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| APTlogogreen3 | ASIA-PACIFIC TELECOMMUNITY |  |  |
| **The 2nd Meeting of the APT Preparatory Group for WTSA-16 (APT WTSA16-2)** | **Document** **WTSA16-2/INP-05** |
| 15 – 17 October 2015, Bangkok, Thailand | **28 September 2015** |

**Chairman, Working Group 1**

**issue paper of the working group 1: ITU-T Working Methods**

1. **Introduction**

This issue paper has been developed to facilitate effective discussion on ITU-T working methods. It intends to stimulate regional discussion on ITU-T working methods issues which may interest the Asia-Pacific region. Based on the discussion, WG1 will develop APT common proposals. The main objectives of this meeting is reviewing the current status and on-going discussions in ITU-T and identify the possible topics for the APT common proposals for WTSA-16.

1. **Background**

The 1st APT Preparatory Meeting was held on 07 May 2015 in Bangkok, Thailand. The meeting elected Chairman, Vice Chairmen of the Preparatory Meeting and established three Working Groups (WGs) as follows:

* WG1 – ITU-T Working Methods
* WG2 – ITU-T Work Organization
* WG3 – Standardization Related Issues

The office bearers of this preparatory work are shown as Annex A.

1. **Issues for discussion of WG1**

ITU-T review committee was established in WTSA-12 in Dubai, UAE, 20-29 November 2012. The objective of the review committee is to review the structure and working method of ITU-T to ensure that ITU-T continues meeting the standardization needs of an evolving business environment. The summary of the discussions were reported in TD174 R2/RevCom. WTSA-12 resolutions should be reviewed and considered in the WG1 of the preparatory meeting as well. The following sections are the highlight of TSAG /RevCom and WTSA-12 Resolutions for the discussions in WG1.

# Review of working mechanisms

A review of the effectiveness and efficiency of the current ITU-T structure and groups (SG, FG, JCA, GSI, etc.) is in progress. Usage of other tools and their success will depend heavily on their operational management. Focus Groups were identified as a key tool in ITU-T to trigger new work in the various Study Groups.

(Discussion points in WG1)

WG1 evaluate the current mechanisms of ITU-T and studies the improvements of them.

# Efficient transfer of FG deliverables

FGs are a flexible tool for progressing new work. Such flexibility may allow groups to develop a wide range of deliverables. Since there have been many instances in which the membership of a FG does not have experience in the development of technical specifications, it has been common that FG deliverables, although useful, needed to be reworked by the parent SG. The creation of FG “guidelines”, including continued coordination with its parent group, could facilitate the efficient transfer to the parent group of FG deliverables aimed at becoming draft Recommendations or Supplements.

RevCom recommends to TSAG that ITU-T issue guidelines as an appendix to ITU-T A.7, as found in TD 309/TSAG.

(Discussion points in WG1)

ITU-T Recommendation A.7 has revised with new appendix. Are there any additional improvements on A.7?

# Standardization Strategy Function

RevCom agrees on the need to implement in ITU-T a new standardization strategy function created by TSAG, in line with TSAG's responsibility for strategic planning. This function would study and coordinate standardization strategy based on the dynamic developments in the technical market(s) taking into account the dialogue among the leadership of ITU-T working groups (e.g., SG and FG Chairmen) on the identification and initiation of new work topics that are of strategic importance to industry and governments.

At this meeting, RevCom agreed at basic terms of reference for this function, as seen in [TD 186r2/RevCom](http://www.itu.int/md/T13-REVCOM-150529-TD-GEN-0186/en) (2015-05), but still need further discussion on three principle aspects: whether it should be a function implemented under TSAG, or independently; who should chair it (TSB Director, an ITU-T member, or a non-ITU-T member from industry); and whether the group should be open to non-ITU-T members. RevCom will continue discussion of the proposal and will report at the next TSAG meeting. Contributions on the topic are invited.

(Discussion points in WG1)

New function of SSF has been proposed and discussed. It will be decided in the next TSAG meeting in January 2016. WG1 should follow the discussion in TSAG/RevCom on this topic and study the possibility of APT common proposal for the next study period.

# External collaboration mechanisms

The collaboration of ITU and ISO/IEC is long-standing, as signified in WTSA Res.7 and Recommendation ITU-T A.23, as well as the WSC. Nevertheless, many times inter-organizational conflicts arise during the standardization work.

An agreement on technical co-ordination mechanism among ISO, IEC and ITU-T[/ITU-R] was introduced by TSB Director to RevCom in January 2014, after adoption by WSC. This mechanism includes a four-level escalation approach to resolve conflicts between IEC and ITU-T ([TD 71/RevCom](http://www.itu.int/md/T13-REVCOM-140116-TD-GEN-0071/en), 2014-01). The action point for chairmen of SGs and TSAG is to adopt the four levels of conflict resolution. IEC noted that they have been using this mechanism for a number of years and in fact they have not gone beyond Step 2 of the four-step coordination.

(Discussion points in WG1)

ITU-T and relevant SDOs are seeking wider and deeper cooperation and collaboration on the various standardization areas. Working procedures are defined in A.4 (Forums /Consortia), A.6 (Regional/National SDOs) and A.23 (ISO/IEC). Multi-lateral collaboration mechanism was proposed from the successful experiences in CITS (Collaboration on ITS Communication Standards) in TD 185/RevCom.

