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|  | World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA-24)New Delhi, 15–24 October 2024 |  |
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| PLENARY MEETING | Document 25-E |
|  | 23 September 2024 |
|  | Original: English |
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| Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group |
| REPORT OF THE TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION ADVISORY GROUP TO THE WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION ASSEMBLY (WTSA-24), PART II: DRAFT NEW AND REVISED RESOLUTIONS |
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| **Abstract:** | This document captures the status of discussion of the TSAG meeting 29 July – 2 August 2024 and contains material that was agreed by TSAG to be sent to WTSA-24: draft new Resolution [TSAG-DT], revised Resolution 68 and a proposal to suppress Resolution 80. Appendix I contains current draft revised Resolution 22 that is submitted for information of WTSA-24. |
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Note by the TSB:

The report of Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group to the WTSA-24 is presented in the following documents:

Part I: **Document 24** – General

Part II: **Document 25** – Draft revised Resolutions

Part III: **Document 26** – Draft revised Recommendations of the ITU-T A-series

Part IV: **Document 27** – TSAG report in respect of WTSA Resolution 22

ADD TSAG/25/1

DRAFT NEW RESOLUTION [TSAG-DT] (New Delhi, 2024)

Enhancing the standardization activities on sustainable digital transformation

(New Delhi, 2024)

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

recalling

*a)* that the ITU strategic plan, 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;

recognizing

*a)* WTSA Resolution 44 Bridging the standardization gap between developed and developing countries

*b)* WTDC Resolution 89 Digital transformation for sustainable development

considering

*a)* that digital transformation through utilising the emerging key technologies, enabling new services and applications, and promoting 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 ITU-T Recommendations, guidelines and best practices, 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 ITU-T Recommendations, to support and facilitate activities on sustainable digital transformation,

*d)* that there is also a need to extend and facilitate international cooperation on sustainable digital transformation;

*e)* that ITU-T Recommendations, guidelines and best practices that support and facilitate digital transformation will contribute towards achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

noting

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

resolves to instruct TSAG

to take all necessary steps to promote and enhance standardization activities that support and facilitate digital transformation including continuation of the Rapporteur Group on Sustainable Digital Transformation.

Instructs ITU-T Study Groups

*a)* to develop ITU-T Recommendations, guidelines and best practices that will help membership in particular developing countries take advantage of new and emerging telecommunication/ICTs in order to support digital transformation,

*b)* to coordinate and collaborate with other groups within ITU and recognized standards development organizations (SDOs) and institutions with primary responsibility for standards development and capacity building in the area of digital transformation.

invites Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia

to contribute to studies and development of ITU-T Recommendations, guidelines and best practices related to digital transformation.

MOD TSAG/25/2

RESOLUTION 68 (Rev. New Delhi, 2024)

**Evolving role of industry in the ITU Telecommunication
Standardization Sector**

*(Johannesburg, 2008; Hammamet, 2016; New Delhi, 2024)*

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

considering

*a)* that Resolution 122 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the evolving role of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), called also for the organization of the Global Standards Symposium (GSS);

*b)* the objective of Resolution 123 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on bridging the standardization gap between developed and developing countries[[1]](#footnote-1)1;

*c)* that Resolution 170 (Rev. Busan, 2014) on the admission of Sector Members from developing countries to participate in the work of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector and the Telecommunication Standardization Sector;

*d)* that Resolution 209 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) outlines the conditions and financial obligations of small and medium enterprises in the work of ITU, which are under ongoing review by the ITU Council;

*e)* Resolution 22 (Rev. Geneva, 2022);

*f)* that the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU‑T) is a unique international standardization organization comprising 193 Member States, and over 700 Sector Members, Associates and academia from all over the world;

*g)* that the engagement and participation of industry has become an important strategic objective;

*h)* the important objectives and conclusions of GSS (New Delhi, 2024), taking into account Resolutions 122 and 123;

*i)* that since 2009 the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB) has organized meetings of high-level private-sector executives called CTO or CxO meetings[[2]](#footnote-2)2, to discuss the standardization landscape, coordinate standards priorities and find the best ways to address the needs of the private sector;

*j)* that the conclusions of CTO meetings have been reflected in official ITU-T communiqués and when relevant, have been taken into account by the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG),

 recognizing

*a)* that developing countries primarily engage in the standardization activities of ITU‑T, but they often face challenges in participating in the growing number of global and/or regional standards development organizations (SDOs), industry forums and consortia, including attending their meetings;

