

I n t e r n a t i o n a l T e l e c o m m u n i c a t i o n U n i o n

ITU-T

TELECOMMUNICATION
STANDARDIZATION SECTOR
OF ITU

WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION
ASSEMBLY
Geneva, 1-9 March 2022

**Resolution 22 – Authorization for the
Telecommunication Standardization Advisory
Group to act between world telecommunication
standardization assemblies**

ITU-T



FOREWORD

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is the United Nations specialized agency in the field of telecommunications, information and communication technologies (ICTs). The ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) is a permanent organ of ITU. ITU-T is responsible for studying technical, operating and tariff questions and issuing Recommendations on them with a view to standardizing telecommunications on a worldwide basis.

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), which meets every four years, establishes the topics for study by the ITU-T study groups which, in turn, produce Recommendations on these topics.

The approval of ITU-T Recommendations is covered by the procedure laid down in WTSA Resolution 1.

In some areas of information technology which fall within ITU-T's purview, the necessary standards are prepared on a collaborative basis with ISO and IEC.

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RESOLUTION 22 (Rev. Geneva, 2022)

Authorization for the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group to act between world telecommunication standardization assemblies

(Geneva, 1996; Montreal, 2000; Florianópolis, 2004; Johannesburg, 2008; Dubai, 2012; Hammamet, 2016; Geneva, 2022)

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Geneva, 2022),

considering

- a)* that, under the provisions of Article 14A of the ITU Convention, the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) is to provide guidelines for the work of study groups and recommend measures to foster coordination and cooperation with other standards bodies;
- b)* that the rapid pace of change in the telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) environment and in industry groups dealing with telecommunications/ICT demands that the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) make decisions on matters such as work priorities, study group structure and meeting schedules in shorter periods of time, between world telecommunication standardization assemblies (WTSAs), in order to maintain its relevance and responsiveness in accordance with No. 197C of the Convention;
- c)* that Resolution 122 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference resolves that WTSA shall continue, in accordance with its responsibilities, and subject to available financial resources, to promote the continued evolution of the standardization sector and adequately address strategic issues in standardization by means such as, but not limited to, the strengthening of TSAG;
- d)* that Resolution 122 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB) to continue, in consultation with relevant bodies, and the ITU membership, and in coordination with the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) and the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D), as appropriate, to organize a Global Standards Symposium (GSS);
- e)* that GSS was held in conjunction with this assembly to consider bridging the standardization gap and examining global ICT standards challenges;
- f)* that TSAG continues to make proposals for enhancing the operational efficiency of ITU-T, for improving the quality of ITU-T Recommendations and for methods of coordination and cooperation;
- g)* that TSAG helps to improve coordination of the study process and provide improved decision-making processes for the important areas of ITU-T activities;
- h)* that flexible administrative procedures, including those related to budgetary considerations, are needed in order to adapt to rapid changes in the telecommunication/ICT environment;
- i)* the importance of TSAG to act in the four years between WTSAs in order to meet the needs of the marketplace in a timely manner and to be able to address unforeseen issues requiring urgent action in the interim period between assemblies;
- j)* that it is desirable for TSAG to consider the implications of new and emerging technologies for the standardization activities of ITU-T related to technical, operating and tariff questions, on the basis of contributions submitted by the membership, and how such technologies can be included within the ITU-T work programme;

- k) that TSAG plays an important role in ensuring coordination between study groups, as appropriate, on standardization issues, including, as required, avoiding duplication of work and identifying linkages and dependencies between related work items;
- l) that TSAG, in providing advice to study groups, may take account of the advice of other groups;
- m) that there is a need to continue improving coordination and collaboration with other relevant bodies, within ITU-T, with ITU-R and ITU-D and the General Secretariat, and with other standardization organizations, forums and consortia outside of ITU, and relevant entities;
- n) that effective coordination between study groups is critical to ITU-T's ability to meet emerging standardization challenges and the needs of its membership,

noting

- a) that ITU-T is one of the pre-eminent global standardization bodies, comprising administrations, equipment vendors, operators and regulators, universities and research institutes;
- b) that Article 13 of the Convention states the duties of WTSA, among them that it may assign specific matters within its competence to TSAG indicating the action required on those matters;
- c) that TSAG meets at least on a yearly basis;
- d) that TSAG has already exhibited the capability to act effectively on matters assigned to it by WTSA;
- e) that WTSA Resolution 68 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016)) instructs the Director of TSB to organize meetings for high-level industry executives, e.g. chief technology officer meetings, in order to assist in identifying and coordinating standardization priorities and subjects and minimize the number of forums and consortia;
- f) that effective coordination can be achieved by means of joint coordination activities, joint rapporteur group meetings, liaison statements between study groups and the study group chairmen's meetings organized by the Director of TSB to meet emerging standardization challenges and the needs of the ITU-T membership,

recognizing

- a) that Nos. 191A and 191B of the Convention allow WTSA to maintain, establish or terminate other groups as needed, as well as their mandates;
- b) that coordination should serve to improve the effectiveness of ITU-T activities and should not limit the work of each study group to develop Recommendations;
- c) that the tasks undertaken in ITU-T cover technical, operating and tariff questions,

resolves

1 to assign to TSAG the following specific matters within its competence between this assembly and the next assembly, to act in the following areas in consultation with the Director of TSB:

