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|  | INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION  **TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION SECTOR**  STUDY PERIOD 2025-2028 | | TSAG-TD129 |
| TSAG |
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| **TD** | | | |
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**Abstract:** This TD is a collection of excerpts of output documents of past TSAG, WTSA and PP meetings which are potentially relevant to the work on working methods.

**Action**: TSAG is asked to note this document. TSAG participants are invited to use this TD for possible contributions to future TSAG meetings.

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*CONVENTION – In this document, some of the text is underlined by the RG-WM rapporteur for information. Items which are currently in progress within RG-WM are highlighted in blue. Items for which no further action is necessary in this study period are highlighted in green.*

1. **WTSA results related to WTSA Resolutions**

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| WTSA-24 action 1 | WTSA-24 requests TSAG to discuss possible revision of **Resolution 1** in the upcoming Study Period and submit the updates that reach consensus to next Assembly in 2028 taking into consideration the proposals submitted to WTSA-24 to revise Resolution 1 ([ATU/35A1/1](https://www.itu.int/md/dologin_md.asp?lang=en&id=T22-WTSA.24-C-0035!A1-L1!MSW-E), [APT/37A1/1](https://www.itu.int/md/dologin_md.asp?lang=en&id=T22-WTSA.24-C-0037!A1-L1!MSW-E)and [RCC/40A30/1](https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-t/md/22/wtsa.24/c/T22-WTSA.24-C-0040!A30!MSW-E.docx)) as well as their related discussions found in WTSA-24 ([TD-140](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-WTSA.24-241015-TD-GEN-0140/en)). |
| WTSA-24 action 2 | WTSA-24 instructs TSAG to study the concept and effectiveness of Lead Study Groups used in **Resolution 1** §2.1.5, e.g., to clarify criteria for determination of lead roles, harmonize the description of lead SGs and improve the collaboration amongst ITU-T SGs, taking into consideration inter alia WTSA Resolution 99 (rev. New Delhi, 2024), and report the conclusions to the next WTSA. The ITU-T SGs should be involved in this process to already take this review process into consideration during the preparations for the next study period. |
| WTSA-24 action 6 | WTSA-24 requests TSB Director:  1. to implement **Resolution 90** instructs the TSB Director 1, and provide clarification of various open-source concepts and their use in ITU-T.  WTSA-24 requests TSAG  1. To survey on the practices and needs in use of open source in ITU-T groups.  2. To survey on the usage of open source in relation to the implementation of ITU-T Recommendations by ITU-T members.  3. Use the outcome of the surveys as input to the open source training referred to in instructs the TSB Director 1 |

1. **WTSA and TSAG results related to the A-series of Recommendations**

[WTSA-24 report of the 3](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-WTSA.24-C-0078/en)[rd](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-WTSA.24-C-0078/en) [meeting of Committee 3 (C 78)](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-WTSA.24-C-0078/en):

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| **7.2 Recommendation ITU-T A.1 (09/2019) Generic procedures for incorporating text between ITU-T and other organizations**  The following proposals were presented by respective representatives:   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | 7.2 | Recommendation ITU-T A.1 Generic procedures for incorporating text between ITU-T and other organizations | MOD | [RCC/40A11/1](https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-t/md/22/wtsa.24/c/T22-WTSA.24-C-0040!A11!MSW-E.docx)  ([INFO-02-E](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-WTSA.24-INF-0002/en)) | (0955-1020) | |  | (A-Series Recommendations) | NOC | [ECP/38A12/1](https://www.itu.int/md/dologin_md.asp?lang=en&id=T22-WTSA.24-C-0038!A12-L1!MSW-E)  [IAP/39A4/1](https://www.itu.int/md/dologin_md.asp?lang=en&id=T22-WTSA.24-C-0039!A4-L1!MSW-E) |  |   It seems that RCC proposal did not consider the current work in progress carried out by TSAG. For example, the section 5 related to JCAs should have been deleted, taking into account the recent approval of new Recommendation ITU-T A.18. It was also noted that RCC proposal submitted to this Assembly is similar to their proposal submitted to WTSA-20, for which much discussion was done by TSAG in line with the other regional proposals also submitted to WTSA-20. RCC clarified that they were not against TSAG agreements but that they failed to submit it to the assembly for timing issues. |

[TSAG (29 July – 2 August 2024)](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0517/en):

### Recommendation ITU-T A.8 - Alternative approval process for new and revised ITU-T Recommendations

TSAG received contribution [C95](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-C-0095/en) [2022-2024] proposing to clarify the resolution of comments received by a study group after an AAP Last Call.

