

***ITU Workshop on Internet  
Governance:  
Session 7: Understanding  
Intergovernmental Organisations***

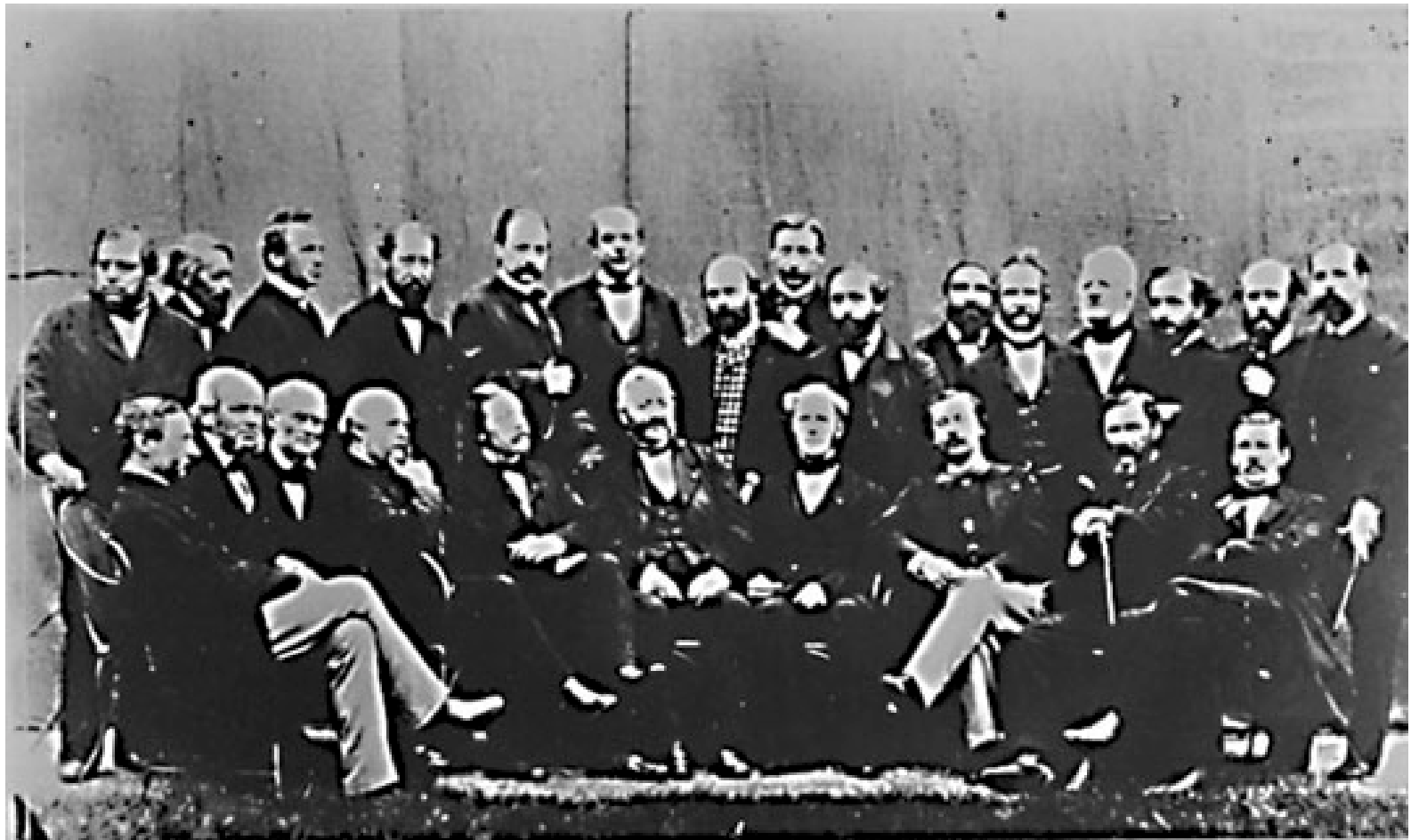
**Dr Tim Kelly, Head, Strategy  
and Policy Unit**

**International  
Telecommunication Union  
(ITU)**

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# The “Telegraph Community” of 1865



Denmark Baviers Norvège Wurtemberg Belgique Portugal Secrétaire Suisse Bade Turquie Prusse Italie Grèce Secrétaire Espagne  
 Pays Bas Bavière Hanover France Belgique France Suède Espagne Russie Autriche



## ITU:

# Helping the world communicate

- **UN specialized agency, concerned with the development of telecommunication networks and services worldwide**
- **Founded in 1865; Private sector involvement since 1869**
- **189 Member States; 650+ Sector Members; 80+ Associates**
- **Around 790 staff / 83 nationalities**
- **Headquarters in Geneva, 11 regional offices**
- **Website: <http://www.itu.int>**

# ITU structure

**Plenipotentiary  
Conference**

**Council**

**World Conferences on  
Int'l Telecoms**

**Radiocommunication**

**Telecom Standardization**

**Development**

**World/Regional  
Radiocommunication  
Conference (WRC)  
Radiocommunication  
Assembly (RA)**

**World  
Telecommunication  
Standardization  
Assembly (WTSA)**

**World/Regional  
Telecommunication  
Development  
Conference (WTDC)**

**Radio Regulations  
Board (RRB)**

**Advisory  
Group**

**Study  
Groups**

**Advisory  
Group**

**Study  
Groups**

**Advisory  
Group**

**Study  
Groups**

**Secretariat**

**Secretary-General  
Deputy Secretary-General**

**TELECOM**

**Director  
Radiocommunication  
Bureau (BR)**

**Director  
Telecom Standardization  
Bureau (TSB)**

**Director  
Telecom Development  
Bureau (BDT)**



# The Mandate ...

- **Treaty-level documents**
  - **Constitution and Convention**
  - **International Telecom Regulations**
  - **Radio Regulations**
- **Plenipotentiary Resolution**
  - **Resolution 101: IP-based networks**
  - **Resolution 102: Management of Internet domain names and addresses**
  - **Resolution 130: Information and communication network security**
  - **Resolution 133: Management of Internationalised domain names and addresses**



## Some recent relevant work ...

- **ITU leading organisational role in WSIS**
  - Geneva, 10-12 December 2003
  - Tunis, 16-18 November 2005
- **Workshops and Symposia (examples)**
  - ccTLD workshop, 3-4 March 2003
  - Regional IP Symposia (Kigali, Moscow etc)
  - Management of <.int>, 15-16 September 2003
  - Internet Governance, Feb 26-27, 2004
  - SPAM, May/June 2004
- **Publications and research**
  - ITU Internet Reports (5 editions since 1997)



# Strengths and weaknesses of intergovernmental organisations

## Strengths

- International legitimacy, credibility and accountability
- Independent and neutral
- Observance of due process
- Wide membership representation
- Presence of Sector Members (ITU)

## Weaknesses

- Perceived to be slow to react and bureaucratic
- Unclear division of work between organisations for new issues
- May not effectively represent views of non-governmental stakeholders



## A few words on WTO ...

- **Created in 1994/95 (successor to GATT)**
- **An intergovernmental organisation dealing with the global rules of trade between nations**
- **146 Members governments**
- **Major relevant agreements**
  - **General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS)**
  - **Trade-related aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS)**
- **Disputes settlement process**
- **Doha Round of negotiations (deadline 1/1/05)**
  - **Mandate includes e-commerce**