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| World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA-20) Geneva, 1-9 March 2022 |  |
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| PLENARY MEETING | Addendum 1 to Document 35-E |
|  | **15 December 2021** |
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| African Telecommunication Union Administrations | |
| Proposed modifications to Resolution 18 | |
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| **Abstract:** | ATU proposes to modify Resolution 18, to suppress redundant text in the preamble of Resolution 18, to shorten the Resolution and highlight the need to enhance coordination and collaboration between the three Sectors. No changes are proposed to operative parts and three Annexes. | |
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MOD AFCP/35A1/1

RESOLUTION 18 (Rev. Geneva, 2022)[[1]](#footnote-1)1

Principles and procedures for the allocation of work to, and strengthening coordination and cooperation among, the ITU Radiocommunication,   
ITU Telecommunication Standardization and ITU   
Telecommunication Development Sectors

(Helsinki, 1993; Geneva, 1996; Montreal, 2000; Florianópolis, 2004;   
Johannesburg, 2008; Dubai, 2012; Hammamet, 2016; Geneva, 2022)

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Geneva, 2022),

recalling

*a)* Resolution 191 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on strategy for the coordination of efforts among the three Sectors of the Union;

*b)* Resolution ITU‑R 6 of the Radiocommunication Assembly (RA) (Rev. Sharm El-Sheik, 2019), on liaison and collaboration with the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU‑T), and RA Resolution ITU‑R 7 (Rev. Sharm El-Sheik, 2019), on telecommunication development including liaison and collaboration with the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU‑D);

*c)* Resolution 59 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on strengthening coordination and cooperation among the three ITU Sectors on matters of mutual interest;

*d)* Resolutions 45 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on effective coordination of standardization work across study groups in the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector and the role of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group,

considering

*a)* that a basic principle for cooperation and collaboration among the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU‑R), ITU‑T and ITU‑D is the need to avoid duplication of activities of the Sectors, and to ensure that work is undertaken efficiently and effectively;

*b)* that there are a growing number of issues of mutual interest and concern to all Sectors, including the following: electromagnetic compatibility (EMC); international mobile telecommunications (IMT); middleware; audiovisual delivery; accessibility for persons with disabilities; emergency communications: information and communication technologies (ICT) and climate change; and security in the use of ICT;

*c)* the responsibilities of ITU‑R, ITU‑T and ITU‑D according to the principles laid down in the ITU Constitution and Convention;

*d)* the establishment of the Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) on issues of mutual interest, set up under decisions of the Sector advisory groups, and of the Inter-Sectoral Coordination Task Force (ISC-TF), headed by the Deputy Secretary-General, in order to eliminate duplication of effort and optimize the use of resources;

*e)* that the ITU Secretariat and all ITU Sectors make use of standards, technical reports, etc., developed by any of the other ITU Sector(s) as approved by ITU in advancing their work, unless such standards or work do not exist,

recognizing

*a)* that there is a need to improve the participation of developing countries in the work of ITU, as outlined in Resolution 5 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC;

*b)* that one such mechanism – the Inter-Sectoral Emergency Communications Team – has been established to ensure close collaboration within the Union as a whole, as well as with interested entities and organizations outside ITU, on this key priority issue for the Union;

*c)* that all the advisory groups are collaborating in the implementation of Resolution 123 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries,

noting

thatResolution ITU‑R 6 provides mechanisms for ongoing review of the allocation of work and cooperation between ITU‑R and ITU‑T,

resolves

1 that RAG, TSAG and TDAG, may meet jointly to review of new and existing work and its appropriate allocation to ITU‑R, ITU‑T or ITU‑D, for approval by Member States in accordance with the procedures laid down for the approval of new and/or revised Questions or any two of three advisory groups may separately resolve that further coordination measure should be taken as provided by resolve two of this Resolution;

2 that, if considerable responsibilities in any two or all three Sectors in a particular subject are identified:

i) the procedure given in Annex A to this resolution should be applied; or

ii) the matter should be studied by relevant study groups of the Sectors involved, with appropriate coordination and matching of relevant topics of interest to the study groups in the ITU-T, ITU-D and ITU-R Sectors (see Annexes B and C to this resolution); or

iii) a joint meeting may be arranged by the Directors of the Bureaux involved who shall propose such specific measures to address any subject more effectively to the advisory groups;

iv) a combination of the above measures may also be taken;

3 that requests from other Sectors to enhance coordination and cooperation as provided under this Resolution shall be viewed favourably by the relevant bodies of Telecommunication Sector,

invites

1 RAG, TSAG and TDAG to continue to assist the Intersector Coordination Group on Matters of Mutual Interest in the identification of subjects common to the three Sectors and mechanisms to enhance cooperation and collaboration in all Sectors on matters of mutual interest;

2 the Directors of the Radiocommunication (BR), Telecommunication Standardization (TSB) and Telecommunication Development (BDT) Bureaux and ISC‑TF to report to the Intersector Coordination Group on Matters of Mutual Interest and the respective Sector advisory groups on options for improving cooperation at the secretariat level to ensure that close coordination is maximized,

instructs

1 the ITU‑T study groups to continue cooperation with the study groups of the other two Sectors so as to avoid duplication of effort and make use of the results of work done by the study groups of those two Sectors;

2 the Director of TSB to report annually to TSAG on the results of the implementation of this resolution.

