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| **Telecommunication DevelopmentAdvisory Group (TDAG)****24th Meeting, Geneva, 3-5 April 2019** | C:\Users\comas\AppData\Local\Temp\Rar$DRa0.735\jpg\ITU official logo_blue_RGB.jpg |
|  | **Revision 2 to** |
|  | **Document** **TDAG-19/5-E** |
|  | **15 April 2019** |
|  | **Original: English** |
| Chairman, ISCG |
| progress report by the Inter-Sector Coordination GROUP (ISCG) on Issues of Mutual Interest |
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| **Summary:** The Inter-Sector Coordination Group[[1]](#footnote-1) on issues of mutual interest was set up under decisions of the Sector advisory groups– Radiocommunication (ITU-R), Telecommunication Standardization (ITU-T) and Telecommunication Development (ITU-D) – to optimize the use of resources. In carrying out its functions, the group identifies subjects common to the three Sectors and the General Secretariat, or, bilaterally. The group also considers an updated list (prepared by the secretariat) containing the areas of mutual interest to the three Sectors and the General Secretariat pursuant to the mandates assigned by each ITU assembly or conference, and in accordance with the objectives of the ITU Strategic Plan. This report highlights the outcomes of the meeting of the Group held on 4 April 2019.**Action required:** TDAG is invited to note the document and provide guidance as deemed appropriate.**References:** PP Resolution 191 (Rev. Dubai, 2018); WTDC Resolution 59 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), [TDAG-18/37](https://www.itu.int/md/D18-TDAG23-C-0037/); TDAG-LS4; ISCG-LS1, TSAG-LS14 |

The Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) on issues of mutual interest held a meeting on Thursday, 4 April, at ITU Headquarters in Geneva.

The meeting agreed to the revised list of areas of mutual interest in **Annex 1**.

The meeting also agreed to the revised terms of reference in **Annex 2**, which include a change in the names of the representatives of TDAG.

The meeting decided to post a mapping table of study group Questions in **Annex 3** on the [ISCG website](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Conferences/TDAG/Pages/inter-sectoral-team-on-issues-of-mutual-interest.aspx) and to keep updated this table as a living document. For this purpose, the meeting agreed to send a liaison statement to RAG, TSAG and TDAG requesting this mapping table be regularly updated. ISC-TF also requested that this liaison statement and its annexed mapping table be reviewed with the objective of eliminating possible overlaps of activities.

The meeting also decided to post the mapping table of resolutions of PP, RA/WRC, WTSA and WTDC contained in **Annex 4**,on the [ISCG website](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Conferences/TDAG/Pages/inter-sectoral-team-on-issues-of-mutual-interest.aspx). Each Sector is invited to review, provide comments and make use of this mapping table with a view to streamlining resolutions.

The meeting agreed to request RAG and TSAG to add a hyperlink to [ISCG website](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Conferences/TDAG/Pages/inter-sectoral-team-on-issues-of-mutual-interest.aspx) in their respective website to make available the relevant information.

It was proposed to start a practical trial of cooperation among the three Sectors and the General Secretariat on two or three specific topics. Possible topics will be discussed at the next meeting.

The meeting took note of the progress report of ISC-TF with the understanding that a revised version will be forwarded to Council to respond to the requirements of Resolution 191 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) and this will also include achievement of ISCG.

In continuation of the preparation of the mapping tables of study group Questions of the Sectors, consideration should be also given to activities undertaken by external entities, in application of section 4 of annex of the strategic plan in Resolution 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2018), particularly in terms of prioritization.

The next meeting of ISCG will be held in conjunction with the TDAG-20 meeting (24-27 March 2020). If necessary, an e-meeting of ISCG may be sought in conjunction with the TSAG-19 meeting (23-27 September 2019).

Annexes:

**Annex 1**: List of areas of mutual interest

**Annex 2**: Revised ToR of ISCG

**Annex 3**: Mapping of study group questions between ITU-T/ITU-D, ITU-T/ITU-R and ITU-D/ITU-R

**Annex 4**: Mapping of resolutions of PP, RA, WTSA and WTDC

# Annex 1

# List of areas of mutual interest

1. Participation

1.1 Remote participation.

1.2 E-meetings, e-correspondence groups.

1.3 Increasing involvement of developing countries.

1.4 Participation issues, including vice-chairmen tasks.

 1.5 Non-member participation.

2. Document handling

 2.1 Electronic document handling.

 2.2 Deadline for submission of secretariat contributions for action.

 2.3 Electronic access to documents, including the application of the access policy of the documents decided by the Council.

