

RESOLUTION 191 (REV. BUCHAREST, 2022)

Strategy for the coordination of efforts among the three Sectors of the Union

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Bucharest, 2022),

noting

- a) Resolution 71 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of this conference, on the strategic plan for the Union for 2024-2027;
- b) Resolution ITU-R 6-3 (Rev. Sharm el-Sheikh, 2019) of the Radiocommunication Assembly (RA), on liaison and collaboration with the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T), and Resolution ITU-R 7-4 (Rev. Sharm el-Sheikh, 2019) of RA, on telecommunication development including liaison and collaboration with the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D);
- c) Resolution 18 (Rev. Geneva, 2022) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on principles and procedures for the allocation of work to, and strengthening coordination and cooperation among, the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R), ITU-T and ITU-D;
- d) Resolution 5 (Rev. Kigali, 2022) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on enhanced participation by developing countries¹ in the activities of the Union;
- e) Resolution 59 (Rev. Kigali, 2022) of WTDC, on strengthening coordination and cooperation among the three ITU Sectors on matters of mutual interest;

¹ These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

f) the establishment of the Inter-Sector Coordination Group on issues of mutual interest (ISCG), set up under decisions of the Sector advisory groups, and of the Inter-Sectoral Coordination Task Force (ISC-TF), headed by the Deputy Secretary-General, to eliminate duplication of effort and optimize the use of resources,

considering

- a) the purposes of the Union listed in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution;
- b) the role assigned to each of the three Sectors and to the General Secretariat to contribute to fulfilling the purposes and achieving the objectives of the Union;
- c) that the responsibilities of ITU-R, ITU-T and ITU-D are enshrined in the Constitution and the ITU Convention, in particular No. 119 of the Constitution and Nos. 151-154 (relating to ITU-R), No. 193 (relating to ITU-T), Nos. 211 and 214 (relating to ITU-D) and No. 215 of the Convention;
- d) that a basic principle for cooperation and collaboration among ITU-R, ITU-T and ITU-D is the need to avoid duplication of the Sectors' activities, and to ensure that work is undertaken efficiently and effectively;
- e) that RA, WTSA and WTDC have also identified common areas where work is to be done and that require the internal coordination within ITU;
- f) that ISCG, which is composed of representatives from the three Sector advisory groups, works to identify subjects of common interest and mechanisms to enhance collaboration and cooperation among the Sectors and the General Secretariat, based on contributions received, and considers also reports from the Directors of the Bureaux and ISC-TF on options for improving cooperation and coordination within the secretariat;
- g) that interaction and coordination in the joint holding of seminars, workshops, forums, symposia and so forth have yielded positive results in terms of saving financial and human resources,

recognizing

- a) the growing number of areas for common studies carried out by the three Sectors and the related need for coordination and cooperation among the Sectors, providing an integrated approach within the framework of "One ITU";
- b) the need for developing countries to acquire tools to strengthen their telecommunication sector;
- c) that, despite efforts made, levels of participation by developing countries in the activities of ITU-R and ITU-T are not sufficient, so that it is increasingly necessary to strengthen ITU-R and ITU-T coordination and cooperation with ITU-D;
- d) the catalysing role of ITU-D, which seeks optimal resource use so that capacities can be built in developing countries;
- e) the need to achieve better representation of the vision and needs of developing countries in the activities and work carried out in ITU-R and ITU-T;
- f) that, given the growing number of issues of mutual interest related to the three Sectors, such as development of telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) systems, international mobile telecommunications (IMT), big data, artificial intelligence, emergency telecommunications, telecommunications/ICT and climate change, cybersecurity, access to telecommunications/ICT for persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs, conformance and interoperability of telecommunication/ICT equipment and systems, and better use of scarce resources, among others, an integrative approach from the Union is increasingly required;
- g) that coordinated and complementary efforts make it possible to reach more Member States, with greater impact, so as to bridge the digital divide and the standardization gap, as well as contributing to better radio-frequency spectrum management,