Annex A  
(to Resolution 18 (Rev. Geneva, 2022))

Procedural method of cooperation

With respect to *resolves* 2 i), the following procedure should be applied:

a) The joint meeting of the advisory groups referred to in *resolves* 1 will nominate the Sector which will lead the work and will finally approve the deliverable.

b) The lead Sector will request the other Sectors to indicate those requirements which it considers essential for integration in the deliverable.

c) The lead Sector will base its work on these essential requirements and integrate them in its draft deliverable.

d) During the process of development of the required deliverable the lead Sector shall consult with the other Sectors in case it has difficulties with these essential requirements. In case of agreement on revised essential requirements the revised requirements shall be the basis for further work.

e) When the deliverable concerned comes to maturity, the lead Sector shall seek once more the views of the other Sectors.

In the determination of the work responsibility, it may be appropriate to progress the work by drawing jointly on the skills of the Sectors involved.

Annex B  
(to Resolution 18 (Rev. Geneva, 2022))

Coordination of radiocommunication, standardization and development activities through intersector coordination groups

With respect to *resolves* 2ii), the following procedure shall be applied:

a) The joint meeting of the advisory groups referred to in *resolves* 1 may, in exceptional cases, establish an intersector coordination group (ICG) to coordinate the work of the Sectors involved and to assist the advisory groups in coordinating the related activity of their respective study groups.

b) The joint meeting shall, at the same time, nominate the Sector which will lead the work.

c) The mandate of each ICG shall be clearly defined by the joint meeting, based on the particular circumstances and issues at the time the group is established; the joint meeting shall also establish a target date for termination of the ICG.

d) The ICG shall designate a chairman and a vice‑chairman, one representing each Sector.

e) The ICG shall be open to members of the participating Sectors in accordance with Nos. 86-88, 110‑112 and 134-136 of the Constitution.

f) The ICG shall not develop Recommendations.

g) The ICG shall prepare reports on its coordinating activities to be presented to each Sector's advisory group; these reports shall be submitted by the Directors to the participating Sectors.

h) An ICG may also be established by WTSA or by RA or by WTDC following a recommendation by the advisory group(s) of the other Sector(s).

i) The cost of an ICG shall be supported by the participating Sectors on an equal basis and each Director shall include budgetary provisions for such meetings in the budget of his or her Sector.

Annex C  
(to Resolution 18 (Rev. Geneva, 2022))

Coordination of radiocommunication, telecommunication standardization and development activities through intersector rapporteur groups

With respect to *resolves*2 ii), the following procedure shall be applied when work on a specific subject could be best performed by bringing together technology experts from the study groups or working parties concerned of either two or three Sectors to cooperate on a peer-to-peer basis in a technical group:

a) The study groups or working parties concerned in each Sector may, in special cases, agree by mutual consultation to establish an intersector rapporteur group (IRG) to coordinate their work on a specific technical subject, informing RAG, TSAG and TDAG of this action through a liaison statement.

b) The study groups or working parties concerned in each Sector shall, at the same time, agree on clearly defined terms of reference for the IRG, and establish a target date for completion of the work and termination of the IRG.

c) The study groups or working parties concerned in each Sector shall also designate the chairman (or co-chairmen) of the IRG, taking into account the requested specific expertise and ensuring equitable representation of each Sector.

d) Being a rapporteur group, the IRG shall be regulated by the provisions applicable to rapporteur groups, given in the most recent versions of Resolution ITU‑R 1, Recommendation ITU‑T A.1 and WTDC Resolution 1; participation is limited to members of the Sectors involved.

e) In fulfilling its mandate, an IRG may develop draft new Recommendations or draft revisions to Recommendations, as well as draft technical reports or draft revisions of technical reports, to be submitted to its parent study groups or working parties for further processing as appropriate.

f) The results of the IRG's work should represent the agreed consensus of the IRG or reflect the diversity of views of the participants in the IRG.

g) An IRG shall also prepare reports on its activities, to be submitted to each meeting of its parent study groups or working parties.

h) An IRG shall normally work by correspondence and/or by teleconference; however, it may occasionally take the opportunity of a meeting of its parent study groups or working parties to hold short face-to-face concurrent meetings, if this is feasible without support by the Sectors.

1. 1 This resolution should also be brought to the attention of the ITU Radiocommunication and Telecommunication Development Sectors. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)