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| ITU logo | INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION  **TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION SECTOR**  STUDY PERIOD 2017-2020 | | | TSAG – R 11 – E |
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| **TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION ADVISORY GROUP**  **REPORT 11** | | | | |
| **Source:** | | | Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group | |
| **Title:** | | | Report of the seventh TSAG meeting (virtual, 11-18 January 2021) | |
| **Purpose:** | | | Admin | |
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| **Keywords:** | TSAG; report; |
| **Abstract:** | The draft report of the seventh meeting of the ITU-T Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (virtual, 11-18 January 2021) in the 2017-2020 study period. |

NOTE 1 –This report contains the conclusions and actions decided at this TSAG meeting.

NOTE 2 – Unless otherwise noted, all Contributions and TDs referenced in this report are of the TSAG series of documents.

Note by the TSB:

The Reports for the seventh meeting of TSAG are published in the following documents:

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| TSAG–R11 | Report of the seventh TSAG meeting (virtual, 11-18 January 2021) |
| TSAG–R12 | Report of the seventh TSAG meeting (virtual, 11-18 January 2021) - Endorsed set of Questions for Study Group 2 |
| TSAG–R13R1 | Report of the seventh TSAG meeting (virtual, 11-18 January 2021) - Endorsed set of Questions for Study Group 3 |
| TSAG–R14 | Report of the seventh TSAG meeting (virtual, 11-18 January 2021) - Endorsed set of Questions for Study Group 5 |
| TSAG–R15 | Report of the seventh TSAG meeting (virtual, 11-18 January 2021) - Endorsed set of Questions for Study Group 9 |
| TSAG–R16 | Report of the seventh TSAG meeting (virtual, 11-18 January 2021) - Endorsed set of Questions for Study Group 11 |
| TSAG–R17 | Report of the seventh TSAG meeting (virtual, 11-18 January 2021) - Endorsed set of Questions for Study Group 12 |
| TSAG–R18 | Report of the seventh TSAG meeting (virtual, 11-18 January 2021) - Endorsed set of Questions for Study Group 13 |
| TSAG–R19 | Report of the seventh TSAG meeting (virtual, 11-18 January 2021) - Endorsed set of Questions for Study Group 15 |
| TSAG–R20 | Report of the seventh TSAG meeting (virtual, 11-18 January 2021) - Endorsed set of Questions for Study Group 16 |
| TSAG–R21 | Report of the seventh TSAG meeting (virtual, 11-18 January 2021) - Endorsed set of Questions for Study Group 17 |
| TSAG–R22 | Report of the seventh TSAG meeting (virtual, 11-18 January 2021) - Endorsed set of Questions for Study Group 20 |

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# Opening of the meeting, TSAG Chairman

The TSAG Chairman, Mr Bruce Gracie (Ericsson Canada), welcomed the TSAG participants to the seventh meeting of the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) for the 2017-2020 study period, which was held fully virtually, 11-18 January 2021. Mr Gracie was assisted by Mr Bilel Jamoussi, Chief of ITU-T study groups department.

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| 1.1 | Real-time captioning[[1]](#footnote-2), interpretation in six languages, remote participation using an enhanced MyMeetings tool and webcasting[[2]](#footnote-3) were provided at this TSAG meeting including its five Rapporteur Group meetings. At the beginning of the meeting, the Chairman read out the note contained in TD991, which provided guidance on using the MyMeetings remote participation platform, the public chat, and the intention to make decisions by consensus as had been the practice in all virtual study group meetings. Additional information on using MyMeetings was available in [TD965](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0965), and a video was played showing the usage of the button for live interpretation. |
| 1.2 | Mr Gracie welcomed the ITU Secretary General, Mr Houlin Zhao; the TSB Director, Mr Chaesub Lee; the BDT Director, Ms Doreen Bogdan-Martin; and the BR Director, Mr Mario Maniewicz. |
| 1.3 | The following TSAG Vice-Chairmen attended the meeting: Ms Rim Belhassine-Cherif (Tunisie Telecom), Mr Reiner Liebler (Germany), Mr Victor Manuel Martinez Vanegas (Mexico), Mr Vladimir Minkin (Russian Federation), and Ms Weiling Xu (China, P.R.). Mr Matano Ndaro (Kenya). Mr Omar Tayseer Al-Odat (Jordan) and Ms Monique Morrow (United States) were not able to attend and sent their regrets. |
| 1.4 | [TD964](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0964) reflects the final list of participants. In total, 297 participants attended this seventh TSAG meeting: 51 Member States, 13 Sector Members (ROAs), 24 Sector Members (SIOs), nine Sector Members (RIOs and other entities), one Sector Member (Other entities), seven Permanent Missions, three Academia, one entity as per Resolution 99, one invited expert, and 44 ITU staff, and four elected officials of the ITU. |
| 1.5 | The ITU Secretary General, Mr Houlin Zhao, provided his opening remarks. He congratulated the ITU-T Sector for all its successful activities during the COVID-19 period last year. He reflected upon the activities of the two virtual Council sessions, which considered postponement of WTSA-20 to year 2022. He expressed his thanks to India, the host for WTSA, for its committed work together with other ITU Member States to ensure a successful Assembly. He was looking forward to the planned WTDC-21 end of the year, and WTPF following, which are both very important events to the Union. He encouraged ITU-T to continue addressing the challenges in its speedy development of standards for ICT, addressing both classic as well as innovative ones. He underscored the crucial importance of effective cross-Sector coordination among ITU's membership, of ITU activities and of preparatory meetings for WTSA, WTDC, and WRC. |
| 1.6 | The TSB Director, Mr Chaesub Lee, welcomed all delegates to this seventh meeting of TSAG in this 2017-2020 study period. His speech is contained in [TD967](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0967). |
| 1.7 | The BDT Director, Ms Doreen Bogdan Martin, recognized in her opening remarks that the past 12 months of the COVID pandemic served as a powerful digital transformation, where digital is now and will forever remain the new normal and that is why ITU cannot and must not accept a new normal in which half of humanity lacks access to ICTs. She was looking forward to the forthcoming WTDC-21 (8-19 November 2021, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia). The theme of WTDC-21 is "Connecting the unconnected to achieve sustainable development", which has the potential to make huge strides in building multi-stakeholder cooperation around a vision of universal, affordable connectivity and the potential of digital for achieving the SDGs. For the first time, WTDC will include a global Youth Summit prior to WTDC. Several preparatory activities and events have already been organized for WTDC-21, including three interregional meetings in addition to six regional preparatory meetings; she invited ITU-T to participate in them. She pointed out that BDT has been rapidly ramping up projects and initiatives to include digital inclusion, in particular in collaboration with TSB, together with the United Arab Emirates to create a new International Centre of Digital Innovation (I-CoDI) of digital innovation. |
| 1.8 | In his opening remarks, the BR Director, Mr Mario Maniewicz, reflected upon the implications that COVID-19 had to the digital transformation of ITU and the need to adapt very quickly to a new environment using online platforms for meetings and seminars. He pointed out the relevance of ITU's work more than ever and the impact it has in the world. He stressed the importance of ITU standardization and radio communication Sectors developing international standards for information and communication technologies. Many of those standards aim to reduce the digital divide and increase connectivity during the pandemic and the importance of having access to the Internet. It also shows that the work of ITU-T and ITU-R contributes directly to achieve the directives of the WSIS Action Lines. He highlighted that by the end of 2020, ITU-R completed the terrestrial radio interfaces of the International Mobile Telecommunications 2020, and he acknowledged complimentary standardization activities and aspects within ITU-T on non-radio aspects of IMT of 2020, and further also on machine-to-machine communications on an enhancement of standards and the Internet of Things and Smart Cities and Communities for global development, EMF aspects of telecommunications and ICTs, via measurement and assessment of concerns related to the human exposure, and cooperation with other relevant international organizations. He observed that the promotion of gender equality has positively become a priority for the ITU-T as it is for the ITU-R, where RAG created a correspondence group on gender, and recently launched the new initiative with a network of women for WRC‑23. He looked forward to continued strengthened coordination and collaboration between ITU-T and ITU-R to develop ITU standards that have a more sustainable future through technology. |
| 1.9 | Mr Gracie observed that there were fewer contributions at this TSAG meeting to consider, and that they all could be handled by the TSAG Rapporteur Groups. He positively acknowledged the progress made in the past Rapporteur Group meetings, and the dialogue among the six regional telecommunication organizations during the recent Interregional Meeting on 8 January 2021, and to continue working interactively between the regional coordinators and focal points with the TSAG rapporteur groups, to enable ITU-T ultimately to facilitate decision-making by the WTSA. |
| 1.10 | Mr Ahmed Basir, Permanent Mission of India, confirmed the continued commitment of India to host the scheduled WTSA, and India to be coordinating events around WTSA. |
| 1.11 | The TSAG Rapporteur Groups on Review of WTSA Resolutions (RG-ResReview), on Strengthening Collaboration (RG-SC), on Standardization Strategy (RG-StdsStrat), on Work Programme and Structure (RG-WP), and on Working Methods (RG-WM) met during this TSAG meeting. The TSAG Rapporteur Group on Strategic and Operational Plan (RG-SOP) did not meet during this TSAG meeting. |
| 1.12 | [Annex A](#_Annex_A_Summary_1) of this report summarizes the key outcomes (reports, liaison statements, next meetings) of this TSAG meeting. |

