

Agenda item: PL 3.3

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Report by the Secretary-General

DRAFT FOUR-YEAR ROLLING OPERATIONAL PLAN FOR THE TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION SECTOR FOR 2015-2018

Summary

This document presents a summary and the key elements of the draft four-year rolling Operational Plan for the Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) for the period 2015 to 2018.

The Plan is published pursuant to No. [205A](#) of [Article 15](#) of the ITU Convention which provides that the operational plan of activities to be undertaken by the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau shall be prepared annually, on a four-year rolling basis.

The detailed Operational Plan can be found at <http://www.itu.int/oth/T2401000011/en>

Action required

The Council is requested to **review** and **approve** the draft four-year rolling Operational Plan for ITU-T for 2015-2018 and to **adopt** the draft Resolution presented in Annex to this document.

References

[CV/Art. 15, No. 205A](#)

[Resolution 72 \(Rev. Guadalajara, 2010\)](#)

1 Foreword by the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

1.1 I have the honour to present the draft rolling Operational Plan for the Telecommunication Standardization Sector for the 2015 to 2018 time-frame.

1.2 The Operational Plan aims to provide a simple but comprehensive instrument for implementing and linking vision, mission, strategic goals, objectives, outputs and priorities of the Standardization Sector.

1.3 The Plan presents an update of the Operational Plan for 2014-2017 approved at the 2013 session of the Council. In accordance with Articles 14 and 15 of the Convention, the draft Operational Plan will also be sent for review to the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) for its 17–20 June 2014 session.

1.4 The draft ITU-T Operational Plan follows the structure provided in the Strategic Plan for the Union for 2012-2015 (Resolution 71 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010)) in which four strategic Objectives are identified for the Sector, linked to thirteen ITU-T Outputs, i.e. the services and products provided by the ITU-T, as defined in the results-based budgeting (RBB) framework.

1.5 The results achieved by ITU-T and the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB) are described in the regular highlights report of the TSB Director to TSAG, the continuously updated WTSA Action Plan, and the activity report to the Council.

1.6 ITU-T's Review Committee, established by WTSA-12 and tasked to examining ways to ensure that ITU-T continues to meet the needs of the continually evolving and convergent ICT landscape, particularly as collaboration with vertical markets increases, is also making very good progress.

1.7 With the support of ITU's Member States, ITU-T's Sector Members, Associates and its growing number of Academia Members, I remain confident that the implementation of this Operational Plan will ensure that ITU-T's strategic Objectives are fulfilled in the period 2015-2018 and beyond.

1.8 The Council is requested to review and approve the draft four-year rolling Operational Plan for 2015-2018 and to adopt the draft Resolution presented in Annex.

