

I n t e r n a t i o n a l T e l e c o m m u n i c a t i o n U n i o n

ITU-T

TELECOMMUNICATION
STANDARDIZATION SECTOR
OF ITU

WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION
ASSEMBLY

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Resolution 54 – Creation of regional groups

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.

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RESOLUTION 54

Creation of regional groups

(Florianópolis, 2004; Johannesburg, 2008)

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Johannesburg, 2008),

considering

- a) that Resolution 123 (Rev. Antalya, 2006) of the Plenipotentiary Conference instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the three Bureaux to work closely with each other in pursuing initiatives that assist in bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries;
- b) that the work of certain study groups, particularly in relation to, among other things, tariff and accounting principles, next-generation networks (NGN), security, quality, mobility and multimedia, are of considerable strategic significance for developing countries¹ during the next study cycle,

recognizing

- a) the highly satisfactory results obtained by the regional approach within the framework of the activities of Study Groups 2, 3 and 12;
- b) the high level of participation and involvement of developing countries, in the meetings of Study Groups 2, 3 and 12;
- c) the encouraging start of regional groups² established in accordance with this resolution,

noting

- a) the need to increase the participation of developing countries in the work of study groups, with a view to ensuring that their specific needs and concerns are better taken into account;
- b) the need to improve and strengthen the organization and working methods of the study groups of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) in the interests of enhancing the participation of developing countries;
- c) the importance of having appropriate consultative frameworks for the formulation and study of Questions, preparation of contributions and capacity building;
- d) the need for developing countries to be more present and more active within ITU-T's standardization forums;
- e) the need to encourage more inclusive participation in the work of ITU-T, e.g., by academia and experts working in the field of standardization of telecommunication/information and communication technologies, particularly from developing countries;
- f) the budgetary limitations, especially in developing country institutions, for attendance at ITU-T events of specific interest to them,

¹ These include the least developed countries, small island developing states and countries with economies in transition.

² Regional groups are open, without exclusion, to the participation of all members belonging to the specific region where the regional group is created.

bearing in mind

- a) that the application of the organizational set-up and working methods of Study Groups 2, 3 and 12 in some of the other study groups could serve to improve the level of developing country participation in standardization activities and contribute to achieving the objectives of Resolution 123 (Rev. Antalya, 2006);
- b) that a common and coordinated approach in regard to standardization could serve to foster the promotion of standardization activities in developing countries,

resolves

to support, within available or otherwise contributed resources and on a case-by-case basis, the creation of regional groups,

invites the regions

- 1 to develop draft terms of reference and working methods for regional groups, which are to be approved by the parent study group;
- 2 to pursue the creation of regional groups with a view to disseminating knowledge of standardization and encouraging the submission of written contributions to the parent study group reflecting the priorities of the relevant region,

invites the regional groups thus created

- 1 to disseminate information about telecommunication standardization and to submit written contributions to the parent study group reflecting the priorities of the relevant region;
- 2 to cooperate closely with the relevant respective regional organizations,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, in collaboration with the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, within available resources

- 1 to provide all necessary support for creating and ensuring the smooth functioning of the regional groups;
- 2 to take all necessary measures to facilitate the organization of meetings and workshops of those groups;
- 3 to report on the effectiveness of regional groups to the ITU Council,

further invites the regional groups thus created

to cooperate closely with the relevant respective regional organizations, and to report on their work in their regions.