

RESOLUTION 208 (DUBAI, 2018)

**Appointment and maximum term of office for chairmen
and vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups, study groups
and other groups**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

recalling

a) Resolution 166 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the number of vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups;

b) Resolution 58 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on strengthening of relations between ITU, regional telecommunication organizations and all Member States without exception, for the regional preparations for the Plenipotentiary Conference;

c) Resolution 70 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of this conference, on mainstreaming a gender perspective in ITU and promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women through information and communication technologies;

d) Resolution ITU-R 15-6 (Rev. Geneva, 2015) of the Radiocommunication Assembly (RA), Resolution 35 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) and Resolution 61 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on appointment and maximum term of office for chairmen and vice-chairmen of the respective advisory groups and study groups;

e) Resolution 1386 adopted by the ITU Council at its 2017 session, on the ITU Coordination Committee for Terminology (CCT),

considering

- a) that No. 242 of the ITU Convention requires RA, WTSA and WTDC to appoint the chairman and one vice-chairman or more for each study group, taking account of competence and equitable geographical distribution, and the need to promote more efficient participation by the developing countries¹;
- b) that No. 243 of the Convention stipulates that, if the workload of any study group requires, the assembly or conference shall appoint such additional vice-chairmen as it deems necessary;
- c) that No. 244 of the Convention provides a procedure for a study group to elect a chairman in the interval between two assemblies or conferences when a chairman is unable to carry out his or her duties;
- d) that procedures and qualifications for the chairmen and vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups should generally follow those for the appointment of study group chairmen and vice-chairmen;
- e) that experience of ITU in general and of the relevant Sector in particular would be of particular value for the chairmen and vice-chairmen of advisory groups;
- f) that relevant sections of the respective Resolution 1 on working methods of each Sector contain guidelines regarding the appointment of advisory group and study group chairmen and vice-chairmen at the assembly or conference,

¹ These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

recognizing

- a) that currently the three ITU Sectors have established a similar appointment procedure, required qualifications and guidelines with respect to chairmen and vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups²;
- b) the need to seek and encourage suitable representation of chairmen and vice-chairmen coming from developing countries;
- c) the need to encourage the effective participation of all elected vice-chairmen in the work of their respective advisory groups and study groups, through the establishment of specific roles for each elected vice-chairman, so as to better distribute the management workload of the meetings of the Union,

recognizing further

- a) that the Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups should appoint only the number of vice-chairmen deemed necessary for the efficient and effective management and functioning of the group in question;
- b) that steps should be taken to provide some continuity between chairmen and vice-chairmen;
- c) the benefits of establishing maximum terms of office in order, on the one hand, to guarantee reasonable stability to advance the work, and, on the other, to allow for renewal with candidates having new perspectives and vision;
- d) the importance of effectively mainstreaming a gender perspective in the policies of all ITU Sectors,

² The criteria contained in this resolution do not apply to the designation of chairmen or vice-chairmen of focus groups.

taking into account

- a) that a maximum time in office of two terms for Sector advisory group, study group and other group chairmen and vice-chairmen provides for a reasonable amount of stability while providing the opportunity for different individuals to serve in these capacities;
- b) that the management team of a Sector advisory group and a study group should include at least the chairman, vice-chairmen and subordinate group chairmen;
- c) the advantages of nominating by consensus up to two candidates per regional organization³ for the vice-chairmen of the advisory groups;
- d) the value of prior experience of the nominee, at least as chairman or vice-chairman of working parties and as rapporteur, vice-rapporteur, associate rapporteur or editor in the respective study groups,

resolves

1 that candidates for the posts of chairmen and vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups (including, to the extent practicable, the Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM) and the Coordination Committee for Vocabulary (CCV) in the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R)⁴, and the Standardization Committee for Vocabulary (SCV) in ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T)⁴), should be appointed according to the procedures given in Annex 1, the qualifications given in Annex 2 and the guidelines given in Annex 3 to this resolution and *resolves* 2 of Resolution 58 (Rev. Busan, 2014);

³ Taking into account *resolves* 2 of Resolution 58 (Rev. Busan, 2014)

⁴ Taking into account Resolution 1386 of the Council (2017).

