WTSA-08 Preparatory Meeting for the Americas' Region

Brasília, Brazil, 21-22 May 2008

Topics for discussion

Sessions 6, 7, 8

Brasília, Brazil, 21-22 May 2008

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List of topics

- Possible new initiatives

- 6) Resolutions of WTSA-04 to assist developing countries - What / which to be created / improved?

- 7) SG structure

- 7) Chairmen and vice-chairmen

- 8) Regional participation in ITU-T

- 8) Tools for increasing participation

- 8) Standardization gap

- 8) Global Standardization Symposium

Possible new initiatives

- Recommendation to Council/PP-10 for new category of membership for academia

- Reduced Sector Membership fee for SMEs, at least SMEs from developing countries

- Proposals to improve collaboration with and participation of research institutes

- Action to address proliferation of standards bodies

- New work on climate change

- New work on testing and certification

Resolutions to assist developing countries

What / which to be created / improved?

- Telecom standardization in relation to interests of DCs was enhanced (Res.17)
- Assistance to regional tariff groups (Res.26)
- Regional preparations for WTSA (Res.43)
- Action Plan for PP Res.123 on bridging the standardization gap (Res.44)
- Creation of regional groups (Res.54)

- Action Plan for emergency communications?
- Telecom/ICT Accessibility?

SG structure

- ## Restructuring and consolidation of SGs

  - Pros and cons, which SGs?

  - Decisions based on areas of study?
    Optimization of human resources?
    Other principles?

- ## Collocation of events

  - Pros and cons, SG and GSI experiences

Chairmen and vice-chairmen

- Criteria for candidacies:
  - Geographical distribution
  - Knowledge and experience
  - Continuity in participation in the relevant study group
  - Managerial skills
  - Commitment of time and resource by the candidate's supporting Administration and/or company for full four-year term
  - Active in the work of the study group
  - Keep number of candidates per country at a minimum
  - Failure of appointment to chairmanship should not automatically entitle a vice-chairmanship
  - In cases where there are two or more candidates with equal competence for the same chairman position, preference should be given to candidates from Member States and Sector Members having the lowest number of designated study group chairmen
  - Only one chairman per country?

- Contradiction? Geographical distribution versus competence
  - competence and equitable geographical distribution (CV242)
  - primary consideration proven competence in the study group concerned, and management skills (Res 1, 3.1.2)

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Regional participation in ITU-T

- Concerns from the region and possible strategies regarding developing countries participation in SGs

- How the new structure could help

- Increase membership, any special issues to review

- Facilitate participation of SMEs & academia
  - Kaleidoscope events in the regions

Tools for increasing participation

- ## Rules for remote participation
  - What kind of rules? All types of meeting?
  - Drawbacks, concerns, e-tools, requirements (e.g. bandwidth, reliability and completeness of applications)

- ## Regional Groups to increase participation
  - Are regional groups a good tool?
    - Mainstreaming **vs** special accommodations?
  - What are the areas of interest?
  - Grouping by areas of interest?
  - Contributions to parent SGs with regional focus
  - Role of WTSA and TSAG
  - Light or formal structures?
  - "Block meetings" in the regions

Standardization gap

- How to better involve developing countries in ITU-T work especially concerning hot areas such as:
  - Telecom/ICT accessibility
  - Emergency communications
  - Climate change & ICT standardization
  - Cybersecurity
  - ...

Global Standardization Symposium

- Yearly event in the regions?
- Which future topics would be relevant for the region?