*b)* that ITU‑T should continue to strengthen its role and evolve, as required by Resolution 122 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010), and should reconvene private-sector executives, similar to the GSS, but exclusively for the private sector, with the objective of strengthening the role of ITU‑T by addressing the specific requirements and priorities identified by these executives for standardization activities, also considering the needs and concerns of developing countries;

*c)* that ITU‑T should also encourage cooperation with other relevant SDOs,

recognizing further

*a)* that in 2023 TSAG also approved an industry engagement Action Plan to attract intensive industry participation from both developed and developing countries in order to take account of the latest technical trends and market needs;

*b)* that TSAG also agreed to organize a workshop with three principal goals aligned with the Action Plan:

– to attract industry decision-makers to discuss, *inter alia*, how ITU-T can provide value in the overall standardization landscape;

– to contribute to the dialogue among all parties; and

– provide valuable feedback on the Action Plan;

*c)* that the first ITU-T Industry Engagement Workshop was held in April, 2024;

*d)* that an additional goal of the Workshop was to identify value propositions to enhance participation and retention of industry as Sector Members and Associates (including SMEs) in ITU‑T,

noting

*a)* that to encourage industry participation in ITU‑T, standards-making should appropriately respond to the needs of the industry in a coordinated way;

*b)* that Recommendations proposed in response to these coordinated needs will enhance ITU’s credibility by effectively addressing the requirements of countries through the deployment of optimized technical solutions, as well as reducing the proliferation of uncoordinated recommendations which offer economic benefits, particularly for developing countries;

*c)* that representatives of the telecommunications/ICTs industry play an essential role in the development of technical standards (ITU‑T Recommendations);

*d)* that new and emerging telecommunications/ICTs are essential for the industry and all ITU-T stakeholders;

*e)* that, as per Resolution 22 (Rev. Geneva, 2022), TSAG has recognized that the input of industry is highly desired;

*f)* that TSB also organizes CxO meetings (executive meetings),

resolves to instruct the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

1 to continue to organize and expand meetings for industry executives, CTO and/or CxO group meetings, e.g., that represent a diverse stakeholder view other than the current CTO and/or CxO group meetings, in order to assist in identifying and coordinating standardization priorities and subjects, while ensuring participation at the industry executives level;

2 to address the needs of developing countries to those meetings by consulting them prior to the meetings and to encourage the participation of local industry representatives;

3 to continue to organize workshops and similar events where Member States and ITU-T Sector Members are able to discuss the future of ITU-T and consider the Sector’s overall structure and functioning and set goals for the Sector;

4 to engage industry including small, medium and large organizations, from all regions, including those representatives from developing countries, in the maximum extent possible in the activities of ITU-T in line with relevant provisions of the Constitution, Convention and relevant Plenipotentiary Resolutions;

5 to organize the CTO and/or CxO group meetings in diverse and suitable locations, considering the relevance of worldwide centres of expertise in new and emerging telecommunications/ICTs, which are ITU-T priorities;

6 to develop effective mechanisms to facilitate industry participation in these meetings, motivate a stable group composition and ensuring regular participation by CTOs or their alternate;

7 to ensure that the agendas for CTO and/or CxO group meetings are aligned with the overall strategic objectives of the ITU-T, and the ongoing work of TSAG per Resolution 22;

8 to continue to include the conclusions of the CTO and/or CxO group meetings in an official ITU‑T communiqué;

9 to include the conclusions of the CTO and/or CxO group meetings in a report to TSAG, considering each topic, its progression/evolution in the lifecycle and how it was addressed by the previous CTO and/or CxO group meetings;

10 to take the conclusions of the CTO and/or CxO group meetings into account in ITU‑T work;

11 to produce a regular report to TSAG on the follow-up of the CTO and/or CxO group meetings’ conclusions;

12 to produce a report to the next WTSA, assessing the outcomes of the CTO and/or CxO group meetings over the period and examining the need to continue or enhance its activities,

resolves to instruct TSAG

1 to continue to evaluate the CTO/CxO process;

2 to consider how future industry engagement workshops could be organized, their preferred timeframe as well as their objectives;

3 to evaluate the results of the industry engagement workshops and similar events on an ongoing basis,

encourages Sector Members, Associates (including SMEs) from developed and developing countries, as appropriate

1to participate at the level of their executives in the CTO/CxO meetings, and to raise proposals in regard to their priority standardization areas as well as standardization needs and interests;

2to engage actively in the implementation of the Industry Engagement Action Plan, including the organization and participation in future workshops and similar events.