TSAG has initiated a discussion on this topic based on [TD628R1](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0628/en) [2022-2024]. TSAG can already confirm that:

1. whilst being usually conducting by the editor of the Recommendation under AAP, or by the relevant rapporteur, comment resolution is initiated under the direction of the study group chair (Rec. ITU-T A.8, clause 4.4.2 b);

2. the in-force version of Rec. ITU-T A.8 already allows a study group chair to consider that comment resolution is completed if comments submitters have not confirmed the resolution of their comments after a certain period (with the understanding that the revised based text of the Recommendation would go for an additional review, or would be approved by the following study group plenary meeting, as per clause 4.4.4 of Rec. ITU-T A.8, so comment submitters would have further opportunities to react);

3. when comment resolution is performed at a (physical or electronic) meeting, it is not needed to get a written confirmation by e-mail from those comment submitters who attend the meeting.

A liaison statement was sent to all study groups to get their feedback.

1. **WTSA and PP results related to electronic working methods**

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| **TSAG action plan** ([TD496](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0496/en)) | | |
| 32-05 | TSAG to act as the point of contact between the ITU‑T membership and TSB on EWM matters, in particular providing feedback and advice on the contents, prioritization and implementation of the Action Plan (resolves 2) | For RG-WM |
| 32-09 | TSAG to identify user needs and plan the introduction of suitable measures through appropriate subgroups and pilot programmes (resolves 2) | For RG-WM |
| 32-10 | TSAG to request study group chairmen to identify EWM liaisons (resolves 2) | For RG-WM |

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| [Resolution 32 (Rev. New Delhi, 2024) - Strengthening electronic working methods for the work of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector](https://www.itu.int/pub/T-RES/publications.aspx?lang=en&parent=T-RES-T.32-2022)  instructs  2 TSAG to continue to:  • act as the point of contact between the ITU‑T membership and TSB on EWM matters, in particular providing feedback and advice on the contents, prioritization and implementation of the Action Plan;  • identify user needs and plan the introduction of suitable measures through appropriate subgroups and pilot programmes;  • request study group chairmen to identify EWM liaisons;  • encourage participation by all participants in the work of ITU‑T, especially EWM experts from TSAG, the study groups, TSB and appropriate ITU Bureaux and departments;  • continue its work electronically outside TSAG meetings as necessary to carry out its objectives. |

***Comments by the RG-WM rapporteur****: This* instructs *was not modified by WTSA-24.*

[WTSA-24 report of the 4th meeting of Committee 3 (C97)](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-WTSA.24-C-0097/en):