bearing in mind

- a) that the activities of inter-Sector teams facilitate collaboration and coordination of activities within the Union;
- b) that consultations and discussions among the three Sector advisory groups regarding the mechanisms and means needed for better cooperation among them need to constantly occur and to be incentivized;
- c) that these actions should continue to be systematized in a comprehensive strategy whose results are measured and monitored;
- d) that this would provide the Union with a tool for correcting deficiencies and building on success;
- e) that ISCG and ISC-TF are effective tools contributing to the development of an integrated strategy;
- f) that inter-Sector collaboration and coordination should be headed by the General Secretariat, in close collaboration with the Directors of the three Bureaux;
- g) the ability of the regional presence to reflect ITU as a whole and play an integral role in the preparation and coordination of activities in the region,

resolves

1 that the Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG), the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) and the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG), including through ISCG, shall continue to consider current and new activities and their distribution among ITU-R, ITU-T and ITU-D for approval by the ITU Member States in accordance with the procedures for approval of new and revised study questions, meeting jointly as necessary;

2 that, in order to achieve "One ITU", it is crucial that all ITU Sectors coordinate their regional projects and activities with full involvement of the regional and area offices, as they are the focal points and representatives of all three ITU Sectors and the General Secretariat at the regional level,

invites

- 1 RAG, TSAG and TDAG to continue to assist ISCG in identifying subjects of mutual interest to the three Sectors and mechanisms to enhance their cooperation and collaboration, paying particular attention to the interests of developing countries;
- 2 the Directors of the Radiocommunication, Telecommunication Standardization and Telecommunication Development Bureaux and ISC-TF to report to ISCG and the respective Sector advisory groups on options for improving cooperation at the secretariat level to ensure that close coordination is maximized,

instructs the Secretary-General

- 1 to continue enhancing a coordination and cooperation strategy for effective and efficient efforts in areas of mutual interest to the three ITU Sectors and the General Secretariat, in order to avoid duplication of effort and optimize the use of resources of the Union;
- 2 to identify all forms and examples of overlapping functions and activities among ITU Sectors as well as the General Secretariat, and propose solutions to address them;
- 3 to update the list containing the areas of mutual interest to the three Sectors and the General Secretariat pursuant to the mandates of each ITU assembly and conference;
- 4 to submit to the ITU Council and to the Plenipotentiary Conference reports on the coordination activities carried out among the different Sectors and the General Secretariat in each such area, as well as the results obtained;
- 5 to continue to ensure close interaction and regular exchange of information between ISCG and ISC-TF;
- 6 to provide visible and accessible information on ISCG activities and a dedicated, user-friendly ISCG website in all official languages of the Union, subject to available financial resources;

7 to present a report to the next plenipotentiary conference on the implementation of this resolution;

8 to enhance coordination and collaboration between the three ITU Sectors and the General Secretariat in the implementation of their regional activities through the regional offices,

instructs the ITU Council

to include coordination of the work of the three ITU Sectors and the General Secretariat on the agenda of its meetings so as to follow its evolution and take decisions to ensure its implementation,

instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the three Bureaux

1 to ensure reporting to the Council of the coordination activities carried out among the different Sectors in each area identified as being of mutual interest, as well as the results obtained;

2 to identify all forms and examples of overlapping functions and activities between ITU Sectors as well as the General Secretariat, and propose solutions to address them;

3 to share and implement the regional projects and activities of all ITU Sectors through the regional offices;

4 to ensure that the agendas of the respective advisory groups include coordination with the other Sectors, so that strategies and actions are suggested for optimal development of the areas of common interest;

5 to provide support to ISCG and to the Sector advisory groups in the inter-Sector coordination activity in areas of mutual interest,

invites Member States and Sector Members

- 1 when preparing proposals submitted to conferences and assemblies of the ITU Sectors, as well as ITU plenipotentiary conferences, to take into account the specifics of the activities of the Sectors and the General Secretariat, the need for coordination of their activities, and the need to avoid duplication of activities of various entities of the Union;
- 2 when making decisions at conferences and assemblies of the Union, to act in accordance with Nos. 92, 115, 142 and 147 of the Constitution;
- 3 to support efforts to improve inter-Sector coordination, including taking an active part in groups established by the Sector advisory groups in respect of coordination activities.

(Busan, 2014) – (Rev. Dubai, 2018) – (Rev. Bucharest, 2022)
