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| A black and white logo  Description automatically generated with low confidence | INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION  **TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION SECTOR**  STUDY PERIOD 2022-2024 | | TSAG-TD531 |
| **TSAG** |
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| **Source:** | | Rapporteur, RG-DT | |
| **Title:** | | Progress report of the interim TSAG RG-DT meetings (June 2023 to July 2024) | |
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| **Abstract:** | This TD contains the final report of the interim meetings of TSAG Rapporteur Group on Sustainable Digital Transformation (RG-DT) which were held fully virtual from June 2023 to July 2024 and the text for the draft new WTSA Resolution on *Enhancing the standardization activities on Sustainable Digital Transformation*. |
| **Action required**: | TSAG is invited to note the report and the consensus reached on the text for the draft new WTSA Resolution on *Enhancing the standardization activities on Sustainable Digital Transformation* in Annex 1 of the report. |

**1. Reports from the interim meetings**

TSAG RG-DT organized several interim meetings as highlighted below.

| **Meeting Date, Time** | **Objectives** | **Contribution Deadline** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 24 July 2023 1300-1500 hours (CEST) | • Collect inputs to be used for performing a gap analysis on the activities and studies on digital transformation in ITU-T, ITU-D and ITU-R as well as in other standardization bodies;  • Consider inter alia, definitions, concepts, system architectures, use-cases, fundamental underlying technologies, interoperability, and the ecosystem of digital transformation;  • Develop draft new Resolution WTSA on digital transformation. | 16 July 2023 |
| 27 September 2023 1300-1500 hours (CEST) | • Progress a gap analysis on the activities and studies on digital transformation;  • Consider inter alia, definitions, concepts, system architectures, use-cases, fundamental underlying technologies, interoperability, and the ecosystem of digital transformation;  • Progress draft new Resolution WTSA on digital transformation. | 19 September 2023 |
| 17 November 2023 1300-1500 hours (CET) | * Progress a gap analysis on the activities and studies on digital transformation; * Consider inter alia, definitions, concepts, system architectures, use-cases, fundamental underlying technologies, interoperability, and the ecosystem of digital transformation; * Progress draft new Resolution WTSA on digital transformation; * Submit RG-DT report to TSAG. | 9 November 2023 |
| 5 March 2024 1300-1500 hours (CET) | * Progress a gap analysis on the activities and studies on digital transformation; * Consider inter alia, definitions, concepts, system architectures, use-cases, fundamental underlying technologies, interoperability, and the ecosystem of digital transformation; * Progress draft new Resolution WTSA on digital transformation; * Submit RG-DT report to TSAG. | 26 February 2024 |
| 23 April 2024  1300-1500 hours (CEST) | * Progress a gap analysis on the activities and studies on digital transformation; * Consider inter alia, definitions, concepts, system architectures, use-cases, fundamental underlying technologies, interoperability, and the ecosystem of digital transformation; * Progress draft new Resolution WTSA on digital transformation; * Submit RG-DT report to TSAG | 15 April 2024 |
| 24 June 2024  1300-1500 hours (CEST) | * Progress a gap analysis on the activities and studies on digital transformation; * Consider inter alia, definitions, concepts, system architectures, use-cases, fundamental underlying technologies, interoperability, and the ecosystem of digital transformation; * Progress draft new Resolution WTSA on digital transformation; * Submit RG-DT report to TSAG | 17 June 2024 |
| 1 July 2024  1300-1500 hours (CEST) | * Progress a gap analysis on the activities and studies on digital transformation; * Consider inter alia, definitions, concepts, system architectures, use-cases, fundamental underlying technologies, interoperability, and the ecosystem of digital transformation; * Progress draft new Resolution WTSA on digital transformation; * Submit RG-DT report to TSAG | 25 June 2024 |

