

**Addendum 6 to
Document WTDC14/23-E
5 February 2014
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SOURCE: ITU Member States, members of the Regional Commonwealth in the field of Communications (RCC) (see Annex 1 to Document WTDC14/23)

TITLE: Proposal to revise Resolution 61, on the appointment and maximum term of office of chairmen and vice-chairmen of study groups in the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector and of the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group

1 Introduction

The Plenipotentiary Conference adopted Resolution 166 (Guadalajara, 2010), setting out additional criteria regarding the number of vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups.

Following the adoption of Resolution 166 (Guadalajara, 2010), the question of additional criteria for the number of vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups was considered by the Sector advisory groups, at the 2011 session of the ITU Council, at the 2012 Radiocommunication Assembly and at the 2012 World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly.

2 Discussion

At its 2011 session, the ITU Council discussed a number of options in regard to the number of vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups, with a focus on ensuring, *inter alia*, equitable geographical distribution among ITU regions so as to ensure that every region¹ is represented by an appropriate number (at least one or two) of competent and experienced experts. It was also recommended that, in nominating suitable candidates, Sector Members should carry out prior consultations with the administration concerned, in order to avoid any possible disagreement in regard to such nomination.

¹ Taking into account Resolution 58 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference in regard to the six principal regional telecommunication organizations, namely the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT), the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT), the Inter-American Telecommunications Commission (CITEL), the African Telecommunications Union (ATU), the Council of Arab Ministers of Telecommunication and Information represented by the Secretariat-General of the League of Arab States (LAS) and the Regional Commonwealth in the field of Communications (RCC).

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Appropriate amendments were made to Resolution ITU-R 15-5, on the appointment and maximum term of office for chairmen and vice-chairmen of radiocommunication study groups, the Coordination Committee for Vocabulary and the Radiocommunication Advisory Group, and to WTSA Resolution 35 (Rev. Dubai, 2012), on the appointment and maximum term of office for chairmen and vice-chairmen of ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector study groups and of the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group.

At its 2012 meeting, TDAG (Document TDAG12-17/31(Rev.1)) indicated that competence and skills are of primary importance when appointing vice-chairmen of advisory groups, study groups and other groups. In addition, account must be taken of the availability of the potential candidates and the appointed delegates as well as their active contribution to progress the work and in ensuring a meaningful outcome of the work carried out. Regional balance is another principle to which all country representatives witnessed they attach great importance. Building on the experience of ITU-R and ITU-T, the Telecommunication Development Sector needs to define appropriate criteria and ensure their application.

3 Proposal

Taking into account the directives given in Resolution 166 (Guadalajara, 2010), the decisions adopted at the 2011 session of the Council and the corresponding resolutions in ITU-R and ITU-T, it is proposed that appropriate amendments be made to WTDC Resolution 61, on appointment and maximum term of office of chairmen and vice-chairmen of study groups in the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector and of the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group.

RCC/23/9

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RESOLUTION 61 (Rev. Dubai, 2014)

Appointment and maximum term of office of chairmen and vice-chairmen of study groups in the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector and of the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Dubai, 2014),

considering

- a) that No. 209 of the ITU Convention provides for the establishment of study groups of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D);
- b) that Article 20 of the Convention provides that, in appointing chairmen and vice-chairmen, personal competence and equitable geographical distribution should be especially kept in mind, as well as the need to promote more effective participation by developing countries¹;
- c) that No. 214 of the Convention and other related provisions indicate the nature of the work of the study groups;
- d) that provisions for the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) have been incorporated in Article 17A of the Convention;
- e) that No. 242 of the Convention requires the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) to appoint chairmen and vice-chairmen of study groups, taking account of competence and equitable geographical distribution, and the need to promote more efficient participation by the developing countries;
- f) that § 2 of Resolution 1 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of this conference contains guidelines regarding the appointment of study group chairmen and vice-chairmen at WTDCs;
- g) that procedures and qualifications for the chairman and vice-chairmen of TDAG should generally follow those for the appointment of study group chairmen and vice-chairmen;
- h) that experience of ITU in general and of ITU-D in particular would be of particular value for the chairman and vice-chairmen of TDAG;
- i) that No. 244 of the Convention describes the procedure for replacing a study group chairman or vice-chairman who is unable to carry out his or her duties at some time in the interval between two WTDCs;
- j) that No. 215I of the Convention states that TDAG shall "adopt its own working procedures compatible with those adopted by the world telecommunication development conference";
- k) that a specific time-limit on the term of office would permit the introduction of new ideas on a periodic basis, while at the same time give an opportunity for study group chairmen and

