to avoid Fridays for the planning of future meetings. |
| 11.5 | TSAG was mindful that not all regional organizations might be ready for or in a position to contribute to the planned series of inter-regional meetings, in cases where the regional preparations have not concluded. |
| 11.6 | TSAG invited the regional organizations to utilize the mapping table for their consultations in advance of the Assembly. TSAG invited its respective Rapporteur Groups to discuss the proposals for the respective Resolutions and ITU-T A-series texts. The TSB made available the mapping on the WTSA-20 Inter-regional coordination webpage that can be found [here](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/wtsa20/irc/Pages/default.aspx). |

# 12 Results of TSAG Rapporteur Groups

Four TSAG Rapporteur Groups progressed their work during this meeting and brought their results to the TSAG closing plenary. The reports were agreed. The Plenary decisions are summarized below. [Annex A](#_Annex_B_Summary_1) to this report provides a table listing the TDs with the reports of the various Rapporteur Groups, the liaison statements they produced and the interim activities that are planned.

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

This Rapporteur Group did not meet at this TSAG meeting.

## 12.2 TSAG Rapporteur Group on Strengthening Collaboration (RG-SC)

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| 12.2.1 | The Rapporteur of RG-SC, Mr Glenn Parsons (Ericsson Canada), presented the report of RG-SC in [TD779](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0779)-R1. No members had comments on this report except the Russian Federation, which are stated in clause 12.2.2. |
| 12.2.2 | The Russian Federation strongly opposed the conclusions in [TD779](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0779)-R1 on oneM2M and did not believe them accurate as an outcome of the meeting. The Russian Federation expressed concerns that many of the issues raised in C152 have not been answered as the RG-SC meeting could not finish the discussions due to the lack of time. The Russian Federation requested some editorial changes and other corrections to the RG-SC meeting report in TD779-R1 to read: *In particular, the Rapporteur Group [did not] identify (m)any issues or [any] conflicts of ITU joining oneM2M as a partner with the ITU-T A-series Recommendations and WTSA Resolutions as in the remit of RG-SC*. The Russian Federation insisted to delete the wording "*did not identify any issues....*" in TD779-R1.  The Russian Federation saw no compatibility between working methods of ITU-T and oneM2M, and considered such issues in scope of the ITU-T A-series texts. |
| 12.2.3 | TSAG recognized the concerns of the Russian Federation, and agreed to reflect them in the TSAG meeting report, with the understanding that the Russian Federation is still seeking further clarification of ITU joining oneM2M as a partner type I, and for TSAG to give RG-SC in future interim meetings the opportunity to have more considerations with regards to the ITU-T A-series Recommendations. |
| 12.2.4 | TSAG was aware of the opposition of the United Kingdom to the proposal for ITU-T to become a Type 1 partner in oneM2M, the reasons for which were not elaborated. |
| 12.2.5 | The SG20 Chairman provided information on how the issue and proposal for ITU to join oneM2M had started within SG20. |
| 12.2.6 | TSAG authorized RG-SC Rapporteur to invite oneM2M experts to future RG-SC meetings to facilitate the discussions. |
| 12.2.7 | TSAG asked the RG-SC Rapporteur and the Russian Federation to make the necessary corrections to the report in TD779-R1. The revised and corrected report is contained in [TD779-R2](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0779). |
| 12.2.8 | TSAG advised the TSB Director that some concerns and issues remain, particularly from the Russian Federation on certain matters.  TSAG encouraged discussions to continue and that all efforts be made to try to resolve them. TSAG will revisit the situation at its next TSAG meeting in January 2021.  TSAG requested that those concerns be clearly enumerated and identified, such that they form the base of further discussion in the future Rapporteur group SC e-meetings.  TSAG was conscious that some of the issues are within scope whereas other issues are beyond the scope of TSAG to resolve and these matters would need to be addressed accordingly. |
| 12.2.9 | TSAG approved the revised IEC/ISO/ITU World Standards Cooperation (WSC) Terms of Reference in[TD895-R1.](https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-t/md/17/tsag/td/200921/GEN/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0895!R1!ZIP-E.zip) |
| 12.2.10 | TSAG authorized RG-SC to organize two interim e-meetings. RG-SC will meet during the seventh TSAG meeting. |

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

This Rapporteur Group did not meet at this TSAG meeting.