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| The following documents were considered.   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | 6.3 | **RESOLUTION 32** (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) | MOD | [WD2r7](https://extranet.itu.int/sites/itu-t/wtsa-24/wd/com03/Shared%20Documents/WD02r7-Res032_consolidated_proposals_draft.docx) |  |   [WD2r7](https://extranet.itu.int/sites/itu-t/wtsa-24/wd/com03/Shared%20Documents/WD02r7-Res032_consolidated_proposals_draft.docx) provides the latest version of Res.32 and was presented by the Convener of the drafting group, Ms Minah Lee. One clause of the provision was still in square bracket. The clause concerned a provision for fully virtual and physical meetings with remote participation.  A proposal from RCC could not achieve consensus as the membership was divided on this issue which was also a key topic on the previous informal drafting and consultations.  The ITU Legal Advisor had provided the following views at the informal consultation:  *LEGAL ADVISOR COMMENT ON THIS MATTER: The adoption of the proposed resolves 3a) to e) would undoubtedly result in a discrepancy between WTSA Res 32 and the rules to be adopted by the Council on EWM. The Council rules (to be adopted at the 2025 session of Council) are meant to apply to the whole of ITU and to streamline the EWM of the entire Union. WTSA-24 should refrain from adopting an amendment to Resolution 32 that would be inconsistent with the work of the Council on this matter. The alternative proposal offered by the Convener of the informal drafting group (that EWM should be aligned with the work of Council on “the guidelines on the management of fully virtual and physical meetings with remote participation” at ITU in line with the implementation of Resolution 167 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022)) is perfectly acceptable as it acknowledges the work currently done by Council on EWM.*  *Also, PP Resolution 167 was not revisited during the last PP, where the membership confirmed that allowing remote participants to participate in decision-making was inappropriate. The intent of PP was clear. As a result, PP decided to leave the rules of procedure as is. Granting decision-making rights to remote participants would have necessitated amendments to these rules.*  However, the explanation of the legal advisor, which was shared by many participants, was not acceptable by some members, who are of the opinion that PP Resolution 167 does not forbid each Sector to set their own procedures on this matter.  Outcome:  RCC agreed to remove the related section in square brackets, on the condition that their proposal would be reflected in the meeting report.  The section 3 proposed by RCC for inclusion in Resolution 32, based on the idea that certain conditions should be ensured or respected for remote participants, which did not achieve consensus, is therefore reported below:  *[3 that the following conditions shall be ensured for remote participation in meetings:*  *a) a stable connection, in particular for meetings offering interpretation into several languages;*  *b) differences in time and time zones are taken into account so as to avoid the necessity to participate in meetings outside working hours;*  *c) the length of meetings is taken into account with a view to ensuring the involvement of meeting participants from different time zones;*  *d) it is possible to verify meeting participants and confirm their credentials and affiliation to a given administration, observer or other meeting participant;*  *e) all remote participants who are entitled to take the floor at a meeting are given the opportunity to do so in line with the established working methods and agenda of the meeting,]* |

[WTSA-20 Proceedings](https://www.itu.int/pub/T-REG-LIV.1-2022/en) (2nd plenary meeting) (see also [TD22](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-221212-TD-GEN-0022/en), clause 2.4):

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| 6 Draft new Resolution [IAP-3], Use of in-person and virtual options on an equal footing in the activities of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector A representative from Uruguay, on behalf of CITEL, presented Document [C39 Add.23](https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-t/md/17/wtsa.20/c/T17-WTSA.20-C-0039!A32!MSW-E.docx) (ref. [IAP/39A32/1](https://www.itu.int/md/dologin_md.asp?lang=en&id=T17-WTSA.20-C-0039!A32-L1!MSW-E)), which proposes a draft new Resolution [IAP-3] on use of in-person and virtual options on an equal footing in the activities of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector.  The Plenary was conscious that the technical aspects concerning (electronic) working methods are addressed in Committee 3 and in Working Group 3A pertaining to WTSA Resolution 32.  Furthermore, the Plenary was also conscious of ongoing and related work in the TSAG Ad hoc Group on the governance and management of e-meetings (TSAG AHG-GME), and also of possible implications on other matters of financial, operational and legal nature pertaining to the scope of Council and the Plenipotentiary Conference with regard to changes to the General Rules that would potentially be necessary if this particular proposal is to be implemented.  The Plenary asked the Director of TSB to bring this proposal to the attention of the TSAG Ad hoc Group on the governance and management of e-meetings, to the Council, and to the Plenipotentiary Conference. |

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| **TSAG action plan** ([TD65R1](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-221212-TD-GEN-0065/en), [TD191](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-230530-TD-GEN-0191/en)) | | |
| 22-26 | TSAG to further evaluate of the use of fully virtual meetings and physical meetings with remote participation, including the legal aspects. (PP Res.167 instructs the Secretary-General) | For RG-WM |
| 22-27 | In acknowledging the limitations imposed by the current requirements in recognizing e) of Resolution 167, the 2022 Plenipotentiary Conference recognizes the importance of ITU Members as well chairmen of Study Group meetings which have remote participation, by considering the positions and proposals of remote participants in regard to the issues being discussed in the meeting and the importance of stable technical facilities. (PP-22 COM5 recommendation 2) | For RG-WM |