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

vice-chairmen and the chairman and vice-chairmen of TDAG to be appointed from different Member States and Sector Members,

noting

a) Article 19 of the Convention, on the participation of entities and organizations in the Union's activities;

b) Resolution 58 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on strengthening of relations between ITU and regional telecommunication organizations and regional preparations for the Plenipotentiary Conference,

taking into account

a) that a maximum time in office of two terms for study group and TDAG chairmen and vice-chairmen provides for a reasonable amount of stability while providing the opportunity for different individuals to serve in these capacities;

b) that § 9.1 of Resolution 1 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) indicates that the study group management team should be composed, at least, of the chairman, the vice-chairmen of the study group, the chairmen and vice-chairmen of working parties, and the rapporteurs and vice-rapporteurs;

c) that the TDAG bureau should include at least the chairman and vice-chairmen of TDAG and its working party chairmen and vice-chairmen,

resolves

1 that candidates for the posts of chairmen and vice-chairmen of the ITU-D study groups and candidates for the posts of chairman and vice-chairmen of TDAG should be appointed according to the procedures given in Annex 1, the qualifications given in Annex 2 and the guidelines given in Annex 3 to this resolution;

2 that candidates for the posts of study group chairmen and vice-chairmen and candidates for the posts of chairman and vice-chairmen of TDAG should be identified, taking into account that, for each study group and for TDAG, WTDC will appoint the chairman and only the number of vice-chairmen deemed necessary for the efficient and effective management and functioning of the group in question, applying the guidelines given in Annex 3;

3 that nominations for the posts of study group chairmen and vice-chairmen or for the posts of chairman and vice-chairmen of TDAG should be accompanied by a biographical profile highlighting the qualifications of the individuals proposed, taking into careful consideration continuity in participation in ITU-D study groups or TDAG, and that the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau will circulate the profiles to the heads of delegation present at WTDC;

4 that the term of office for both chairmen and vice-chairmen should not exceed two terms of office between consecutive conferences;

5 that the term of office in one appointment (e.g. as a vice-chairman) does not count towards the term of office for another appointment (e.g. as a chairman) and that steps should be taken to provide some continuity between chairmen and vice-chairmen;

6 that the interval between assemblies during which a chairman or vice-chairman is elected under No. 244 of the Convention does not count towards the term of office;

7 that the counting of a term of office is effective from WTDC-10 and is not retroactive.

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invites Member States and Sector Members

to support their successful candidates for such posts in ITU-D, and support and facilitate their task during their term of office.

ANNEX 1 TO RESOLUTION 61 (Rev. Dubai, 2014)

Procedure for the appointment of chairmen and vice-chairmen of the ITU-D study groups and of TDAG

1 Typically, the positions of chairmen and vice-chairmen to be filled are known in advance of WTDC.

a) In order to help WTDC appoint chairmen/vice-chairmen, Member States, ITU-D Sector Members and the concerned study group or TDAG should be encouraged to indicate to the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) suitable candidates at least three months before the opening of WTDC.

b) In nominating suitable candidates, ITU-D Sector Members should carry out prior consultations with the administration/Member State concerned, in order to avoid any possible disagreement in regard to such nomination.

c) On the basis of received proposals, the Director of BDT will circulate to Member States and Sector Members the list of candidates. The list of candidates should be accompanied by an indication of the qualifications of each candidate as given in Annex 2 to this resolution.

d) On the basis of this document and any relevant received comments, the heads of delegation, at a suitable time during WTDC, should be invited to prepare, in consultation with the Director of BDT, a consolidated list of designated study group chairmen and vice-chairmen to be submitted in a document to WTDC for final approval.

e) In drafting the consolidated list, the following should be taken into account: in cases where there are two or more candidates with equal competence for the same chairman position, preference should be given to candidates from Member States and Sector Members having the lowest number of designated study group and TDAG chairmen.