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

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| 12.4.1 | The Rapporteur of RG-StdsStrat, Mr Arnaud Taddei (Broadcom), presented the results and meeting report in [TD783](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0783)-R1. TSAG agreed the report in [TD783](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0783)-R2 with minor editorial correction. |
| 12.4.2 | TSAG authorized RG-StdsStrat to hold up to two interim e-meetings if contributions are received. RG-StdsStrat will meet during the seventh TSAG meeting. Subjects for discussion would include continuation of discussions on documents and contributions from the 22 September 2020 Rapporteur Group e-meeting, with a focus on Hot Topics, metrics and the SDG mapping. |
| 12.4.3 | Mr Arnaud Taddei continues as Rapporteur for RG-StdsStrat until the January 2021 TSAG meeting. |

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

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| 12.5.1 | The Rapporteur of RG-WP, Mr Reiner Liebler (Germany), presented the draft report for the TSAG Rapporteur Group meeting on Work Program and Structure (e-meeting, 5-7 August 2020) in [TD812](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0812). |
| 12.5.2 | United Arab Emirates observed that a request was made during the interim RG-WP e-meeting that it be indicated what is the value of the changes in the context of the ITU-T study group's restructuring, and which dedicated group is to be created for this purpose. However, the report in [TD812](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0812) does not reflect these requests and does not mention the establishment of such a group. However, it should also be noted that clause 5.3 of [TD812](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0812) mentions “Some members propose that before restructuring measures are implemented, a thorough analytical study identifying criteria for restructuring measures should be undertaken by TSAG & SG leaders supported by TSB.” |
| 12.5.3 | TSAG agreed to reflect this issue in the TSAG meeting report, and took note of TD812. |
| 12.5.4 | The Rapporteur of RG-WP presented [TD787](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0787) with the report of RG-WP activities at this meeting. TSAG agreed corrections and amendments to be reflected in [TD787-R1](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0787). |
| 12.5.5 | The TSAG Chairman recalled that TSAG gave guidance to the study groups on the way forward regarding the discussion on study group restructuring: Study groups may provide amendments to Resolution 2 (rev. Hammamet, 2016), based on the current structure in place. However, this does not preclude discussions on possible reconfigurations of the study groups as part of the remit of any Rapporteur group or Working Group to prepare for the Assembly. In this regard, those with restructuring proposals were encouraged to consult and attempt to reconcile their proposals to assist the work of RG-WM. |
| 12.5.6 | TSAG endorsed [TD869](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0869) "Adjustments to harmonize the WTSA-20 proposals by SG16 and SG20", which amends the SG16 and SG20 WTSA Resolution 2 proposals in [TD884-R1](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0884) and [TD883-R1](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0883). |
| 12.5.7 | TSAG took note of [TD840-R1](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0840) "Consolidated draft text for modifications to WTSA Resolution 2". |
| 12.5.8 | TSAG requested SG5 to provide a clarification in the form of a liaison statement to TSAG on what QoS work is intended to be done in SG5 ("develop standards to guarantee a good quality of service (QoS), reliability and low latency for high speed networks services by providing requirements on network systems of transportation media") and what would be the demarcation line to the QoS work of SG12. |
| 12.5.8 | TSAG requested the Chairmen of SG11 and SG17 to clarify the potential overlap on security issues related to combatting against counterfeit devices and stolen devices issues as well as security of signalling and come up with a solution. |
| 12.5.9 | TSAG authorized RG-WP to hold two interim meetings to continue the discussion on ITU-T study group restructuring, including the regional organizations and their focal points. RG-WP will meet at the seventh TSAG meeting. |

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

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| 12.6.1 | The Rapporteur of RG-WM, Mr Stephen Trowbridge (USA), presented the report of RG-WM in [TD785](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0785). TSAG agreed amendments to the report as reflected in [TD785](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0785). |
| 12.6.2 | TSAG agreed the new edition of the "Author's guide for drafting ITU-T Recommendations" for publication ([TD902](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0902)), with the understanding that the Author's guide could be further amended during the next study period, should there be new versions of the ITU-T A-series texts available by then. |
| 12.6.3 | TSAG authorized RG-WM to organize at least two rapporteur group e-meetings and contingent correspondence activities to complete consideration of RG-WM contributions to the September 2020 TSAG meeting and consider additional working-methods proposals toward WTSA-20. |

# 13 ITU-T meeting schedule including date of next TSAG meeting

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| --- | --- |
| 13.1 | TSAG took note of [TD793](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0793)-R3, with the schedule of ITU-T meetings from mid-September 2020 until 2021. |
| 13.2 | TSAG agreed the schedule of the next TSAG Rapporteur Group e-meetings:   * TSAG RG-ResReview e-meeting:   + Thursday, 3 December 2020: 1200-1500 hours Geneva time. * TSAG RG-SC e-meetings:   + Monday, 26 October 2020: 1500-1700 hours Geneva time   + Monday, 23 November 2020: 1500-1700 hours Geneva time. * TSAG RG-SOP e-meeting:   + Monday, 9 November 2020: 1500-1700 hours Geneva time. * TSAG RG-StdsStrat e-meetings:   + Monday, 26 October 2020: 1300-1500 hours Geneva time   + Wednesday, 2 December 2020: 1300-1500 hours Geneva time. * TSAG RG-WM e-meetings:   + Tuesday, 20 October 2020: 1500-1700 hours Geneva time   + Wednesday, 21 October 2020: 1500-1700 hours Geneva time. * TSAG RG-WP e-meetings:   + Tuesday, 3 November 2020: 1400-1600 hours Geneva time   + Tuesday, 8 December 2020: 1400-1600 hours Geneva time. |
| 13.3 | TSAG agreed the schedule of the seventh and last virtual TSAG meeting in this study period:   * Monday, 11 – Friday, 15 January 2021, and Monday, 18 January 2021 dedicated to the TSAG Report. |
| 13.4 | TSAG took note of the planned first TSAG meeting in the new study period 2021-2024:  Monday, 18 - Friday 22 October 2021 (preferred, tbc) or Monday, 25 - Friday 29 October 2021 (fall-back, tbc). |
| 13.5 | TSAG confirmed the second virtual interregional meeting for preparation of WTSA-20 on 8 January 2021.  The TSB will issue a TSB Circular to announce this inter-regional meeting well in advance. |

