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|  | INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION**TELECOMMUNICATIONSTANDARDIZATION SECTOR**STUDY PERIOD 2022-2024 | TSAG-TD554 |
| TSAG |
| Original: English |
| **Question(s):** | N/A | Virtual, 25 July 2024 |
| **TD** |
| **Source:** | IRM Chair |
| **Title:** | IRM: Draft meeting report of the Inter-regional Meeting for preparation of WTSA-24 (virtual, 25 July 2024, 13:00-16:00 hours Geneva time) |
| **Contact:** | Mr Ritu Ranjan Mittar Director General (Telecom)Ministry of Communications, India | Tel:  +91 9868137776 Email: rr.mittar@gov.in  |
| **Contact:** | Ms Alexandra Gaspari IRM Advisor | Tel: +41 22 730 5158E-mail: alexandra.gaspari@itu.int |

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| **Keywords:** | Inter-regional meeting (IRM); Report;  |
| **Abstract:** | This TD holds the draft meeting report of the second inter-regional meeting for preparation of WTSA-24 (virtual, 25 July 2024, 13:00-16:00 hours Geneva time). |

**Action**: TSAG is invited to take note of this draft report.

# Opening of the meeting

The Chair of the Inter-regional meeting (IRM), Mr Ritu Ranjan Mittar, Director General Telecom, Department of Telecommunication, Ministry of Communication of the Government of India, Designated Chair for WTSA-24, welcomed the participants to the first Inter-regional Meeting for preparation of WTSA-24, which was held on 25 July 2024, 13:00-16:00 hours, Geneva time, on virtual mode.

He welcomed the TSB Director Mr Seizo Onoe, as well as the representatives of the six regional telecommunications organizations, ATU, APT, CEPT, CITEL, League of Arab States
and RCC, and all the participants connected online.

Mr Mittar was assisted by Mr Bilel Jamoussi, Deputy to the Director of TSB and by Ms Alexandra Gaspari, IRM Advisor.

TSB introduced [TD 491](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0491/en) “Note to be read at the start of the meeting”.

[**TD 492**](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0492) “IRM and TSAG Interactive Remote Participation Guidelines – Zoom” was also introduced and explained by TSB to the online participants.

**Annex 1** of this document lists the Contributions and the TDs that were considered by the meeting.

[TD 555](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0555/en) holds the final list of participants. In total, 127 participants attended the second virtual IRM.

**1.1 Welcoming remarks by the TSB Director**

The Director of TSB, Mr Seizo Onoe, provided his opening remarks welcoming all participants and underlined the importance of the growing recognition of the importance of technical standards in recent years.

He mentioned that during the recent AI for Good Global Summit, the discussions emphasized that technical standards and capacity building will make foundational contributions to global AI governance. He added that our work together at ITU must help everyone to navigate new frontiers in technology with confidence and certainty and ITU standards must continue helping new industries to grow and established industries to keep moving forward, and this value must reach every part of the world.

Mr Onoe added that the progress that ITU supports must always be in the public interest, inspiring trust in digital technologies and the institutions responsible for their governance. He continued adding that WTSA-24 is our opportunity to ensure that we are supported by the right structure, strategy and working methods.

The TSB Director stressed the importance of the Inter-regional meetings as they play a central part in creating a basis for consensus at WTSA, he continued thanking everyone contributing to the IRM meeting. To conclude he recognized the six Regional Telecom Organizations for their expert coordination of regional preparations and expressed his appreciations for the efforts.

**1.2 Opening remarks by IRM Chair**

Mr Ritu Ranjan Mittar, IRM Chair recognized and stressed the importance of the inter-regional process and the meeting which is the second in the series will provide a very important platform for exchange of ideas and to know the progress being made by various regions.

Mr Mittar further added, that Inter regional meetings help in building common understanding which is very important for the standardization work.

The importance of reaching common ground, understanding the key interventions made by other participants, acceptable to all is a very important aspect in the ICTs standardization.

The IRM Chair welcomed the presence of Mr Premjit Lal, Deputy Director General, International Relations and Mr Avinash Agarwal Deputy Director Standardization from the Department of Telecom, Ministry of Communications, Government of India.

To conclude his opening remarks the IRM Chair stated the importance of ITU that must have the leadership position in this field and looked forward to a very fruitful second IRM meeting.

# Approval of the agenda

The IRM Chair introduced [TD 553R2](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0553/en) which holds the draft revised agenda for the second Inter-regional meeting for preparation of WTSA-24 (virtual, 25 July 2024; 1300-1600 hours Geneva time). The draft agenda was adopted with no changes.

