

World Conference on International Telecommunications 2012 (WCIT-12)

Joint ITU-ETNO Workshop

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Secretary, CWG-WCIT12



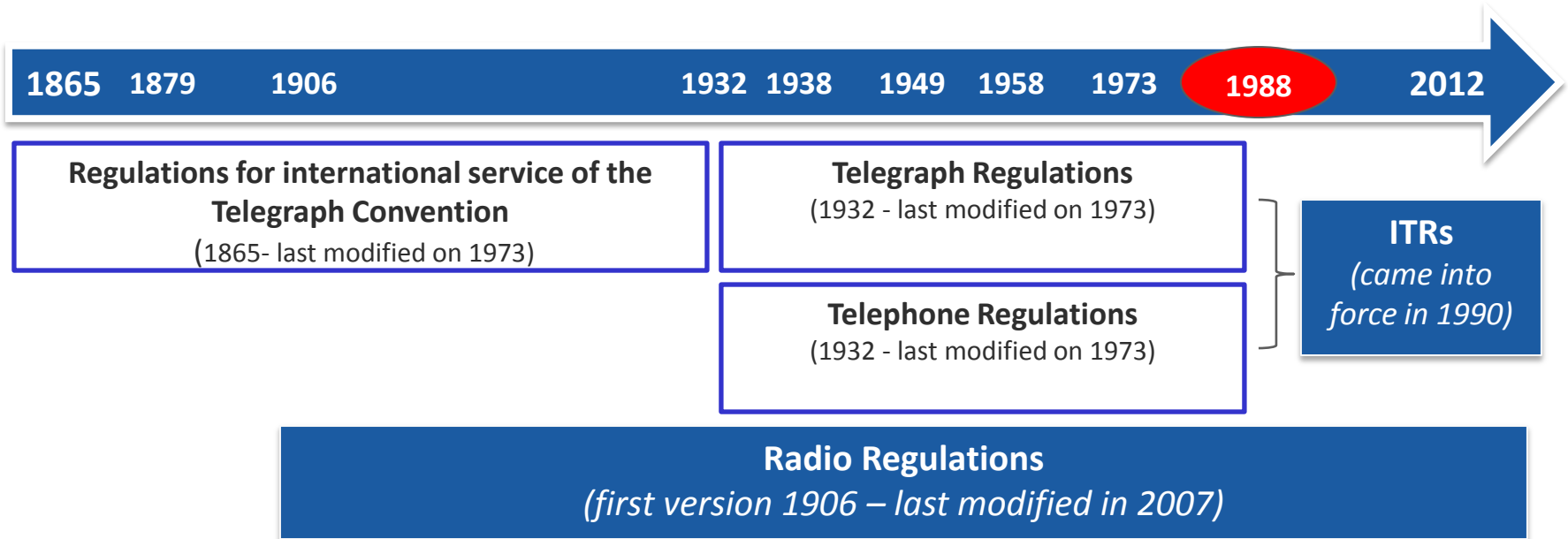
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[Content]

- **Background**
- Why the ITRs are important
- The need to revise ITRs
- Preparatory process
- Some proposals of potential interest to ETNO
- Expectations for WCIT-12
- Useful information and links

Background

The International Telecommunication Regulations (ITRs) define the general principles for the provision and operation of international telecommunications



ITRs succeeded the Telegraph Regulations (1973) and Telephone Regulations (1973) in a new treaty adopted at WATTC-88 (Melbourne). [CS/Art. 4].

Background

- The current version of ITRs was adopted in 1988 in Melbourne, Australia, by WATTTC-88
- ITRs came into force in 1990, and are one of the four treaties of ITU.



- Signed by 178 countries, ITRs are a truly global treaty applied around the world

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Why the ITRs are important

The ITRs ...

- Establish general principles relating to the provision and operation of international telecoms;
- Facilitate global interconnection and interoperability;
- Underpin harmonious development and efficient operation of technical facilities;
- Promote efficiency, usefulness, and availability of international telecommunication services;
- Treaty-level provisions are required with respect to international telecommunication networks and services.



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The need to revise ITRs

- The current version of the ITRS has remained unchanged since 1988.