- a) maintain and provide up-to-date, efficient and flexible working guidelines;
- b) promote high-priority standardization activities related to technical, operating and tariff questions on the basis of contributions submitted by the membership from a global viewpoint and coordinate among ITU-T study groups in this regard;
- c) assume responsibility, including development and submission for approval under appropriate procedures, for the ITU-T A-series Recommendations;

- d)* restructure and establish ITU-T study groups, taking into account the needs of the ITU-T membership and in response to changes in the telecommunication/ICT marketplace, and assign chairmen and vice-chairmen to act until the next WTSA, in accordance with Resolution 208 (Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;
- e)* issue advice on study group schedules to meet standardization priorities;
- f)* while recognizing the primacy of the study groups in carrying out the activities of ITU-T, create, terminate or maintain other groups, including focus groups, appoint their chairmen and vice-chairmen, and establish their terms of reference with a defined duration, in accordance with Nos. 191A and 191B of the Convention, in order to enhance and improve the effectiveness of ITU-T's work as well as 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;
- g)* 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, having due regard for the cost and availability of resources;
- h)* take an active role in ensuring coordination among ITU-T activities, particularly on standardization issues that are being studied in more than one group;
- i)* review reports of and consider appropriate proposals made by coordination groups and other groups, and implement those that are agreed;
- j)* identify requirements and provide determination on appropriate changes to be made where overlapping issues arise, which includes, but is not limited to, assignment of a mandate to a study group to lead on coordination work;
- k)* establish the appropriate mechanism and encourage the utilization, for example, of coordination groups or other groups to address key topics of work which span several study groups, with a view to ensuring effective coordination of standardization topics in order to achieve suitable global solutions;
- l)* review progress in the implementation of the ITU-T work programme, including fostering coordination and collaboration with other relevant bodies such as standardization organizations, forums and consortia outside of ITU;
- m)* cooperate and coordinate with ITU-R and ITU-D and with other, external, standardization bodies;
- n)* advise the Director of TSB on financial and other matters;
- o)* approve the programme of work arising from the review of existing and new Questions and determine the priority, urgency, estimated financial implications and time-scale for the completion of their study;
- p)* group, as far as practicable, Questions of interest to developing countries¹ in order to facilitate their participation in these studies;
- q)* address other specific matters within the competence of WTSA, subject to the approval of Member States, using the approval procedure contained in Resolution 1 (Rev. Geneva, 2022) of this assembly, Section 9;
- r)* take into account the interests of developing countries and encourage and facilitate their involvement in these activities,

¹ These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

2 that TSAG examine implementation of the actions and achievement of the goals as reflected in the annual ITU-T operational plan and in the WTSA-20 Action Plan, which includes the WTSA resolutions, for the purpose of identifying possible difficulties and possible strategies for implementing key elements, and recommending solutions to the Director of TSB regarding them;

3 that revisions to the relevant procedures for the adoption of Questions and Recommendations by study groups, other than those referred to in Nos. 246D, 246F and 246H of the Convention, may be initiated by TSAG for approval by Member States between WTSA's, using the approval procedure contained in Resolution 1 (Rev. Geneva, 2022) of this assembly, Section 9;

4 that TSAG provide liaison on its activities to relevant organizations outside ITU in consultation with the Director of TSB, as appropriate;

5 that TSAG consider the implications, for ITU-T, of market needs and new and emerging technologies that have not yet been considered for standardization by ITU-T, establish an appropriate mechanism to facilitate the examination of their consideration, for example assigning Questions, coordinating the work of study groups or establishing coordination groups or other groups, and appoint their chairmen and vice-chairmen;

6 that TSAG review and coordinate standardization strategies for ITU-T by identifying the main technological trends and market, economic and policy needs in the fields of activity relevant to the mandate of ITU-T, and identify possible topics and issues for consideration in ITU-T's standardization strategies;

7 that TSAG establish an appropriate mechanism to facilitate standardization strategies, for example assigning Questions, coordinating the work of study groups or establishing coordination groups or other groups, and appoint their chairmen and vice-chairmen;

8 that TSAG consider the result of this assembly concerning GSS and take follow-up actions, as appropriate;

9 that a report on the above TSAG activities shall be submitted to the next WTSA,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

1 to take into consideration the advice and guidance of TSAG in order to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of ITU-T;

2 to provide to each TSAG meeting a report on:

- the implementation of WTSA resolutions and actions to be undertaken pursuant to their operative paragraphs;
- the progress of the ITU-T annual operational plan and WTSA-20 Action Plan, identifying difficulties, if any, that hinder the progress, and possible solutions;

3 to provide information about any work item that has not given rise to any contribution in the time interval of the previous two study group meetings through the Director's report on study group activity;

4 to report to TSAG on the experience in the implementation of the A-series Recommendations for consideration by the ITU-T membership.