



ITU Workshop on Policy and Regulations for Newly Established Regulators in the Asia Pacific Region

Nha Trang, VietNam, 8-9 December 2009

Potential Overlaps for the Regulator

Dr Bob Horton

**Communications Consultant &
CTO Associate for Australia, NZ, Pacific and Far
East**

The Ultimate Objective

- The objective is **NOT** to have an independent regulatory body
- The objective **IS** to have an effective regulatory framework
- The regulator can only work within the framework provided

Institutional Relationships

- The Ministry is responsible for establishment of regulatory policy and the regulatory framework
- Policy must be in tune with :
 - market developments and their maturity,
 - stimulating technology diffusion,
 - enhancing efficiency, and
 - Ensuring consumer benefits and protection

Dialogue and practical feedback from regulator

“ Independence ”

- “Independence” can never be complete, but sufficient to avoid undue interference
- Ministry can provide “feedforward” to regulator indicating that better resolutions may be needed
- Transparent, practical cooperation and communication is needed to ensure responsiveness to policy objectives and realities of the market place
- Regulator is a **transitory stakeholder**

Relations with other Entities

- Communications Ministry and others :
 - Provision of technical & strategic advice, input to policy
 - Coordination with the Competition Authority
 - Coordination with non-Government entities
 - Checks and balances, accountability