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| **Abstract:** | Based on the report of SPCG’s activities in TSAG-TD1206, this document attempts an assessment of SPCG’s impact to ITU-T. |

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# Background

The virtual TSAG meeting (25-29 October 2021) received some concerns, questions, and proposals concerning the SPCG. TSAG invited the SPCG Chair to respond to the raised concerns and questions; see TSAG-TD1206.

In addition, several TSAG members proposed to see an activity report prepared which reports on the SPCG activities and achievements since the beginning of the SPCG (see TSAG-TD1206).

Based on the report of SPCG’s activities in TSAG-TD1206, this document attempts a mapping of SPCG activities’ to ITU-T interests, to reflect additional efforts deployed to achieve positive outcomes, value-add, and advantages for the ITU-T Sector.

TSAG agreed that the TSAG representatives in SPCG with support from TSB prepare such an assessment of the SPCG until the January 2022 TSAG meeting.

# Assessment of SPCG’s impact to ITU-T

The SPCG fully operates within the spirit and in support of Resolution 7 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) addressing collaboration with ISO and IEC. In general, collaboration and/ coordination collectively yield benefits for all involved players.

Table 1 below provides an assessment of SPCG’s impact to ITU-T following the elements of SPCG’s activities identified in section 2.1 of TSAG-TD1206.

**Table 1 - Assessment of SPCG’s impact to ITU-T**

| **SPCG activity** | **Impact to ITU-T** |
| --- | --- |
| 1. **Processes and operations** | * The SPCG representatives from ITU-T receive the Board proposals for review from ISO/TMB and from IEC/SMB for their new proposed fields; * The SPCG representatives from ISO/TMB and from IEC/SMB receive the proposed new fields from TSAG for review; * ITU-T obtains feedback from ISO and IEC through SPCG recommendations; * TSAG representatives convey ITU-T feedback to SPCG; * Early, upfront information exchange is taking place among the three SDOs; * New TSAG members joining SPCG quickly learned the SPCG business; * The established SPCG processes for newly proposed activities are functioning well. |
| 1. **Review and coordination of proposed new fields of activity** | * ITU-T is informed on forthcoming ISO IWA proposals, and can participate therein; * TSAG took on-board the SPCG recommendations and recognized the interests of ISO and IEC during the deliberations of the proposals; * The SPCG members obtain updates on the decisions of the ISO and IEC Boards. |
| 1. **Landscape of existing areas** | * With the landscape document, ITU-T has better overview on areas and groups of existing standardization and can utilize it for coordination and/or for collaboration; * The landscape document helps to identify potential joint interests; * The landscape document helped to identify and set priorities for cooperation between ITU-T, ISO, and IEC; * ITU-T will benefit from any improved collaboration/cooperation. |
| 1. **Outreach coordination pilot project on Artificial Intelligence/ Machine Learning** | * Coordination on AI/ML as a young and dynamic field was identified as a priority; * Initial contacts have been established at the secretariat level; * A structured coordination approach is under development. |
| 1. **SPCG sub-groups** | * Clarifications were obtained on processes for the future appointment of SPCG Chairs and Secretaries, and membership considerations; * TSAG can appoint a 5th delegate to the SPCG; * Selection criteria for SPCG delegates are at the discretion of each Board and thus does not impinge on the independence of any Board; * Increased visibility of SPCG via WSC and planned communications. |
| 1. **Approved SPCG documents** | * Definition of an SPCG vision statement: *A coherent and coordinated international standards landscape (ISO, IEC, ITU-T)*; with key principles guiding technical level coordination, and a checklist of considerations for use by proposers of new work/subjects was disseminated to all ITU-T study groups and members for usage; * [WSC webpage](https://www.worldstandardscooperation.org/what-we-do/standards-programme-coordination-group-spcg/) was re-designed; featuring the support for SPCG by the leaders of IEC, ISO and ITU. |
| 1. **Document sharing/access** | * The SPCG members could access relevant documents such as standards referenced in proposals via the assistance by the secretariat. |
| 1. **Coordination with the IEC-ISO-ITU Joint Smart City Task Force (J-SCTF):** Cooperation started between IEC-ISO-ITU Joint Smart City Task Force (J-SCTF) and the SPCG. | * TSAG clarified that J-SCTF provides a short annual progress reports to the Boards as is stated in J-SCTF ToR. |
| 1. **Consultations on planned amendments to Recommendation ITU-T A.23**: TSAG ran upfront informal consultations through SPCG members, and secretariats on TSAG’s planned amendments to Rec. ITU-T A.23. | * TSAG obtained feedback from consultations with SPCG members and with JTC1 secretariat prior to establishing a new work item. |

# References

* [TSAG-TD1206](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-220110-TD-GEN-1206) (2022-01) (SPCG Chair, ITU-T representatives to IEC SMB/ISO TMB/ITU-T TSAG Standardization Programme Coordination Group (SPCG), SPCG Secretary): Report on SPCG’s activities
* SPCG Terms of Reference: <https://www.worldstandardscooperation.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/ToR_SPCG.pdf>
* revised IEC/ISO/ITU World Standards Cooperation (WSC) Terms of Reference, 2020: [TSAG-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)

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