SUP TSAG/25/3

RESOLUTION 80 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016)

Acknowledging the active involvement of the membership in the development of ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector deliverables

(Dubai, 2012; Hammamet, 2016)

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Hammamet, 2016),

**Reasons:** At the TSAG meeting (29 July – 02 August 2024) the TSAG considered that the purpose of WTSA Resolution 80 "Acknowledging the active involvement of the membership in the development of ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector deliverables" has been completed in the past study period. Therefore, TSAG agreed to propose to WTSA-24 the suppression of WTSA Resolution 80.

Appendix I to WTSA-24 document 25
Draft Revised Resolution 22 (submitted for information)

This Appendix contains the text of draft revised WTSA Resolution 22 "Authorization for the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group to act between world telecommunication standardization assemblies" that is submitted to WTSA-24 for information. It captures the status of discussion at the last TSAG meeting in the 2022-2024 study period, held in Geneva, 29 July – 2 August 2024.

The following context, analysis and intentions were provided by [TSAG-C111](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-C-0111).

## Context, analysis and intentions

### *Introduction*

At the last TSAG meeting, Broadcom submitted Contribution [TSAG-C84](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-C-0084/en) about *Progressing RG-IEM ToR item 3 on ‘new and emerging technologies*.

The intention of this contribution is to address the section 3.1 of [TSAG-C84](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-C-0084/en).

### *Analysis*

In one hand RG-IEM is tasked[[3]](#footnote-3) to:

* *Establish an appropriate mechanism at TSAG level to be used at the study group level and at the Focus group level to examine and coordinate work on new and emerging technologies (Res.22 resolves 5, 6, 7).*

On the other hand, the extract from Res. 22 resolves 5, 6, 7 reads:

*5 that TSAG consider the implications, for ITU‑T, of market needs and new and emerging technologies that have not yet been considered for standardization by ITU‑T, establish an appropriate mechanism to facilitate the examination of their consideration, for example assigning Questions, coordinating the work of study groups or establishing coordination groups or other groups, and appoint their chairmen and vice-chairmen;*

*6 that TSAG review and coordinate standardization strategies for ITU‑T by identifying the main technological trends and market, economic and policy needs in the fields of activity relevant to the mandate of ITU‑T, and identify possible topics and issues for consideration in ITU‑T's standardization strategies;*

*7 that TSAG establish an appropriate mechanism to facilitate standardization strategies, for example assigning Questions, coordinating the work of study groups or establishing coordination groups or other groups, and appoint their chairmen and vice-chairmen;*

Both documents have a discrepancy because the:

– the instruction to RG-IEM requests one mechanism for new and emerging technologies

– the resolves in Res. 22 requests two mechanisms, one for new and emerging technologies and another for strategies.

As Broadcom started to develop the requirements to execute this instruction, it became very clear that establishing such a mechanism leaves no room for alternatives; the succeeding one promises to be epic in many ways.

### *Intention behind the proposed modification to Res. 22*

Based on the above mechanism Broadcom proposes to modify Res. 22 so that the Resolves clarifies that there is a request for only one mechanism about strategy that includes new and emerging technologies.

With this in mind, this document proposes a first draft of potential modifications to Res. 22. Reorganising the flow, allowed to compress the three resolves into one.

MOD TSAG/25/4

RESOLUTION 22 (Rev. New Delhi, 2024)

Authorization for the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group
to act between world telecommunication standardization assemblies

(Geneva, 1996; Montreal, 2000; Florianópolis, 2004; Johannesburg, 2008;
Dubai, 2012; Hammamet, 2016; Geneva, 2022; New Delhi, 2024)

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

considering

*a)* that, under the provisions of Article 14A of the ITU Convention, the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) is to provide guidelines for the work of study groups and recommend measures to foster coordination and cooperation with other standards bodies;

*b)* that the rapid pace of change in the telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) environment and in industry groups dealing with telecommunications/ICT demands that the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU‑T) make decisions on matters such as work priorities, study group structure and meeting schedules in shorter periods of time, between world telecommunication standardization assemblies (WTSAs), in order to maintain its relevance and responsiveness in accordance with No. 197C of the Convention;