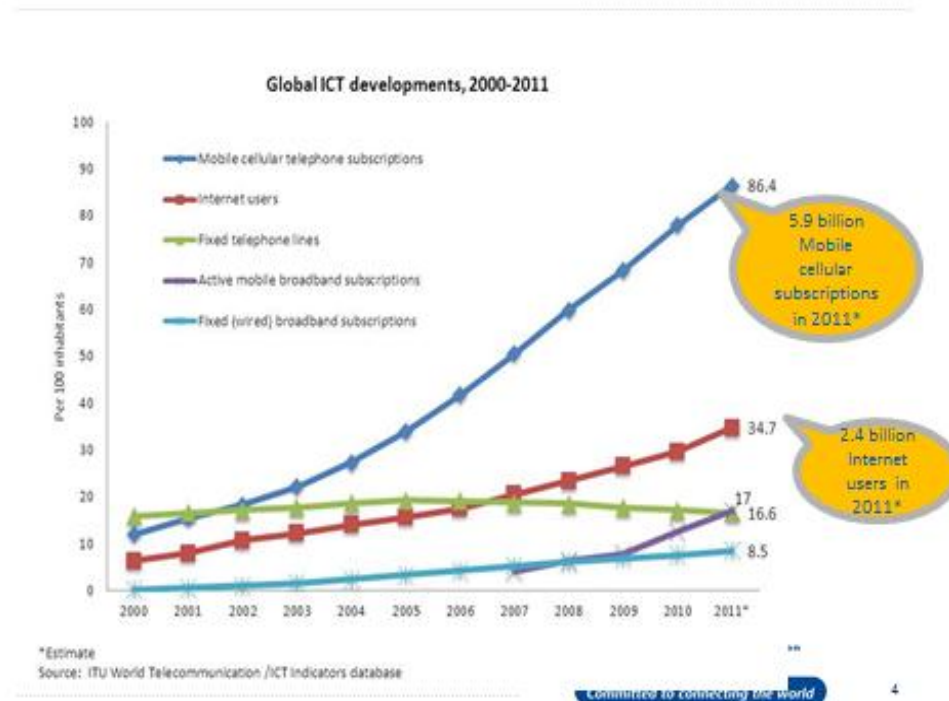


At that time:

- there were very few countries with a liberalized market;
- most operators were a monopoly regime, under government or state control;

The need to revise ITRs

- The international telecom environment has significantly evolved, both from the technical and policy perspectives, and that it continues to evolve rapidly;
- Advances in technology have resulted in an increased use of IP-enabled infrastructure and relevant applications, presenting opportunities and challenges for the ICT sector;
- As technology evolves, Member States are evaluating their policy and regulatory approaches to ensure an enabling environment.



Shift from
fix to mobile, from
voice to data
as the drivers of
traffic and main
sources of revenue

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Preparatory process –Work Plan

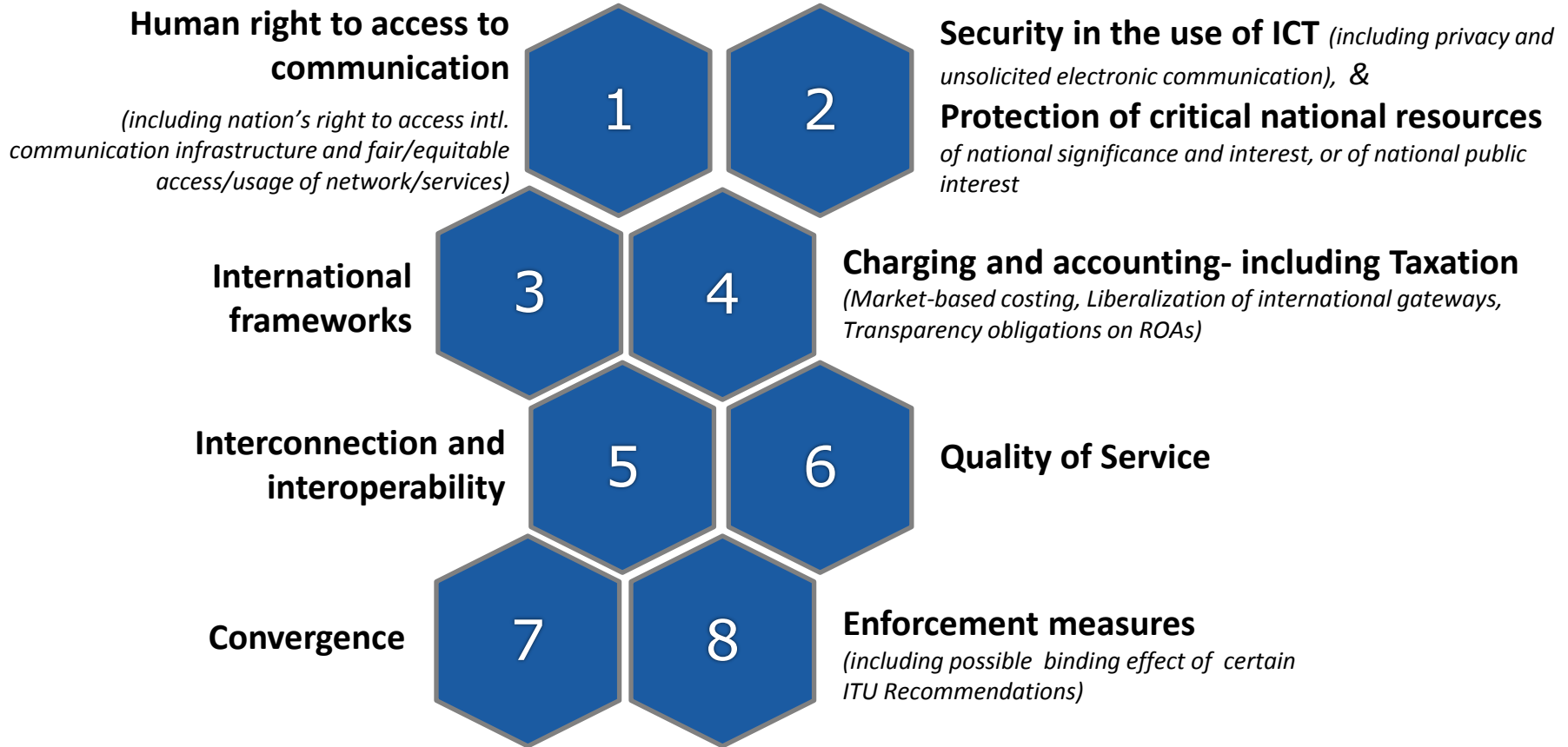
- Council Working Group to Prepare for the WCIT 12 (CWG-WCIT12) held three meetings in 2010, one in February 2011, and last two meetings will be in April and June 2012
- Regional preparatory meetings are held in Asia Pacific, Africa, Arab region, Europe, and Americas open to Sector Members
- CEPT organises the European preparatory meetings
 - Next meetings are planned for 22-25 May, and 11-13 September 2012.

