



Introduction to the work of ITU

ICT Trends and Challenges in a Global Era

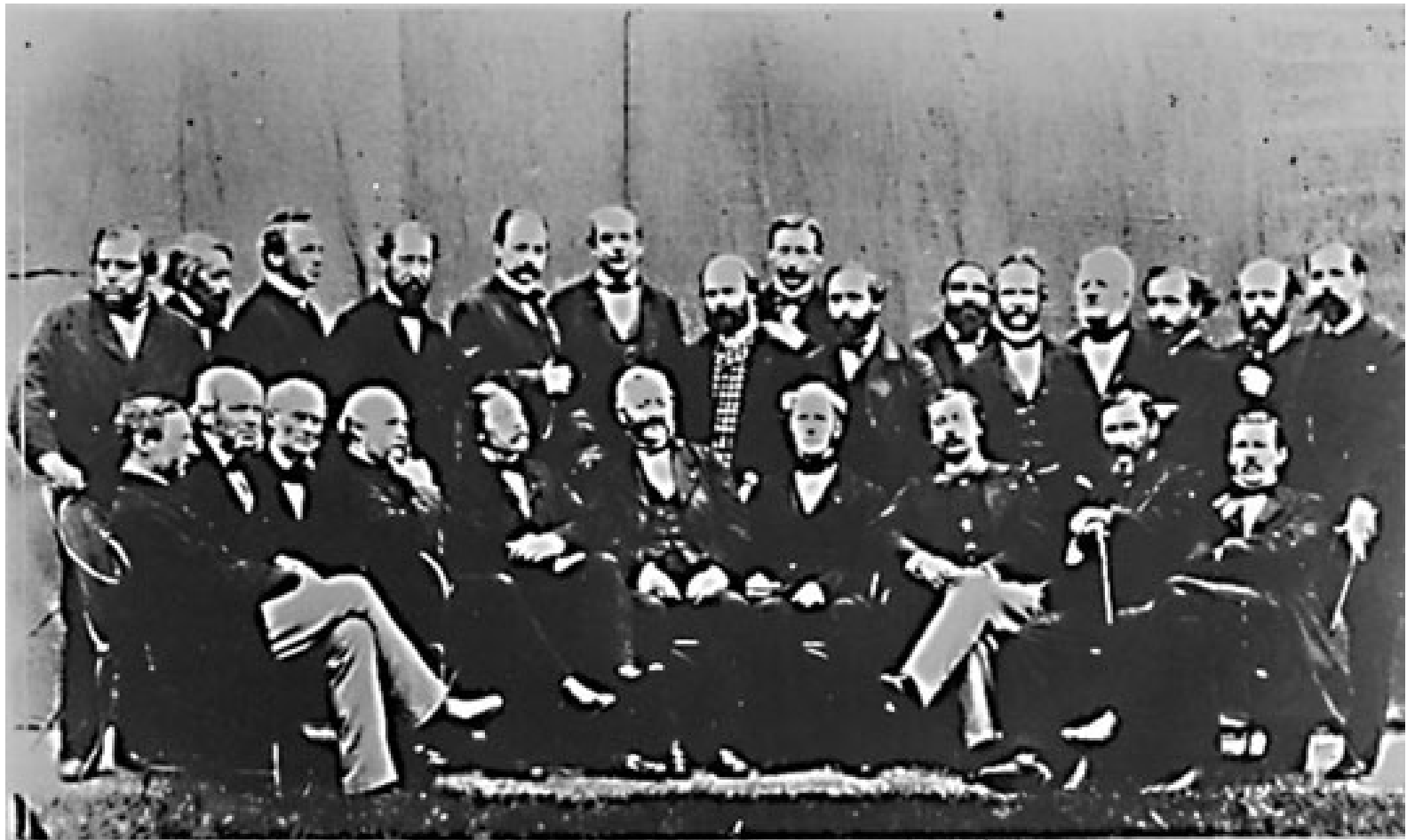
MSU/BSL/INT Programme
4 July 2005

Cristina Bueti

ITU Strategy and Policy Unit (SPU)