# Approval of the agenda, document allocation and time management plan

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| 2.1 | The meeting adopted the draft agenda, document allocation and work plan ([TD915](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0915)R1). TSAG accepted the time management plan in [TD914R2](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0914), which was further revised into TD914R3, and the overview of the agendas and reports in [TD918](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0918)R1. |
| 2.2 | TSAG adopted [TD916](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0916)R1 containing the agenda for the TSAG closing plenary meeting that took place on 18 January 2021. |
| 2.3 | [TD971](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0971)R2 lists all the contributions submitted and considered during this 7th TSAG meeting and its Rapporteur Groups. [TD972](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0972) provides the list of all the TDs of the meeting and of the Rapporteur Groups. [TD970R1](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0970) summarizes the incoming liaison statements received by TSAG since 25 September 2020, and the outgoing liaison statements approved by the meeting and sent until 20 January 2021. |

# Reports by the TSB Director

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| 3.1 | The TSB Director presented the ITU-T activity report ([TD931](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0931), slide set in Addendum 1) highlighting the key results achieved in ITU-T standardization from August to December 2020. |
| 3.1.1 | One Member State preferred to see a shorter presentation in the future. |
| 3.1.2 | TSAG took note of the TSB Director's report in TD931. |

# Preparations for WTSA-20

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| 4.1 | TSAG approved [TD962R1](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0962) "Report of the interregional meeting for preparation of WTSA-20 (8 January 2021, virtual)". |
| 4.2 | Mr Bilel, Jamoussi, TSB, introduced [TD932](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0932)R1 (reproduced in Annex C of this report) "ITU-T work continuity plan until WTSA in 2022 and related FAQ", which provides guiding points and references on the process to ensure smooth continuity of the ITU-T work, and contains answers to the most frequent questions received by the secretariat concerning the postponement of WTSA till 2022. |
| 4.2.1 | It was the view of one Member State that cautioned on putting elements of the Resolutions of the Plenipotentiary Conference into Resolutions of WTSA that could cause potential legal difficulties. However, it could be acceptable to include into WTSA Resolutions Sector-specific details, which are not found in PP Resolutions. It is also necessary to make modifications to WTSA Resolution only if there is a given need for, but otherwise, avoid making modifications to save time during the Assembly. Further, it is also not appropriate to include elements from the ITU Convention into WTSA Resolution 1 or to make reference from WTSA Resolution 1 to Articles of the Convention. |
| 4.2.2 | The meeting concluded to continue related debates within the TSAG RG-ResReview, which already explored and developed an understanding of the concept of streamlining in accordance with the agreement reached at the Plenipotentiary Conference (Dubai, 2018) concerning "streamlining of resolutions". |
| 4.3 | Mr Bilel, Jamoussi, TSB, presented [TD1015](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-1015) "Current and next Study Period designation", which provides an historical analysis of the identification of the study period (SP) ranges point to designating the current study period (SP16) planned to end 9 March 2022 as 2016-2021; and the next study period (SP17) planned to end in the 2nd half of 2024 as 2022-2024. The document concludes that despite 2017-2021 being now the official year range for SP16, for best business continuity, documentation will continue to bear the range 2017-2020, and existing IT resources will continue to use the same SP range until the end of SP16. |
| 4.3.1 | The meeting took note of TD1015, with the understanding that the date of WTSA-20 in year 2022 remains to be confirmed. |
| 4.4 | The TSAG Chairman introduced [TD1016](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-1016) "Situation of proposals for WTSA Resolutions to be considered at TSAG plenary level", which summarizes the situation of proposals for WTSA Resolutions to be considered at TSAG plenary level, taking into account TD1007R3 and TD1008. |
| 4.4.1 | The meeting took note of TD1016. A correction is reflected in TD1016R1. |
| 4.4.2 | The meeting concluded on whether to have a coordinator per WTSA Resolution or a coordinator for several WTSA Resolutions, that it is preferred to avoid the notion of a coordinator, and to use the Focal Points (to be all on the same level) as a designator for that function. |
| 4.5 | The meeting took note of [TD994](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0994)R1 "Planning of WTSA and WTDC Regional Preparatory Meetings", which presents the meetings planning schedule for the Inter-regional meeting for preparation of WTSA-20, regional preparatory meetings of the regional organizations, and WTDC-21 regional preparatory meetings. |
| 4.5.1 | The meeting confirmed to make every effort to avoid overlaps in the preparatory events for WTSA-20 and WTDC-21, and to encourage TSB and BDT to coordinate closely. |
| 4.5.2 | Member States were invited to respond by the deadline 1 February 2021, 23:59 hours, Geneva time to the [Circular letter 20/51](https://www.itu.int/md/S20-SG-CIR-0051) on the virtual Council consultations of the dates for the WTSA-20 in year 2022. |

