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|  | INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION  **TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION SECTOR**  STUDY PERIOD 2022-2024 | | | | TSAG-TD291 |
| **TSAG** |
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| **Source:** | | Chairman, WP1/TSAG | | | |
| **Title:** | | LS/o on further cooperation and mutual interest between ITU-T and UPU under WTSA Resolution 11 | | | |
| **LIAISON STATEMENT** | | | | | |
| **For action to:** | | | UPU | | |
| **For information to:** | | |  | | |
| **Approval:** | | | TSAG meeting (Geneva, 2 June 2023) | | |
| **Deadline:** | | | - | | |
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| **Abstract:** | This liaison invites the UPU to consider further ways of cooperation and mutual interest between ITU-T and UPU and the necessity maintenance of WTSA Resolution 11. |

In preparation for World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly 2024 (WTSA-24), the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (ITU-T TSAG), at its 30 May-2 June 2023 meeting, considered the issue of actual collaboration between ITU-T and the Universal Postal Union (UPU) and its relation to provisions of WTSA [Resolution 11 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016)](https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-t/opb/res/T-RES-T.11-2022-PDF-E.pdf) “Collaboration with the Postal Operations Council (POC) of the Universal Postal Union in the study of services concerning both the postal and the telecommunication sectors” in the undergoing process of WTSA Resolution revisions.

It was noted that instruction of WTSA-16 [Resolution 11](https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-t/opb/res/T-RES-T.11-2022-PDF-E.pdf) to establish a joint working group on digital financial services composed of the POC with ITU Secretariat was discussed during a meeting in 2017 between ITU and UPU Secretariat and was found to be not feasible. At that meeting it was decided that ITU and UPU Secretariat would hold regular joint meetings to coordinate on activities related to digital financial services and financial inclusion.

It was also noted that latest collaborative activity from UPU (adopting Digital Financial Service Glossary developed by ITU-T Focus Group Digital Financial Services, participation in the working groups and symposia of the Financial Inclusion Global Initiative (FIGI) which was a joint programme of ITU, World Bank and Committee of Payments and Market Infrastructures of Bank for International Settlements and ITU-T Focus Group on Digital Currency etc) were under the previous study period until WTSA-20. These collaboration activities were facilitated by the exchanges held during the quarterly meetings of the ITU and UPU Secretariat on digital financial services.

Some ITU-T Member states and Regional Telecommunication Organizations had proposed to suppress Resolution 11 as already fulfilled its purpose. WTSA-20 decided in March 2022 to maintain this Resolution to have a chance to review the status of collaboration and mutual interest between ITU-T and UPU, for further consideration of ITU-T members.

TSAG was informed there are ongoing quarterly meetings between the secretariat of ITU and UPU to discuss areas of collaboration in digital financial services. At the recent meeting of ITU and UPU Secretariats in April 2023, the topic of adoption of the security best practices for digital financial services applications by postal authorities and the organization of security clinics in this regard among others were discussed.

In preparation for next WTSA-24, ITU-T would like to ask UPU for your vision on further cooperation between ITU-T and UPU, your views on the perspective for collaboration between UPU POC and ITU-T study groups by identifying which technical areas, domains are of possible interest for collaboration in scope of ITU-T study groups and the mechanism for UPU POC to engage with ITU-T Study Groups are invited, and your proposal on possible amendments to Resolution 11 would also be appreciated.

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