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Summary:

Study group restructuring proposal (DRAFT)

Proposal:

For consideration.

Background:

Source: France Telecom Orange

Title: Study group restructuring proposal (DRAFT)

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Abstract

Further to the restructuring achieved by WTSA08, France Telecom Orange proposes some further adaptations to the current study group structure.

Background

The following principles were used when considering the ITU-T study group structure:

- bridge the Standardisation gap:
There are severe limitations in both human and financial resources in developing nations. This means that SG structures should be such that it allows for better participation of limited participants from a Member State.
- improve the efficiency and expertise of the study groups:
The commercial pressures on sector members have resulted in similar constraints mentioned above. These require focusing of key experts into areas of direct concern.
- avoid any duplication of work between study groups:
ITU-T study groups need to concentrate on the key areas of work where it has the competence and expertise and stop trying to duplicate work already underway in other standards bodies and/or other ITU-T SGs.
- optimise the structure of the study groups:
ITU-T needs to have the best possible structure for the development of technical standards that allow for reduction in CAPEX and OPEX costs for future new generation of networks. It should also be noted that some Questions have no Rapporteur and/or no (or a very limited number of) work items.
- minimise overall costs for ITU-T:
The need for cost savings for the ITU-T TSB in support of standards development has been identified as one of the key budgetary issue by ITU Council.

Proposal

[Note: This is a first draft which will be refined as our review of the current study group structure progresses.]

France Telecom Orange has conducted an exhaustive review of all ITU-T study groups. Based on this analysis (see the table given in attachment to this contribution), we propose the following changes for the next study period.

The big picture is to merge SG 11 and SG 13, and to merge SG 9 and SG 16. In other study groups, some Questions are merged so as to optimise their structure based on work items and sometimes lack of a Rapporteur.

Note: The hyperlink on each study group gives the list of current Questions of that SG.

- [Study Group 2](#)
 - Main idea: Merge Questions from WP 2/2.
 - Merge Q.5, Q.8, Q.12 and Q.13/2 into one Question
Rationale: These Questions meet together.

- Merge Q.7, Q.9, Q.10 and Q.11/2 into one Question
Rationale: These Questions meet together.
- Close Q.14/2
Rationale: No Rapporteur, no work item.
- **Study Group 3**
 - [TBD]
- **Study Group 5**
 - [TBD]
- **Study Group 9**
 - Main idea: Close SG 9 and move most of the work to SG 16.
 - Merge Q.1, Q.6 and Q.11/9 together, and move to a new WP of SG 16
Rationale: These Questions usually meet jointly. Q.1 has two work items only. Q.6 has no work item.
 - Merge Q.2 and Q.12/9, and move to SG 12
Note: Q.2 has only one work item.
Rationale: The SG 9 and SG 12 chairmen are to ensure that the work of Q.2/9 and Q.12/9 is well coordinated with the work of SG 12, and that experts do not have an excessive number of meetings to attend (WTSA-08 proceedings, section 2.3.2).
 - Move Q.3 and 4/9 to a new WP of SG 16
Note: Q.3 has two work items
 - Merge Q.5, Q.7 and Q.8/9, and move to a new WP of SG 16
Rationale: These Questions usually meet jointly. Q.5 and Q.7 have only one work item.
 - Close Q.9/9
Rationale: The Rapporteur and Associate Rapporteur have stepped down. There has been no contribution at the last two meetings.
 - Move the work of Q.10/9 to Q.13/16
Rationale: Q.13/16 expressed concerns on the overlap with their current work on audience measurement and event handling.
Alternative: Merge Q.5, Q.7, Q.8 and Q.10/9, and move to a new WP of SG 16
 - Close Q.11/9
Rationale: No work item.
 - Close Q.14/9
Rationale: Q.20/16 has an equivalent mandate.
- **Study Group 11**
 - Main idea: Close SG 11 and move most of the work to SG 13.
 - Move the work of Q.1 and Q.7/11 to Q.5/13
Rationale: Q.1/11 and Q.5/13 are dealing with the topic of functional architecture. Q.7/11 works on signalling protocols linked to some functions of the NGN which architecture is maintained by Q.5/13.