**3 Update on Preparations for WTSA-24**

Mr Jamoussi introduced [TD 493](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0493/en) “Update on Preparations for WTSA-24”, which provided a very comprehensive overview of the latest preparations for the WTSA-24, including all side events that are being planned to take place prior and during the Assembly itself.

In addition to the presentation, he highlighted few additional points for the consideration of the participants:

1 [TSB Circular 176](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSB-CIR-0176/en), “Candidates for chairs and vice-chairs of ITU-T study groups, the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) and the Standardization Committee for Vocabulary (SCV) for 2025 – 2028”

2 the coordination of the proposals for the leadership team of WTSA: The nomination of the vice-chair from the Region to WTSA, as well as chairs and vice-chairs of the committees and working groups of the various committees of the assembly. This information can be addressed to the TSB Director or to the Deputy to the Director, an email would suffice.

3 to update TSB on the focal points: this point will be further addressed under agenda item 5.2

4 to update TSB on any additional changes of plans of regional preparatory meetings.

The IRM Chair thanked TSB for the very comprehensive presentation and all the ongoing preparations both with the Host country India and within TSB.

**4 Regional Telecommunications Organizations updates**

**4.1 Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT)**

Mr Hyoung Jun Kim, Chair of APT-WTSA (Korea), speaking on behalf of APT, presented
[TD 655](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0655/en), “Asia-Pacific Telecommunity preparatory process for WTSA-24 (revised version)”.

**4.2 African Telecommunication Union (ATU)**

Ms Rebecca Mukite, Chair of ATU African coordination group for the preparation of
WTSA-24, (Uganda), speaking on behalf of ATU, presented [**TD 642R1**](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0642) “ATU updates on WTSA-24 Preparations”.

**4.3 European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT)**

Mr Mihail Ion, Chair of the CEPT PT ITU-T (Romania) speaking on behalf of CEPT, presented
 [**TD 654**](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0654)“European Preparations for WTSA-24 (revised version)”.

**4.4 Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL)**

Ms Ena Dekanic, Chair of the CITEL WGCONF (USA) speaking on behalf of CITEL, introduced contribution [**C 91**](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T22-TSAG-C-0091) “CITEL Status Update on WTSA-24 Preparations”.

**4.5 League of Arab States/ASTeam**

Mr Muath S. AlRumayh, (Saudi Arabia), speaking on behalf of LAS/ASTeam, introduced [TD 651](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0651/en) “League of Arab States/AST's update on preparatory process for WTSA-24”.

**4.6 Regional Commonwealth in the Field of Communications (RCC)**

Dr Evgeny Tonkikh, RCC WTSA preparation coordinator (Russian Federation), speaking on behalf of RCC, introduced contribution [C 110](https://www.itu.int/dms_ties/itu-t/md/22/tsag/c/T22-TSAG-C-0110%21%21ZIP-E.zip)  **“**Preparation of RCC for WTSA-24”.

Overall, TSB stressed the importance of submitting the proposals as soon as ready to TSB for processing as to advance the work to the most possible extent, prior to the Assembly, namely helping the translation and the preparation of the documents in a timely and smooth manner.

**5 Information from TSAG Rapporteur Group on WTSA-24 Preparation**

The IRM Chair invited TSB to introduce [**TD 612**](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0612)**R1** on behalf of TSAG Rapporteur Group on WTSA: RG-WTSA deliverable: Draft A.SupWTSAGL "WTSA preparation guideline on Resolutions"  TSAG Rapporteur group of WTSA. This document contains the draft supplement to the A-series on guidelines on how to draft WTSA resolutions.

TSB also presented [TD 611R1](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0611) “Regional proposals and focal points for WTSA-24 Resolutions based on input to second IRM”, which is the Excel sheet TSB has developed to track the progress of regional preparatory progress. It was first published in last TSAG meeting, and it was revised along with the progress of the regional preparations.

**6 Discussion of areas of commonality, and areas where further discussion is required**

The IRM Chair invited all RTOs representatives to present their observations on possible areas of commonality.

The RCC representative mentioned that more information would be needed namely regarding new resolutions, new topics that are being proposed, with the goal of understanding and find some commonality.

The League of Arab States/ASTeam highlighted the positive aspects that regions have submitted many new resolutions, as a sign to make the ITU-T among leading standardization development organization across the globe, including for new technologies but also in terms of the economy, technical, policy, within the ITU-T mandate and to achieve the ITU-T goals and objectives.

The CITEL representative thanked all the fellow coordinators from the other regions for their very helpful presentations. She also raised the issue of the time management plan for the assembly, taking into account the amount of work that is being defined and the vast number of proposals that are expected. It would be very important to consider the work/life balance wherever possible.

