



Radiocommunication Bureau
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Administrative Circular
CA/142

19 August 2004

To Administrations of Member States of the ITU and Radiocommunication Sector Members

Subject: Review of the ITU Structure - implementation of Resolution 106 (Marrakesh, 2002)

1. The ITU Plenipotentiary Conference, Marrakesh, 2002, adopted Resolution 106, (Marrakesh, 2002)¹, dealing with the review of the ITU structure and instructed the Council to establish a group open to Member States and Sector Members to review the ITU structure. The Working Group created by the Council held its first meeting on 8 June 2004. The Report of this meeting is attached to this Administrative Circular.
2. In accordance with the instructions contained in Resolution 106, the Secretary General invited the Member States and Sector Members, in Circular Letter DM-1145 of 22 July 2004, to submit contributions to the work of the group as soon as possible and by 29 October 2004 at the latest (see <http://www.itu.int/council/CoordGroup/structure/DM-1145.doc>). The guidelines for submission of contributions are attached in Annex 1 to the above-mentioned Circular Letter.
3. The Working Group extensively discussed the role which the Advisory Groups could play in its work relating to the following items listed under “*resolves to instruct the Council*” of Resolution 106:
 - a) review the functions of the three ITU Sectors in the light of the changes that have occurred in the operation and regulation of the telecommunication sector at the national level, and define the respective roles of the ITU constituents;
 - b) consider the obligations of Sector Members that are not authorized operating agencies and recommend appropriate measures;
 - c) study the current structure, working methods and procedures of the ITU Sectors and make recommendations as appropriate.
4. The Working Group agreed that the Advisory Groups of the three Sectors should be invited to provide the latest information on improvements in the working methods and procedures of their respective Sectors, through the Directors of the Bureaux (see item 5 of the attached Report).

¹ The text of Resolution 106 can be found at <http://www.itu.int/council/groups/Res106-e.doc>

5. The Chairman of the Working Group on the ITU Structure addressed letters to the Directors of the three Bureaux, by which he communicated the conclusions of the first meeting of the Working Group and requested the Directors to bring the concerned conclusions and the full Report to the attention of the Advisory Groups and to invite the Advisory Groups to submit the requested information.

6. The matter was discussed with the Chairman of the RAG, who suggested establishing a correspondence group that would address the matter and would report to the forthcoming meeting of the RAG (22 – 26 November 2004). On a further suggestion from the Chairman of the RAG, Mr. Les Barclay (UK) was designated to coordinate the work of this correspondence group.

7. The membership is hereby invited to consider the matter and submit contributions to the correspondence group, bearing specifically in mind the indications in the attached Report as well as point d) in the Annex to Resolution 106 (Marrakesh, 2002) (“consideration should be given to providing further flexibility to the Sectors to manage their own internal structures and working methods in the interests of all Member States and Sector Members, having regard to the different functions and requirements of each Sector”).

8. With respect to this correspondence group, the Bureau has established a dedicated mailing list (rag-structure@itu.int). TIES registered users could participate in this correspondence group by registering through their [TIES Account](#), using the Account Option "[Subscribe / Unsubscribe](#) to mailing lists" and choosing `itu-r:rag` and then `rag-structure@itu.int`.

Valery Timofeev
Director, Radiocommunication Bureau

Annex

Distribution:

- Administrations of Member States of the ITU
- Radiocommunication Sector Members
- Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Radiocommunication Study Groups and Special Committee on Regulatory/Procedural Matters
- Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Radiocommunication Advisory Group
- Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Conference Preparatory Meeting
- Members of the Radio Regulations Board
- Secretary-General of the ITU, Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

ANNEX

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

**COUNCIL WORKING GROUP TO
REVIEW ITU STRUCTURE
(RES. 106, MARRAKESH, 2002)**

**8 July 2004
English only**

Report of the Chairman

First meeting of the Working Group on ITU Structure (Resolution 106 (Marrakesh, 2002))

Geneva, 8 June 2004

Introduction

1. The first meeting of the Working Group on ITU Structure was held at ITU Headquarters on 8 June 2004. It was attended by 30 participants from 20 Member States and also two Sector Member representatives. All relevant documents concerning this meeting may be found at <http://www.itu.int/council/CoordGroup/structure.html>
2. The Deputy Secretary-General welcomed the Group on behalf of the Secretary-General.