# Outcomes of ITU PP-14

The outcomes of the Plenipotentiary Conference 2014 (PP-14), 20 October – 7 November 2014, Busan, Republic of Korea should be considered when discussing on working methods. Final acts of the PP-14 is attached in Annex B. Summary of the result of PP-14 was reported by TSB director in TD272/TSAG.

(Discussion points in WG1)

These are the lists of the WTSA-12 resolutions which should be considered under WG1.

Table 1
List of WTSA-12 Resolutions and Opinion and responsible WG1

| Resolution Number\* | Title | WG |
| --- | --- | --- |
| [1](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/wtsa12/Documents/resolutions/Resolution%2001.pdf) | Resolution 1 – Rules of procedure of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector  | WG1 |
| [7](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/wtsa12/Documents/resolutions/Resolution%2007.pdf) | Resolution 7 – Collaboration with the International Organization for Standardization and the International Electrotechnical Commission  | WG1 |
| [11](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/wtsa12/Documents/resolutions/Resolution%2011.pdf) | Resolution 11 – Collaboration with the Postal Operations Council of the Universal Postal Union in the study of services concerning both the postal and the telecommunication sectors | WG1 |
| [18](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/wtsa12/Documents/resolutions/Resolution%2018.pdf) | Resolution 18 – Principles and procedures for the allocation of work to, and coordination between, ITU Radiocommunication and ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sectors | WG1 |
| [22](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/wtsa12/Documents/resolutions/Resolution%2022.pdf) | Resolution 22 – Authorization for Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group to act between world telecommunication standardization assemblies | WG1 |
| [31](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/wtsa12/Documents/resolutions/Resolution%2031.pdf) | Resolution 31 – Admission of entities or organizations to participate as Associates in the work of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector | WG1 |
| [32](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/wtsa12/Documents/resolutions/Resolution%2032.pdf) | Resolution 32 – Strengthening electronic working methods for the work of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector | WG1 |
| [34](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/wtsa12/Documents/resolutions/Resolution%2034.pdf) | Resolution 34 – Voluntary contributions | WG1 |
| [35](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/wtsa12/Documents/resolutions/Resolution%2035.pdf) | Resolution 35 – Appointment and maximum term of office for chairmen and vice-chairmen of study groups of the Telecommunication Standardization Sector and of Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group | WG1 |
| [43](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/wtsa12/Documents/resolutions/Resolution%2043.pdf) | Resolution 43 – Regional preparations for world telecommunication standardization assemblies | WG1/3 |
| [45](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/wtsa12/Documents/resolutions/Resolution%2045.pdf) | Resolution 45 – Effective coordination of standardization work across study groups in the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector and the role of Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group | WG1 |
| [54](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/wtsa12/Documents/resolutions/Resolution%2054.pdf) | Resolution 54 – Creation of, and assistance to, regional groups | WG1/3 |
| [55](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/wtsa12/Documents/resolutions/Resolution%2055.pdf) | Resolution 55 – Mainstreaming a gender perspective in ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector activities | WG1 |
| [57](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/wtsa12/Documents/resolutions/Resolution%2057.pdf) | Resolution 57 – Strengthening coordination and cooperation among the three ITU Sectors on matters of mutual interest | WG1 |
| [66](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/wtsa12/Documents/resolutions/Resolution%2066.pdf) | Resolution 66 – Technology Watch in the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau | WG1 |
| [67](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/wtsa12/Documents/resolutions/Resolution%2067.pdf) | Resolution 67 – Use in the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector of the languages of the Union on an equal footing | WG1 |
| [68](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/wtsa12/Documents/resolutions/Resolution%2068.pdf) | Resolution 68 – Implementation of Resolution 122 (Rev. Antalya, 2006) of the Plenipotentiary Conference on the evolving role of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly | WG1 |
| [70](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/wtsa12/Documents/resolutions/Resolution%2070.pdf) | Resolution 70 – Telecommunication/information and communication technology accessibility for persons with disabilities | WG1 |
| [71](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/wtsa12/Documents/resolutions/Resolution%2071.pdf) | Resolution 71 – Admission of academia to participate in the work of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector | WG1 |
| [80](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/wtsa12/Documents/resolutions/Resolution%2080.pdf) | Resolution 80 – Acknowledging the active involvement of the membership in the development of ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector deliverables | WG1 |
| [81](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/wtsa12/Documents/resolutions/Resolution%2081.pdf) | Resolution 81 – Strengthening collaboration | WG1 |
| [82](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/wtsa12/Documents/resolutions/Resolution%2082.pdf) | Resolution 82 – Strategic and structural review of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector | WG1 |

1. **Other issues for discussion**

APT Member countries are invited to propose any other issues not covered by this Issue Paper that should be studied by WG1.

1. **Future plan**

The 3rd APT WTSA16 preparatory meeting 19-22 April 2016

The 4th APT WTSA16 preparatory meeting 6-9 September 2016

1. **Conclusion**

The preliminary version of the Issue Paper will be circulated to the APT member countries and affiliate members in order to receive comments, and this document will be updated to include other important discussion topics of APT membership's interest. It is emphasized that the Issue Paper is important to stimulate discussion and identify the issues of interest to ASTAP and APT Members.

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