The CEPT representative, while thanking all the other representatives, echoed the need to try to reduce the late night work, as it was the case trend at the latest ITU-T conference and also the Plenipotentiary, to possibly consider to have at least one of the weekend days off so that participants can rest and recuperate the efforts. Mr Ion continued welcoming some initial discussions on the Metaverse and the OTTs topics, adding that there are room for synergies with what we have prepared.

The ATU representative thanked the distinguished colleagues for the quite insightful presentations and discussions and continued with thanking the ongoing TSB work behind the scenes to support the process, to see that we can get some work done towards consensus, even before the Assembly. Ms Mukite added that the two TDs that have been shared (TD 611R1 and **TD 612R1)** will be very useful and further thanked the TSB for the work and the support.

The APT representative intervened highlighting the discussions on several New Resolution proposals, such AI, Metaverse which are underway and hoped to continue the consultation with other regions.

A question was raised by a member state as on when TSB would issue the document on allocation of resolutions under which WTSA Committees.

The IRM Chair thanked all representatives for their insights.

TSB further clarified the need for the secretariat to receive all proposals, to proceed with their assessment, before proceeding with the allocation within the WTSA Committees. In all cases, TSB will use the same approach as we did for previous assemblies where each particular proposal or provision is issued as a separate file in the system. The documents are going to be an attachment to the documents posted in the DMS. For the cover page of a given document TSB would add information that the regional organizations provide with the countries supporting the focal points so that they can be followed up.

TSB further clarified that documents have been reallocated to Contribution’s numbers. So, as an example, for the African proposals, for example, it is WTSA Document 35, from Arab States is 36, from APT is 37, CEPT is 38, CITEL is 39, for RCC is 40. This is the same numbers that was used for the previous Assemblies.

The TSB document resource is also available from the WTSA website and TSB invite to use it. It's the same interface that is used for all other assemblies, it was also used for WTSA in the past and it has been used for the Plenipotentiary Conference.

Following a query on trainings, TSB clarified that there are some plans for online training for all delegates coming to WTSA. The sessions will be online and will be focused on the document processing, the systems for the submission of documents, the sessions will be recorded to allow wider access to all.

Regarding the nominations of chairs and vice-chairs, TSB further clarified that, as agreed at the last TSAG meeting to consolidate ITU-T Study Group 9 and 16, TSB has been placing all nominations under the consolidated Study Group 9 plus 16 on the WTSA website. For these and any future nominations, TSB Deputy to the Director requested the RTOs and Member States to only make nominations to those, the consolidated Study Group but not separate to 9 and 16 as to streamline the process.

Mr Jamoussi also thanked all leaders and representatives for the excellent collaboration and cooperation with the Ms Alexandra Gaspari, IRM Advisor and TSB Focal point for the Regions.

**7 Dates of upcoming regional preparatory meetings**

TSB presented [TD 551](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0551/en) which is the update for regional preparatory meeting, past meetings and upcoming ones until WTSA-24 in October 2024. [TD 550](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0550/en)“WTSA-24 Inter-regional coordination” was noted.

**8 Proposed date for the next Inter-regional meeting**

The IRM Chair confirmed that the third and final inter-regional meeting for preparation of WTSA-24 is planned to be scheduled on 9 September 2024 (virtual mode) and he invited all participants to mark that date in their calendars.

**9 Conclusions**

The IRM Chair thanked all the representatives of the Regional Telecommunications Organizations for having presented the outcomes of their respective progress made so far. Mr Mittar highlighted that collaboration from all RTOs is the hallmark of our work and this advanced collaboration and cooperation will be the key to what we are going to collectively achieve at the WTSA-24. He further encouraged the RTOs to submit their results as soon as agreed to TSB. To conclude, Mr Mittar mentioned the TSB initiative of organizing online trainings which will be very useful for an overall preparations of participants to WTSA-24.

# 10 Any other business

A question was raised on hotels for WTSA-24. The IRM Chair added that clarifications will be made by the Host country team.

TSB provided the following updates:

1. on WTSA-24 Exposition. An exhibition space and a stage for speaking slot has been reserved from 14 to 24 October 2024 during the Global Standards Symposium (GSS-20) and the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA-24) at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, India to enable ITU Member States, Sector Members, Associates, Academia Members and the wider ICT industry to demonstrate their leadership, knowledge, competence, and, most importantly, use cases of ITU-T standards during this high-level international standardization policy Assembly. TSB underlined that, as spaces are limited, to contact TSB (jinu.um@itu.int or emile-bourne.armour-heselton@itu.int) in order to secure a booth or speaking slot, by 16 August 2024 and no later than 23 August 2024.
2. with reference to a comment that was shared on encouraging to keep within a healthy life/work balance during WTSA, TSB clarified that the time management plan will be issuing a draft time management plan as a TD for this TSAG. This will be, basically, the overall blueprint of the days and the activities. TSB mentioned that India, the host country plans to have an excursion on the weekend 19 or 20 October (exact dates to be determined).
3. TSB also added that it was just received from the honourable Minister of Telecommunications India a request/a kind invitation to the ministers who will be coming to GSS and WTSA to a meeting and reception on the 13th of October in Gulor, India, the Minister’s hometown. Further details will be provided.
4. TSB also added that 125 participants were present today at the IRM.