*c)* that Resolution 122 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference resolves that WTSA shall continue, in accordance with its responsibilities, and subject to available financial resources, to promote the continued evolution of the standardization sector and adequately address strategic issues in standardization by means such as, but not limited to, the strengthening of TSAG;

*d)* that Resolution 122 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB) to continue, in consultation with relevant bodies, and the ITU membership, and in coordination with the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) and the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D), as appropriate, to organize a Global Standards Symposium (GSS);

*e)* that GSS was held in conjunction with this assembly to consider bridging the standardization gap and examining global ICT standards challenges;

*f)* that TSAG continues to make proposals for enhancing the operational efficiency of ITU‑T, for improving the quality of ITU‑T Recommendations and for methods of coordination and cooperation;

*g)* that TSAG helps to improve coordination of the study process and provide improved decision-making processes for the important areas of ITU‑T activities;

*h)* that flexible administrative procedures, including those related to budgetary considerations, are needed in order to adapt to rapid changes in the telecommunication/ICT environment;

*i)* the importance of TSAG to act in the four years between WTSAs in order to meet the needs of the marketplace in a timely manner and to be able to address unforeseen issues requiring urgent action in the interim period between assemblies;

*j)* that it is desirable for TSAG to consider the implications of new and emerging technologies for the standardization activities of ITU‑T related to technical, operating and tariff questions, on the basis of contributions submitted by the membership, and how such technologies can be included within the ITU‑T work programme;

*k)* that TSAG plays an important role in ensuring coordination between study groups, as appropriate, on standardization issues, including, as required, avoiding duplication of work and identifying linkages and dependencies between related work items;

*l)* that TSAG, in providing advice to study groups, may take account of the advice of other groups;

*m)* that there is a need to continue improving coordination and collaboration with other relevant bodies, within ITU‑T, with ITU‑R and ITU‑D and the General Secretariat, and with other standardization organizations, forums and consortia outside of ITU, and relevant entities;

*n)* that effective coordination between study groups is critical to ITU-T's ability to meet emerging standardization challenges and the needs of its membership,

noting

*a)* that ITU‑T is one of the pre-eminent global standardization bodies, comprising administrations, equipment vendors, operators and regulators, universities and research institutes;

*b)* that Article 13 of the Convention states the duties of WTSA, among them that it may assign specific matters within its competence to TSAG indicating the action required on those matters;

*c)* that TSAG meets at least on a yearly basis;

*d)* that TSAG has already exhibited the capability to act effectively on matters assigned to it by WTSA;

*e)* that WTSA Resolution 68 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016)) instructs the Director of TSB to organize meetings for high-level industry executives, e.g. chief technology officer meetings, in order to assist in identifying and coordinating standardization priorities and subjects and minimize the number of forums and consortia;

*f)* that effective coordination can be achieved by means of joint coordination activities, joint rapporteur group meetings, liaison statements between study groups and the study group chairmen's meetings organized by the Director of TSB to meet emerging standardization challenges and the needs of the ITU-T membership,

recognizing

*a)* that Nos. 191A and 191B of the Convention allow WTSA to maintain, establish or terminate other groups as needed, as well as their mandates;

*b)* that coordination should serve to improve the effectiveness of ITU‑T activities and should not limit the work of each study group to develop Recommendations;

*c)* that the tasks undertaken in ITU‑T cover technical, operating and tariff questions,

resolves

1 to assign to TSAG the following specific matters within its competence between this assembly and the next assembly, to act in the following areas in consultation with the Director of TSB:

*a)* maintain and provide up-to-date, efficient and flexible working guidelines;

*b)* promote high-priority standardization activities related to technical, operating and tariff questions on the basis of contributions submitted by the membership from a global viewpoint and coordinate among ITU-T study groups in this regard;

*c)* assume responsibility, including development and submission for approval under appropriate procedures, for the ITU‑T A‑series Recommendations;

*d)* restructure and establish ITU‑T study groups, taking into account the needs of the ITU‑T membership and in response to changes in the telecommunication/ICT marketplace, and assign chairmen and vice‑chairmen to act until the next WTSA, in accordance with Resolution 208 (Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*e)* issue advice on study group schedules to meet standardization priorities;

