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| ITU logo | INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION**TELECOMMUNICATIONSTANDARDIZATION SECTOR**STUDY PERIOD 2017-2020 | TD 108  |
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| **TD** |
| **Source:** | TSB |
| **Title:** | ITU Secretariat’s Inter-Sectoral Coordination Task Force - Progress and results achieved since July 2016 |
| **Purpose:** | Information |
| **Contact:** | TSB  | e-mail: tsbtsag@itu.int |

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| **Keywords:** | RG-SC agenda |
| **Abstract:** | This TD provides information on the progress and results achieved by the ITU Secretariat’s Inter-Sectoral Coordination Task Force since July 2016. |

**Action**: TSAG RG-SC is invited to note this document.

**1 Background**

As previously reported to the July 2016 TSAG meeting (ref: TSAG TD 606), the Inter-Sector Coordination Task Force (ISC-TF) was established to enhance the coordination and collaboration among the three Bureaux and the General Secretariat, with a view to avoid internal duplication of effort and optimize the use of resources. The ISC-TF operates in the context of Resolution 191 (Busan, 2014). The Terms of Reference of the Inter-Sectoral Task Force (ISC-TF) were specified in [Service Order No.16/13](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-INF-0019/en).

The ISC-TF, chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General, held seven meetings in 2016 and one in 2017 (as of the date of elaboration of this document; 16 in total since March 2015), with the participation of: *a)* the Deputies to the Directors of the three Bureaux and the Chief of the Strategic Planning and Membership Department, *b)* the Intersectoral Focal Points responsible for specific thematic areas, *c)* the Regional Directors, *d)* the Chiefs of Departments of the General Secretariat, *e)* as an observer, the Head of the Internal Audit Unit, and at the invitation of the Chairman, the Chiefs of Departments of the Bureaux.

The areas of inter-sectoral interest coordinated by ISC-TF include the topics of: Climate change, Emergency telecommunications, Accessibility, Communications, Web editorial, Resource mobilization, Gender, Events Coordination, and Bridging the Standards Gap.

**2 Results achieved by the ITU Secretariat’s Inter-Sectoral Coordination Task Force since July 2016**

In 2016, the group:

* Facilitated the exchange of information among the Sectors and the General Secretariat on those thematic areas, by updating the group and discussing the progress achieved. As a result the inter-sectoral thematic ITU web pages were kept up-to-date with the most relevant information on ITU’s activities;
* Discussed and proposed solutions for the key issues raised by the focal points, with a clear advantage being that the issues could be properly escalated if decisions could not be taken or resolved at the focal point level;
* Leveraged the participation and contribution of the Regional Offices, which have been participating through remote participation to the ISC-TF discussions;
* Coordinated ITU’s participation in conferences and fora (e.g. COP22 in Marrakesh, UN Habitat in Quito) with the aim to reduce participation but ensure ITU-wide interests were represented;
* Facilitated better coordination of organization of ITU events and meetings, through informing all colleagues of plans and intentions; and
* Reviewed JIU reports’ recommendations, identifying focal points, and required action.

In addition, the group achieved the following specific outcomes in 2016:

* Coordinated and monitored the status of the Action Plan to implement the JIU ITU Review recommendations;
* Coordinated the implementation of the previous JIU UN system-wide recommendations, with impressive results in the acceptancy and implementation status of previous JIU recommendations from 2006-2014;
* Developed the Draft Risk Management Policy and Risk Appetite Statement, through a dedicated working group. The draft documents were presented to the CWG-FHR and submitted for review and approval to the Council;
* Initiated the process for the management of Business Continuity & Disaster Recovery, in the event of lack of physical access to the ITU HQ and Regional Office buildings;
* Coordinated and introduced the guidelines for Video and Photography requests, introducing the relevant procedures and forms;
* Reviewed the development of the Gender Dashboard, a continuously evolving snapshot of the current situation of women in ITU and ICT Sector;
* Put forward a project proposal to achieve gender equality in ITU panels, by monitoring and fostering participation of female speakers/panelists in ITU events;
* Reviewed the implementation of the Accessibility Fund and approved a second round of funding for a project that would increase the participation of experts on ICT accessibility in selected meetings of ITU Study Groups;
* Initiated the sub-group of the SDG Project Team which was later jointed with the WSIS Task Force, following the discussions at the 2016 session of the Council;
* Reviewed the Global Communications Strategy 2016-2019;
* Coordinated the development of the Guidelines for web pages translation, following the decision by Council-16. A report was presented to the CWG on Languages meeting in January;
* Coordinated the process for measuring data for the outcome indicators for the ITU Annual Report 2016 through a dedicated web site;
* Reviewed the development of the Draft Accountability Framework, as a response to the relevant JIU recommendation;
* Reviewed the preparation of the new Draft of Sponsorship Guidelines, which were then approved by MCG in December;
* Introduced new detailed reporting on the status of Sector Membership by Sector and Region.

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