# 14 Any other business

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| --- | --- |
| 14.1 | Chairmen of ITU-T e-meetings were advised to request delegates to withdraw their floor request before the chairman proceeds to the next agenda item. |
| 14.2 | The Russian Federation indicated they would provide comments after the end of the meeting. |
| 14.3 | The Chairman assured that comments from captioning and audio records will be used in preparing the meeting report. |

# 15 Consideration of draft meeting Report

The Chairman announced that, as per the practice in past TSAG meetings, the draft meeting report in [TD744](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0744) would be open for review and comments for a period of two weeks.

# 16 Closure of meeting

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| 16.1 | The TSB Director apologized once again for the technical problems of the MyMeetings platform during the closing plenary; where three parallel events caused performance and bandwidth issues. TSB will be analysing the problems and providing an improved platform.  With the additional TSAG meeting in January 2021, he expressed his sincere expectation of the continued support and dedication by all during this TSAG meeting. He expressed his thanks and sincere appreciations to the participants, leaders, and Rapporteurs, Vice-Chairmen, Chairman, interpreters, and captioners, and TSB staff. |
| 16.2 | The TSAG Chairman thanked participants for the successful conclusion of this TSAG meeting, in particular the TSAG Vice Chairmen and Rapporteurs, the Chairmen of the study groups, and the delegates for their active participation and their spirit of compromise. He also thanked Messrs Chaesub Lee, Bilel Jamoussi, Martin Euchner, Ms Lara Al-Mnini, the projection assistants, TSB and the TSB IT staff, as well as the interpreters and the captioners, for their support and work. |
| 16.3 | The TSAG meeting was closed on 25 September 2020 at 1555 hours Geneva time and ended with a virtual applause. |

# Annex A Summary of results of the TSAG Plenary and of the TSAG Rapporteur Groups

|  | Report | Outgoing liaison statements | Future meetings |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| TSAG | ([TD774](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0774))  TSAG R10 | * LS on "New IP", "Future Vertical Communications Networks and Protocols (FVCN)", Network 2030 [to ITU-T SGs 11 and 13] ([LS36](https://www.itu.int/ifa/t/2017/ls/tsag/sp16-tsag-oLS-00036.zip), [TD913](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0913)-R2) * LS on ITU-T inter-regional meetings [to APT, ATU, CEPT, CITEL, LAS, RCC] ([LS37](https://www.itu.int/ifa/t/2017/ls/tsag/sp16-tsag-oLS-00037.zip), [TD868](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0868)) | * Monday, 11 – Friday, 15 January 2021, and Monday, 18 January 2021 dedicated to the TSAG Report. * Monday, 18 - Friday 22 October 2021 (preferred, tbc) or   Monday, 25 - Friday 29 October 2021 (fall-back, tbc). |
| RG-ResReview | --- | --- | * Thursday, 3 December 2020: 1200-1500 hours Geneva time |
| RG-SC | [TD779](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0779)-R2 | --- | * Monday, 26 October 2020: 1500-1700 hours Geneva time * Monday, 23 November 2020: 1500-1700 hours Geneva time. * Next TSAG meeting. |
| RG-SOP | --- | --- | * Monday, 9 November 2020: 1500-1700 hours Geneva time. |
| RG-StdsStrat | [TD783](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0783)-R2 | --- | * Monday, 26 October 2020: 1300-1500 hours Geneva time * Wednesday, 2 December 2020: 1300-1500 hours Geneva time. * Next TSAG meeting. |
| RG-WM | [TD785](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0785) | --- | * Tuesday, 20 October 2020: 1500-1700 hours Geneva time * Wednesday, 21 October 2020: 1500-1700 hours Geneva time. * Next TSAG meeting. |
| RG-WP | [TD787](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0787)-R1 | --- | * Tuesday, 3 November 2020: 1400-1600 hours Geneva time * Tuesday, 8 December 2020: 1400-1600 hours Geneva time. * Next TSAG meeting. |

# Annex B TSAG work programme

| Work item | New/ Revised | Title | Editor | Latest draft in | Timing |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| None |  |  |  |  |  |

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1. <https://extranet.itu.int/sites/itu-t/studygroups/2017-2020/tsag/SitePages/Captioning-Archive.aspx> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. 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/webcast/archive2/t2017-20tsag?order=field_start_date&sort=desc). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. TUP: Tsinghua University Press [↑](#footnote-ref-4)