# Appointments

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| 5.1 | Due to forthcoming retirement of Mr Reiner Liebler (TSAG Vice Chairman, and TSAG Rapporteur of RG-WP), TSAG appointed Ms Miho Naganuma (NEC Corporation, Japan) as Rapporteur for TSAG Rapporteur Group on Work Program and Structure for the remainder of this study period to replace Mr Reiner Liebler. |

# Focus Groups

## 6.1 ITU-T Focus Group on Quantum Information Technology for Networks (FG-QIT4N)

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| 6.1.1 | Mr James Nagel, ITU-T FG-QIT4N Co-chairman, presented in [TD941](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0941) the progress report of the ITU-T Focus Group on Quantum Information Technology for Networks (FG QIT4N) for the September 2020 to January 2021 period. |
| 6.1.2 | The meeting took note of TD941. |

## 6.2 ITU-T Focus Group on Artificial Intelligence for Natural Disaster Management (FG-AI4NDM)

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| 6.2.1 | The ITU-T SG2 Chairman, Mr Phil Rushton (UK), presented [TD947](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0947) "LS on establishment of a new ITU-T Focus Group on Artificial Intelligence for Natural Disaster Management (FG-AI4NDM) and first meeting (Virtual, 15-17 March 2021) [from ITU-T SG2]", which informs about the creation of a new ITU-T Focus Group on Artificial Intelligence for Natural Disaster Management (FG-AI4NDM) under the parentship of SG2. |
| 6.2.2 | The meeting took note of TD947 and invited interested delegates to participate in and to contribute to this new ITU-T Focus Group. |

## 6.3 ITU-T Focus Group on Autonomous Networks (FG-AN)

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| 6.3.1 | The ITU-T SG13 Chairman, Mr Leo Lehmann (Switzerland), presented [TD988](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0988) "LS on Establishment of new Focus Group on Autonomous Networks [from ITU-T SG13]", which informs about the creation of a new ITU-T Focus Group on Autonomous Networks (FG-AN) under the parentship of SG13. |
| 6.3.2 | The meeting took note of TD988 and invited interested delegates to participate in and to contribute to this new ITU-T Focus Group. |

# Joint Coordination Activities (JCAs)

## 7.1 ITU-T Joint Coordination Activities on Accessibility and Human factors (JCA-AHF)

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| 7.1.1 | The Chairman ITU-T JCA-AHF, Ms Andrea Saks (G3ict, United States), presented the ITU- T JCA-AHF progress report in [TD949](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0949), which reports from the 26 November 2020 JCA-AHF e-meeting. Ms Saks proposed further ITU-wide actions on accessibility, such as to enhance accessibility awareness for ITU staff, the need for real-time captioning and remote sign language interpretation, and the identification of budget lines for implementations of such measures. |
| 7.1.2 | The meeting recognized the strategic importance of accessibility, and thanked Ms Saks for her work and dedication. |
| 7.1.3 | TSAG advised the TSB Director to take into necessary action [TD1014](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-1014) "Enhancing accessibility awareness in the ITU", which describes an approach to improve accessibility awareness and coordination within ITU, and for the TSB Director to raise this issue of accessibility as being of priority to the next Council meeting. |
| 7.1.4 | TD1014 should also be made available to ISCG, and to ISC-TF. |
| 7.1.5 | Support was given to the proposal to create a new division or entity within the Union on accessibility, and interest was expressed to be working together and taking serious efforts for seeking the necessary budget lines in support of such plans. |

# 8 Languages

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| 8.1 | The SCV Chairman, Ms Rim Belhaj (Tunisia), presented [TD961](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0961) "Status report of SCV activities" for the period August 2020 to December 2021. The SCV/CCT sought advice from TSAG regarding an issue related to the approval of ITU official terminology by the ITU-T Sector. |
| 8.1.1 | TSAG took note of TD961 and advised that:   1. ITU-T study group Chairmen send the terms and definitions to SCV as soon as possible and to the extent practical, prior to the approval of the Recommendation(s); and 2. SCV considers meeting more often. |
| 8.2 | Mr Turhan Muluk, Intel Corporation, presented [TD987](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0987) "LS on Use of Inclusive Language in 3GPP specifications [from 3GPP TSG SA]", which informs about 3GPP TSG SA's agreement to use more inclusive and neutral language in the 3GPP specifications and to have updated the 3GPP specification drafting rules accordingly. |
| 8.2.1 | TSAG recognized that this issue of inclusive and neutral language does not only pertain to ITU-T but should be of general interest to the entire Union and should be brought to the attention of the ITU Coordination Committee for Terminology (CCT). A liaison statement was prepared in [TD1012](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-1012) "LS/o on use of inclusive language in ITU-T standards and ITU-T publications" to obtain guidance from the ITU Coordination Committee for Terminology (CCT) on the use of inclusive language in ITU-T standards and ITU-T publications. |
| 8.2.2 | The meeting agreed [TD1012R1](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-1012) to be sent (in [LS41](https://www.itu.int/ifa/t/2017/ls/tsag/sp16-tsag-oLS-00041.zip)) to CCT and SCV. |
| 8.3 | The ITU-T/IETF Liaison Rapporteur, Mr Scott Mansfield, presented the IETF Liaison report in [TD990](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0990), which provides information about the collaboration mechanism with the IETF, a list of future meetings, and recent liaison activity. |
| 8.3.1 | The meeting took note of TD990 and deferred more detailed comments to the RG-SC meeting. |
| 8.3.2 | TSAG agreed to send a liaison statement (in [TD1011](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-1011)) to all ITU study groups with TD990 attached; see section 11.2.2. |