The reports from these meetings are attached as contained in [RGDT-DOC3 (230927)](https://extranet.itu.int/meetings/ITU-T/T22-TSAGRGM/RGDT-230927/DOCs/T22-TSAGRGM-RGDT-230927-DOC-0003.docx), [RGDT-DOC1 (231117)](https://extranet.itu.int/meetings/ITU-T/T22-TSAGRGM/RGDT-231117/DOCs/T22-TSAGRGM-RGDT-231117-DOC-0001.docx), [RGDT-DOC3 (240305)](https://extranet.itu.int/meetings/ITU-T/T22-TSAGRGM/RGDT-240305/DOCs/T22-TSAGRGM-RGDT-240305-DOC-0003.docx) , [RGDT-DOC3 (240423)](https://extranet.itu.int/meetings/ITU-T/T22-TSAGRGM/RGDT-240423/DOCs/T22-TSAGRGM-RGDT-240423-DOC-0003.docx) , [RGDT-DOC2 (240624)](https://extranet.itu.int/meetings/ITU-T/T22-TSAGRGM/RGDT-240624/DOCs/T22-TSAGRGM-RGDT-240624-DOC-0002.docx) and [RGDT-DOC7 (240701)](https://extranet.itu.int/meetings/ITU-T/T22-TSAGRGM/RGDT-240701/DOCs/T22-TSAGRGM-RGDT-240701-DOC-0007.docx).

**2. Discussion**

2.1 TSAG RG-DT discussed the draft new WTSA Resolution on digital transformation (Annex 1) and has advanced the text submitted to the last TSAG meeting in this study period.

2.2 TSAG RG-DT received liaison statements (LSs) from both ITU-D SGs and some ITU-T SGs which contain information about their activities and outcomes on digital transformation. The current list of activities and outcomes of particular study groups are highlighted in Annex 2 accordingly.

2.3 TSAG RG-DT has used this information provided by SGs in order to develop gap analysis which was tasked by TSAG.

**3. Invited actions for TSAG**

RG-DT is pleased to bring the following actions to the attention of TSAG:

***Action TSAG RG-DT-1-1:*** *TSAG is invited to review and note the RG-DT report, take note of the progess achieved and provide guidance for further work in RG-DT.*

***Action TSAG RG-DT-2-1:*** *TSAG is invited to note the consensus achieved on development of draft new Resolution on Digital Transformation (the current text is based on* [RGDT-DOC1 (240701)](https://extranet.itu.int/meetings/ITU-T/T22-TSAGRGM/RGDT-240701/DOCs/T22-TSAGRGM-RGDT-240701-DOC-0001.docx) *and it is available in the Annex 1 below).*

**Annex 1**

RESOLUTION XXX (New Delhi, 2024)

**Enhancing the standardization activities on Sustainable Digital Transformation**

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (New Delhi, 2024),

*Recalling*

a) No. 13 of Article 1 of the ITU Constitution, which establishes that the Union shall in particular facilitate the worldwide standardization of telecommunications, with a satisfactory quality of service,

b) that, in Article 17, the Constitution indicates that the functions of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) shall be, bearing in mind the particular concerns of the developing countries1, to fulfil the purposes of the Union,

c) that the ITU strategic plan for 2024-2027, approved by means of Resolution 71 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, establishes that Sustainable Digital Transformation is a strategic goal of the Union in facilitating progress towards the implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) action lines and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

d) that the Geneva Plan of Action and Tunis Agenda for the Information Society of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) emphasize efforts to overcome the digital divide and development divides;

*considering*

a) that digital transformation through the emergence of key technologies, enabling new services and applications, and promoting the building of the information society is the key enabler for making progress towards sustainable development, which shall be taken into account in the work of ITU‑T,

b) that, for the developing countries at the initial stage of introducing digital transformation, it is important to have technical standards and guidelines, which would make it possible to introduce digital transformation in a timely manner,

c) that there is a need to rapidly develop high-quality, demand-driven, interoperable, and non-discriminatory international standards (ITU‑T recommendations) to support and facilitate activities on sustainable digital transformation in line with the principles of global connectivity, openness, affordability, reliability, interoperability and security, which are critical for generating confidence for further investments on sustainable digital transformation,

d) that there is also a need to extend and facilitate international cooperation on sustainable digital transformation among international and regional standardization bodies, with a view to avoiding duplication of work and achieving efficient use of resources;