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Proposals made during the preparatory process

Proposals made could be grouped as follows:



Key issues

- Key issues brought up:
 - What core principles should guide discussions?
 - Do some provisions belong elsewhere? (*e.g. ITU Constitution/Convention, ITU-T Recommendations*)
 - What provisions should be added to cover new issues?
 - Status of ITU-T Recommendations

Specific proposals of potential interest to ETNO

- Mobile roaming
 - Misuse and fraud
 - Taxation
 - New general principles on economic issues
- **All to be implemented by national authorities**

Proposals: Mobile Roaming

- Transparency of prices for users
 - Level of prices
-
- Draft ITU-T Recommendation D.98
 - OECD Recommendations

Proposals: Misuse and Fraud

- Preventing misuse/hijacking of numbering resources
 - According to GSMA, numbering resource misuse is a key factor in fraud perpetrated against mobile networks and their customers
 - It is used for fraudulent and artificial inflation of traffic
- Combating fraud
 - Transmission of calling party identification/origin identification

Proposals: Taxation

- Clarify existing provision to prevent international double taxation
- Prevent or discourage taxation of incoming international calls
 - Delicate issue because there is a tradeoff between raising revenue and encouraging the use of telecommunications

Proposals: new general principles (1/2)

- Transparency
- Cost orientation, presumably cost intended to include:
 - Return on investment (including dividends to stock owners)
 - Taxes
 - Creation of reserves for future investments
 - Risk premiums
 - Etc.

Proposals: new general principles (2/2)

- Foster investment in high-bandwidth infrastructure
- Adequate return on investment in infrastructure
- Compensation for traffic carried
- Compensation for traffic terminated

Proposals: implementation

- No proposals to create new international regulatory agencies or mechanisms
- Proposals that national authorities should implement the provisions of the ITRs
 - First, ratification of new ITRs in accordance with national procedures
 - Then, transposition into national laws and regulations
- Possibly, new or revised ITU-T Recommendations

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Expectations for WCIT-12

- WCIT-12 presents key opportunities to increase good collaboration between countries;
- Help countries to reach new levels of economic and social development by means of efficient telecom services;
- Make ITRs relevant, and valuable to the full membership, so that they address and alleviate the many concerns that are out there.
- Sector Members usually participate as part of national delegations

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Further information available at:

- CWG-WCIT12:

<http://www.itu.int/council/groups/cwg-wcit12/index.html>

- 2007 Background document:

<http://www.itu.int/md/T05-ITR.EG-INF-0002/en>

Thank you

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