Item 1, Adoption of the Agenda

3. The proposed agenda was adopted without change.

Item 2, Opening Address by the Chairman

4. The Chairman presented his introduction and urged a full and active participation of the members of the Group.

Item 3, Review of the Mandate of the Working Group

5. The Group confirmed that the mandate established by Resolution 106 (Marrakesh, 2002) was clear and it did not entail an examination of the structure of the Union as a whole. Rather, it required an examination of the functioning and structure of the Sectors based on the current structure of the Union.

Item 4, Organization and Working Methods of the Working Group

6. The discussion of the working methods was conducted on the basis of the guidelines attached in the Annex to the Chairman's letter of 12 February 2004 (DM-1112) inviting the members of this Group to submit contributions. The Group also focused on the "*resolves to instruct the Council*" part of Resolution 106 (Marrakesh, 2002). It was decided to assign rapporteurs for points a), b) and c) of the said part.
7. The meeting noted that the Advisory Groups examine the issues under point c) of "*Resolves to instruct the Council*" on a regular basis and that there was a need for close coordination with the Advisory Groups.

8. In relation to point a) of "*resolves*" in Resolution 106 (Marrakesh, 2002) the discussions which took place in Committee 5 of PP-02 were recalled. It was noted that the discussion of this item at PP-02 had been very difficult. The Chairman agreed to coordinate this item himself and would prepare a synthesis paper for discussion to start the examination and stimulate contributions from the participants.
9. Point b) of "*Resolves to instruct the Council*" of Resolution 106 was also discussed at PP-02. For this point, no rapporteur was yet identified and the Group concluded that more time was needed for consultations to nominate one. (After consultations Mrs. A. L. Allison (USA) agreed to act as the focal point for this item).
10. Mr. K. Arasteh from Iran agreed to coordinate the work on point c) of "*Resolves to instruct the Council*".
11. The Chairman concluded that the rapporteurs for points b) and c) mentioned-above would support him as a small committee to advance the work of the Group.

Item 5, General discussion

12. It was agreed that the Advisory Groups should be invited to provide the latest information on improvements in the working methods and procedures of their respective Sectors through the Directors of the Bureaux. It was also mentioned that the ITU Constitution and Convention generally allowed sufficient flexibility for the Sectors to make improvements to their working methods. It was concluded that there was no need to wait for the meetings of the Advisory Groups and that the collection of the information could be done by correspondence.

Item 6, Contributions to the work of the Working Group

13. One contribution had been received from the United States. The US delegation introduced its paper. The Group noted that the paper provided general views. It was questioned what role the Group would play as regards the oversight mechanisms. The US delegation wanted to make a link with these mechanisms and framework and the work of the Group. It confirmed that its views were limited to the existing structure of the three Sectors.
14. The Group requested clarification of what significant improvements could be possible. The US delegation explained that it saw the attainment of such improvements as an evolutionary process over time. The Chairman noted that the various views would be expressed through contributions from the participants.

Item 7, Other Business

15. None

Conclusion

16. In summary, it was noted that the mandate in points a), b) and c) in "*resolves*" of Resolution 106 (Marrakesh, 2002) was clear. There was also a need to work speedily and to stay on schedule. The main question was how to make the working methods of the Sectors more efficient. The Chairman reconfirmed the decision to nominate rapporteurs for points a), b) and c) of "*resolves*" of Resolution 106 (Marrakesh, 2002). He would be dealing with item a) himself and prepare a background paper in this respect. For item b) a volunteer would still need to be found and some more time was needed. For item c) Mr. Arasteh from Iran would act as the rapporteur.
17. The Chairman noted the difference in importance and complexity of each of the above-mentioned points. He also reiterated the consultative role of the Advisory Groups through the Directors. The contribution from the USA was also noted by the Chairman.

18. The Chairman emphasized the important role of the Sector Members in items a), b) and c) of “*Resolves to instruct the Council*” of Resolution 106 and urged Sector Members to submit contributions as well as Member States.
 19. The part “*Further instructs the Secretary-General*” of Resolution 106 was recalled and it was suggested that the Secretary-General should invite contributions from Member States and Sector Members to the work of the Group, by circular letter, and not only the Chairman through the reflector from participants in the Group.
 20. The Chairman thanked the participants and counted on them for their contribution. Their participation was critical for the work of the Group.
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