

I n t e r n a t i o n a l T e l e c o m m u n i c a t i o n U n i o n

# ITU-T

TELECOMMUNICATION  
STANDARDIZATION SECTOR  
OF ITU

WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION  
ASSEMBLY

Hammamet, 25 October – 3 November 2016

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## **Resolution 67 – Use in the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector of the languages of the Union on an equal footing**

## FOREWORD

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is the United Nations specialized agency in the field of telecommunications, information and communication technologies (ICTs). The ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) is a permanent organ of ITU. ITU-T is responsible for studying technical, operating and tariff questions and issuing Recommendations on them with a view to standardizing telecommunications on a worldwide basis.

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), which meets every four years, establishes the topics for study by the ITU-T study groups which, in turn, produce Recommendations on these topics.

The approval of ITU-T Recommendations is covered by the procedure laid down in WTSA Resolution 1.

In some areas of information technology which fall within ITU-T's purview, the necessary standards are prepared on a collaborative basis with ISO and IEC.

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## RESOLUTION 67 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016)

### **Use in the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector of the languages of the Union on an equal footing**

*(Johannesburg, 2008; Dubai, 2012; Hammamet, 2016)*

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Hammamet, 2016),

*recognizing*

- a)* the adoption by the Plenipotentiary Conference of Resolution 154 (Rev. Busan, 2014), on the use of the six official languages of the Union on an equal footing, which instructs the ITU Council and the General Secretariat on how to achieve equal treatment of the six languages;
- b)* Resolution 1372 of the Council, as revised at its 2016 session, which notes the work accomplished by the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) Coordination Committee for Vocabulary (CCV) and the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) Standardization Committee for Vocabulary (SCV) on the adoption and agreement of terms and definitions in the field of telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICT) in all six official languages of the Union;
- c)* the decisions of the Council centralizing the editing functions for languages in the General Secretariat (Conferences and Publications Department), calling upon the Sectors to provide the final texts in English only (this applies also to terms and definitions),

*considering*

- a)* that under Resolution 154 (Rev. Busan, 2014), the Council is instructed to continue the work of the Council Working Group on Languages (CWG-LANG), in order to monitor progress and report to the Council on the implementation of that resolution;
- b)* the importance of providing information in all the official languages of the Union on an equal footing on ITU-T webpages,

*noting*

that SCV was established in accordance with Resolution 67 (Johannesburg, 2008) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on the initiation of SCV,

*resolves*

- 1 that the ITU-T study groups, within their terms of reference, should continue their work on technical and operational terms and their definitions in English only;
- 2 that the work on standardization vocabulary within ITU-T shall be based on the proposals made by the study groups in the English language, with the consideration and adoption of the translation into the other five official languages as proposed by the General Secretariat, and that this shall be ensured by SCV;
- 3 that, when proposing terms and definitions, the ITU-T study groups shall use the guidelines given in Annex B to the "Author's guide for drafting ITU-T Recommendations";
- 4 that, where more than one ITU-T study group is defining the same terms and/or concept, efforts should be made to select a single term and a single definition which is acceptable to all of the ITU-T study groups concerned;

5 that, when selecting terms and preparing definitions, the ITU-T study groups shall take into account the established use of terms and existing definitions in ITU, in particular those appearing in the online ITU Terms and Definitions database;

6 that the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB) should collect all new terms and definitions which are proposed by the ITU-T study groups in consultation with SCV, and enter them in the online ITU Terms and Definitions database;

7 that SCV should work in close collaboration with CCV in ITU-R, holding joint meetings where possible, preferably online;

8 that, in its work, SCV should be guided by the provisions of Resolution 154 (Rev. Busan, 2014) and collaborate in this regard with CWG-LANG;

9 that the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) and the Radiocommunication Advisory Group should consider the feasibility of establishing a joint working body within ITU to deal with issues of vocabulary and use of all six languages of the Union on an equal footing, and to report to their respective assemblies,

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau*

1 to continue to translate all Recommendations approved under the traditional approval process (TAP) in all the languages of the Union;

2 to translate all TSAG reports in all the languages of the Union;

3 to include in the circular that announces the approval of a Recommendation an indication of whether it will be translated;

4 to continue the practice of translating ITU-T Recommendations approved under the alternative approval process (AAP), with the possibility of doubling the number of pages of such Recommendations translated, within the financial resources of the Union;

5 to monitor the quality of translation and associated expenses;

6 to bring this resolution to the attention of the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau,

*invites the Council*

1 to take appropriate measures to ensure that information is posted on the ITU websites in the six official languages of the Union on an equal footing within budgetary limits, consistent with Council Resolution 1372;

2 to consider a review of Resolution 154 (Rev. Busan, 2014) to enable the feasibility of establishing a single working body within ITU to deal with issues of vocabulary and use of all six languages of the Union on an equal footing,

*instructs the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group*

to consider the best mechanism for deciding which Recommendations approved under AAP shall be translated, in light of the relevant Council decisions.

ANNEX  
(to Resolution 67 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016))

**Terms of reference for the Standardization Committee for Vocabulary**

- 1** To provide consultation on terms and definitions for vocabulary work for ITU-T in the six languages, in close collaboration with the General Secretariat (Conferences and Publications Department), the TSB editor for the English language as well as the relevant study group rapporteurs for vocabulary, and to seek harmonization among all ITU-T study groups concerned regarding terms and definitions.
- 2** To liaise with CCV and other organizations dealing with vocabulary work in the telecommunication field, for example the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) as well as the ISO/IEC Joint Technical Committee for Information Technology (JTC 1), in order to eliminate duplication of terms and definitions.
- 3** To inform TSAG at least once per year of its activities and to report its results to the next WTSA.