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| Asia-Pacific Telecommunity Member Administrations |
| APT COMMON Proposal for the work of the conference**Revision of WTSA-12 Resolution 45**Effective coordination of standardization work across study groups in the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector and the role of Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group |
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**Introduction**

As the evolution of technology is convergence, there will be some overlapping areas within the scope of work for Study Groups under the ITU-T.

Resolution 45 is divided into two areas, which aim to address this issue. One area is on the coordination of standardization work across study groups, and another area is on the role of TSAG.

It is important to highlight that the role of TSAG in coordination and resolving disputes need to be qualified further in accordance with the mandate given in Resolution 1 Section 4. This will facilitate and escalate the process and management of disputes.

Issues pertaining to the relevance of Resolution 45 have been discussed in detail, including the proposal to suppress Resolution 45 ([TSAG C 091](http://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T13-TSAG-C-0091)) in the ITU-T TSAG meeting (Geneva 18-22 July 2016).

With the aim to ascertain the relevance of Resolution 45, a comparative analysis was conducted between Resolution 45, Resolution 1 and Resolution 22 as shown in Table 1.

**Table 1. Comparative analysis of the duplication of functions in Resolution 45.**

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| Functions of Resolution 45 | Similar functions in Resolution 1 | Similar functions in Resolution 22 | Remark |
| *resolves* that the coordination of ITU-T activities in regard to high-priority standardization issues and work related to more than one study group should ensure:i) **the identification of high-level objectives and priorities** for ITU-T studies from a global viewpoint;  | TSAG's principal duties are to **review priorities**, programmes, operations, financial matters and **strategies for ITU-T's activities,** to review progress in the implementation of ITU-T's work programme, to provide guidelines for the work of the study groups and to recommend measures… |  N/A | The function resolved in Resolution 45 is more specific and straightforward. |
| ii) **cooperation between study groups**, including the avoidance of duplication of work and the identification of linkages between related work items;  | TSAG will identify changing requirements and provide advice on appropriate changes to be made to the priority of work in ITU-T study groups, **planning, and allocation of work between study groups** (and the coordination of that work with other Sectors) | …promoting flexibility in responding rapidly to high-priority issues; such groups shall not adopt Questions or Recommendations, in accordance with Article 14A of the Convention, but work on a specific mandate; | Avoidance of duplication are described in various ways in all 3 resolutions. |
| iii) **the planned coordination** of time-frames, deliverables, objectives and milestones for standardization activities;  | N/A | N/A…establish the **appropriate mechanism** and encourage the utilization, for example, of coordination groups or other groups… | Resolution 45 provides specific areas, whereas Resolution 22 only provide a generic instruction on establishing an appropriate mechanism |
| iv) that **the interests of developing countries** are taken into account and that their involvement in these activities is encouraged and facilitated;  | N/A | group, as far as practicable, **Questions of interest to developing countries**, including the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in order to facilitate their participation in these studies; | Resolution 45 resolves to protect the interest of developing countries, whereasResolution 22 instructs grouping questions, as a method to facilitate participation of developing countries. |
| v) cooperation and coordination with the ITU Radiocommunication and Telecommunication Development Sectors and with other, external, standardization bodies,  | … to foster cooperation and coordination with other relevant bodies, within ITU-T and with the Radiocommunication (ITU-R) and Telecommunication Development (ITU-D) Sectors and the General Secretariat, and with other standardization organizations, forums and consortia outside ITU. | N/A | (Duplication with Resolution 1) |
| *instructs* the TSAG 1 to take an active role in ensuring coordination between study groups, particularly on high-priority standardization issues that are being studied in more than one study group, including inviting coordination groups to hold the necessary meetings to achieve the objectives set for them;  | N/A | N/A…establish the **appropriate mechanism** and encourage the utilization, for example, of coordination groups or other groups… | Resolution 22 only provide a generic instruction on establishing an appropriate mechanism. |
| 2 to take into account, and implement as necessary, advice given to TSAG by other groups established in the interests of effective coordination on high-priority and joint standardization topics. | N/A | N/A |  |

As a summary of the analysis, the following is derived:

1. Resolution 45 has a specific primary agenda on effective coordination of work across study group, whereas Resolution 1 and Resolution 22 have different primary agendas respectively, but there are components on coordination of work being addressed.
2. Some of these components in Resolution 1 and Resolution 22 do exist in overlap with Resolution 45.
3. However, there are also components of Resolution 45 that are not mentioned in other resolutions in the specific context of effective coordination work across study groups.
4. Therefore, it is shown that some functions are unique to the context of Resolution 45, and Resolution 45 has a specific purpose in addressing the issue of effective coordination of work across study group.