*considering further*

that ITU‑T technical standards and recommendations to support and facilitate digital transformation will contribute towards achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, taking into account that developing countries could benefit immensely from the application and development of technical standards and guidelines that facilitate digital transformation activities;

*noting*

that the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) created a Rapporteur Group on Sustainable Digital Transformation (RG-DT) in June 2023;

*resolves to instruct*

1. Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) to take all necessary steps to promote and enhance standardization activities that support and facilitate digital transformation, which may include establishing a TSAG Focus Group on Digital Transformation with a view to,

a) effectively consolidating all guidelines, recommendations, technical reports, best practices and use cases developed by ITU-T on sustainable digital transformation, through the use of ITU web-based tools, and to identify strategies and mechanisms to facilitate and allow Member States to proactively use these tools to hasten the transfer of knowledge,

b) promoting the timely development of guidelines for developing countries on the basis ITU‑T recommendations, particularly those related to sustainable digital transformation,

c) encouraging the participation of *Member States, Sector Members, and Academia*, particularly from developing countries in ITU’s activities on sustainable digital transformation, including through, whenever possible, holding workshops, study group meetings, and other meetings in the regions,

d) recommending measures to foster cooperation and collaboration with other relevant standards development organizations (SDOs), and with the Radiocommunication Sector, the Telecommunication Development Sector and the General Secretariat,

e) recommending measures to foster cooperation and collaboration with other relevant standards development organizations (SDOs) and institutions;

2. ITU-T Study Groups

a) to organize the necessary work and studies in order to accelerate the work on digital transformation,

b) to facilitate the development of ITU-T Recommendations that can lead to the sustainable digital transformation across different sectors and technologies,

c) to coordinate and collaborate with other relevant standards development organizations (SDOs) and institutions with primary responsibility for standards development and capacity building in the area of digital transformation, and with other groups within ITU,

d) to develop technical standards that will help developing countries take advantage of emerging ICT-centric technologies related to digital transformation,

e) to promote the timely development of guidelines for developing countries on the basis ITU‑T recommendations, related to sustainable digital transformation,

f) to encourage Member States, Sector members, and Academia to contribute to studies and development of standards/guidelines related to digital transformation;

*invites Member States, Sector Members, and Academia*

1. to provide contributions and actively participate in the ITU-T activities related to sustainable digital transformation,
2. to encourage the use of innovative digital tools and technologies, as appropriate, to advance digital transformation.

**Annex 2**

**Activities and studies related to sustainable digital transformation**

**Template**

| **Sector/Domain** | **Study group or**  **SDO** | **Title of deliverable** | **Scope of deliverable** | **Current status** | **Reference/URI** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Please indicate the sector/domain for which digital transformation is applied*  *(e.g. health, education, transportation, standardization, etc.)* | *Please highlight the ITU-T, ITU-D, ITU-R SG or other SDO which is in charge* | *Please indicate the title of the deliverable* | *Please provide the short description summarizing the scope of the deliverable highlighting its relevance to digital transformation* | *Please indicate status of the deliverable (e.g. approved, ongoing)* | *Please provide reference to the latest document, including a hyperlink* |

