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| World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA-20) Geneva, 1-9 March 2022 |  |
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| PLENARY MEETING | Addendum 13 to Document 39-E |
|  | **24 March 2021** |
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| Member States of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL) | |
| Proposed new Resolution [IAP-1] - Towards a more effective, efficient, fit for purpose, and inclusive ITU Standardization Sector | |
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| **Abstract:** | In order to promote a more effective, efficient, fit-for-purpose and inclusive ITU-T, CITEL proposes that WTSA initiate a thorough examination of the ITU-T’s standardization activities. |

Introduction

The proposed new Resolution aims to identify and address the challenges faced by the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector in a rapidly changing telecommunication/ICT environment. It calls for an examination of the ITU-T’s standardization functions to ensure that the standardization needs of the membership are met; that the ITU-T structure and processes provide for the rapid development of high-quality, demand-driven, transparent, consensus-based voluntary standards, giving consideration and accommodation to all views and concerns; and that the ITU-T’s commitments under Resolution 123 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) on Bridging the Standardization Gap are adequately met. The proposed new Resolution calls for a review process that would consider both quantitative metrics and qualitative policy-oriented questions. An independent external consultant will be retained to collect and analyze data based on the metrics and questions. Based on the analysis and findings, the consultant is proposed to prepare a report with recommendations for TSAG and the Council for further consideration.

Proposal

Add a new Resolution to initiate a thorough review process, based on empirical analysis, with a view to having a more effective, efficient, fit-for-purpose and inclusive ITU-T.

ADD IAP/39A13/1

DRAFT NEW RESOLUTION [IAP-1]

Towards a more effective, efficient, fit for purpose, and inclusive ITU Standardization Sector

(Geneva, 2022)

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Geneva, 2022),

considering

*a)* the provisions of the ITU Constitution and ITU Convention related to strategic goals and objectives of the Union;

*b)* the Standardization Sector Strategic Objectives and goals and their implementation criteria in Annex 1 of Resolution 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*c)* Resolution 122 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the evolving role of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly,

recognizing

*a)* that technological, market and regulatory changes have thoroughly transformed the telecommunications/ICT sector, underscoring the need to re-evaluate ITU-T’s standardization functions and structure to ensure that ITU-T is capable of delivering high-quality, demand-driven, international standards developed in line with the principles of global connectivity, openness, affordability, reliability, interoperability and security;

*b)* that the Rapporteur Groups of the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG), with limited mandate, have routinely examined the existing working methods and Study Group structure;

*c)* that, notwithstanding minor changes to study group structure and working methods, the ITU-T has not undertaken a major restructure and reform since 1998 pursuant to Resolution 74 (Minneapolis 1998) which was implemented by the subsequent Assemblies and Conferences;

*d)* that WTSA-20 is well positioned to initiate a thorough examination of the fundamental attributes of ITU-T’s standardization functions, study group structure, working methods, standardization strategies and the future role of ITU-T in global standards development;

*e)* that such examination of the standardization functions and structure should find measures to enhance its strengths to meet the standardization needs of all Member States and Sector Members, Associates and Academia;

*f)* that such examination should take into account:

i) standardization attributes that provide for an efficient, fair and transparent process for the rapid development of high-quality, demand-driven, consensus-based voluntary standards, giving consideration and accommodation to all views and concerns;

ii) implementation criteria for ITU activities that adhere to ITU values, promote efficiency, add value, have maximum impact and tangible results and meet the needs of ITU Membership; and

iii) ITU-T’s commitment under Resolution 123 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) on Bridging the Standardization Gap, which instructs the Secretary General and the Directors of the three Bureaus to work closely to step up actions intended and to reduce the standardization gap between developing and developed countries,

resolves

1 to examine ITU-T’s standardization activities with respect to standardization attributes with a view to ensuring that they reflect an efficient, fair and transparent process capable of developing high-quality, demand-driven, timely, consensus-based, voluntary international telecommunication/ICT standards;

2 to examine ITU-T’s standardization activities with respect to implementation criteria with a view to further evaluating ITU-T’s structure, working methods, objectives and goals;

3 to undertake necessary steps including collection, analysis and interpretation of the data needed to address questions in the Annex of this Resolution in order to promote the continued evolution of the ITU-T;

4 to take further action as appropriate,

invites the Council

1 to appoint an independent external consultant within the budgetary constraints of the Union and develop a terms of reference that directs the consultant to collect, compile and analyse metrics in order to address the questions identified in the Annex to this Resolution;

2 to instruct the independent consultant to present a report with the relevant underlying data, methodologies and analysis and recommendations based on its findings to Council; and

3 to instruct TSAG to review the report and recommendations for further action and consideration,

instructs the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group

1 to review, through an Expert Group or other appropriate mechanism, the report and recommendations of the independent consultant pursuant to *invites* above;

