

Joint Coordination Activity on Software-Defined Networking (JCA-SDN)

Terms of Reference

1. Scope

The role of JCA-SDN is the coordination of the standardization work on SDN and related technical topics within ITU-T, taking into consideration the work of relevant other standards development organizations (SDOs), forums and consortia.

The JCA-SDN will help TSAG in achieving the actions assigned in WTSA-12 Resolution 77, Standardization work in ITU-T for software-defined networking, namely:

"to examine the matter, consider the input of Study Group 13 and other relevant study groups and take the necessary actions, as appropriate, with a view to deciding on the necessary SDN standardization activities in ITU-T, with the following actions:

- *identify the relevant study group(s) in which to follow up actions and establish a suitable organizational arrangement on SDN;*
- *coordinate the work on technical issues of SDN across the study groups according to their area of expertise;*
- *promote collaboration with other SDN-related standards bodies and forums;*
- *define a clear strategic vision for SDN standardization and an important active role that ITU-T should play."*

The JCA-SDN will also help SG 13 in performing its role of lead study group on SDN according to WTSA-12 Resolution 1, clause 2.1.6, namely:

"This lead study group is responsible for the study of the appropriate core Questions. In addition, in consultation with the relevant study groups and in collaboration, where appropriate, with other standards bodies, the lead study group has the responsibility to define and maintain the overall framework and to coordinate, assign (recognizing the mandates of the study groups) and prioritize the studies to be carried out by the study groups, and to ensure the preparation of consistent, complete and timely Recommendations. The lead study group shall inform TSAG on the progress of the work as defined in the scope of the lead study group activity. Issues which cannot be resolved by the study group should be raised for TSAG to offer advice and proposals for the direction of the work."

The JCA operates under the terms of Recommendation ITU-T A.1, clause 2.2.

2. Objectives

- The JCA-SDN will coordinate and help plan the work to ensure that the ITU-T standardization of SDN and its application, e.g., 5G, cloud, IoT, big data and security is progressed in a well-coordinated manner among relevant study groups, in particular, Study Group 13 on use-cases, requirements and architecture, Study Group 3 on billing, economic and regulatory considerations, Study Group 5 on energy-efficiency, Study Group 11 on protocols and interoperability, Study Group 12 on QoS, Study Group 15 on transport aspects, Study Group 16 on multimedia systems and services, and Study Group 17 on security;
- The JCA-SDN will study the SDN-related work programmes (including virtualization of network functions, programmable networks and Network as a Service) in ITU-T study groups, as well as in other SDOs, forums, consortia and open source activities, for use in its coordination function and will provide information on this work for use by the relevant study groups in planning their work.

- While study groups will interact directly with SDOs for progressing work items under their responsibility, the JCA-SDN will facilitate coordination with other SDOs, consortia and forums working on SDN-related standards;
- In carrying out the JCA-SDN's internal coordinating role, participants in the JCASDN will include representatives of relevant ITU-T study groups and other related ITU groups.

3. Administrative support

The ITU-T Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB) will provide secretariat and facilities required by JCA-SDN, within available resource limits.

4. Meetings

The JCA-SDN will work electronically using teleconferences and with face-to-face meetings which will normally occur concurrently with study groups involved in JCA-SDN. Meetings will be held as determined by the JCA-SDN and will be announced to its participants and on the ITU-T website.

5. Parent group and progress reports

The JCA-SDN will report its activities to SG13 at its meetings. An executive summary will be sent to SG13 after each JCA-SDN meeting.

Progress reports and proposals will be sent to relevant study groups as necessary, in accordance with Recommendation ITU-T A.1, clause 2.2.7.

6. Lifetime

The continuation or closure of JCA-SDN is to be reviewed by the end of 2018 or it can be terminated according to Recommendation ITU-T A.1, clause 2.2.10.