**Proposal**

Based on the summary of the analysis, APT Member Administrations would like to propose the following:

1. Resolution 45 shall not be suppressed due to its specific purpose in addressing the issue of effective coordination work across study groups.
2. Modification should be made to further strengthen Resolution 45 as provided in Annex. **MOD** APT/4202A5/1

RESOLUTION 45 (REV. HAMMAMET, 2016)

Effective coordination of standardization work across
study groups in the ITU Telecommunication Standardization
 Sector and the role of the ITU Telecommunication
 Standardization Advisory Group

(Florianópolis, 2004; Johannesburg, 2008; Dubai, 2012; Hammamet, 2016)

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Hammamet, 2016),

noting

*a)* that the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU‑T) is the pre-eminent global standardization body, comprising administrations, equipment vendors, operators and regulators;

*b)* that, under Article 17 of the ITU Constitution, ITU‑T, bearing in mind the particular concerns of the developing countries[[1]](#footnote-1)1 shall fulfil the purposes of the Union by studying technical, operating and tariff questions and adopting Recommendations on them with a view to standardizing telecommunications on a worldwide basis;

*c)* that, under Article 13 of the ITU Convention, the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) is required, *inter alia*, to approve the programme of work for ITU‑T for each study period and to determine the priority, urgency, estimated financial implications and time-scale for the completion of studies,

considering

*a)* Resolution 122 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, which resolves that WTSA shall adequately address strategic issues in standardization, and encourages Member States, ITU‑T Sector Members and study group chairmen and vice-chairmen to concentrate, *inter alia*, on the identification and analysis of strategic issues in standardization in their preparations for WTSA so as to facilitate the work of the assembly;

*b)* that the interests of developing countries are promoted by ensuring a coordinated approach to standardization where strategic standardization issues are concerned;

*c)* that WTSA has agreed to a new ITU‑T study group structure and improvements to ITU‑T's working methods that will assist ITU‑T in meeting the standardization challenges of the 2013-2016 study period,

recognizing

*a)* that effective coordination between study groups is critical to ITU‑T's ability to meet emerging standardization challenges and the needs of its membership;

*b)* that ITU‑T study groups are responsible for developing Recommendations on technical, operating and tariff questions on the basis of contributions submitted by the membership;

*c)* that the effective coordination of standardization activities would assist in meeting the objectives of Resolutions 122 and 123 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

*d)* that operational coordination can be effected by means of joint coordination activities (JCAs), joint rapporteur group meetings, liaison statements between study groups and the study group chairmen's meetings organized by the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau;

*e)* that effective coordination is facilitated by taking a top-down approach to the coordination of work between study groups, including the identification of linkages between related work items;

*f)* that the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) can play an important role in ensuring cross-study group coordination on standardization issues, including the measurement of standardization progress against agreed milestones;

*g)* that it is appropriate for WTSA, as the highest body in ITU‑T, to identify strategic standardization issues for each study period,

bearing in mind

that the coordination of standardization activities is particularly important for high-priority standardization issues, including, for example:

*a)* next-generation networks (NGN) evolution and future networks;

*b)* security (including cybersecurity);

*c)* telecommunications for disaster relief systems, including network resilience and recovery;

*d)* smart grid and home networking;

*e)* intelligent transport systems (ITS);

*f)* Internet of things (IoT)/machine-to-machine (M2M) communication;

*g)* cloud computing;

*h)* Internet-related issues;

*i)* conformance and interoperability testing,

emphasizing

that coordination should serve to improve the effectiveness of ITU‑T activities and should not limit the authority of each study group to develop Recommendations based on contributions from the membership,

resolves

that the coordination of ITU‑T activities in regard to high-priority standardization issues and work related to more than one study group should ensure:

i) the identification of high-level objectives and priorities for ITU‑T studies from a global viewpoint;

ii) cooperation between study groups, including the avoidance of duplication of work and the identification of linkages between related work items;

iii) the planned coordination of time-frames, deliverables, objectives and milestones for standardization activities;

iv) that the interests of developing countries are taken into account and that their involvement in these activities is encouraged and facilitated;

v) cooperation and coordination with the ITU Radiocommunication and Telecommunication Development Sectors and with other, external, standardization bodies,

instructs the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group

1 to take an active role in ensuring coordination between study groups, particularly on high-priority standardization issues that are being studied in more than one study group, including:

1. to monitor the work of any joint coordination activities and may also recommend the establishment of such activities, if appropriate, and to invite coordination groups to hold the necessary meetings to achieve the objectives set for them;
2. to identify requirements and provide determination on appropriate changes to be made where overlapping issues arise, which includes, but not limited to, assignment of mandate to a Study Group to lead on coordination work;
3. to advise on further improvements to working methods of the joint coordination activities;
4. to monitor the activities of the lead Study Group and request on the progress report to be presented to TSAG;
5. shall endeavor to ensure that the programmes of work across the study groups are successfully completed within an allocated timeframe,

2 to take into account, and implement as necessary, advice given to TSAG by other groups established in the interests of effective coordination on high-priority and joint standardization topics.

1. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)