In 1865, the founders of ITU had already lived through the first cycle of boom and bust in telegraphy



Danemark Bavière 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 in brief

- International organization where governments and private sector coordinate global telecom networks and services
- UN specialized agency, concerned with the development of telecommunication networks and services worldwide
- 140 years old
- 189 Member States; 650+ Sector Members
- Around 790 staff / 83 nationalities
- 2004 budget = CHF164m (USD 132m)
- Secretary-General: Yoshio Utsumi (Japan)
- Deputy Sec-General: Roberto Blois (Brazil)
- Website: <http://www.itu.int>



ITU structure: simple view

Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R)

Management of the radio-frequency spectrum and satellite orbits used by services such as fixed, mobile, broadcasting, amateur, space research, meteorology, global positioning systems, environmental monitoring and safety of life at sea and in the skies.

Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T)

Establish internationally agreed technical and operating standards
“Recommendations” for networks and services

Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D)

Assistance to developing countries to facilitate connectivity and access, foster policy, regulatory and network readiness, expand human capacity through training programmes, formulate financing strategies and support enterprises in developing countries



Who pays what?

▶ ITU has 189 Member States plus 650+ Sector Members and Associates

- ▶ Each chooses to pay a certain number of contributory units e.g. US = 30, Malawi 1/16
- ▶ For Member States, 1 unit = CHF 315'000
- ▶ For Sector Members, 1 unit = CHF 63'000
- ▶ For Associates, 1 unit = CHF 10'500

▶ Main budget = CHF 163m in 2004, of which:

- ▶ CHF 106m (64.6%) from Member States
- ▶ CHF 21m (12.8%) from Sector Members & Associates
- ▶ CHF 13.1m (8.0%) from sale of publications
- ▶ CHF 28.3m (17.3%) from cost recovery, interest, etc
- ▶ CHF 1.5m (0.9%) from funds-in-trust (for dev't)



According to the International Telecommunication Constitution (Minneapolis, 1998), the role of ITU is:

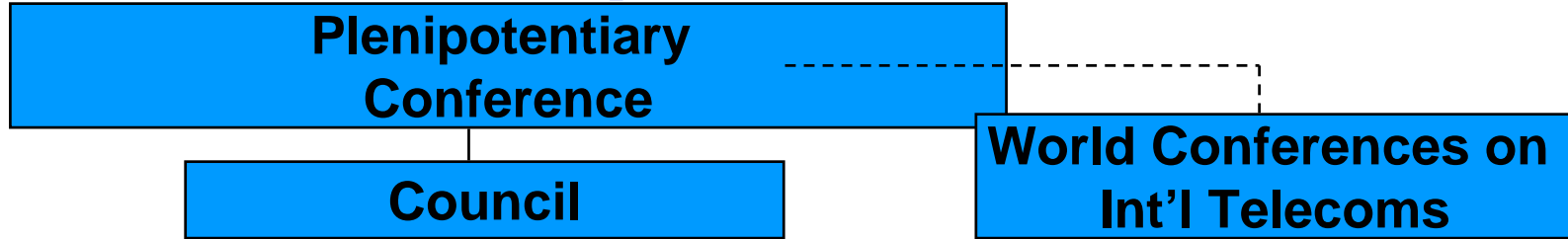
- **International cooperation in telecommunications**
- **Technical assistance to LDCs**
- **To promote technical development**
- **To extend the benefits of telecoms**
- **To promote telecoms for peaceful use**
- **To harmonize national policies**
- **To promote telecoms in cooperation with other national and regional bodies**



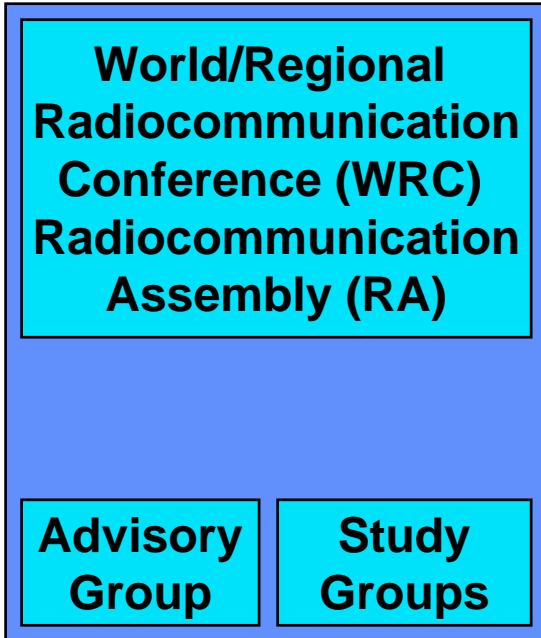
But what does ITU actually do?