| **Sector/Domain** | **Study group or**  **SDO** | **Title of deliverable** | **Scope of deliverable** | **Current status** | **Reference/URI** | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Network management  And  maintenance | ITU-T SG9 | Artificial intelligence (AI) assisted cable networks – General requirements for the AI-assisted cable network platform | This Recommendation supports the automation of the operation and maintenance for cable TV and broadband networks, typically the hybrid fibre coaxial (HFC), through the premium cable network platform (PCNP) embedded with intelligent analyser and controller (IAC).  It specifies the framework of the PCNP that exploits the cloud based artificial intelligence and network data to optimize network and television (TV) services, thus enabling the high satisfaction of user's experience of perceptual aspects of services.  This Recommendation also defines a number of functions and interfaces that may be supported by the platform to facilitate intelligent network operation and maintenance. | Approved | <https://www.itu.int/ITU-T/recommendations/rec.aspx?rec=13977&lang=en> | |
| Smart cities and communities | ITU-D, SG2 | Smart sustainable cities and communities (Q1/2) | It covers smart city planning, architecture/software/data management, smart services as well as concept design for connectivity and infrastructure, policies and business models. | Ongoing | | Final report of the previous study period for additional information:  [link](https://www.itu.int/hub/publication/D-STG-SG02.01.2-2021/)  Related BDT activities:  [link](https://www.itu.int/itu-d/sites/ict-applications/) |
| Education, health | ITU-D, SG2 | Enabling technologies for e-services and applications, including e-health and e-education (Q2/2) | It investigates the best practice, potential technologies and capacity preparedness models of e-applications in developing countries: e-health including AI/ML, mobile hospital and rural e‑healthcare, e-education and other applications (agriculture, fisheries, science, art, etc.) which impact business and social life in developing countries. | Ongoing | | Final reports of the previous study period for additional information:  [link](https://www.itu.int/hub/publication/D-STG-SG02.02.3-2021/) (Q2/2)  [link](https://www.itu.int/en/myitu/Publications/2021/07/22/12/07/Emerging-technologies) (Q3/1)  Related BDT activities:  [link](https://www.itu.int/itu-d/sites/ict-applications/) |
| Cybersecurity | ITU-D, SG2 | Securing information and communication networks: Best practices for developing a culture of cybersecurity  (Q3/2) | This addresses, among other things:   * User awareness and capacity building regarding cybersecurity requirements; * Experiences with cybersecurity assurance practices; * Approaches and best practices in responding to cybersecurity incidents; * Approaches and experience sharing in national CSIRT/CIRT coordination for critical infrastructure resilience; * Approaches and best practices, and collection of experiences on the implementation of national cybersecurity strategies and policies; * Challenges and approaches to 5G cybersecurity. | Ongoing | | Final report of the previous study period for additional information:  [link](https://www.itu.int/en/myitu/Publications/2021/09/28/13/54/SG2-Q3-2-Final-Report)  Interim deliverable on cybersecurity assurance practices:  [link](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-SG02-C-0134/en)  Related BDT activities:  [link](https://www.itu.int/itu-d/sites/cybersecurity/) |
| Conformance, interoperability, counterfeiting, theft of mobile devices | ITU-D, SG2 | Telecommunication/ICT equipment: Conformance and interoperability, combating counterfeiting and theft of mobile devices (Q4/2) | It covers devices-related issues such as:   * ICT products enabling the SDGs; * Conformance and interoperability; * Fight against the proliferation of counterfeit devices, poor quality devices and tampered devices; * Mobile device theft; * Internet of Things and C&I; * Examination of information transfer, know-how and training; * Challenges for C&I. | Ongoing | | Final report of the previous study period for additional information:  [link](https://www.itu.int/en/myitu/Publications/2021/09/28/17/06/Assistance-to-developing-countries-to-implement-conformance-interoperability-anti-counterfeit)  Related BDT activities:  [link](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Technology/Pages/ConformanceandInteroperability.aspx) |
| Digital skills | ITU-D, SG2 | Adoption of telecommunications/ICTs and improving digital skills (Q5/2) | A new Question added this cycle to assist in the following regards:   * Adoption of ICTs; * Digital Skills Deployment; * Framework for Digital Skills Adoption at different levels. | Ongoing | | (This is a new study Question)  Related BDT activities:  [link](https://www.itu.int/itu-d/sites/capacity-development/) |