- Merge Q.2, Q.3 and Q.13/11, and create a new Question in SG 13
Rationale: Q.2 and Q.3 always meet together. Q.2 has only one work item. Q.3 has two work items. Q.13 is not developing Recommendations.
- Close Q.4/11
Rationale: No work item.
- Move the work of Q.5/11 to Q.4/13
- Merge Q.6, Q.8, Q.10 and Q.11/11, and create a new Question on testing in SG 13
Alternative: Create a new Question on testing in SG 17(different from Q.14/17)
- Close Q.9/11
Rationale: No work item.
- Move the work of Q.12/11 to Q.25/16
Rationale: Both Questions are working on USN and it would be more appropriate for Q.25/16 to develop test specifications related to its work. Moreover, Q.12/11 has only one work item.
- Close Q.14/11
Rationale: No rapporteur. There is only one work item which is not a Recommendation; nobody contributes to it.
- Close Q.15/11 but transfer the approved work items to Q.15/17 (OSI maintenance)
Rationale: This Question has finished its work but since it is joint work with ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 6, it is necessary that ITU-T transfers the responsibility to another study group in case SC 6 wants to make modifications to the common texts.
- **Study Group 12**
 - [TBD]
- **Study Group 13**
 - Main idea: Merge some Questions with related scopes and bring two Questions from SG 11.
 - Merge Q.3 and 24/13
Rationale: Q.24 is working on use-cases from which requirements and capabilities can be derived by Q.3/13.
 - Merge Q.4 and Q.17/13
Rationale: The merger is a central Question dealing with requirements and capabilities. While having only two work items, Q.17/13 is active but is dealing with a very specific topic.
 - Merge Q.5 and Q.12/13
Rationale: The merger is a central Question dealing with overall architecture issues. Participation is very low in Q.12/13.
 - Merge Q.7/13 with another Question (this needs more investigation [TBD])
Rationale: Not very productive in terms of Recommendations of technical interest.
 - Merge Q.9 and Q.22/13
Rationale: The merger is a Question dedicated to “mobility” aspects. Q.22 has not been producing a lot of outputs in this study period.

- **Study Group 15**
 - Close Q.3/15
Rationale: This Question only handles coordination between Q.9 to Q.14. This can be done at the WP 3 level.
 - Possibly split Q.4/15 into two Questions [TBD]
 - **Study Group 16**
 - Main idea: Merge some Questions with related scopes and create a new WP with three Questions from SG 9.
 - Merge Q.1 and Q.2/16
Rationale: They are both working on multimedia systems. Q.2 recommended merging with Q.1.
 - Merge Q.4, Q.12 and Q.24/16
Rationale: Q.4 proposed to merge with Q.12 or Q.24. Q.12 and Q.24 are dealing with multimedia aspects of NGN.
 - Close Q.8/16 and transfer the work (maintenance) to Q.10/16
Rationale: This Question is not very active and most of its work has already been allocated to Q.10/16.
 - Close Q.20/16, and transfer the coordination at the WP or SG level
Rationale: This Question has a very limited attendance (usually none).
 - Merge Q.21 and Q.22/16
Rationale: These Questions meet together most of the time.
 - Merge Q.27 into Q.18/16
Rationale: It is not a very active Question and there are synergies with work in Q.18.
Alternative: Merge Q.27 and Q.28 into a new Question dedicated to new application domains for multimedia.
 - **Study Group 17**
 - Main idea: Merge some Questions with related scopes.
 - Merge Q.11, Q.12 and Q.15/17
Rationale: Q.11 and Q.12 have limited attendance but are very active and have historically been doing joint work with ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 6. Q.15 is a placeholder for the maintenance of the OSI texts which were developed jointly with SC 6.
 - Merge Q.13 and Q.14/17
Rationale: These Questions have limited attendance (sometimes none) and are rubberstamping specifications from the SDL Consortium and from ETSI.
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