# 9 Kaleidoscope

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| 9.1 | Ms Alessia Magliarditi, TSB, presented [TD968](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0968), "Evaluation of Kaleidoscope 2020 papers with respect to relevance in ITU activities", which provides an overview of the ITU Kaleidoscope academic conference 2020 (K-2020) that was held online from 7-11 December 2020. Attached to this TD is a document which presents two keynote summaries, two keynote papers, one invited paper and accepted papers selected for presentation and publication and identifies links to related activities in ITU-T and other ITU Sectors. |
| 9.1.1 | The meeting took note of TD968, and invited TSAG, ITU-T study groups and ITU-T Focus Groups to review the papers relevant to their scope of work, and to take into consideration this input from the research community. |

# 10 ITU Journal on Future and Evolving Technologies

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| 10.1 | Ms Alessia Magliarditi, TSB, presented [TD969](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0969) "ITU Journal on Future and Evolving Technologies – free, fast, for all", which provides information on the establishment of the new ITU Journal on Future and Evolving Technologies and announces the publication of the inaugural issue and the calls for papers for the five upcoming special issues. |
| 10.2 | The meeting took note of TD969. |

# 11 Results of TSAG Rapporteur Groups

Five TSAG Rapporteur Groups progressed their work during this meeting and brought their results to the TSAG closing plenary. The reports were agreed. The Plenary decisions are summarized below. [Annex A](#_Annex_B_Summary_1) to this report provides a table listing the TDs with the reports of the various Rapporteur Groups, the liaison statements they produced and the interim activities that are planned.

## 11.1 TSAG Rapporteur Group on Review of Resolutions (RG-ResReview)

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| 11.1.1 | The Rapporteur of RG-ResReview, Mr Vladimir Minkin (Russian Federation), presented the report of RG-ResReview in [TD920](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0920). TSAG took note of the meeting report in TD920. |
| 11.1.2 | TSAG authorized RG-ResReview to organize one or two interim e-meetings until October 2021, in case contributions are submitted, on reviewing WTSA resolutions, including streamlining, and proposals (including draft or preliminary proposals) on WTSA Resolutions in the scope of this Rapporteur Group. RG-ResReview plans to meet at the eighth TSAG meeting. |

## 11.2 TSAG Rapporteur Group on Strengthening Collaboration (RG-SC)

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| 11.2.1 | The Rapporteur of RG-SC, Mr Glenn Parsons (Ericsson Canada Inc.), presented the report of RG-SC in [TD922](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0922). TSAG took note of the RG-SC meeting report in TD922. |
| 11.2.2 | TSAG agreed to send three liaison statements:   1. To all ITU-T study groups on dissemination of an IEC/ISO/ITU-T SPCG approved paper on *An imperative from the ISO/TMB, IEC/SMB and ITU-T TSAG effective coordination among ISO, IEC and ITU-T technical activities* (in [TD998](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0998), sent as [LS38](https://www.itu.int/ifa/t/2017/ls/tsag/sp16-tsag-oLS-00038.zip));   The Russian Federation raised the concern during the RG-SC meeting that to the extent that document TD960 was not published in advance of the TSAG meeting, it should be noted only. With no opportunity to evaluate the document during the meeting, they urged that the principle of publishing documents before the opening of a TSAG meeting should in all cases be observed. Consequently, TSAG will be undertaking efforts to ensure that this principle is respected in the future.  NOTE – TSB [Circular 296](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSB-CIR-0296), issued on 22 January 2021, informs ITU-T membership about the SPCG paper.   1. To the Standardization Committee for Vocabulary (SCV) on the *ISO/IEC JTC1 Resolution 2 – Establishment of JTC 1 Advisory Group 18 (AG 18) on JTC 1 Vocabulary* (in [TD999](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0999), sent as [LS39](https://www.itu.int/ifa/t/2017/ls/tsag/sp16-tsag-oLS-00039.doc)). 2. To all ITU-T study groups on *the importance of collaboration between IETF, IRTF and ITU-T* (in [TD1011](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-1011), sent as [LS40](https://www.itu.int/ifa/t/2017/ls/tsag/sp16-tsag-oLS-00040.zip)). |
| 11.2.3 | TSAG authorized RG-SC to organize up to three interim e-meetings (if contributions will be received). RG-SC plans to meet during the 8th TSAG meeting in 2021. |
| 11.2.4 | TSAG took note of the plan of RG-SC to send a liaison statement from the next RG-SC interim meeting to SG20 on oneM2M collaboration. |
| 11.2.5 | The ISCG Chairman, Mr Bigi (Italy), pointed out that the ISCG has not met (physically) in conjunction with the other advisory groups; but a virtual ISCG meeting should be organized in the future; perhaps in the context of the virtual RAG or TDAG meetings. |

## 11.3 TSAG Rapporteur Group on Strategic and Operational Plan (RG-SOP)

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| --- | --- |
| 11.3.1 | This Rapporteur Group did not meet at this TSAG meeting. |
| 11.3.2 | TSAG took note of [TD956](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0956), which contains the progress report of RG-SOP from its interim activities since the September 2020 TSAG meeting. |
| 11.3.3 | RG-SOP was asked to consider organizing one interim e-meeting until October 2021. |

## 11.4 TSAG Rapporteur Group on Standardization Strategy (RG-StdsStrat)

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| --- | --- |
| 11.4.1 | The Rapporteur of RG-StdsStrat, Mr Arnaud Taddei (Broadcom), presented the results and meeting report in [TD926](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0926). TSAG agreed the report in TD926 with a minor correction as reflected in [TD926](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0926)R1. |
| 11.4.2 | TSAG agreed Table 1 (in [TD846R1](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0846/en)) with the updated repository of hot topics. |
| 11.4.3 | TSAG authorized RG-StdsStrat to hold up to four interim e-meetings on the basis that contributions will be received. Contributions from the membership having a strategic nature are invited until the next TSAG meeting. Subjects for discussion would include SDGs, hot topics, metrics, and next ToR for RG-StdsStrat. RG-StdsStrat will meet during the eighth TSAG meeting. |
| 11.4.4 | TSAG agreed that the rotating Rapporteur for RG-StdsStrat after this TSAG meeting shall be in office until WTSA-20 in 2022. TSAG took note of the rotating Rapporteur for RG-StdsStrat to be Mr Stephen Hayes (Ericsson, Canada, Inc.). |

