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Information Technology

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Request for Input on Proposed Changes to JTC 1 Structure

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This document is circulated to JTC 1 National Bodies and Subcommittees for review and comment. Comments will be considered during a breakout session at the November 2000 Plenary meeting.

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Proposed changes to JTC 1 Structure

The JTC 1 Special Group on Strategic Planning proposes that JTC 1 adopt a simplified structure to improve the timeliness of development and approval of IT standards. In concept the structure has two components, an Executive Group and a number of Technical Groups. Membership in the Executive Group is restricted to National Bodies. Membership in Technical Groups is open to National Bodies and liaisons, and to interested bodies if the Technical Group chooses to operate under the new participation mode (assuming that it is adopted by JTC 1). Each Technical Group will establish its internal structure as appropriate to its work. Examples of such structure could be Technical Groups with working groups, or Technical Groups with projects instead of working groups.

The major responsibilities of the Executive Group (similar to JTC 1 today) are:

- Management of the overall JTC 1 program of work
- Creation, approval and closure of technical groups and their associated scopes
- Approval of DIS/FDIS and all managerial and policy decisions
- Evaluation of the progress of the technical groups
- The establishment of liaisons with ISO and IEC groups outside of JTC 1

The major responsibilities of a Technical Group are:

- Management of its technical program of work
- Creation and approval of project proposals within its scope
- Approval of all technical documents through FCD level
- Establishment of liaisons with other JTC 1 Technical Groups
- Submission of an annual report

It is anticipated that either SCs will be transformed into Technical Groups or a cluster of SCs within the same Technical Direction will be merged into a Technical Group.

The JTC 1 Special Group on Strategic Planning requests the JTC 1 Secretariat to add a break out session to the JTC 1 Plenary in Tromsø. In preparation for this break out session, the JTC 1 Secretariat is asked to seek NB and SC inputs to progress the two tier structure. Such contributions should address:

- Two stage voting process
- Freedom of SCs to operate autonomously
- The operation of Technical Directions
- Other various implementation issues

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