- **Spectrum allocation and registration**
- **Coordination of national spectrum planning**
- **International telecoms standardization**
- **Collaboration in international tariff-setting**
- **Cooperation in telecoms development assistance**
- **Measures for ensuring safety of life**
- **Policy reviews, information exchange**
- **Extension of universal access**

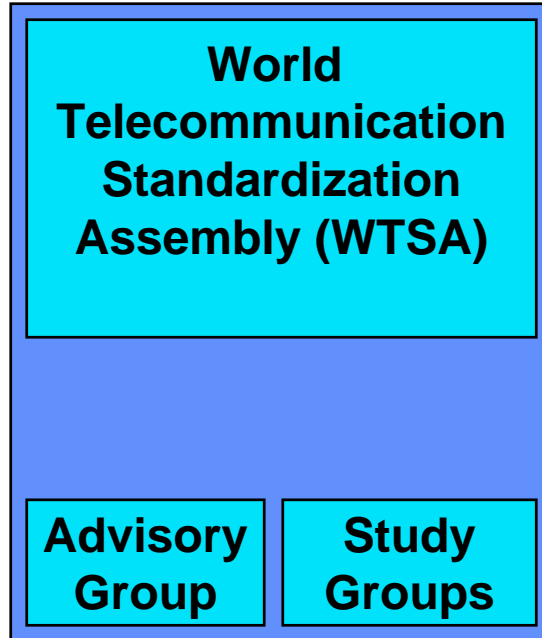
ITU structure: complex view



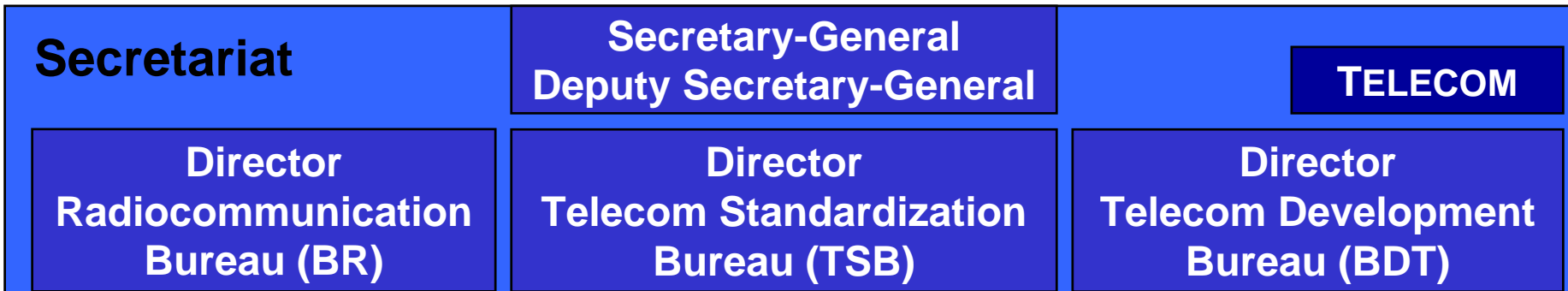
Radiocommunication



Telecom Standardization



Development





International Treaties

- **ITU Constitution and Convention**
 - Two complementary treaties, containing mainly housekeeping details but also some longstanding international commitments (e.g. common carrier tradition)
 - Major update in 1992; minor updates in 1994 & 1998
- **International Telecommunication Regulations**
 - Thin (10 Articles) treaty concerning mainly accounting practices. Last update 1988 – under review
- **Radio Regulations**
 - Thick (>10'000 pages) treaty governing use of radio spectrum. Updated every WRC