## 11.5 TSAG Rapporteur Group on Work Programme and Structure (RG-WP)

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| --- | --- |
| 11.5.1 | The Rapporteur of RG-WP, Mr Reiner Liebler (Germany), presented the results and meeting report in [TD930](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0930). The meeting agreed the report with some changes as reflected in [TD930R1](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0930). |
| 11.5.2 | As per Resolution 1 (rev. Hammamet 2016) Section 7.2, TSAG endorsed the new or revised Questions proposed by Study Groups, as found in the Attachments of the following TDs:   1. SG2 Questions (in [TD973R1](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0973)), and published as [TSAG-R12](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-R-0012). 2. SG3 Questions (in [TD974](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0974)), and published as [TSAG-R13](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-R-0013)R1. 3. SG5 Questions (in [TD975](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0975)), and published as [TSAG-R14](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-R-0014). 4. SG9 Questions (in [TD976](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0976)), and published as [TSAG-R15](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-R-0015). 5. SG11 Questions (in [TD977R1](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0977)), and published as [TSAG-R16](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-R-0016). 6. SG12 Questions (in [TD978](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0978)), and published as [TSAG-R17](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-R-0017). 7. SG13 Questions (in [TD979](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0979)), and published as [TSAG-R18](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-R-0018). 8. SG15 Questions (in [TD980](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0980)), and published as [TSAG-R19](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-R-0019). 9. SG16 Questions (in [TD981](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0981)), and published as [TSAG-R20](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-R-0020). 10. SG17 Questions (in [TD982R1](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0982)), and published as [TSAG-R21](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-R-0021). 11. SG20 Questions (in [TD983](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0983)), and published as [TSAG-R22](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-R-0022).   Annex D to this report contains clarifications on new/revised Question texts and on study group mandates given verbally by the TSAG Chairman during the meeting.  It was noted that, in view of the previous agreement of the study groups to submit their updated sets of Questions to WTSA-20 and the ITU-T continuity plan due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the updated set of Questions would enter in force immediately following the TSAG meeting decision.  NOTE – TSB [Circular 295](http://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSB-CIR-0295), issued on 21 January 2021, informs on the endorsement of the updated sets of study groups' Question texts. |
| 11.5.3 | TSAG agreed the conclusions on study group restructuring (ref. section 5.4 of [TD930R1](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0930)). There was wide support and general thrust during the 7th TSAG meeting, for maintaining the current study group structure at the next WTSA and the need to conduct a thorough analysis of the feasibility of revising the study group structure before WTSA-24. |
| 11.5.4 | TSAG agreed the terms of reference for a new correspondence activity on study group restructuring (in [TD1013R1](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-1013)), with Mr Phil Rushton, United Kingdom, as the convener of this correspondence group. |
| 11.5.5 | TSAG authorized an e-meeting of RG-WP to be held in May/June 2021, and to take any efforts to avoid overlaps with other relevant meetings. |
| 11.5.6 | TSAG took note of the consolidated draft texts of the proposed modifications to WTSA Resolution 2 for the study period 2022 – 2024 as given in [TD993R1](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0993) "Consolidated draft text for modifications to WTSA Resolution 2". Members are invited to consider this document when making proposals on study group mandates to WTSA-20. |
| 11.5.7 | TSAG offered general advice to the study groups for them to take into account the findings of RG-WP as reflected in its report (see [TD930R1](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0930)) when drafting updates to their mandates for submission to WTSA-20, bearing in mind the responsibility of the Assembly to approve WTSA Resolution 2. |

## 11.6 TSAG Rapporteur Group on Working Methods (RG-WM)

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| 11.6.1 | The Rapporteur of RG-WM, Mr Stephen Trowbridge (United States), presented the report of RG-WM in [TD928](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0928). TSAG took note of TD928, and one correction to the report is reflected in [TD928R1](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0928). |
| 11.6.2 | TSAG authorized RG-WM to organize two RG-WM e-meetings with the terms of reference on 23 and 24 March 2021 to complete consideration of documents on RG-WM agenda TD927 and to identify the high-interest topics for future e-meetings to be held prior to the October 2021 meeting of TSAG. |
| 11.6.3 | TSAG further authorized the contingent e-mail correspondence activities and additional RG-WM e-meetings between 14 June and 2 July 2021 to address topics identified in the 24 March 2021 e-meeting. Exact dates of additional interim meetings will be agreed by the TSAG management team and announced on the RGWM e-mail reflector. Further additional e-meetings between October 2021 and January 2022 TSAG could be planned at the TSAG October 2021 meeting. |

# 12 ITU-T meeting schedule including date of next TSAG meeting

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| --- | --- |
| 12.1 | TSAG took note of [TD938R7](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0938), with the schedule of meetings for ITU-T, TSAG, and Inter-regional meetings for preparation of WTSA-20, in the years 2021 and 2022. |
| 12.2 | TSAG agreed the schedule of the next TSAG Rapporteur Group e-meetings:   * TSAG RG-ResReview e-meeting:   + One or two interim e-meetings (tbd) until October 2021, in case contributions are submitted. * TSAG RG-SC e-meetings:   + Thursday, 8 April 2021, 15:00 - 17:00 hours Geneva time.   + Thursday, 22 July 2021, 15:00 - 17:00 hours Geneva time.   + Thursday, 9 September 2021, 15:00 - 17:00 hours Geneva time. * TSAG RG-SOP e-meeting:   + One interim e-meeting (tbd) until October 2021. * TSAG RG-StdsStrat e-meetings:   + Thursday, 25 February 2021, 13:00-15:00 hours Geneva time.   + Thursday, 22 April 2021, 13:00-15:00 hours Geneva time.   + Thursday, 24 June 2021, 13:00-15:00 hours Geneva time.   + Thursday, 26 August 2021, 13:00-15:00 hours Geneva time. * TSAG RG-WM e-meetings:   + Tuesday, 23 March 2021, 15:00-17:00 hours Geneva time.   + Wednesday, 24 March 2021, 15:00-17:00 hours Geneva time.   + Additional interim e-meeting likely occur between 14 June and 2 July 2021. * TSAG RG-WP e-meeting:   + One interim e-meeting in May/June 2021, details to be defined. |
| 12.3 | TSAG agreed the schedule of the eighth and ninth (last) TSAG meeting in this study period:   * Monday 25 - Friday 29 October 2021, virtual, and * Monday 10 – Friday 14 January 2022, physical (TBC).   Note – For the October 2021 TSAG meeting, it is planned to provide live interpretation only during the opening and closing plenary sessions on 25 and 29 October 2021, whereas any other TSAG sessions be conducted in English-only. |
| 12.4 | TSAG confirmed the third and fourth interregional meetings for preparation of WTSA-20:   * Thursday, 21 October 2021, virtual (TBC), and * Thursday, 6 January 2022, physical (TBC). |