Malcolm Johnson

Director, Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

2 Outline and key actions of the 2015-2018 Operational Plan

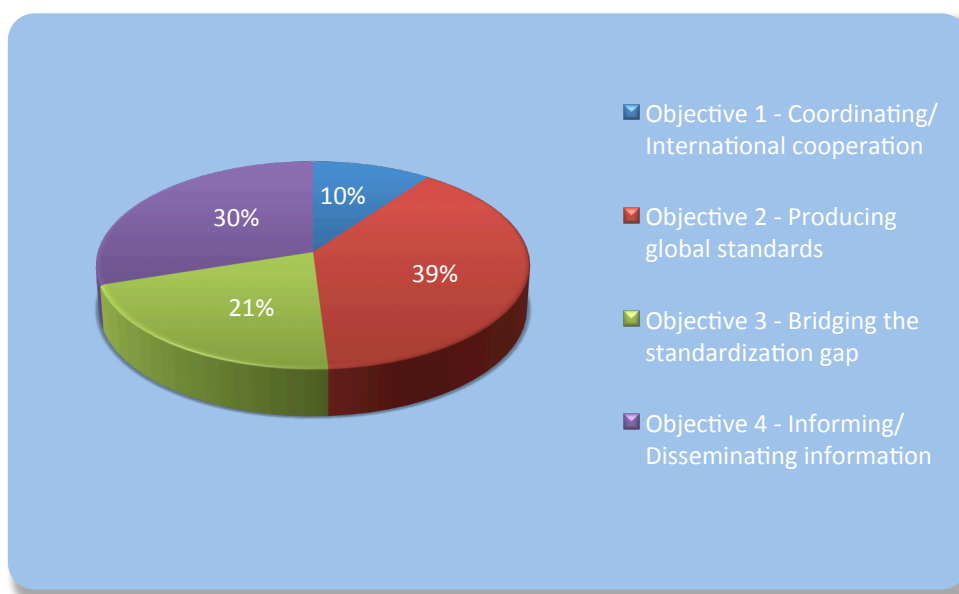
2.1 Despite the ever increasing complexity and convergence of the telecommunications and information technology sector, ITU has continually adapted and reformed itself to cope with the changing environment, and it is now recognized as one of the most resilient organizations that exist. The number of ITU-T members increased in 2013 for the third year running, and ITU-T Academia membership has now reached 45. The convergence of the telecommunication and information technology sectors has meant that the traditional demarcation lines between the activities of different standards bodies are becoming increasingly blurred. Collaboration and cooperation, rather than competition, between these various stakeholders is the key.

2.2 ITU-T's first part of the strategic goal is to develop interoperable, non-discriminatory, international standards, i.e. not national or regional standards, but standards that can be implemented on a world-wide basis. The second part of ITU-T's strategic goal is to bridge the standards gap, namely to involve as many of the ITU Member States as possible in the development of standards. ITU-T has been quite successful in this with over 40 new countries participating in its work since 2006, countries that had never participated in the standards sector before. Notably, the participation by the African region in ITU-T study group meetings rose significantly. 2013 saw a 40 percent increase in the number of delegates and members using remote participation to join ITU-T meetings. In 2013, over 3000 remote participants took part in over 600 meetings that offered remote participation. The third part of ITU-T's strategic goal is collaboration with other national and regional standards bodies, forums and consortia. ITU has five MoUs and over 60 cooperation agreements with other SDOs and forums.