*f)* while recognizing the primacy of the study groups in carrying out the activities of ITU‑T, create, terminate or maintain other groups, including focus groups, appoint their chairmen and vice-chairmen, and establish their terms of reference with a defined duration, in accordance with Nos. 191A and 191B of the Convention, in order to enhance and improve the effectiveness of ITU‑T's work as well as promoting flexibility in responding rapidly to high-priority issues; such groups shall not adopt Questions or Recommendations, in accordance with Article 14A of the Convention, but work on a specific mandate;

*g)* identify changing requirements and provide advice on appropriate changes to be made to the priority of work in ITU‑T study groups, planning and allocation of work between study groups, having due regard for the cost and availability of resources;

*h)* take an active role in ensuring coordination among ITU-T activities, particularly on standardization issues that are being studied in more than one group;

*i)* review reports of and consider appropriate proposals made by coordination groups and other groups, and implement those that are agreed;

*j)* identify requirements and provide determination on appropriate changes to be made where overlapping issues arise, which includes, but is not limited to, assignment of a mandate to a study group to lead on coordination work;

*k)* establish the appropriate mechanism and encourage the utilization, for example, of coordination groups or other groups to address key topics of work which span several study groups, with a view to ensuring effective coordination of standardization topics in order to achieve suitable global solutions;

*l)* review progress in the implementation of the ITU‑T work programme, including fostering coordination and collaboration with other relevant bodies such as standardization organizations, forums and consortia outside of ITU;

*m)* cooperate and coordinate with ITU-R and ITU-D and with other, external, standardization bodies;

*n)* advise the Director of TSB on financial and other matters;

*o)* approve the programme of work arising from the review of existing and new Questions and determine the priority, urgency, estimated financial implications and time-scale for the completion of their study;

*p)* group, as far as practicable, Questions of interest to developing countries[[4]](#footnote-4)1 in order to facilitate their participation in these studies;

*q)* address other specific matters within the competence of WTSA, subject to the approval of Member States, using the approval procedure contained in Resolution 1 (Rev. Geneva, 2022) of this assembly, Section 9;

*r)* take into account the interests of developing countries and encourage and facilitate their involvement in these activities,

2 that TSAG examine implementation of the actions and achievement of the goals as reflected in the annual ITU-T operational plan and in the WTSA‑20 Action Plan, which includes the WTSA resolutions, for the purpose of identifying possible difficulties and possible strategies for implementing key elements, and recommending solutions to the Director of TSB regarding them;

3 that revisions to the relevant procedures for the adoption of Questions and Recommendations by study groups, other than those referred to in Nos. 246D, 246F and 246H of the Convention, may be initiated by TSAG for approval by Member States between WTSAs, using the approval procedure contained in Resolution 1 (Rev. Geneva, 2022) of this assembly, Section 9;

4 that TSAG provide liaison on its activities to relevant organizations outside ITU in consultation with the Director of TSB, as appropriate;

5 that TSAG establish a mechanism to facilitate and coordinate standardization development strategies and that in particular, will support the identification of the main new and emerging telecommunication/ICTs considering their drivers in the fields of activity relevant to the mandate of ITU‑T, and support the identification and examination of possible topics and issues for consideration in ITU‑T's standardization development strategies;

6 that TSAG consider the result of this assembly concerning GSS and take follow-up actions, as appropriate;

7 that a report on the above TSAG activities shall be submitted to the next WTSA,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

1 to take into consideration the advice and guidance of TSAG in order to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of ITU-T;

2 to provide to each TSAG meeting a report on:

– the implementation of WTSA resolutions and actions to be undertaken pursuant to their operative paragraphs;

– the progress of the ITU-T annual operational plan and WTSA‑20 Action Plan, identifying difficulties, if any, that hinder the progress, and possible solutions;

3 to provide information about any work item that has not given rise to any contribution in the time interval of the previous two study group meetings through the Director’s report on study group activity;

4 to report to TSAG on the experience in the implementation of the A-series Recommendations for consideration by the ITU‑T membership.

1. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. 2 CTO refers to Chief Technology Officer, CxO where the character “x” refers to Chief Officer, e.g. CEO refers to Chief Executive Officer, CFO refers to Chief Financial Officer, etc [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Item 3 of the Terms of Reference (ToR) of RG-IEM as per section D.7 of Annex D of the (Draft) Report of the first TSAG meeting (Geneva, 12-16 December 2022) contained in [TSAG-TD4-R1](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-221212-TD-GEN-0004/en). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)