# 13 Certificates of appreciation

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| --- | --- |
| 13.1 | In appreciation for the excellent leadership and contributions, the TSAG Chairman virtually handed-out electronic certificates to   * Mr Reiner Liebler, outgoing TSAG Vice Chairman, and outgoing TSAG Rapporteur of RG-WP; and * Mr Arnaud Taddei, outgoing TSAG Rapporteur of RG-StdsStrat. |
| 13.2 | The SG17 Chairman, Mr Heung-Youl Youm, expressed his appreciation to Mr Arnaud Taddei, outgoing SG17 WP3/17 Chairman, for his excellent leadership and contributions. |
| 13.3 | The TSB Director expressed his thanks to both Mr Liebler and Mr Taddei for their leadership. |

# 14 Any other business

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 14.1 | None. |

# 15 Consideration of draft meeting Report

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| 15.1 | The Chairman announced that, as per the practice in past TSAG meetings, the draft meeting report in [TD917](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0917) will be prepared in due course and would be open for review and substantive or editorial comments for a period of two weeks. |

# 16 Closure of meeting

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| 16.1 | The TSB Director invited members to participate in the work of the TSAG Rapporteur groups. He highlighted the importance of the participation to the TSAG rapporteur groups, the regional preparatory meetings, as well as the Interregional Meetings, whose work is essential and crucial as we proceed with the preparations of WTSA-20. Mr Lee added the importance of continuous dialogue that is necessary to build consensus.  He expressed his thanks and sincere appreciations and dedication to the work to the participants, all delegations, leaders, and Rapporteurs, Vice-Chairmen, Chairman, interpreters, and captioners, as well as the TSB staff, in particular the TSB IT staff that provided tireless efforts in ensuring a smooth and good functioning of the infrastructure which has become so important for the running of virtual meetings. |
| 16.2 | The TSAG Chairman thanked participants for the successful conclusion of this TSAG meeting, in particular the TSAG Vice Chairmen and Rapporteurs, the Chairmen of the study groups, and the delegates for their active participation and their spirit of compromise. He also thanked Messrs Chaesub Lee, Bilel Jamoussi, Martin Euchner, Ms Lara Al-Mnini, the projection assistants, TSB staff, the TSB staff for IT and for MyMeetings, as well as the interpreters and the captioners, for their support and work. |
| 16.3 | The TSAG meeting was closed on 18 January 2021 at 1515 hours, Geneva time. |

# Annex A Summary of results of the TSAG Plenary and of the TSAG Rapporteur Groups

| Group | Report | Outgoing liaison statements, and other agreed outputs | Future meetings |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| TSAG | ([TD917](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0917))  [TSAG-R11](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-R-0011) | * LS on use of inclusive language in ITU-T standards and ITU-T publications [CCT, SCV, all ITU-T study groups] ([LS41](https://www.itu.int/ifa/t/2017/ls/tsag/sp16-tsag-oLS-00041.zip)). * Advisory to the TSB Director on "Enhancing accessibility awareness in the ITU" ([TD1014](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-1014)). | * Monday 25 - Friday 29 October 2021 (virtual), and * Monday 10 - Friday 14 January 2022 (physical), (tbc). |
| RG-ResReview | [TD920](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0920) | --- | * One or two interim e-meetings (tbd) until October 2021, in case contributions are submitted. * Next TSAG meeting. |
| RG-SC | [TD922](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0922) | * LS on effective coordination among IEC, ISO, and ITU-T technical standardization activities [to all ITU-T study groups] ([LS38](https://www.itu.int/ifa/t/2017/ls/tsag/sp16-tsag-oLS-00038.zip)) * LS on ISO/IEC JTC 1 Resolution 2 on the Establishment of JTC 1 Advisory Group 18 (AG 18) on JTC 1 Vocabulary [to SCV] ([LS39](https://www.itu.int/ifa/t/2017/ls/tsag/sp16-tsag-oLS-00039.doc)) * LS on the importance of collaboration between IETF, IRTF and ITU-T [to all ITU-T study groups] ([LS40](https://www.itu.int/ifa/t/2017/ls/tsag/sp16-tsag-oLS-00040.zip)). | * Thursday, 8 April 2021, 15:00 - 17:00 hours Geneva time * Thursday, 22 July 2021, 15:00 - 17:00 hours Geneva time * Thursday, 9 September 2021, 15:00 - 17:00 hours Geneva time * Next TSAG meeting. |
| RG-SOP | [TD956](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0956) | --- | * One interim e-meeting (tbd) until October 2021. |
| RG-StdsStrat | [TD926](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0926)R1 | * Updated repository of hot topics (Table 1 in [TD846R1](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-200921-TD-GEN-0846/en)). | * Thursday, 25 February 2021, 13:00-15:00 hours Geneva time. * Thursday, 22 April 2021, 13:00-15:00 hours Geneva time. * Thursday, 24 June 2021, 13:00-15:00 hours Geneva time. * Thursday, 26 August 2021, 13:00-15:00 hours Geneva time. * Next TSAG meeting. |
| RG-WM | [TD928R1](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0928) | --- | * Tuesday, 23 March 2021, 1400-1600 hours Geneva time. * Wednesday, 24 March 2021, 1400-1600 hours Geneva time. * Additional interim e-meeting likely occur between 14 June and 2 July 2021. * Next TSAG meeting. |
| RG-WP | [TD930R1](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-0930) | * SG2 Question texts (TSAG-R12). * SG3 Question texts (TSAG-R13). * SG5 Question texts (TSAG-R14). * SG9 Question texts (TSAG-R15). * SG11 Question texts (TSAG-R16). * SG12 Question texts (TSAG-R17). * SG13 Question texts (TSAG-R18). * SG15 Question texts (TSAG-R19). * SG16 Question texts (TSAG-R20). * SG17 Question texts (TSAG-R21). * SG20 Question texts (TSAG-R22). * Terms of reference for a new correspondence activity on study group restructuring ([TD1013R1](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-1013)). | * Tuesday, 22 June 2021, 1400-1600 hours Geneva time. * Next TSAG meeting. |

# Annex B

Void.

# Annex C ITU-T work continuity plan until WTSA in 2022

Following the agreement at the Second Virtual Consultation of Councillors (VCC-2, online, November 2020) proposing to postpone WTSA to 1-9 March 2022 preceded by GSS on 28 February 2022, this document provides guiding points and references on the process to ensure smooth continuity of the ITU-T work. This text is based on document VC2/3-E provided at the VCC-2.

Appendix I to Annex C contains answers to the most frequent questions received by the secretariat concerning the postponement of WTSA till 2022.