2 that candidates for the posts of chairmen and vice-chairmen of the Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups should be identified, taking into account that, for each Sector advisory group, study group and other group, the respective assembly or conference will appoint the chairman and only the number of vice-chairmen deemed necessary for the efficient and effective management and functioning of the group in question, applying the guidelines given in Annex 3;

3 that nominations for the posts of chairmen and vice-chairmen of the Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups should be accompanied by a biographical profile highlighting the qualifications of the individuals proposed, taking into consideration continuity in participation in the Sector advisory group, study group or other group, and that the Director of the Bureau concerned will circulate the profiles to the heads of delegation present at the assembly or conference;

4 that the term of office for both chairmen and vice-chairmen shall not exceed two terms of office between consecutive assemblies or conferences;

5 that the term of office in one appointment (e.g. as a vice-chairman) does not count towards the term of office for another appointment (e.g. as a chairman) and that steps should be taken to provide some continuity between chairmen and vice-chairmen;

6 that the period served by a chairman or vice-chairman elected under No. 244 of the Convention in the interval between assemblies or conferences does not count towards the term of office,

resolves further

1 that vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups and study groups should be encouraged to assume a leadership role in activities in order to ensure equitable distribution of the tasks and achieve greater involvement of the vice-chairmen in the management and work of advisory groups and study groups;

2 that the appointment of vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups should be limited to two candidates and of vice-chairmen of study groups to two or three candidates from each regional organization, taking into account Resolution 70 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) and *resolves* 2 of Resolution 58 (Rev. Busan, 2014), to ensure equitable geographical distribution among the ITU regions so as to ensure that every region is represented by not more than three competent and qualified candidates;

3 that the appointment of candidates from countries that do not hold any chairmanship or vice-chairmanship position should be encouraged;

4 that no single individual may hold more than one vice-chairmanship position in these groups in any one Sector, and only in exceptional cases hold such a position in more than one Sector;

5 that each ITU regional organization attending RA, WTSA and WTDC should be encouraged, when assigning the positions to individual experienced professionals, to observe fully the principle of equitable geographical distribution among ITU regional organizations, and the need to promote more efficient participation by the developing countries;

6 that the above-mentioned guidelines may, to the extent practicable, be applied to CPM in ITU-R,

instructs the ITU Council

to continually discuss the effectiveness of the selection/appointment criteria and the workload performed by all elected chairmen and vice-chairmen in the management of study groups, advisory groups and other groups, and report to the plenipotentiary conference,

invites Member States and Sector Members

1 to support their successful candidates for such posts in the Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups, and support and facilitate their task during their term of office;

2 to promote the nomination of women candidates for the posts of chairmen and vice-chairmen of the Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups.

(Dubai, 2018)

ANNEX 1 TO RESOLUTION 208 (DUBAI, 2018)

Procedure for the appointment of chairmen and vice-chairmen of the Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups

- 1 Typically, the positions of chairmen and vice-chairmen to be filled are known in advance of the assembly or conference.
- a) In order to help the assembly or conference appoint chairmen/vice-chairmen, Member States and Sector Members of the Sector in question are encouraged to indicate to the Director of the Bureau suitable candidates preferably three months, but no later than two weeks, before the opening of the assembly or conference.
- b) In nominating suitable candidates, Sector Members should carry out prior consultations with the administration/Member State concerned, in order to avoid any possible disagreement in regard to such nomination.
- c) On the basis of proposals received, the Director of the Bureau will circulate to Member States and Sector Members the list of candidates. The list of candidates should be accompanied by an indication of the qualifications of each candidate as given in Annex 2 to this resolution.
- d) On the basis of this document and any relevant comments received, the heads of delegation, at a suitable time during the assembly or conference, should be invited to prepare, in consultation with the Director of the Bureau, a consolidated list of designated chairmen and vice-chairmen of the Sector advisory group, study groups and other groups to be submitted in a document to the assembly or conference for final approval.
- e) In drafting the consolidated list, the following should be taken into account: In cases where there are two or more candidates with equal competence for the same chairman position, preference should be given to candidates from Member States and Sector Members having the lowest number of designated Sector advisory group and study group chairmen.