| Environment | ITU-D, SG2 | ICTs for the environment (Q6/2) | It covers environmental-related issues pertinent to use of ICT to protect and monitor environment: and climate change:   * New technologies for climate change; * Challenges and case studies on climate change; * Comparative Guidelines to mitigate the impacts of climate change; * Challenges of e-waste; * Actions taken to address the challenges of e-waste processes and procedures. | Ongoing | | Final report of the previous study period for additional information:  [link](https://www.itu.int/en/myitu/Publications/2021/10/01/08/28/Information-and-communication-technologies-and-the-environment)  Related BDT activities:  [link](https://www.itu.int/itu-d/sites/environment/) |
| Human exposure to electromagnetic fields | ITU-D, SG2 | Strategies and policies concerning human exposure to electromagnetic fields (Q7/2) | It covers health and EMF exposure issues related to spread adoption of digital services and devices:   * ITU and international activities; * Updates and the adoptions of international and regional RF-EMF exposure limits; * Policies to limit exposure to radiofrequency fields; * Formulating national EMF policies on exposure limits. | Ongoing | | Final report of the previous study period for additional information:  [link](https://www.itu.int/en/myitu/Publications/2021/10/01/08/44/Policies-guidelines-of-human-exposure-to-radio-frequency-electromagnetic-fields)  Related BDT activities:  [link](https://www.itu.int/itu-d/sites/ict-infrastructure/) |
| Strategies, policies, regulations and methods of migration to and adoption of digital technologies for broadcasting, including to provide new services for various environments | ITU-D, SG1  Q2/1 | Final Report of Question 2/1 for the ITU-D Study period 2022-2025 | Main trends related to digital transformation in broadcasting:   1. Changing of competition landscape. - There is a rising competition by new media platforms. The traditional broadcasting industry is challenged by the TV and radio streaming services provided over the open internet. Radio and TV broadcasters face competition from big players such as Apple, Amazon, Spotify, Google, Meta etc. 2. Changing of viewing habits. - The consumers nowadays ask for more personalised content, accessible anytime and anywhere. Multi-screening habits, multitasking and demand for a la carte program schedule, have become the reality. This trend is especially growing with the younger viewers. 3. Emergence of new technologies.  - The offer of the state-of-the-art devices which provide enriched experience which includes also new feature such as augmented and virtual reality, gaming, interactivity and mobility.   Consolidation/convergence of service offers - with the digitalization of broadcasting and other content distribution platforms, converged service offers, with video at the center, being implemented alongside with new services and applications and using innovative business models. | Ongoing | Final reports of the previous study period for additional information: [link](https://www.itu.int/pub/D-STG-SG01.02.2-2021)  Annual progress report for Question 2/1:  [link](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-SG01-C-0160/en)  Report of the last meeting with updated workplan:  [link](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-SG01-R/) | |
| Economic aspects of national telecommunications/  ICTs | ITU-D, SG1  Q4/1 | Final Report of Question 4/1 for the ITU-D Study period 2022-2025 | The Report is expected to cover the various topics related to the economic aspects of national telecommunications/ICTs including Economic aspects/implications of digital transformation. | Ongoing | Final reports of the previous study period for additional information: [link](https://www.itu.int/pub/D-STG-SG01.04.2-2021)  Annual progress report for Question 4/1 and updated workplan:  [link](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-SG01-C-0162/en)  Report of the last meeting with updated workplan:  [link](https://www.itu.int/md/D22-SG01-R/) | |
| Data center | ITU-T SG11 | Testing requirements and procedures for Internet of Things based green data centres (ITU-T Q.4069) | This Recommendation describes green data centres (GDCs) based on the Internet of things (IoT), which includes multiple IoT devices, monitoring systems and the energy management platform, to save energy. This Recommendation specifies testing requirements for: interoperability; functions; and self-optimization, as well as the related testing procedures for IoT-based GDCs | In force | <https://www.itu.int/ITU-T/recommendations/rec.aspx?rec=15046> | |
| Agriculture | ITU-T SG11 | Data management interfaces for intelligent edge computing-based smart agriculture service (ITU-T Q.5028) | As data and artificial intelligence (AI) technologies have emerged, smart agriculture can be aided by edge-cloud platform service which provides low delay service from edge server and powerful performance service from cloud server. As an edge cloud infrastructure realizing the edge cloud-aided smart agriculture system, intelligent edge computing (IEC) is a well-defined foundation. Among the reference points defined for IEC, reference points between terminal entity (TE) and edge networking entity (ENE) can be used for the interaction between agricultural entities, such as sensors and actuators used for smart agriculture, and an edge server. By use of the reference points, agricultural entities can report the crop-growth related data including configuration and measurement data to an edge server. Then the edge server can analyze and generate the optimal operation model for the smart greenhouse and the optimal growth model for crops on the basis of the analysis result. For deep analysis requiring high computation power, the analysis and generation can be performed by the cloud. The edge server, then, sends the generated optimal models to terminal entities. To support the above operations, a method to interact on the defined reference points. Rec. ITU-T Q.5001 defines signalling messages for network functions and intelligent data processing. However, in addition to the defined signalling messages, it is needed to support an API such as Web API in order to accommodate legacy devices which only support Web-based communications. In addition, service-specific API will be helpful to support service-specific functions.  