2 Situations which cannot be considered within the above will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis at WTDC.

For example, if WTDC decides to set up a completely new study group, discussions will have to be held at WTDC and appointments made.

3 These procedures should be applied for appointments made by TDAG under delegated authority (see Resolution 24 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of this conference).

4 Vacant positions of chairmen and vice-chairmen that occur in mid-term between WTDCs are filled in accordance with No. 244 of the Convention.

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ANNEX 2 TO RESOLUTION 61 (Rev. Dubai, 2014)

Qualifications of chairmen and vice-chairmen

No. 242 of the Convention states that:

"... In appointing chairmen and vice-chairmen, particular consideration shall be given to the requirements of competence and equitable geographical distribution and to the need to promote more efficient participation by the developing countries."

Whilst giving primary consideration to the qualifications below, there should be an appropriate representation of chairmen and vice-chairmen from developing countries, including the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

As regards competence, the following qualifications, *inter alia*, appear to be of importance when appointing study group chairmen and vice-chairmen:

- knowledge and experience;
- continuity in participation in the relevant study group;
- managerial skills;
- availability²;
- active in the work of the study group;

and the following qualifications, *inter alia*, appear to be of importance when appointing the chairman and vice-chairmen of TDAG:

- knowledge and experience;
- continuity in the activities of ITU in general and of ITU-D in particular;
- managerial skills;
- availability².

Particular reference to the above qualifications should be included in the biographical profile to be circulated by the Director of BDT.

² A further factor to be considered when appointing chairmen and vice-chairmen to both study groups and TDAG is candidates' availability for the period up to the next WTDC.

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ANNEX 3 TO RESOLUTION 61 (Rev. Dubai, 2014)

Guidelines for appointment of the optimum numbers of vice-chairmen for ITU-D study groups and for TDAG

1 Pursuant to Resolution 166 (Guadalajara, 2010) and No. 242 of the Convention, the requirements of competence, equitable geographical distribution and the need to promote more effective participation by the developing countries should be taken into account³ to the extent practicable.

2 To the extent possible, and taking into account the need for demonstrated competence, appointment or selection to the management team should utilize the resources of as broad a range of Member States and Sector Members as possible, at the same time recognizing the need to appoint only the number of vice-chairmen necessary for the efficient and effective management and functioning of the study groups, consistent with the projected structure and work programme.

3 The workload should be a factor in determining the appropriate number of vice-chairmen to ensure that every aspect within the purview of TDAG and the study groups is fully managed.

4 The total number of vice-chairmen proposed by any administration should be fairly reasonable, so as to observe the principle of equitable distribution of posts among the Member States concerned.

5 Regional representation⁴ in the advisory group, study groups and other groups of all three Sectors should be taken into account, such that no single individual may hold more than one vice-chairmanship position in these groups in any one Sector, and only in exceptional cases hold such a position in more than one Sector⁵.

6 Where the re-election of vice-chairmen is concerned, the nomination of candidates who have failed to participate in at least half of all meetings during the previous study period should normally be avoided, taking into account prevailing circumstances.

³ For those regions consisting of numerous administrations and with diverse economic and technological developments within the region, to the extent possible the number of representatives of those regions may be increased, as appropriate.

⁴ Taking into account Resolution 58 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference in regard to the six regional telecommunication organizations, namely: the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT), the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT), the Inter-American Telecommunications Commission (CITEL), the African Telecommunications Union (ATU), the Council of Arab Ministers of Telecommunication and Information represented by the Secretariat-General of the League of Arab States (LAS), and the Regional Commonwealth in the field of Communications (RCC).

⁵ The criterion mentioned in this paragraph should not prevent a vice-chairman of a given advisory group or a vice-chairman of a given study group from holding positions of chairman or vice-chairman of a given working party or as rapporteur or associate rapporteur for any group under the mandate of that Sector group.