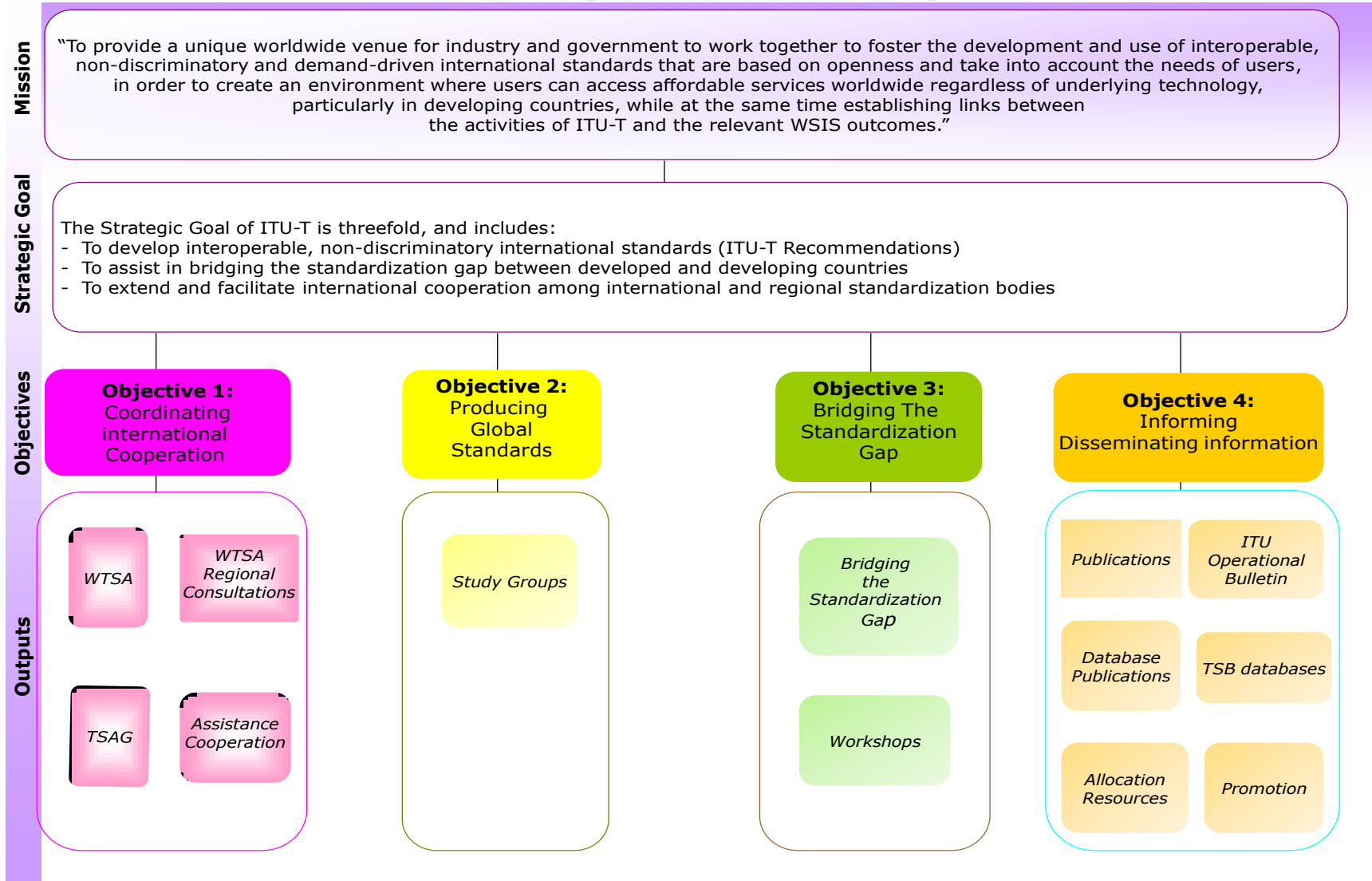
2.3 A key milestone for global e-health standardization was achieved in December 2013 with the publication of a new standard (ITU-T H.810) that gives interoperability design guidelines for personal health systems. Also in December 2013 a new ITU-T broadband standard – g.fast – capable of achieving access speeds of up to 1 Gbit/s over existing copper telephone wires was consented. Study Group 16 completed the final extensions to ITU's Primetime Emmy award winning video codec, ITU-T H.264, concluding ten years of ongoing work since the standard was first approved in 2003. ITU-T H.264's successor, ITU-T H.265/HEVC, approved in April 2013, is already enjoying market adoption on an impressive scale and uses 50 per cent less bandwidth than its predecessor.

3 Objectives and outputs – illustrative charts

The following chart presents the breakdown of planned human resources among the four objectives of ITU-T for the four-year period:



TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION SECTOR INTEGRATED PLANNING



ANNEX

DRAFT RESOLUTION

**Four-year rolling Operational Plan for
the Telecommunication Standardization Sector
for 2015-2018**

The Council,

recognizing

the provisions of Article 14A and Article 15 of the Convention,

having considered

the draft four-year rolling Operational Plan for the Telecommunication Standardization Sector for 2015-2018 (see <http://www.itu.int/oth/T2401000011/en>),

having also considered

the need for the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau to have some flexibility in the implementation of the four-year rolling Operational Plan so as to take into consideration any changes that may occur during the interval between two Council sessions,

resolves

to approve the four-year rolling Operational Plan for the Telecommunication Standardization Sector for the years 2015-2018, as presented in <http://www.itu.int/oth/T2401000011/en>, to implement and undertake the Sector's outputs and activities, and to allow the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau the necessary flexibility in its implementation.