2 Situations which cannot be considered within the above will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis at the assembly or conference. For example, if a merger of two existing study groups is envisaged, the proposals pertaining to the relevant study groups can be considered. Therefore, the procedure outlined in § 1 can still be applied.

3 However, if the assembly or conference decides to set up a completely new study group, discussions will have to be held at the assembly or conference and appointments made.

4 These procedures should be applied for appointments made by an advisory group under delegated authority of the respective assembly or conference.

5 Vacant positions of chairmen and vice-chairmen that occur in mid-term between assemblies or conferences are filled in accordance with No. 244 of the Convention.

ANNEX 2 TO RESOLUTION 208 (DUBAI, 2018)

Qualifications of chairmen and vice-chairmen

1 No. 242 of the Convention states that:

"... In appointing chairmen and vice-chairmen, particular consideration shall be given to the requirements of competence and equitable geographical distribution and to the need to promote more efficient participation by the developing countries."

Whilst giving primary consideration to the qualifications below, there should be an appropriate representation of chairmen and vice-chairmen from developing countries, including the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

2 As regards competence, the following qualifications, *inter alia*, appear to be of importance when appointing chairmen and vice-chairmen:

- a) relevant professional knowledge and experience;
- b) continuity in participation in the relevant study group or, for chairmen and vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups, in ITU in general and the respective Sector in particular;
- c) managerial skills;
- d) availability to assume and discharge duties without delay for the period up to the next assembly or conference;
- e) knowledge of activities related to the Sector's mandate.

3 Particular reference to the above qualifications should be included in the biographical profile to be circulated by the Director of the Bureau.

ANNEX 3 TO RESOLUTION 208 (DUBAI, 2018)

Guidelines for appointment of the optimum numbers of vice-chairmen for Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups

- 1 Pursuant to No. 242 of the Convention, and to the extent practicable, the requirements of competence, equitable geographical distribution and the need to promote more efficient participation by the developing countries should be taken into account⁵.
- 2 To the extent possible, and taking into account the need for demonstrated competence, appointment or selection to the management team should utilize the human resources of as broad a range of Member States and Sector Members as possible, at the same time recognizing the need to appoint only the number of vice-chairmen necessary for the efficient and effective management and functioning of the study groups, consistent with the projected structure and work programme.
- 3 The workload should be a factor in determining the appropriate number of vice-chairmen to ensure that every aspect within the purview of the Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups is fully managed. The distribution of tasks among the vice-chairmen shall be made in the framework of each study group and advisory group, and may be modified according to the needs of the work.
- 4 The total number of vice-chairmen proposed by any administration should be reasonable, so as to observe the principle of equitable distribution of posts among the Member States concerned.

⁵ For those regions consisting of numerous administrations and with diverse economic and technological conditions within the region, to the extent possible the number of representatives of those regions may be increased, as appropriate.

5 Regional representation in the advisory groups and study groups of all three Sectors should be taken into account, so that no single individual may hold more than one vice-chairmanship position in these groups in any one Sector, and only in exceptional cases hold such a position in more than one Sector⁶.

⁶ The criterion mentioned in this paragraph should not prevent a vice-chairman of a given advisory group or a vice-chairman of a given study group from holding positions of chairman or vice-chairman of a given working party or as rapporteur or associate rapporteur for any group under the mandate of that Sector group.