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| [PP Res.167 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) - Strengthening and developing ITU capabilities for fully virtual meetings and physical meetings with remote participation, and the electronic means to advance the work of the Union](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S22-PP-C-0198)  recognizing  *e)* that the current status of interactive remote participation allows "remote intervention" rather than "remote participation", insofar as a remote participant cannot take part in decision-making;  instructs the Secretary-General, in consultation and collaboration with the Directors of the three Bureaux  2 to involve the advisory groups in the further evaluation of the use of fully virtual meetings and physical meetings with remote participation, including the legal aspects;  instructs the ITU Council  1 to study and develop high-level guidance for the management and governance of fully virtual meetings and physical meetings with remote participation, taking into account Annex 1 to this resolution;  3 to report and provide recommendations to the plenipotentiary conference in 2026.  ANNEX 1 TO RESOLUTION 167 (Rev. bucharest, 2022)  Issues to be considered for the management and governance of fully virtual meetings and physical meetings with remote participation  […] |

[PP22 COM5 Recommendation 2](https://www.itu.int/md/S22-PP-C-0189/en) (see also [TD68](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-221212-TD-GEN-0068/en) [2022-2024]):

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| "In acknowledging the limitations imposed by the current requirements in *recognizing e)* of Resolution 167, the 2022 Plenipotentiary Conference recognizes the importance of ITU Members as well [as] chairmen of Study Group meetings which have remote participation, by considering the positions and proposals of remote participants in regard to the issues being discussed in the meeting and the importance of stable technical facilities." |

[WTSA-20 Proceedings](https://www.itu.int/pub/T-REG-LIV.1-2022/en) (V-2.2 – Committee 3, clause 2.2.2):

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| 2.2.2 Draft new Resolution [ECP-3] – Development of standards that are machine applicable, readable and transferable (SMART) in ITU-T CEPT proposal in [EUR/38A35/1](https://www.itu.int/md/dologin_md.asp?lang=en&id=T17-WTSA.20-C-0038!A35-L1!MSW-E) proposed a new Resolution on 'Development of standards that are machine applicable, readable and transferable (SMART) in ITU-T' to ask ITU-T to support the development of technical standards that are machine applicable, readable and transferable (SMART) including working with other international SDOs to develop common architectures and protocols for SMART standards.  Participants raised interests and questions on this new subject of machine applicable, readable and transferable (SMART) standards and this proposal for clarification, and it was felt such innovative work should be trial out by Study Group first before WTSA to take any resolution. The meeting noted that lack of WTSA Resolution does not mean lack of permission for ITU-T to consider defining new methodologies or developing machine readable standards and concluded that no need to adopt this proposed new Resolution. |

1. **WTSA and TSAG results related to "guidelines" as mentioned in WTSA Resolution 44**

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| **TSAG action plan** ([TD65R1](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-221212-TD-GEN-0065/en), [TD191](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-230530-TD-GEN-0191/en)) | | |
| 44-13 | SGs and TSAG to consider including implementation guidelines for ITU‑T Recommendations where these could provide advice to assist developing countries in adopting them, with emphasis on Recommendations having regulatory and policy implications. (instructs TSBDir 9, instructs SGs + TSAG 2) | For RG-WM |

*Note: The following excerpts have NOT been modified by WTSA-20 and* [*WTSA-24*](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-WTSA.24-C-0081/en) *regarding "guidelines". They were already present in* [*Hammamet 2016*](https://www.itu.int/pub/publications.aspx?lang=en&parent=T-RES-T.44-2022) *(but the text on "guidelines" was different in* [*Dubai 2012*](https://www.itu.int/en/publications/ITU-T/pages/publications.aspx?lang=en&parent=T-RES-T.44-2012)*).*

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| [Resolution 44 (Rev. New Delhi, 2024) - Bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries](https://www.itu.int/pub/T-RES/publications.aspx?lang=en&parent=T-RES-T.44-2022)  *instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, in collaboration with the Directors of the Radiocommunication Bureau and the Telecommunication Development Bureau*  within available resources,  9 to provide support and assistance to developing countries, if requested, in drafting/developing a set of guidelines on the application of ITU‑T Recommendations at the national level in order to enhance their participation in ITU‑T study groups, with the assistance of the ITU regional offices, for bridging the standardization gap;  13 to conduct workshops, seminars and training programmes, including in-person, as appropriate and within available resources, for disseminating information and increasing understanding of new ITU-T Recommendations and implementation guidelines for Recommendations, in particular for developing countries;  *instructs study groups of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector and the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group*  2 to consider including implementation guidelines for ITU‑T Recommendations where these could provide advice to assist developing countries in adopting them, with emphasis on Recommendations having regulatory and policy implications; |

