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| **Radiocommunication Advisory GroupGeneva** |  |
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| **Italy** |
| ON THE PROPOSED REVISIONS TO RESOLUTIONS ITU-R 6 AND ITU-T 18 TO INCLUDE PROCEDURES FOR SETTING UP INTERSECTOR **RAPPORTEUR** GROUPS |

1. Introduction

An Intersector Rapporteur Group can be described as a Rapporteur Group of technical experts, that is jointly set up by two or more Study Groups or Working Parties in different ITU Sectors to study a subject of common interest to those Groups. It operates according to the general procedures defined for Rapporteur Groups, reports in parallel to all its parent Groups, and drafts closely coordinated Recommendations to be proposed to those Groups.

Although some informal groups have successfully worked in the past according to the concepts above, the ITU-R and the ITU-T have never formalized the procedures to set up Intersector Rapporteur Group.

Indeed, in recent times, Intersector Rapporteur Groups were first discussed in a contribution to the February 2010 meeting of the RAG, namely document RAG10-1/13 (Japan), which contained a well-documented request for guidance from the RAG on establishing “Intersector Joint Rapporteur Groups”. The contribution underlined that “if such groups can be established by a simple mechanism, it will ensure that relevant matters are fully studied in an efficient and harmonized manner between Sectors”.

In respect to that contribution, the Director’s report of the RAG meeting that discussed that document, distributed as ITU-R Circular CA-CIR-0189, reports that

“RAG recognized that formal mechanisms for establishing inter-sector groups (e.g. JRGs, JWPs) between ITU-R and ITU-T would be the business of future Assemblies of the two Sectors. In this respect, and as regards ITU R, the need to revise Resolution ITU-R 6-1 was noted.”

1. Progress at the TSAG meeting of February 2011

The February 2011 meeting of the TSAG received a contribution on the same subject, as contribution TSAG-C36 (Italy), which proposed revisions of Resolutions ITU-R 6 and ITU-T 18, in order to include procedures for setting up Intersector Rapporteur Groups.

The Chairman’s Report of the TSAG meeting (document TSAG-R4), records that TSAG

“agreed that intersectoral rapporteur groups should be considered as another mechanism to strengthen the collaboration of ITU-T, ITU-R and ITU-D”.

3 Progress at the RAG meeting of February 2011

A separate contribution along the lines of contribution TSAG-C36 was also submitted to the February 2011 meeting of the RAG as document RAG11-1/2 (Italy).

The Director’s Report of the RAG meeting (Circular CA-CIR-0199) records that

“RAG considered the proposal to revise Resolution ITU-R 6 to establish the procedures for setting up IRGs, noting that TSAG had agreed with a similar proposal (see Resolution ITU-T 18). RAG requested the Director to consult with the Directors of the other Bureaux on the mechanisms and merits of establishing these Groups.”

4. Progress at the Radiocommunication Assembly 2012

The Radiocommunication Assembly 2012 received contribution RA12/PLEN/12 (Vatican City State, Italy), with the same proposals as those in documents RAG11-1/2 and TSAG-C36.

The Summary Report of the fifth and sixth meetings of the Radiocommunication Assembly (contribution RA12-C-0116) records that

“Given the close relationship between Resolution ITU-R 6 and Resolution ITU-T 18, the Assembly agreed to assign the following task to the RAG to promote consistency in the application of both Resolutions:

Taking into account § 1.7 of Resolution ITU R 1 and Resolution ITU R 52, invite RAG to propose draft revisions to Resolution ITU R 6 at its 2013 meeting, taking into account actions undertaken by TSAG and the WTSA to modify Resolution ITU T 18”.

5. Conclusions

In order to fully clarify our concept of the purpose and mode of operation of Intersector Rapporteur Groups, Attachments 1 and 2 to the present contribution show an example of the possible modifications to respectively Resolution ITU-R 6 and Resolution ITU-T 18.

We now look forward to the results of the consultations that RAG-11 requested the ITU-R Director to hold with the ITU-T and ITU-D Directors.

We also look forward to the actions that RAG-12 will undertake, as requested by RA-12, in relation to the most appropriate procedures that Study Groups or Working Parties of the ITU-R, the ITU\_T and the ITU-D should apply when they need to set up Intersector Rapporteur Groups.

We hope that RAG-12 will send a Liaison Statement to TSAG-12, indicating that it will be happy to advise the next Radiocommunication Assembly to add the text offered in Attachment 1 herein, or an equivalent text, to Resolution ITU-R 6, if TSAG-12 will advise the WTSA-12 to add the text offered herein as Attachment 2, or an equivalent text, to Resolution ITU-T 18, and WTSA-12 will accept that advice.

**Attachments:** 2

**Attachment 1**

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

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

**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 two or more Study Groups in different ITU Sectors are concerned in the same aspects of a specific technical 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 particular subject could be best performed by bringing together technology experts from the concerned Study Groups of the two ITU Sectors to cooperate on a peer-to-peer basis in a technical group:

a) the Chairmen of the concerned Study Groups or Working Parties in the two Sectors may, in special 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 Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the IRG, taking into account the requested specific expertise and ensuring equitable representation of all the concerned Study Groups or Working Parties in each Sector;

d) being a Rapporteur Group, the IRG shall be regulated by the provisions applicable to Rapporteur Groups in Resolution ITU-R 1-6 and in 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 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

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly,

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 cooperate on a peer-to-peer basis in a technical group:

a) the Chairmen of the concerned Study Groups or Working Parties in the two Sectors may, in special 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 subject;

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 Chairman and the Vice-Chairmen 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 applicable to Rapporteur Groups, given in Resolution ITU-R 1-6 and in 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 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. \* This Resolution should be brought to the attention of the ITU Telecommunication Standard­ization Sector. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)