2 to prepare a report and recommendations to present to Council for further action and consideration and;

3 to present a report to WTSA-24 on the activities associated with this Resolution,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunications Standardization Bureau

1 to provide the necessary assistance, including but not limited to access to existing metrics, to the work of the independent consultant pursuant to invites above;

2 to provide the necessary assistance to the TSAG in the implementation of this Resolution,

invites

1 the Radiocommunications Advisory Group (RAG) and Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) to contribute to the implementation of this Resolution, as appropriate;

2 ITU Members to participate actively in the implementing this Resolution.

ANNEX A  
(to Resolution [IAP-1] (Geneva, 2022))

Questions and metrics to analyse ITU-T’s standardization objectives, activities, outcomes and goals from 2000 to 2020

The following set of questions and suggested metrics shall inform analysis of ITU-T’s standardization objectives, activities outcomes and goals from 2000-2020. Suggested metrics may be supplemented by additional data deemed useful to answer and analyse the stated questions.

The questions listed should serve as the basis for a terms of reference for an external independent consultant. The independent external consultant shall present an analysis of these questions and metrics, as well as the underlying data and methodologies used to TSAG and Council.

1. Do ITU-T’s standardization activities reflect high-quality, demand-driven, efficient, cost-effective and timely development of Recommendations?

• participation, contribution and leadership by types of membership from 2000 to 2020 for each study group and related subgroups;

• number of months elapsed between introduction and adoption of Recommendations by study groups from 2000 and 2020;

• number of liaison statements from other standardization organizations during 2000 and 2020;

• number of Recommendations approved using the traditional approval process from 2000 to 2020;

• number of test suites developed using ITU-T Recommendations from 2000 to 2020.

2. What value do ITU-T’s Recommendations add or have significant impact on the ITU Membership?

• number of downloads by Recommendation from 2000 to 2020;

• number of ITU-T Recommendations incorporated or adopted by other standardization organizations from 2000 to 2020;

• number of standards essential patents first in ITU-T Recommendations from 2000 to 2020;

• number of ITU-T Recommendations cited in the press from 2000 to 2020;

• number of ITU-T Recommendations cited in Member States' laws and regulations as of 2020;

• number of ITU-T Recommendations, Guidelines and Reports with policy or regulatory implications between 2000 to 2020;

• number of ITU-T Recommendations cited in Sector Members’ press releases and documentation from 2000 to 2020;

• comparable numbers to the above for other SDOs, including but not limited to ISO, IEC, IEEE, IETF, and 3GPP;

• number of ITU-T Recommendations adopted and implemented by industry from 2000 to 2020.

3. How does ITU-T cooperate and coordinate with other standardization organizations?

• number of liaison statements sent to other standardization organizations from 2000 to 2020;

• number of memoranda of understanding with other SDOs;

• number of joint workshops or activities with other SDOs;

• number of standards from other SDOs incorporated or adopted by ITU-T from 2000 to 2020 separated by field/subject.

4. How is ITU-T engaged in fulfilling its obligations under Bridging the Standardization Gap (BSG) and what is the impact of these activities?

• annual number of participants from developing countries in ITU-T study groups, focus groups and rapporteur groups during 2000 and 2020;

• number of technical training and workshops organized by ITU-T and the regional offices under Bridging the Standardization Gap (BSG);

• level of participation and satisfaction regarding ITU-T workshops;

• size of assistance provided to Member States with low and basic standards capability on the National Standards Capability Scale developed by ITU-T;

• cooperation with ITU-D and regional offices regarding capacity building on standards.

5. How do ITU Membership participate in international SDOs that are engaged in telecommunication/ICT related activities?:

• number of participants by developing and developed countries during 2000 and 2020;

• number of leadership positions held by ITU Membership in other SDOs by Region;

6. Is the current structure of study groups conducive to the standardization process of the rapid pace of telecommunication/ICT technology development?

7. Does the ITU-T standardization process reflect standardization principles of openness, transparency, inclusiveness, demand-driven, consensus-based, voluntary, and timely?

8. Are there SDOs, other than ITU-T, developing recognized recommendations on regulatory and policy aspects of the telecommunications/ICT sector? Specify internal structure, methods of work, time to publish and relate, if it is the case, to the inquires of question 3.

9. Is the Telecommunication Development Sector with assistance from the Standardization Sector best suited to implement the BSG work and keep developing countries informed on new and emerging technologies?

10. Should ITU-T consider providing guidance on the adoption and use of emerging technologies and protocols (solutions) developed by other SDOs used to define end-to-end telecommunications/ICT solutions?

11. Should ITU-T conduct gap analysis to identify standards developed by other SDOs on international telecommunication/ICTs that fail to address unique requirements and needs of ITU-T Members?