***Comments by the RG-WM rapporteur****:*

1. *"*instructs *9" seems to have been handle via the guideline document "*[*Towards the Establishment of a National Standardization Secretariat for ITU-T: Options and Guidelines*](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/gap/Documents/nss-rep-may.pdf)*".*
2. *"*instructs *13" is addressing implementation guidelines. It is not clear how the TSB can develop such guidelines (but this is not an issue for RG-WM).*
3. *"*instructs *2" is an* instruct *to study groups and TSAG, but the equivalent item in clause II.2 of the Annex (see below) is an "action to be performed by TSB with BDT cooperation". It is assumed that the only expectation from TSAG would be to include a clause in Rec. ITU‑T A.1 to recommend to study groups to "consider including implementation guidelines for ITU-T Recommendations".*

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| Annex (to Resolution 44 (Rev. New Delhi, 2024))  **Action plan for the implementation of Resolution 123 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)  of the Plenipotentiary Conference**  **I Programme 1: Strengthening standards-making capabilities**  1) Objective  • To improve the standards-making capabilities of developing countries.  2) Activities  • Developing guidelines to assist developing countries in their involvement in ITU‑T activities, covering, but not limited to, ITU‑T working methods, formulating draft Questions and making proposals. […]  **II Programme 2: Assisting developing countries with respect to the application of standards**  1) Objective  • To assist developing countries in:  • Having a clear understanding of ITU‑T Recommendations;  • Enhancing the application of ITU‑T Recommendations in developing countries.  2) Activities  […]  • Actions to be performed by TSB with BDT cooperation:  • Developing guidelines on the application of ITU‑T Recommendations, in particular on manufactured products and interconnection, with emphasis on Recommendations having regulatory and policy implications. […] |

***Comment by the RG-WM rapporteur****: Item I.2 is more relevant to working methods because the guidelines intend to assist developing countries in their involvement in the work of study groups (but note that TSB developed the "*[*Online course on Rec. ITU-T A.1*](https://bsg-a1.itu.int/)*"). It is different from the technical guidelines mentioned in item II.2.*

*The following excerpts of TSAG reports are related to "Bridging the standardization gap":*

**Report of the first TSAG meeting held in Geneva, 1-4 May 2017:**

The meeting discussed three documents regarding the process for development of guidelines for Recommendations in the context of WTSA-16 Resolution 44: [TD27](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-170501-TD-GEN-0027) (SG11), [C.15](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-C-0015/en) (United States), and [C.20](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-C-0020/en) (Russian Federation).

The meeting concluded that there are two mechanisms for the development of Guidelines under WTSA Res. 44:

1. Study groups can develop implementation guidelines, where these could provide advice to assist developing countries in adopting ITU-T Recommendations, under WTSA-16 Resolution 44 *instructs 2 for Study Groups.* This would be on the basis of contributions to the study group concerned. The study group Chairman would convey the findings of the study group to the TSB Director;

b. Developing countries can send their requests directly to the TSB Director as per WTSA‑16 Resolution 44, *instructs 9 for the TSB Director*.

The meeting did not see any necessity to send a liaison statement to the study groups. TSAG encouraged developing countries to make full use of the options above. The TSB Director agreed also to conduct further consultation during the TDAG meeting in May 2017.

**Report of the third TSAG meeting (Geneva, 10-14 December 2018):**

* 1. Mr Charles Chike Asadu, University of Nigeria, Nigeria, remotely presented [C047](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-C-0047) on the implementation of WTSA-16 Resolution 44. He raised the problem faced by some developed countries that find it difficult to understand Resolution 44 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) and he raised the need for a top-down approach to better understand ITU-T Recommendations.
  2. TSAG agreed that this contribution be further discussed with the TSB Director, taking into account Resolution 123 (rev. Dubai, 2018) and the activities of ITU-D, and that the TSB Director provide information to the next TSAG meeting on this activity.

