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| **Title:** | | TSAG Rapporteur Group on Standardization Strategy Initiatives | | | |
| **Purpose:** | | Proposal | | | |
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| **Keywords:** | Outreach and Consultation |
| **Abstract:** | This contribution from the United States of America proposes that the TSAG Rapporteur Group on Standardization Strategy (RG-SS) agrees to leverage the expertise, especially of sector members serving in the group, in order to initiate consultations with other SDOs; invite experts to brief on market and technology trends; and encourage informal exchanges that can explore specific topics of interest or activity relevant to ITU-T’s mission. |

# Background

The concept of a Standardization Strategy function to be managed by TSAG was, through Resolution 22 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016), created at the February 2016 TSAG meeting. Its purpose is to advise TSAG and SGs on standardisation strategies for the Sector by identifying the main technological trends, and market, economic and policy needs in the ITU-T's fields of activity. This may include, for example, conducting informal gap analysis, industry consultations and market enquiries, taking into account input and feedback from relevant groups inside ITU-T (such as the CTO group and Technology Watch) and outside ITU-T.

# Discussion

There are a number of tools or means by which the TSAG Standardization Strategy (RG-SS) can meet its goals. In addition to using ITU-T’s existing relationships with specific SDOs and other experts, the RG-SS should also invite sector members to identify other SDOs and experts whose work may be relevant to ITU-T, for purposes of information exchanges and consultations. Another constructive tool, used by several other SDOs and consortia, is the use of informal exchanges among interested parties to explore and discuss topics of possible interest to the organization’s members or community. The scope and frequency of possible outreach and engagement to be undertaken by the RG-SS should be determined largely by input from sector members, who may be best positioned to identify current market trends and technology developments of interest and relevance to ITU-T. The RG-SS should solicit proposals for specific topics for information exchanges, as well as briefings by experts that can inform the group’s work. The RG-SS should identify, encourage, and support appropriate industry representation in the group, make virtual attendance at meetings possible through electronic means such as teleconferencing or collaborative meeting tools, and encourage comment during meetings.

**Proposal**

The United States proposes that the RG-SS enlist input and proposals primarily from ITU-T sector members and industry organizations and experts they identify. The RG-SS’ terms of reference provide sufficient flexibility in the working methods and timelines for the Group to adjust to new proposals and/or priority issues submitted by all interested parties. Finally, the RG-SS should provide routine updates and reports to TSAG.

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