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| **Italy** |
| PROPOSAL FOR A REVISION OF RESOLUTION ITU-R 6 AND RESOLUTION ITU-T 18 TO INCLUDE PROVISIONS FOR SETTING UP INTERSECTOR **RAPPORTEUR** GROUPS[[1]](#footnote-1) |

With the current progress in the convergence of telecommunication technologies, the need is increasingly emerging to achieve better coordination between the ITU-R and the ITU-T Sectors, in the development of Recommendations and Reports related to the use of common technological solutions in order to maximize interoperability across applications and platforms in the purview of different Study Groups belonging in different Sectors.

Liaison and collaboration between the ITU-R and the ITU-T Sectors is covered in ITU-R Resolution 6-1, which describes in detail the roles of the two Sectors and specifies a procedure by which the RAG and the TSAG may jointly meet to identify the leading Sector for a specific study item, and, if necessary, to establish an Intersector Coordination Group (ICG) to coordinate the work of the two Sectors on that study item. The role of an ICG is essentially to suggest ways to manage those studies on which a conflict of competence has emerged.

Similarly, liaison and collaboration among the two Sectors is covered in ITU-T Resolution 18.

We feel however, that it would be desirable to envision additional provisions in order to further improve cooperation between the two Sectors on specific study items. This could be done by foreseeing a mechanism by which Study Groups or Working Parties of the two Sectors may, when necessary, set up a technical group where technical experts from the two Sectors may discuss specific technical issues in which they are all involved, on a peer-to-peer basis, presenting their considerations and requirements and listening to the considerations and requirements of their colleagues from the other Sector[[2]](#footnote-2).

As an example, some difficulties have recently emerged in the coordination between ITU-T Study Group 15 and several ITU-R Study Groups on the issue of PLT (Power Line Transmission) which is the subject of Recommendation ITU-T G.9960. In this case, a turning point in mutual understanding was reached when a special meeting was organized between ITU-R Working Party 1A and some authoritative members of ITU-T Study Group 15 that had been active in the development of that ITU-T Recommendation.

As a further example, there is now an obvious need for close coordination between ITU-R Working Party 6C, that studies measurement methods of perceptual quality for multimedia broadcasting applications, and ITU-T Study Groups 9, 12 and 16, that study similar problems, each one for its own applications.

The purpose of the present contribution is to offer a proposal for additions to Resolution ITU-R 6-1 (see Attachment 1) and to Resolution ITU-T T.18 (see Attachment 2), in order to foresee the possibility to set up Intersector Rapporteur Groups, namely groups of technical experts from the two Sectors, that would be charged, when necessary, to develop common solutions to common problems at their own expert level, for the consideration of the concerned Study Groups or Working Parties of the two Sectors.

We submit this proposal to both the RAG-11 and the TSAG-11 meetings for their consideration, comments and possible endorsement, with a view that this administration will then formally submit a proposal, possibly in the form shown in the two Attachments to this contribution, to the next Telecommunication Standardization Assembly and Radiocommunication Assembly.

**Attachments:** 2

**Attachment 1**

**Proposal to add a new Annex 4 to Resolution ITU-R 6-1**

RESOLUTION ITU-R 6-1[[3]](#footnote-3)\*

**Liaison and collaboration with the ITU**

**Telecommunication Standardization Sector**

(1993-2000)

The ITU Radiocommunication Assembly,

*considering*

a) that the Radiocommunication (ITU-R) Study Groups are charged to focus on the following in the study of Questions assigned to them:

“a) use of the radio-frequency spectrum in terrestrial and space radiocommunications and of the geostationary-satellite and other satellite orbits;

b) characteristics and performance of radio systems;

c) operation of radio stations;

d) radiocommunication aspects of distress and safety matters;” (Article 11 of the ITU Convention, Nos. 151 to 154);

b) that the Telecommunication Standardization (ITU-T) Study Groups are charged to:

“... study technical, operating and tariff questions and prepare recommendations on them with a view to standardizing telecommunications on a worldwide basis, including recommendations on interconnection of radio systems in public telecommunication networks and on the performance required for these interconnections;” (Article 14 of the Convention, No. 193);

c) that the two Sectors were given the responsibility of jointly agreeing on the assignment of studies and to keep the division of studies constantly under review (Nos. 158 and 195 of the Convention);

d) that the initial allocation of work between ITU-T and ITU-R has been completed,

*considering further*

Resolution 16 of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Rev. Minneapolis, 1998),

*noting*

that Resolution 18 of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Montreal, 2000) provides mechanisms for ongoing review of the allocation of work and cooperation between the ITU‑R and ITU‑T Sectors,