*The only proposal relevant to RG-WM in* [*C047*](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-C-0047) *seems to be:*

1. that a new work item be introduced in the TSAG Work plan on production of guidelines on which ICT issues can be best championed by the High Level delegates;

*As noted in* [*TD610*](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-190923-TD-GEN-0610)*, the proposals presented in* [*C047*](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-C-0047) *were discussed between TSB and the proponent in July 2019.*

**Report of the fourth TSAG meeting (Geneva, 23-27 September 2019):**

* 1. Mr Charles Chike Asadu, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, remotely presented [C047](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-C-0047) "Implementation of WTSA-16 Resolution 44 and RESOLUTION 123 (Rev. DUBAI, 2018)".  He raised the problem faced by some developing countries that find it difficult to understand Resolution 44 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) and he raised the need for a top-down approach to better understand ITU-T Recommendations, and that the lack of capacity to understand these Recommendations contributes to low implementations of the Recommendations.
  2. Mr Bilel Jamoussi, TSB, presented [TD610](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-190923-TD-GEN-0610) "Update on the Implementation of WTSA-16 Resolution 44", which provides an overview of the activities carried out under the purview of WTSA-16 Resolution 44.
  3. TSAG, observing the decreasing audio quality during Mr Asadu's presentation, took note of C047 and of TD610.

*The following guideline document is mentioned in* [*TD610 [2017-2020]*](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-190923-TD-GEN-0610)*:*

[Towards the Establishment of a National Standardization Secretariat for ITU-T: Options and Guidelines](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/gap/Documents/nss-rep-may.pdf)

*It is also worth mentioning that Study Group 13:*

* has developed [ITU-T Technical Report TR-BSG](https://www.itu.int/pub/publications.aspx?lang=en&parent=T-TUT-BSG-2020) "*Use of ITU-T Recommendations by developing countries*";
* holds Question 5 "Applying Future Networks and innovation in developing countries"

*and that Study Group 15:*

* is developing draft Supplement [L.Suppl.Administrations](https://www.itu.int/ITU-T/workprog/wp_item.aspx?isn=18394) to guide administrations and governments on how to apply Rec. ITU T L.Enablement.

1. **Excerpts of WTSA Resolution 70 related to "end-user needs"**

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| **TSAG action plan** ([TD65R1](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-221212-TD-GEN-0065/en), [TD191](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-230530-TD-GEN-0191/en)) | | |
| 70-12 | TSAG to revise the guide for ITU study groups – 'considering end-user needs in developing Recommendations', and consider how SGs implement this guide (instructs TSAG 1, 2) | For RG-WM |

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| [Resolution 70 (Rev. New Delhi, 2024) - Telecommunication/information and communication technology accessibility for persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs](https://www.itu.int/pub/T-RES/publications.aspx?lang=en&parent=T-RES-T.70-2022)  instructs the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group  1 to revise the guide for ITU study groups: Considering end-user needs in developing Recommendations;  2 to consider how study groups can facilitate, in their respective work, the effective implementation of new software, services and proposals that enable all persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs to use telecommunication/ICT services, and relevant guidelines for end-user needs, in order specifically to include the needs of persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs, and to update the guide on a regular basis, based on contributions from Member States and Sector Members as well as the ITU-T study groups, as appropriate, to reflect progress in accessibility, |

***Excerpt from the*** [*Report of the TSAG meeting held in Geneva (14-18 March 2005)*](https://www.itu.int/md/T05-TSAG-R-0001/en)***:***

***11.1.3*** *TSAG adopted the Guide for ITU-T SGs “Considering end-user needs in developing Recommendations” for use by the study groups on an experimental basis. The Guide is found in delayed D.8, Annex A.*

***11.1.4*** *TSAG approved a liaison to all ITU-T study groups, requesting they implement, on a voluntary basis, the Guide for considering end-user needs and they provide comments and feedback by the June 2006 TSAG meeting. The Guide, as proposed in TSAG D.8, Annex A, will be posted to each SG web site under “Guides, Tools and Templates.” The liaison is shown in report TSAG R-2, Annex 2.*

