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| **Title:** | | | Report by the Inter-Sectoral Coordination Taskforce | |
| **Purpose:** | | | Information and discussion | |
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| **Keywords:** | ISC-TF; Inter-Sector Coordination; |
| **Abstract:** | This TD presents the report of the Inter-Sector Coordination Task Force (ISC-TF). Last meeting of the ISC-TF was held on August 3, 2020. The ISC-TF was established to enhance the coordination and collaboration among the three Bureaux and the General Secretariat, with a view to avoid internal duplication of effort and optimize the use of resources. |

**Action**:

TSAG is invited to note this document and provide feedback.

## Coordination within the secretariat: Inter-Sectoral Coordination Task Force (ISC-TF)

* 1. The Inter-Sectoral Coordination Task Force (ISC-TF) was established to enhance the coordination and collaboration among the three Bureaux and the General Secretariat, with a view to avoid internal duplication of effort and optimize the use of resources. The Terms of Reference of the ISC-TF were specified in [Service Order No. 16/13](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-INF-0019/en).
  2. The ISC-TF held its last meeting (36th) on 3 August 2020. The ISC-TF is chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General, with the participation of: *a)* the Deputies to the Directors of the three Bureaux and the Chief of the Strategic Planning and Membership Department; *b)* the Inter-sectoral Focal Points responsible for specific thematic areas; *c)* the Regional Directors; *d)* the Chiefs of Departments of the General Secretariat; *e)* as an observer, the Head of the Internal Audit Unit, and *f)* at the invitation of the Chairman, the Chiefs of Departments of the Bureaux.
  3. The areas of inter-sectoral interest coordinated by ISC-TF include the topics of Accessibility, Artificial Intelligence, Bridging the Standards Gap, Communications and Web Editorial, Emerging Trends, Emergency Telecommunications, Environment and Smart Sustainable Communities, Events Coordination, Gender, Geospatial activities (since 2019), and Membership, Resource Mobilization and SMEs. The group continues to:
* facilitate the exchange of information among the Sectors and the General Secretariat on the above-mentioned thematic areas on the developments and the progress achieved in each area;
* discuss and propose solutions for the key issues raised by the focal points, escalating the issues if decisions could not be taken or resolved at the focal point level;
* leverage the participation and contribution of the Regional Offices, which have been participating through remote participation to the ISC-TF discussions;
* coordinate the process of publishing and updating information on ITU’s work on the thematic areas on the relevant ITU webpages, in an open and transparent way;
* coordinate ITU’s participation in conferences and fora with the aim to rationalize ITU’s delegation/presence whilst ensuring inter-sectoral interests are represented; and
* facilitate better coordination in the organization of ITU events and meetings, through the work carried out in that particular area.
  1. In addition, the group achieved the following outcomes during the previous year (highlighted also in Doc. [C20/38](https://www.itu.int/md/S20-CL-C-0038/en) , which was prepared for the postponed physical session of Council 2020):
* *Inter-sectoral coordination strategy*: the secretariat continued the efforts in this area, presenting further improvements to the current model, focusing more on the common thematic areas of work. As a result, the ITU Annual Report (Doc. C20/35) is structured around “themes”/areas of work, while in coordination with the ISCG membership, some “pilot themes” were identified where all actors could be involved in identifying methods of improved collaboration.
* *Webpage and consolidated information on Inter-sectoral coordination*: the group worked to consolidate all information on inter-sectoral activities under the common [Webpage on Inter-Sectoral Coordination](http://www.itu.int/en/general-secretariat/Pages/intersectoral-coordination.aspx), in collaboration with the Chair of ISCG.
* *Strengthening ITU risk management framework*: a self-assessment for ITU against the UN Risk Maturity Model developed by the UN High-Level Committee on Management (HLCM) was conducted, and the results, as well as the proposed Action Plan to strengthen the ITU Risk Management framework were presented to the CWG-FHR. [Document C20/61](https://www.itu.int/md/S20-CL-C-0061/en) reports on the implementation of the risk management Action Plan.
* *Joint Inspection Unit of the UN System (JIU)*: the group reviewed and endorsed acceptance and implementation status, where appropriate, of recommendations in JIU system-wide reports; noted the JIU’s *Programme of Work for 2020* and designated the respective ITU focal points for each of the system-wide thematic reviews; and provided inputs in the development of the 2021 JIU’s Programme of Work;
* *Geospatial activities*: an internal group has been formed aiming to: *a)* raise awareness of the importance of geospatial to a wide range of ITU activities; *b)* leverage the strategic role of geospatial data for efficient development of telecommunication infrastructure and systems; and *c)* harmonize GIS activities in ITU in terms of geospatial knowledge sharing, data and software tools.
* *Membership reporting*: the group reviewed the detailed reporting on the status of Membership by Sector and Region;
* *Participation of SMEs in the work of the Union*: the group continued assessing the participation of SMEs;
* *ITU Focal Points in UN system coordination mechanisms*: the group reviewed the list of focal points and ITU’s participation in the different UN-wide coordination mechanisms;
* *Mechanisms on inter-sectoral coordination in response to CoVid-19*: ISC-TF agreed on two new mechanisms created on CoVid-related inter-sectoral coordination: *a)* an Inter-sectoral group on CoVid-related activities, the “ITU-CoVid response team”, and *b)* an Inter-sectoral group on coordination for virtual meetings and remote participation for the upcoming ITU events.

**Conclusion**

TSAG is invited to provide feedback on the work/results of the ISC-TF.

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