This draft Recommendation defines data management interfaces for intelligent edge computing-based smart agriculture service. | Consented | <https://www.itu.int/ITU-T/workprog/wp_item.aspx?isn=18481> | |
| Edge computing | ITU-T SG11 | Signalling architecture for microservices based intelligent edge computing (Q.5007) | For development of the IEC architecture, there are couple of software-oriented architectural ways to build flexible protocol architecture achieved by deploying and operating the architecture, for instance, an unified software oriented architecture, which is composing logically modular functions to tightly coupled way as a monolithic architecture and microservice architecture which is loosely composing logically or physically separated own processing functions as microservices.  Because IEC has developed on different hardware specifications and various functionalities that each business wants, it is standardized based on microservices and used as a reference standard for implementation. As a result of microservices based IEC architecture, it can be continuously developed and operated by updating microservices. This Recommendation specifies signalling architecture, protocol interfaces and protocol procedures for microservices based intelligent edge computing. | Consented | <https://www.itu.int/ITU-T/workprog/wp_item.aspx?isn=18481> | |
| Aquaculture | ITU-T SG11 | Data management interfaces for intelligent edge computing-based flowing-water smart aquaculture system (Q.IEC-FWINF) | The smart aquaculture system aims to increase the productivity of aquaculture and promote eco-friendly aquaculture technology by applying IoT, ICT, big data, and AI technologies to traditional aquaculture systems. With the emergence of big data, AI, and cloud technologies, intelligent edge cloud platform services provide powerful performance and resources for managing and analyzing vast amounts of data, enabling support for smart aquaculture technology. The intelligent edge cloud-supported flowing-water smart aquaculture system can be realized using the Rec. ITU-T Q.5001 intelligent edge computing (IEC). The TE of IEC can be used in the sensor and actuator parts of the flowing-water smart aquaculture system, and the reference points in IEC can be used for interaction with the edge server. By using these reference points, water quality, growth, energy, and environmental data collected in the aquaculture field can be transmitted to the edge server. Additionally, the edge server can generate essential settings and control values necessary for the growth of fish and the operation of aquaculture facilities using the collected data. For in-depth analysis that requires high computational power, such as fish disease diagnosis or productivity enhancement, cloud-based analysis and generation can be performed. Then, the edge server transmits the generated optimal model to the driving part.  This draft recommendation defines the data management interfaces for intelligent edge computing-based flowing-water smart aquaculture systems. | Under study | <https://www.itu.int/ITU-T/workprog/wp_item.aspx?isn=18918> | |
| Home | ITU-T SG11 | Signalling requirements and interfaces of edge-aided energy management agent at intelligent edge computing (Q.IEC-EEMA) | This Recommendation describes the Signalling requirements and interfaces of edge-aided energy management agent at intelligent edge computing. This Recommendation focuses on the signalling functionality of the edge-aided energy management agent (EEMA) and interfaces among EEMAs. | Under study | <https://www.itu.int/ITU-T/workprog/wp_item.aspx?isn=18482> | |
| Smart city and communities | ITU-T SG20 | Digital transformation for people-centred smart cities and communities: an analysis of definitions (Y.Suppl.77 (ex Y.Sup.DT-definition)) | This supplement will start from four components of digital transformation for people-centred cities and communities: data, people, digital technologies and their interrelationship. It will analyse different terminologies, concepts, keywords and attributes around the concept of “people-centred”. Such a definition analysis is helpful not only for understanding the tasks of digital transformation, but also for carrying out concrete work in the aspects of ICT infrastructure, KPIs, stakeholders and strategies for what ITU considers smart sustainable cities. | Agreed | <https://www.itu.int/itu-t/workprog/wp_item.aspx?isn=18472> | |

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