

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  
Geneva, 1-9 March 2022

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## **Resolution 7 – Collaboration with the International Organization for Standardization and the International Electrotechnical Commission**

## 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 7 (Rev. Geneva, 2022)

### **Collaboration with the International Organization for Standardization and the International Electrotechnical Commission**

*(Malaga-Torremolinos, 1984; Helsinki, 1993; Geneva, 1996; Montreal, 2000; Florianópolis, 2004; Johannesburg, 2008; Dubai, 2012; Hammamet, 2016; Geneva, 2022)*

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Geneva, 2022),

*considering*

- a) Articles 1 and 50 of the ITU Constitution;
- b) Articles 2 and 20 of the Statutes of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO);
- c) Article 2 of the Statutes and Rules of Procedure of the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC);
- d) the mandate of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) as set forth in the basic instruments of the Union, notably Chapter III of the Constitution and Section 6 of the ITU Convention;
- e) the interest of both ISO and IEC in some aspects of telecommunications;
- f) the common interest of ISO and IEC on the one hand and ITU-T on the other in the development of their respective standards in telecommunications/information and communication technology which take full account of the needs of all interested stakeholders, including manufacturers, users and those responsible for communication systems and services;
- g) the need for mutual agreements on many areas of standardization activity of common interest;
- h) the existing cooperation within the framework of the World Standards Cooperation (WSC), established in 2001 by ITU, ISO and IEC in order to advance the development of voluntary consensus-based international standards in ITU, ISO and IEC;
- i) the relevance of the ITU conformance and interoperability (C&I) programme and its four pillars, and the action plan for the C&I programme (reviewed by the ITU Council at its 2014 session),

*noting*

- a) that the working methods and standards-development time-frames of the organizations concerned are not the same;
- b) that the document-sharing mechanisms and requirements differ among the three organizations;
- c) the importance of shared documents being accessible among the three organizations during the development of the work;
- d) the increasing financial burdens on the professional experts who participate in the development of standards in these three organizations;
- e) the coordination meeting established between the three organizations through their top management;

- f) the progress made on the basis of existing procedures in the alignment of technical Recommendations with ISO, IEC and ISO/IEC Joint Technical Committee 1 (JTC 1) in areas of joint interest, thanks to the spirit of cooperation which has prevailed;
- g) the principles of collaboration established between ISO and IEC and particularly with ISO/IEC JTC 1 on information technology as contained in Recommendation ITU-T A.23 and in the ISO/IEC JTC 1 Directives;
- h) that other standardization activities of a collaborative nature may require coordination;
- i) the increasing cost of developing international standards and Recommendations;
- j) the role of the Common Patent Policy for ITU-R/ITU-T/ISO/IEC in furthering common approaches between ITU-T, ISO and IEC on certain standards-related intellectual property rights issues;
- k) the value of identifying and setting priorities for cooperation between ITU-T, ISO and IEC,

*recognizing*

that the collaboration between ITU-T on one hand and ISO and IEC on the other is on the basis of overall win and mutual benefits to best serve international standardization efforts,

*resolves*

- 1 to request the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB) to report regularly to the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) on the status of collaboration with ISO and IEC;
- 2 to continue inviting ISO and IEC to examine, through TSAG, the ITU-T study programme, in the early stages of its studies, and vice versa, and to further examine such programmes to take into account ongoing changes, in order to identify subjects where coordination seems desirable for common and complementary work, and which would benefit the membership, and to inform the Director of TSB;
- 3 to request the Director of TSB, after consultation with the study group management team concerned, to reply, and to furnish any additional information requested by ISO and IEC, as it becomes available;
- 4 to invite the Director of TSB, at the request of Member States and Sector Members, in consultation with TSAG, to review the agreement between ISO/IEC and ITU-T, with a view to exploring options for accessing and publishing common texts, with a possible unified approach;
- 5 to request the Director of TSB to examine and update the programme of cooperation and priority of the study items among ITU-T, ISO and IEC and highlight this information on the ITU-T website on a regular basis;
- 6 to request the Director of TSB, the study groups and TSAG, as appropriate, to consider and propose further improvements to the procedures for cooperation between ITU-T and ISO and IEC;
- 7 that the necessary contacts with ISO and/or IEC (including ISO/IEC JTC 1) at the appropriate levels and coordination methods should be mutually agreed and regular coordination events arranged:
  - for work where text should be drawn up mutually and kept aligned, procedures in accordance with Recommendation ITU-T A.23 and the Guidelines for Cooperation therein apply;

- for other activities where coordination between ITU-T and ISO and IEC is required (for example in relation to any mutual agreements, such as the Memorandum of Understanding on standardization in the field of electronic business), clear means of coordination shall be established and regular coordination contacts made;

8 to request the chairmen of study groups to take into account the related work programmes and the progress of projects in ISO, IEC and ISO/IEC JTC 1; further, to cooperate with these organizations as widely as possible and by appropriate and balanced means, in order to:

- ensure that the specifications which have been jointly drawn up remain aligned;
- collaborate in drawing up other specifications in fields of shared interest;

9 that, for reasons of economy, any necessary collaborative meetings take place to the extent possible in association with other relevant meetings;

10 that the report concerning such coordination indicate the status of alignment and compatibility of draft texts on points of shared interest, in particular identifying cases where cross-referencing would be helpful to users of published International Standards and Recommendations;

11 to invite administrations to contribute significantly to the coordination between ITU-T on the one hand and ISO and IEC (including ISO/IEC JTC 1) on the other by ensuring adequate coordination of national activities associated with the three organizations.