Development

- World Telecom Development Conference (Doha, Qatar, 2006)
- See www.itu.int/itu-d/
- Director: Hammadoun Touré (Mali)
- Regulatory assistance and technical cooperation
- Many IP and Internet related initiatives
- Internet Training Centres Initiative for Developing Countries (partnerships with Cisco, Alcatel)
- Produce well known telecommunication indicators reports and databases (used by World Economic Forum, World Bank and others)
- Regional offices (11)



*Radio*communications

- ▶ **World Radio Conference**
 - ▶ **Geneva, June 2003**
- ▶ **ITU-R Recommendations**
- ▶ **Stewardship of radio frequency & satellite orbits**
 - ▶ **Radio Regulations**
 - ▶ **Master International Frequency Register**
- ▶ **Safety of life services (Maritime, Aeronautical, etc.)**
- ▶ **Director: Valery Timofeev (Russia)**

A woman with dark hair, wearing a red scarf, is shown in profile, talking on a mobile phone. The image is partially obscured by the large 'S' in the title.

S *standardization*

- **World Telecom Standardization Assembly**
 - **Florianopolis, Brazil, October 2004**
- See www.itu.int/itu-t
- Director: Houlin Zhao (China)
- Standardization activities are segmented into “**Study Groups**” that focus on different topic areas (e.g., security, access & transport networks, multimedia, signalling, numbering, naming and addressing, tariffing, IP and NGN)
- Unique forum for public-private partnership
- Cooperative activities with many organizations and forums including regional telecom forums, IETF, ISO, IEC, ETSI, etc.



Gen. Secretariat

- ▶ **Plenipotentiary Conferences**
 - ▶ **Marrakesh, 2002. Invitation to Istanbul, 2006**
- ▶ **World Telecom Policy Forum**
 - ▶ **March 2001, IP Telephony**
- ▶ **ITU Council**
- ▶ **ITU News: www.itu.int/itunews/**
- ▶ **Support services (e.g. IS, languages)**
- ▶ **ITU TELECOM (Asia in 2004, Americas 2005 and World 2006)**
- ▶ **Policy, research and workshops (SPU)**



ITU New Initiatives Programme

➤ Launched in 1999, under the Strategy and Policy Unit

➤ Workshops

- Next Generation Networks (Feb 2006)
- Cybersecurity (July 2005)
- Digital Divide (June 2005)
- Ubiquitous Networks Societies (April 2005)
- Digital Bridges project (Sept 2004)
- Spam (July 2004)
- Future Mobile Information Society
- Spectrum Management (Feb 2004)
- Promoting Broadband (April 2003)

➤ Country case studies

➤ Report 2005: “The Internet of things”

Website: www.itu.int/osg/spu/ni/



“.. New topics of a regulatory, policy or other nature of high-current interest ...”
Council Decision 496



world summit on the information society

Geneva 2003 - Tunis 2005

- ▶ **ITU has the lead role in organizing WSIS**
 - ▶ **World Summit on the Information Society (Geneva, 2003 & Tunis, 2005)**
 - ▶ **to develop “common vision and understanding of the information society and the adoption of a declaration and plan of action for implementation by Governments, international institutions and all sectors of civil society”**
 - ▶ **Website: www.itu.int/wsis/**



world summit on the information society Geneva 2003 - Tunis 2005

- ▶ **Key issues for the Summit:**
 - ▶ **Mainstreaming ICTs into development**
 - ▶ **Promoting cultural and linguistic diversity**
 - ▶ **Building human capacity**
 - ▶ **Extending access, connectivity and infrastructure**
 - ▶ **Creating an enabling legal and policy environment**
 - ▶ **Building partnerships and mobilizing resources**
 - ▶ **Confidence and security in use of ICTs**
 - ▶ **Protecting fundamental freedoms**

For more information: www.itu.int



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and TIES

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Welcome to the International Telecommunication Union

The ITU, headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland is an international organization within the [United Nations System](#) where governments and the private sector coordinate global telecom networks and services.

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Geneva, 12-18 October 2003

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Thank you for your attention

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