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| **Abstract:** | The ITU’s Study Group restructuring holds immense potential. This contribution discussion important aspects that should be reflected for a more balanced and effective approach to reformation of the Study Groups.  |

Introduction:

The ITU has a unique opportunity to optimize its Study Groups structure. Restructuring can streamline operations, embrace new and emerging technologies, and amplify existing work, ensuring the organization remains a central force shaping the future of information and communications technologies. However, this transformation must be carefully navigated, preserving the invaluable contributions of current groups and ensure their continued relevance within the new structure.

Discussion:

The evolution of technology demands constant innovation in how we standardize its development and deployment, as industry needs shift and new fields emerge, a critical question arises: how can we restructure ITU’s study groups to best serve both the present and the future? Striking a balance between meeting current industry demands, proactively engaging with emerging technologies, and preserving the crucial expertise within existing groups is an essential task we must perform in any restructuring effort. The implementation of the restructuring process should be grounded in a thorough analysis to ensure its effectiveness and success. By carefully considering these factors we can ensure that ITU remains a relevant and impactful force in the ever-changing world of technological standardization.

**Focus on Industry Needs**: Restructuring should be guided by a thorough assessment of industry needs and future trends. The structure should align with the technological landscape, facilitating efficient development of standards that address real-world challenges and opportunities. ITU-T must ensure its work remains relevant and impactful for all stakeholders including governments and private sector.

**Proactive Approach to New and Emerging Technologies**: Restructuring should not only cater to existing technologies but also embrace a proactive approach towards emerging fields that proves to have a sustainable development and meet industry needs. Identifying and addressing new technologies early on will require flexibility and adaptability within the study group structure. This may involve creating dedicated groups for promising technologies or establishing mechanisms for rapid transition from assessing the new technology to establishing study groups when the technology demonstrates sustained growth and industry interest.

**Operational Efficiency While Preserving Expertise**: While it is important to look at operational aspects while improving the state of Study Groups, Operational Efficiency practices should not heavily intervene in the work of current Study Groups without a proper and effective work plan. Current study groups are composed of experts who have accumulated significant knowledge and experience in their respective domains. This expertise is invaluable for the development of international standards (Recommendations). Dissolving and merging existing study groups should be determined based on the global need not on the operational aspects that can lead to discontinuity and instability in standardization efforts and disrupt a well-established system of collaboration and may disturb access to existing standards and recommendations.

Conclusion:

The restructuring of ITU-T’s Study Groups structure presents a unique opportunity to enhance responsiveness, embrace innovative technologies, and solidify its position as a central force shaping the future of ICTs. However, approaching this transformation need to consider creating a balance between streamlining operations, aligning with evolving technological needs and, and preserving the invaluable expertise within existing groups. This will ensure that the structure of Study Groups will be adaptable to critical and future changes.

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