Considering:

1. The agreement at the second Virtual Consultation of Councillors (VCC-2) to postpone WTSA 1-9 March 2022 preceded by GSS on 28 February 2022,
2. That Member States of ITU Council have supported rescheduling the next WTSA-20 from 1 March to 9 March 2022 preceded by the Global Standards Symposium on 28 February 2022 and subject to the restoration of normal work and travel conditions in India and in other Member States [DM-20/1022](https://www.itu.int/md/S20-DM-CIR-01022/en).
3. Pursuant to No. 46 of the ITU Convention, all Member States of ITU are invited to inform the Secretary General of their concurrence with the change of dates of WTSA-20. Deadline for Member States to reply to the consultation is 1 February 2021, 23:59 hours, Geneva time [Circular letter CL-20/51](https://www.itu.int/md/S20-SG-CIR-0051/en).

To ensure the continuity and stability of the ITU-T Sector, the following guiding points and references prepared by the Secretariat were noted by TSAG:

1. Leadership (Study group/TSAG/SCV Chairmen and Vice Chairmen)
   1. The **current management teams** (study groups, TSAG, SCV, Chairmen and Vice Chairmen) **continue** until the next WTSA 1-9 March 2022.
      1. WTSA Resolution 35 refers to terms in office in between two consecutive WTSAs (but not in terms of the number of years in office) for instance resolve 4) "that the term of office for both chairmen and vice-chairmen should not exceed two terms of office between consecutive assemblies;"
   2. If a Chairman or Vice Chairman is no **longer available** to continue until the next WTSA, then CV 244 would be invoked:
      1. CV 244: "3 If, in the interval between two assemblies or conferences of the Sector concerned, a study group Chairman is unable to carry out his duties and only one Vice Chairman has been appointed, then that Vice-Chairman shall take the Chairman's place. In the case of a study group for which more than one Vice-Chairman has been appointed, the study group at its next meeting shall elect a new Chairman from among those Vice-Chairmen and, if necessary, a new Vice-Chairman from among the members of the study group. It shall likewise elect a new Vice Chairman if one of the Vice-Chairmen is unable to carry out his duties during that period."
   3. If needed, **working party chairs** are appointed as per WTSA Resolution 1.
   4. New leadership proposals received so far for WTSA-20 will continue to be recorded on the WTSA website and could be revised at any time by the nominating Member State or Sector Member up to the new nomination deadline which will be published in due course.
2. New/revised Question texts:
   1. All study groups have prepared their Part I and Part II Reports to WTSA and as such have revised the text of their Questions.
   2. WTSA **Resolution 1 Section 7.2** "Approval of new or revised Questions between WTSAs" would be **followed** using the **text of the Questions** now prepared in Part II of the SG reports to WTSA. These texts are submitted as **TDs for this TSAG meeting** by the respective SG Chairs.
   3. Renumbering the Questions is the usual practice from one study period to another. However, since the study period remains the same, the **Questions will not be renumbered**. In particular, the number of a Question that was previously removed (deletion or merger) should not be reused (e.g. to identify a new proposed Question) within the same study period.
      1. This is to avoid confusion as well as issues with the IT infrastructure (e.g. IFA, mailing lists, SharePoint RGM and collaboration sites)
   4. With the extension of this study period until March 2022, study groups will continue their work and may update as needed the draft Part I and II of their Reports to WTSA before the last TSAG meeting (January 2022) preceding WTSA.
3. Updates of study group mandates (which, as per TSAG instructions, do not concern inter-study group transfer of mandate) being prepared by the Study groups and found in Annex 2 of Part I of the study group reports to WTSA can be put into force by TSAG with its current delegation of power from WTSA-16. The intra-study group updates are separated from and do not pre-judge outcomes of discussions on study group structure (see next item).
   1. See WTSA Resolution 22 resolve 1.c) "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 marketplace, and assign chairmen and vice-chairmen to act until the next WTSA in accordance with Resolution 35 (Rev. Hammamet, 2016) of this assembly;"
4. Study Group structure discussions and decisions would be considered at the next WTSA.
5. Updates to the working methods
   1. TSAG is competent to review and revise the ITU-T A-Series of Recommendations as per WTSA Resolution 22 resolve 1.b) "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, as appropriate: assume responsibility, including development and submission for approval under appropriate procedures, for the ITU-T A-series Recommendations (Organization of the work of ITU-T);"
6. ADD/MOD/SUP to WTSA Resolutions would have to be considered at the next WTSA:
   1. Contributions received so far for WTSA will be kept on the corresponding WTSA website and could be revised and updated up to the new deadline of Contributions based on the new WTSA dates.
   2. Membership is invited to continue finding consensus on WTSA Resolutions through TSAG and Inter-regional meetings in preparation for the next WTSA.
7. Once WTSA is held in March 2022, the following WTSA would be planned for 2024, resuming the normal cycle.

Appendix I to Annex C  
WTSA-20 frequently asked questions (FAQ)

1. **What are the dates of WTSA and GSS?**

* The proposed dates agreed at VCC-2 are GSS on 28 February 2022 and WTSA on 1-9 March 2022.

1. **What is the location of WTSA?**

* The proposed location is Hyderabad, India.

1. **What is the status of the dates and location of WTSA?**

* The VCC-2 meeting agreed that postponing WTSA-20 in 2022 would be preferable. Accordingly, a consultation of Member States will be undertaken, see item b). Also, please see the *Outcomes of discussions of the second virtual consultation of councilors* in [DT1/Rev4](https://www.itu.int/md/S20-CLVC2-201116-TD-0001/en).
* Member States of ITU Council have supported rescheduling the next WTSA-20 from 1 March to 9 March 2022 preceded by the Global Standards Symposium on 28 February 2022 and subject to the restoration of normal work and travel conditions in India and in other Member States [*DM-20/1022*](https://www.itu.int/md/S20-DM-CIR-01022/en).
* Pursuant to No. 46 of the ITU Convention, all Member States of ITU are invited to inform the Secretary General of their concurrence with the change of dates of WTSA-20. Deadline for Member States to reply to the consultation is 1 February 2021, 23:59 hours, Geneva time [*Circular letter CL-20/51*](https://www.itu.int/md/S20-SG-CIR-0051/en)***.***
* It is expected that by early February 2021 these two Consultations will be completed and a final decision of the new dates of WTSA is made.

1. **Why was the duration of WTSA reduced from the initial plan of nine days to seven days?**

* During the VCC-2 meeting, some Member States proposed to shorten the duration of WTSA since TSAG would have taken care of several issues, e.g. agreement on modifications to selected ITU-T A-series Recommendations, and built consensus during its meetings in 2021 and 2022.