3. Registration

 3.1 Harmonization of registration.

 3.2 Registration for participation in meetings, including for remote participants.

4. Improvement of the ITU webpages in official ITU languages taking into account best practices.

 4.1 Language issues

5. Meeting planning.

5.1 Preparation to conferences and meetings.

5.2 Further enhancement and optimization of seminars/symposia/workshops/capacity building.

5.3 Collaboration and cooperation on events.

6. Streamlined establishment procedures of inter-Sector Rapporteur group (IRG).

6.1 Liaison statement handling of Inter-Sector Rapporteur Groups

7. Identification of technical issues with common interests.

8. Exchange of information on related study activities

8.1 Improvement of interaction between working parties and study groups of different Sectors.

9. Working methods (Resolution 1) of the three Sectors and application of best practices.

10. Sector membership.

**Annex 2**

**Revised Terms of Reference for ISCG**

**Background documents**

1. Resolution 191 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on strategy for the coordination of efforts among the three Sectors the Union;
2. Resolution ITU-R 6-2 (Rev. Geneva, 2015) of the Radiocommunication Assembly (RA), on liaison and collaboration with the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T), and Resolution ITU-R 7-3 (Rev. Geneva, 2015) of RA, on telecommunication development including liaison and collaboration with the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D);
3. Resolution 45 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on effective coordination of standardization work across study groups in ITU‑T and the role of the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG);
4. Resolution 18 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of WTSA, on principles and procedures for the allocation of work to, and coordination between, the ITU Radiocommunication and ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sectors;
5. Resolution 5 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on enhanced participation by developing countries[[2]](#footnote-2) in the activities of the Union;
6. Resolution 59 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC, on strengthening coordination and cooperation among the three ITU Sectors on matters of mutual interest.

The Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) on issues of mutual interest was set up under decisions of the Sector advisory groups, in order to eliminate duplication of effort and optimize the use of resources. While carrying out its functions ISCG will:

* identify subjects common to the three Sectors and the General Secretariat, or, bilaterally, and consider an updated list (prepared by the secretariat) containing the areas of mutual interest to the three Sectors and the General Secretariat pursuant to the mandates assigned by each ITU assembly or conference, and in accordance with the objectives of the ITU Strategic Plan;
* identify the necessary mechanisms to strengthen cooperation and joint activity among the three Sectors and the General Secretariat, or with each Sector, on issues of mutual interest, paying particular attention to the interests of the developing countries, and taking into account the activities of the regional offices, including their role in the organization of events (workshops, seminars, symposia, etc.);
* report annually to the respective advisory groups on the progress of the work undertaken, highlighting key issues to be raised with the respective Bureau Directors, as well as the Inter-Sector Coordination Task Force.

**Composition of the Inter-Sector Coordination Group on issues of mutual interest**

1. The ISCG will consist of representatives from the three Advisory Groups, keeping in mind the need for regional balance;
2. The ISCG is chaired by Mr Fabio Bigi (Italy);
3. Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG) representatives: Mr Peter Major and Mr Albert Nalbandian (Vice-Chairmen of RAG);
4. Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) representatives: Mr Vladimir Minkin and Mr Matano Ndaro (Vice-Chairmen of TSAG);
5. Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) representatives: Mr Arseny Plossky and Mr Al-ansari Almashakbeh (Vice-Chairmen of TDAG);
6. The ISCG is open to observers who are not the above representatives.

**Secretariat support**

The support of the group activity will be provided in accordance with Resolution 191 (Rev. Dubai, 2018).

**Working methods**

* The ISCG interactions may include e-mail exchange via the e-mail list or through electronic meetings;
* The ISCG will use the e-mail list int-sect-team@lists.itu.int;
* Possible physical meetings may be held, preferably in conjunction with Sector advisory group meetings, and within available resources;
* A dedicated website is developed with links from Sector advisory Groups.

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1. Formerly known as the Inter-Sector Coordination Team on Issues of Mutual Interest (ISCT). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)