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This document was prepared by ITU-T as ITU-T X.1054 (04/2021) and drafted in accordance with its editorial rules, in collaboration with Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, Information technology, Subcommittee SC 27, Information security, cybersecurity and privacy protection.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO/IEC 27014:2013), which has been technically revised. The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

— the document has been aligned with ISO/IEC 27001:2013;
— the requirements in ISO/IEC 27001 which are governance activities have been explained;
— the objectives and processes of information security governance have been described.

This corrected version of ISO/IEC 27014:2020 incorporates the following corrections:

— the document has been editorially revised in accordance with the rules-for-presentation-ITU-T-ISO-IEC common text.
Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user’s national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html and www.iec.ch/national-committees.
Summary

Information security is a key issue for organizations, amplified by rapid advances in attack methodologies and technologies, and corresponding increased regulatory pressures.

The failure of an organization's information security controls can have many adverse impacts on an organization and its interested parties including but not limited to the undermining of trust.

Governance of information security is the use of resources to ensure effective implementation of information security, and provides assurance that:

- directives concerning information security will be followed; and
- the governing body will receive reliable and relevant reporting about information security related activities.

This assists the governing body to make decisions concerning the strategic objectives for the organization by providing information about information security that may affect these objectives. It also ensures that information security strategy aligns with the overall objectives of the entity.

Managers and others working in organizations need to understand:

- the governance requirements that affect their work; and
- how to meet governance requirements that require them to take action.

History

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Keywords

Information security, information security governance, information security management, ISMS.

* To access the Recommendation, type the URL http://handle.itu.int/ in the address field of your web browser, followed by the Recommendation's unique ID. For example, http://handle.itu.int/11.1002/1000/11830-en.
FOREWORD

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is the United Nations specialized agency in the field of telecommunications, information and communication technologies (ICTs). The ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) is a permanent organ of ITU. ITU-T is responsible for studying technical, operating and tariff questions and issuing Recommendations on them with a view to standardizing telecommunications on a worldwide basis.

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), which meets every four years, establishes the topics for study by the ITU-T study groups which, in turn, produce Recommendations on these topics.

The approval of ITU-T Recommendations is covered by the procedure laid down in WTSA Resolution 1.

In some areas of information technology which fall within ITU-T's purview, the necessary standards are prepared on a collaborative basis with ISO and IEC.

NOTE

In this Recommendation, the expression "Administration" is used for conciseness to indicate both a telecommunication administration and a recognized operating agency.

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## 1 Scope

Scope: The scope of this Recommendation is to provide guidance on governance and management of information security management systems (ISMS) within organizations. It covers the roles and responsibilities of the governing body and other stakeholders, as well as the processes and activities required to ensure effective information security governance.

## 2 Normative references

- ISO/IEC 27001:2013
- ISO/IEC 27002:2013
- ISO/IEC 27005:2018

## 3 Definitions

- Governance: The processes and activities required to ensure effective governance.
- ISMS: An organized set of management systems addressing information security policy, organization, people, processes, and technologies.

## 4 Abbreviations

- ISMS: Information Security Management System
- ISO: International Organization for Standardization
- ITU: International Telecommunication Union

## 5 Use and structure of this Recommendation | International Standard

This Recommendation is intended for use by organizations seeking to implement or improve their ISMS, and it provides guidance on the governance and management aspects of such systems.

## 6 Governance and management standards

- 6.1 Overview
- 6.2 Governance activities within the scope of an ISMS
- 6.3 Other related standards
- 6.4 Thread of governance within the organization

## 7 Entity governance and information security governance

- 7.1 Overview
- 7.2 Objectives
- 7.3 Processes

## 8 The governing body’s requirements on the ISMS

- 8.1 Organization and ISMS
- 8.2 Scenarios (see Annex B)

## Annex A – Governance relationship

This annex provides a detailed view of the governance relationship within organizations.

## Annex B – Types of ISMS organization

This annex describes different types of ISMS organizations and their governance structures.

## Annex C – Examples of communication

Examples of communication practices and their importance in governance.

## Bibliography

- ISO/IEC 27014:2020(E)

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