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|  | World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA-24) New Delhi, 15–24 October 2024 | |  |
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| PLENARY MEETING | | Addendum 13 to Document 39-E | |
|  | | 13 September 2024 | |
|  | | Original: English | |
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| Member States of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL) | | | |
| Proposed modifications to Resolution 68 | | | |
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| **Abstract:** | CITEL proposes modifications to WTSA Resolution 68. The issue of the evolving role of industry in the work of ITU-T has been discussed actively since the initial adoption of WTSA Resolution 68 at the 2008 WTSA. Since then, the importance of industry engagement has intensified, resulting in actions undertaken by TSAG in the form of an Action Plan and Workshop. This contribution is aligned with the agreed text of Resolution 68 as part of TSAG documents submission to WTSA-24. | |
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RESOLUTION 68 (Rev. New Delhi, 2024)

Evolving role of industry in the ITU Telecommunication   
Standardization Sector

(Johannesburg, 2008; Dubai, 2012; 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)* 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 the GSS (New Delhi, 2024), taking into account Resolution 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), 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 practices 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 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-T’s credibility effectively addressing the requirements of countries through the deployment of optimized technical solutions, as well as reducing the proliferation of uncoordinated recommendations which will 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 executive 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 representatives in these meetings, motivating a stable 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 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.

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. 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)