*resolves*

**1** to refer to the Radiocommunication Advisory Group in collaboration with the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group, the continuing review of new and existing work and its distribution between the two Sectors, for approval by Members in accordance with the procedures laid down for the approval of new or revised Questions taking into account the activities and results of the ongoing restructuring efforts within ITU;

**2** that the principles for the allocation of work to the Radiocommunication Sector and Telecommunication Standardization Sector (see Annex 1) should be used to give guidance in the allocation of work to the Sectors;

**3** that, if considerable responsibilities in both Sectors in a particular subject are identified, either:

a) the procedure as given in Annex 2 should be applied, or

b) a joint meeting may be arranged by the Directors, or

c) the matter should be studied by relevant Study Groups of both Sectors with appropriate coordination (see Annex 3 and Annex 4),

*invites*

the Directors of the Radiocommunication and Telecommunication Standardization Bureaux to strictly observe the provisions of *resolves* 3 and to identify ways and means of strengthening this cooperation.

**Annex 1**

**Principles for the allocation of work to the Radiocommunication**

**and Telecommunication Standardization Sectors**

[NO CHANGE]

**Annex 2**

**Procedural method of cooperation**

[ NO CHANGE]

**Annex 3**

**Coordination of the radiocommunication and telecommunication standardization activities through Intersector Coordination Groups**

With respect to *resolves* 3c) the following procedure shall be applied when there are divergences on which Sector and Study Group should take responsibility to lead the work on a specific subject:

a) the joint meeting of the advisory groups as indicated in *resolves* 1, may, in exceptional cases, establish an Intersector Coordination Group (ICG) to coordinate the work of both Sectors and to assist the advisory groups in coordinating the related activity of their respective Study Groups;

b) the joint meeting shall, at the same time, nominate the Sector which will be leading in the work;

c) the mandate of each ICG shall be clearly defined by the joint meeting, based on the particular circumstances and issues at the time the group is established; the joint meeting shall also establish a target date for termination of the ICG;

d) the ICG shall designate a Chair and a Vice-Chair, one representing each Sector;

e) the ICG shall be open to Members of both Sectors in accordance with Nos. 86 to 88 and 110 to 112 of the Constitution;

f) the ICG shall not develop Recommendations;

g) the ICG shall prepare reports on its coordinating activities to be presented to each Sector’s Advisory Group; these reports shall be submitted by the Directors to the two Sectors;

h) an ICG may also be established by the Radiocommunication Assembly or by the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly following a recommendation by the advisory group of the other Sector;

j) the cost of an ICG shall be supported by the two Sectors on an equal basis and each Director shall include in the budget of his Sector, budgetary provisions for such meetings.

**Annex 4**

**Coordination of the radiocommunication and telecommunication standardization activities through Intersector Rapporteur Groups**

With respect to *resolves* 3c) the following procedure shall be applied when work on a specific subject could be best performed by bringing together technology experts from the various concerned Study Groups or Working Parties of the two Sectors to resolve their divergences on a peer-to-peer basis in a neutral technical group:

a) the Chairmen of the concerned Study Groups or Working Parties in the two Sectors may, in exceptional cases, agree by mutual consultation to establish an Intersector Rapporteur Group (IRG) to coordinate the work of their Study Groups or Working Parties on some specific technical issue;

b) the Chairmen of the concerned Study Groups or Working Parties in the two Sectors shall, at the same time, agree on clearly defined terms of reference for the IRG, and establish a target date for completion of the work and termination of the IRG;

c) the Chairmen of the concerned Study Groups or Working Parties in the two Sectors shall also designate the Convenor(s) of the IRG, taking into account the requested specific expertise and ensuring equitable representation of all the Study Groups or Working Parties concerned in each Sector;

d) being a Rapporteur Group, the IRG shall be regulated by the provisions in §§ 2.14 and 2.15 of Resolution ITU-R 1-5 and by the provisions in § 2.3 of Recommendation ITU-T A-1;

f) in fulfilling its mandate, an IRG may develop draft new Recommendations or draft revisions to Recommendations, as well as draft new Reports or draft revisions to Reports, to be submitted to its parent Study Groups or Working Parties for further processing as appropriate;

g) the results of the IRG should represent the agreed consensus of the Group or reflect the diversity of views of the participants in the Group.

h) an IRG shall also prepare reports on its activities, to be presented to each meeting of its parent Study Groups or Working Parties;

i) an IRG shall normally work by correspondence or through teleconference, however it may occasionally take the opportunity of meetings of its parent Study Groups or Working Parties, to hold short face-to-face concurrent meetings, if this is feasible without support by the two Sectors.