# No other businesses were raised at this time.

# 11 Closure of the meeting

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| The IRM Chair thanked all delegates and participants for the successful conclusion of this first Inter-regional meeting, noting the several exchanges and the many interactive exchanges and interventions. For this particular reason, he wished to thank each and everyone for their contributions and constructive interventions to the meeting.The IRM Chair thanked all the representatives and leaders of the six regional telecommunications organizations for their engagement.He continued thanking the TSB Director Mr Seizo Onoe, the Deputy to the Director, Mr Bilel Jamoussi, the IRM Advisor, Ms Alexandra Gaspari, the TSAG Advisor Mr Hiroshi Ota, the IRM Assistant, Ms Lara Al-Mnini, Mr Rob Clark, Mr Ilia Londo, Mr Marc Zanou, and other TSB and ITU technical and supporting staff for their hard work in preparing this Inter-regional meeting. He thanked also the interpreters and the captioners for their work. Mr Mittar concluded thanking Mr Premjit Lal, Mr Avinash Agarwal Mr Suneet Tomar, Ms Ranjana Sivaram and the supporting staff in New Delhi.  |
| The Inter-regional meeting was closed on 25 July 2024, at 15:34 hours Geneva time.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

**Annex 1 – List of documents**

All contributions and documents of the second Inter-regional meeting for preparation of WTSA-24 are available at: https://www.itu.int/wtsa/2024/irm/presentations-02/.

**Table 1 – List of Contributions**

| **Contribution #, Source****Title** |
| --- |
| CITEL - [**C 91**](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T22-TSAG-C-0091)CITEL Status Update on WTSA-24 Preparations |
| APT – [C 96](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T22-TSAG-C-0096)Preparation of APT for WTSA-24(See also [**TD 655**](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0655)**)**   |
| CEPT – [C 107](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T22-TSAG-C-0107)European Preparations for WTSA-24(See also [**TD 654**](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0654)**)**    |
| RCC – [C 110](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cgaspari%5CDesktop%5CPreparation%20of%20RCC%20for%20WTSA-24)Preparation of RCC for WTSA-24   |

# Table 2 – List of TDs

| **TD#, Source****Title** |
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| [TD 491](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0491/en) – Chair, TSAGNote to be read at the start of the meeting   |
| [**TD 492**](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0492) - TSB**TSAG Interactive Remote Participation Guidelines – Zoom**  |
| [TD 553](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0553/en)R2 - IRM ChairIRM: Draft agenda for the second interregional meeting for preparation of WTSA-24(virtual, 25 July 2024, 13:00-16:00 hours Geneva time) |
| [TD 493](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0493/en) - TSBUpdate on Preparations for WTSA-24 |
| [TD 551](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0551/en) - Director, TSBIRM: WTSA-24 update for regional preparatory meetings    |
| [TD 550](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0550/en) - Director, TSBIRM: WTSA-24 Inter-regional coordination  |
| [**TD 612**](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0612)**R1** - Rapporteur, RG-WTSARG-WTSA deliverable: Draft A.SupWTSAGL "WTSA preparation guideline on Resolutions"     |
| [**TD 642R1**](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0642) - Chair, IRM ATU updates on WTSA-24 Preparations  |
| [**TD 651**](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0651)  - Chair, IRMLeague of Arab States/AST's update on preparatory process for WTSA-24     |
| [**TD 654**](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0654)   - Chair, IRM CEPT – European Preparations for WTSA-24 (revised version)  |
| [**TD 655**](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0655)   - Chair, IRM APT – Asia-Pacific Telecommunity Preparations for WTSA-24 (revised version) |
| [TD 611R1](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0611) – TSBRegional proposals and focal points for WTSA-24 Resolutions based on input to second IRM |
| [TD 555](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0555/en) - TSBIRM: Final list of participants |
| [TD 554](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-TSAG-240729-TD-GEN-0554/en) - IRM ChairIRM Draft meeting report of the second inter-regional meeting for preparation of WTSA-24(virtual, 25 July 2024, 13:00-16:00 hours Geneva time) |

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