1. **What will be the agenda of WTSA?**

* [C20/INF/23](https://www.itu.int/md/S20-CL-INF-0023/en) (DOCX) provides additional information about WTSA and its normal agenda and structure. WTSA structure and agenda in 2022 will be as usual and as defined in WTSA Resolution 1.

1. **What are the key milestones and timeline leading to WTSA in 2022?**

* [C20/INF/23](https://www.itu.int/md/S20-CL-INF-0023/en) (PDF) shows the roadmap leading to WTSA.

1. **What is the continuity plan for the work of ITU-T given the postponement of WTSA to 2022?**

* [VC-2/3](https://www.itu.int/md/S20-CLVC2-C-0003/en) provides guidance on the continuity plan.

1. **What happens if COVID-19 persist and travel would not be possible in 2022?**

* The agreed way forward for WTSA at VCC-2 included the possibility of discussion on WTSA plans at Council 2021 meeting if COVID-19 persists.

1. **When will the invitations to WTSA be revised?**

* Once the two consultations are completed and the new dates have a final decision, new invitations will be issued by the ITU Secretary General.

1. **Will Circular 202 be amended and when?**

* Once the two consultations are completed and the new dates have a final decision, a corrigendum to Circular 202 will be issued with revised deadlines for the nomination of Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of study groups, TSAG, and the SCV.
* Nominations received so far are posted on the WTSA-20 website and will remain there until WTSA is held unless revised by the nominating Member State or Sector Member.

1. **Will the meeting schedule in 2021 be revised?**

* Yes, TSB is revising the 2021 Calendar in Consultation with the SGs based on the guidance agreed at VCC-2. A schedule of TSAG Rapporteur Groups meetings will also be developed. A revised calendar will be posted to the TSAG meeting in January 2021.

1. **What are the dates of TSAG in 2021 and 2022?**

* 11 – 18 January 2021
* 25 – 29 October 2021
* 10 – 14 January 2022.

1. **Once WTSA is held in 2022, when will be the subsequent WTSA?**

* WTSA would go back to its initial 4-year cycle and would be held in the fourth quarter 2024.
* WTSA is normally held every four years, and one major ITU conference and assembly is normally held each year. COVID-19 impacted the normal scheduling of WTSA-20 and it is now moved to 2022.

1. **Will meetings of ITU-T study groups and TSAG in 2021 be virtual?**

* It is most likely that at least in the first half of 2021, meetings will be virtual.

1. **What can TSAG decide on vs WTSA?**

* Documents [C20/INF/23](https://www.itu.int/md/S20-CL-INF-0023/en) and [VC-2/3](https://www.itu.int/md/S20-CLVC2-C-0003/en) identify the areas where TSAG is already authorized to act.
* CS/Art.18 and CS/Art.19 governs the duties of WTSA; duties and responsibilities of WTSA are governed in CV/Art.13; duties and responsibilities of TSAG are governed in CV/Art.14A; WTSA Resolution 1 Section 4, WTSA Resolution 22, and WTSA Resolution 45.

1. **If WTSA is held in 2022, will it be called WTSA-22, or will it continue to be called WTSA‑20?**

* WTSA-20 continues to be the brand name for the event.

1. **What will happen to the regional proposals to WTSA already submitted for posting?**

* Proposals received so far will be maintained on the WTSA website and could be further revised by the submitter before the new deadline for contributions to be announce once the final decision about the dates of WTSA is reached.

1. **How will we call the study period?**

* As explained in [TSAG-TD1015](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSAG-210111-TD-GEN-1015/en), under the assumption that WTSA-20 will take place in March 2022 and that the subsequent WTSA would take place either in the 2nd half of 2024 or 1st half of 2025, the following applies:
  + The next study period designation would be 2022-2024
  + The current study period designation would officially be 2016-2021 (however, see next point)

Should these assumptions not hold, the ranges will be changed accordingly in due time.

* However, for practical and operational reasons, references to the current study period in the existing and future documentation, webpage URLs, templates, etc will continue to use 2017-2020.

# Annex D Clarifications on new/revised Questions texts and on study group mandates by the TSAG Chairman

Annex C outlines the ITU-T work continuity plan until WTSA in 2022. Section 2 is specific to the Question texts.

The term *endorse* used in the context of study Questions is specific to Section 7 of Resolution 1 (rev. Hammamet, 2016) in 7.2.5 in particular, it is stated that "TSAG shall review any new or revised Question to determine whether it is in line with the mandate of the study group. TSAG may then 'endorse' the text of any proposed new or revised Question or may recommend that it be modified. If TSAG recommends modifying the draft new or revised Question, the Question shall be returned to the relevant study group for reconsideration. TSAG will note the text of any new or revised Question already approved."

This is the only instance of the word *endorse* in Resolution 1 (rev. Hammamet, 2016).

What is outlined in section 2 of the ITU-T continuity work plan in Annex C is the following:

* All study groups have prepared their Part 1 (General report of activities) and Part II (Questions prepared for study during the next study period) Reports to the WTSA and as such have revised the text of their Questions.
* WTSA Resolution 1, Section 7.2 "Approval of new and revised Questions between WTSAs" would be followed using the text of the Questions now prepared in Part II of the study group Reports to WTSA. These texts have been submitted as a TD for this TSAG meeting by the respective study group Chairmen.
* Renumbering the Questions is the usual practice from one study period to another. However, since the study period remains the same, the Questions will not be renumbered. In particular, the number of a Question that was previously removed (deletion or merger) should not be reused (e.g. to identify a new proposed Question) within the same study period (this is to avoid confusion as well as issues with IT infrastructure (e.g. mailing lists, SharePoint RGM and collaboration sites).
* With the extension of this study period until March 2022, SGs will continue their work and may update as needed the draft Part 1 and Part II of their respective Reports to WTSA before the last TSAG meeting (January 2022) preceding the WTSA.

Section 3 of the continuity plan is specific to study group mandates. Although TSAG is empowered to approve changes to mandates and lead study group roles in between WTSAs, this TSAG meeting only looked at reviewing the mandate and lead study group roles with a view to identifying any issues and advise study groups accordingly to address them.

The final authority (for approval) for reconfirming or amending changes to Resolution 2 (rev. Hammamet, 2016) lies with the Assembly. In addition, TSAG does not plan to approve study group mandates nor lead study group roles. This will be done at the Assembly.

The plan is to annex this text to the final TSAG Report.

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1. <https://extranet.itu.int/sites/itu-t/studygroups/2017-2020/tsag/SitePages/Captioning-Archive.aspx> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Webcast recording is available at <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/tsag/2017-2020/Pages/webcasts-l.aspx>. The direct link to the archived webcast is [here](https://www.itu.int/webcast/archive2/t2017-20tsag?order=field_start_date&sort=desc). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)