*NOTE – There is currently no section "Guides, Tools and Templates" on study groups' web pages. This Guide is not linked from the* [*ITU publications*](https://www.itu.int/en/publications/Pages/default.aspx) *web page but from the* [*ITU-T Guides*](https://www.itu.int/itudoc/itu-t/guide/) *web page (although this latter page claims to be under "*[Home Page](https://www.itu.int/home/) : [Publications](https://www.itu.int/publications/)*" at its top). Would it be useful to add a link to this Guide on each study group web page (next to the Author's Guide)?*

*Excerpt from the* [*Report of the meeting of WP1/TSAG (Working methods) (Geneva, 3-7 July 2006)*](https://www.itu.int/md/T05-TSAG-R-0013/en)*:*

***8. Considering End-User Needs in developing Recommendations***

[*TD/288*](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T05-TSAG-060703-TD-GEN-0288) *was presented by the Working Party 1 Chairman. While a liaison statement was sent by TSAG at its March 2005 meeting requesting feedback by this meeting, a limited number of replies were received (from SG 16 and SG 19). However, it is recognized that this subject is of importance and has been underlined during the WSIS process.*

*Some Study Group Chairmen present confirmed that the user guide was noted and briefly reported on this issue. SG 12 Chairman made a distinction between implementing the user guide and commenting back. SG 12 has a strong link with the user needs, however the Chairman considers that the guide could benefit from simplification. A reference is made to* [*TD/255*](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T05-TSAG-060703-TD-GEN-0255) *with a section on accessibility/usability. Study Group 4 is more concerned with a specific category of users that are the network operators. Study Group 13 received and integrated specific needs for users with disabilities. Study Group 2 considers user needs and, while having no comment at this time, suggests to reconsider this agenda item at the next TSAG meeting.*

*The Working Party 1 Chairman asks all Study Group Chairmen to remind their Study Groups to review the user guide and make use of it. This item will be reconsidered at the next TSAG meeting.*

*Excerpt from the* [*Report of WP1/TSAG (Working methods), Geneva, 26 Feb to 1 March 2007*](https://www.itu.int/md/T05-TSAG-R-0018/en)*:*

***5. Considering end-user needs in developing ITU-T Recommendations***

*Working Party 1/TSAG considered three documents (TD/*[*323*](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T05-TSAG-070226-TD-GEN-0323)*,* [*335*](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T05-TSAG-070226-TD-GEN-0335) *and* [*364*](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T05-TSAG-070226-TD-GEN-0364)*, § 2) from Study Groups 11 and 16. The documents were noted, in particular the TSAG end user needs document would need to be updated according to the information provided in TD/*[*335*](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T05-TSAG-070226-TD-GEN-0335) *(from SG 16). The current version of this document was made available on the web page of each ITU-T study group.*

*Working Party 1/TSAG is asking TSAG to replace the last paragraph of the scope by:*

*“It is also important to draw reference to the work initiated and being undertaken by Study Group 16 (Recommendation F.790, Telecommunications accessibility guidelines for older persons and persons with disabilities and the Technical Paper, Telecommunications accessibility checklist). The checklist is a short document aimed at assisting study groups in ensuring that accessibility material is included in Recommendations where appropriate. Although this guide and Recommendation F.790 cater to different audiences (the former aimed at study groups; the latter at standards makers, manufacturers, network operators and regulators), it is recognised that the two address the same broad theme. Every effort should be made to ensure the documents are complementary and consistent.”*

*NOTE – This has been done (although the* [*web page*](https://www.itu.int/itudoc/itu-t/guide/end-user.html) *states that the Guide was posted on 30 March 2005, hence two years before!). This Guide was not discussed further at the* [*3-7 Dec 2007 meeting of TSAG*](https://www.itu.int/md/T05-TSAG-R-0023/en) *(the last in the study period).*

*The guide "*[*Considering end-user needs in developing Recommendations*](https://www.itu.int/itudoc/itu-t/guide/end-user.html)*" has not been updated since 2007. Some of the information and references it contains are outdated.*

*Most of the TSB counsellors are not aware of this Guide, so it is doubtful that study groups are still using it.*

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