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| **Source:** | | | TSAG | | | |
| **Title:** | | | LS/o on Collaboration and Coordination on Smart and Sustainable Communities [to ISO, IEC] | | | |
| **LIAISON STATEMENT** | | | | | | |
| **For action to:** | | | | ISO, IEC | | |
| **For information to:** | | | | SPCG | | |
| **Approval:** | | | | TSAG meeting (Geneva, 30 May 2025) | | |
| **Deadline:** | | | |  | | |
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| **Abstract:** | This liaison statement contains considerations from TSAG on collaboration and coordination on smart and sustainable communities. |

The ITU Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) presents its compliments to ISO and IEC and takes this opportunity to reaffirm ITU’s appreciation for the longstanding collaboration among our organizations in the field of international standardization.

TSAG has taken note, with interest, of the proposal to establish a new ISO/IEC Joint Committee 4 on Smart and Sustainable Communities. This information was brought to TSAG’s attention during its recent meeting held from 26 to 30 May 2025 in Geneva, Switzerland, based on documentation shared through the Standardization Programme Coordination Group (SPCG), as presented in [TSAG-TD120](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T25-TSAG-250526-TD-GEN-0120).

The aforementioned document was submitted in response to the recent establishment of a new Question under ITU-T Study Group 20 (SG20), titled *“Internet of Things (IoT) solutions for effective energy management in smart sustainable cities and communities (SSC&C).”* SG20 has held the mandate for developing standards related to the Internet of Things (IoT), digital twins, and smart sustainable cities and communities since 2015. This mandate was most recently reaffirmed and refined at the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA-24), held in New Delhi in October 2024. The updated mandate is publicly available at: <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/studygroups/2025-2028/20/Pages/mandate.aspx>.

While ITU greatly values its collaborative history with ISO and IEC—particularly through the former ISO/IEC/ITU Joint Smart Cities Task Force—it was noted with some concern that the proposal for this new Joint Committee had not been formally or informally communicated to ITU through established liaison channels or other joint activities. We understand that this initiative has been under discussion for a significant period, yet no information had been formally or informally shared with SG20 or TSAG until now.

Given our shared commitment to effective coordination, harmonized standardization efforts, and the efficient use of resources, TSAG would like to kindly request that any developments related to this new Joint Committee be formally communicated to ITU-T SG20 moving forward. We would also welcome the opportunity for early engagement to explore synergies and ensure complementarity between the proposed activities and existing work under SG20, thereby avoiding inadvertent duplication.

TSAG further emphasizes the importance of building on existing contributions. Over the past decade, SG20 has produced a comprehensive body of work—including technical standards, guidelines, and collaborative frameworks—developed by ITU-T’s diverse Membership, including national administrations, UN agencies, industry, and academia.

ITU remains fully committed to open, inclusive, and coordinated standardization. TSAG reaffirms its readiness to engage proactively with ISO and IEC and looks forward to exploring constructive avenues for enhanced cooperation in this important and evolving domain.

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