**Attachment 2**

**Proposal to add a new Annex C to Resolution ITU-T 18**

Resolution 18

Principles and procedures for the allocation of work to, and   
coordination between, ITU-R and ITU-T

(Helsinki, 1993; Geneva, 1996; Montreal, 2000; Florianópolis, 2004; Johannesburg, 2008)

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Johannesburg, 2008),

considering

a) the responsibilities of the Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) and the Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) according to the principles laid down in the ITU Constitution and Convention, i.e.:

• that the ITU-R study groups are charged (Nos. 151 to 154 of the Convention) to focus on the following in the study of Questions assigned to them:

i) use of the radio-frequency spectrum in terrestrial and space radiocommunication (and of the geostationary-satellite orbit);

ii) characteristics and performance of radio systems;

iii) operation of radio stations;

iv) radiocommunication aspects of distress and safety matters;

• that the ITU-T study groups are charged (No. 193 of the Convention) to study technical, operating and tariff questions and prepare Recommendations on them with a view to standardizing telecommunications on a worldwide basis, including Recommendations on interconnection of radio systems in public telecommunication networks and on the performance required for these interconnections;

b) that joint meetings of the Radiocommunication (RAG) and Telecommunication Standardization (TSAG) Advisory Groups shall review the distribution of new and existing work between the Sectors, subject to confirmation by the applicable procedures of each Sector, the objective being to:

• minimize the duplication of activities of the Sectors;

• group the standardization activities in order to foster cooperation and coordination of the work of ITU-T with regional standardization bodies,

resolves

1 that TSAG and RAG, meeting jointly as necessary, shall continue the review of new and existing work and its distribution between ITU‑T and ITU‑R, for approval in accordance with the procedures laid down for the approval of new and/or revised Questions;

2 that, if considerable responsibilities in both Sectors in a particular subject are identified:

a) the procedure as given in Annex A to this resolution should be applied; or

b) a joint group should be established; or

c) the matter should be studied by relevant study groups of both Sectors with appropriate coordination (see Annexes B and C to this resolution).

Annex A  
(to Resolution 18)

Procedural method of cooperation

[NO CHANGE]

Annex B  
(to Resolution 18)  
  
Coordination of radiocommunication and standardization activities   
through intersector coordination groups

[NO CHANGE]

Annex C  
(to Resolution 18)  
  
Coordination of the radiocommunication and telecommunication standardization activities through Intersector Rapporteur Groups

With respect to *resolves* 2c) the following procedure shall be applied when work on a specific subject could be best performed by bringing together technology experts from the various concerned Study Groups or Working Parties of the two Sectors to resolve their divergences on a peer-to-peer basis in a neutral technical group:

a) the Chairmen of the concerned Study Groups or Working Parties in the two Sectors may, in exceptional cases, agree by mutual consultation to establish an Intersector Rapporteur Group (IRG) to coordinate the work of their Study Groups or Working Parties on some specific technical issue;

b) the Chairmen of the concerned Study Groups or Working Parties in the two Sectors shall, at the same time, agree on clearly defined terms of reference for the IRG, and establish a target date for completion of the work and termination of the IRG;

c) the Chairmen of the concerned Study Groups or Working Parties in the two Sectors shall also designate the Convenor(s) of the IRG, taking into account the requested specific expertise and ensuring equitable representation of all the Study Groups or Working Parties concerned in each Sector;

d) an IRG shall be regulated by the provisions in §§ 2.14 and 2.15 of Resolution ITU-R 1-5 which relate to ITU-R Rapporteur Groups and by the provisions in §2.3 of Recommendation ITU-T A-1 which relate to rapporteur meetings;

f) in fulfilling its mandate, an IRG may develop draft new Recommendations or draft revisions to Recommendations, as well as draft new Reports or draft revisions to Reports, to be submitted to its parent Study Groups or Working Parties for further processing as appropriate;

g) the results of an IRG work should represent the agreed consensus of the Group or reflect the diversity of views of the participants in the Group;

h) an IRG shall also prepare reports on its activities, to be presented to each meeting of its parent Study Groups or Working Parties;

i) an IRG shall normally work by correspondence or through teleconference, however it may occasionally take the opportunity of meetings of its parent Study Groups or Working Parties, to hold short face-to-face concurrent meetings, if this is feasible without support by the two Sectors.

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1. Also published as Doc. TSAG-C36-E. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. It may be recalled that some years ago an informal Rapporteur Group was jointly set up by ITU-R Study Group 6 and ITU-T Study Group 9, with the charge to develop common technological solutions related to the “application environment” for digital interactive television services, that would apply equally to the broadcasting, the cablecasting and the webcasting distribution platforms. Albeit informal, that Rapporteur Group achieved very valuable results in a timely fashion. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. \* This Resolution should be brought to the attention of the ITU Telecommunication Standard­ization Sector. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)