



Introduction to the work of ITU and its telecom policy research



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Men in Beards: The ITU in 1865



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

- UN specialized agency, concerned with the development of telecommunication networks and services worldwide
- 141 years old
- 190 Member States; 650+ Sector Members
- Around 790 staff / 83 nationalities
- 2005 budget = CHF164m (USD 130m)
- Secretary-General: Yoshio Utsumi (Japan)
- Deputy Sec-General: Roberto Blois (Brazil)
- Website: <http://www.itu.int>



The telecoms sector in brief

As of 1 January 2006:

- **1.26 billion fixed telephone lines**
 - **Of which, around 210 million broadband connections**
- **2.15 billion mobile phones**
 - **Of which, around 270 million third-generation mobile users**
- **Approx one billion Internet users**
 - **Of which, around 440 million Internet subscribers**

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

**Director
Radiocommunication
Bureau (BR)**

**Secretary-General
Deputy Secretary-General**

**Director
Telecom Standardization
Bureau (TSB)**

TELECOM

**Director
Telecom Development
Bureau (BDT)**



Who pays what?

- ITU has 190 Member States plus 650+ Sector Members and Associates
 - Each chooses to pay a certain number contributory units e.g. US = 30, Malawi 1/16
 - For Member States, 1 unit = CHF 318'000
 - For Sector Members, 1/2 unit = CHF 31'800
 - For Associates, 1 unit = CHF 10'600
 - Main budget = CHF 163m in 2005, 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 development)



According to the International Telecommunication Constitution (Marrakesh, 2002), 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



International Treaties

● Constitution and Convention of ITU

- 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 1998 & 2002

● International Telecommunication Regulations

- Thin (10 Articles) treaty concerning mainly accounting practices. Last update 1988 – under review since 1998

● Radio Regulations

- Thick (>10'000 pages) treaty governing use of radio spectrum. Updated every WRC



Development

- World Telecom Development Conference (Doha, March 2006)
- Study Groups
- Telecommunication Indicators reports and databases
- Regulatory assistance
- Technical cooperation
- Regional offices (11)
- Director: Hammadoun Touré (Mali)



*R*adiocommunications

- 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 black mobile phone. The background is a blurred outdoor scene with greenery.

S **Standardization**

- World Telecom Standardization Assembly
 - Brazil, October 2004
- ITU-T Recommendations
- Stewardship of international numbering plan
 - Country codes
 - Universal International Freephone
 - ENUM
- Collaboration with the Internet community (e.g. IETF, ICANN, IGF)
- Director: Houlin Zhao (China)



Gen. Secretariat

- Plenipotentiary Conferences
 - Antalya, November 2006
- ITU hosted secretariat and acted as leading managerial agency for World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)
 - Geneva phase, 10-12 December 2003
 - Tunis phase, 16-18 November 2005
- ITU Council
- ITU News: www.itu.int/itunews/
- Support services (e.g. IS, languages)
- ITU TELECOM WORLD 2006, in HK, Dec 2006
- Policy, research and workshops (SPU)

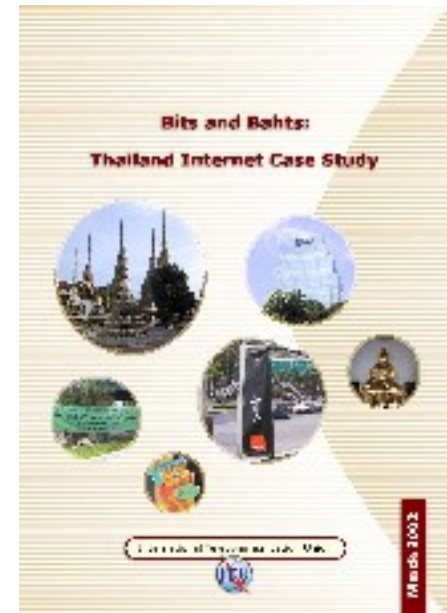
Telecom Policy Research: Main programmes

- **ITU New Initiatives Programme**
 - Begun in 1999
 - Around 17 workshops held to date
- **Building Digital Bridges**
 - Begun in 2004
 - Development of “Digital Opportunity Index”
- **Main research/data publications**
 - ITU Internet Reports: 7 editions since 1997
 - World Telecom Development Report: 7 since 1994
 - Trends in Telecom Reform: Annual since 1998
 - World Information Society Report: 1st edition, 2006
 - WSIS Stocktaking Database (More than 3'000 ICT projects)



New Initiatives Programme

- **Workshops:** Recent examples include:
 - “Regulatory environment for future mobile multimedia services (June 2006, Mainz)
 - “What rules for IP-based NGNs?” (March 2006)
 - “Tomorrow’s Network Today” (October 2005)
- **Country case studies**
 - More than 50 studies completed
 - See www.itu.int/casestudies.
- **Resource websites**
 - See www.itu.int/ni.
- **Published reports**



Upcoming workshops

- **Digital Opportunity Forum**
(31 August/1 September 2006, Seoul)
- **Market mechanisms for spectrum allocation**
(November 2-3, 2006, Geneva)
- **The Future of Voice** (January 2007, Geneva)
- **2006-07 work programme questionnaire**
(see: <http://www.itu.int/osg/spu/ni/questionnaire06-07/index.html>)
- **Other possible future topics include:**
 - **Peer-to-peer**
 - **IPTV**
 - **E-government**
 - **E-health**
 - > **Digital Identities**
 - > **Info Society in 2015**
 - > **Wireless Networking**
 - > **Content without frontiers**



Building digital bridges

- **Multi-stakeholder partnership involving ITU, MIC Korea, KADO, UNCTAD, LBS and other partners**
- **Workshop, Sept 2004, Busan, Rep. of Korea**
- **WSIS Thematic Meeting on multi-stakeholder partnerships for bridging the divide, June 2005, Seoul**
- **Launch of “Digital Opportunity Index” at WSIS in Tunis, November 2005**
- **Workshop on “Digital transformation in the information society”, with London Business School, Geneva, 1-2 June 2006**
- **Launch of *World Information Society Report*, 5 July 2006**



A new tool for international comparisons: **Digital Opportunity Index**

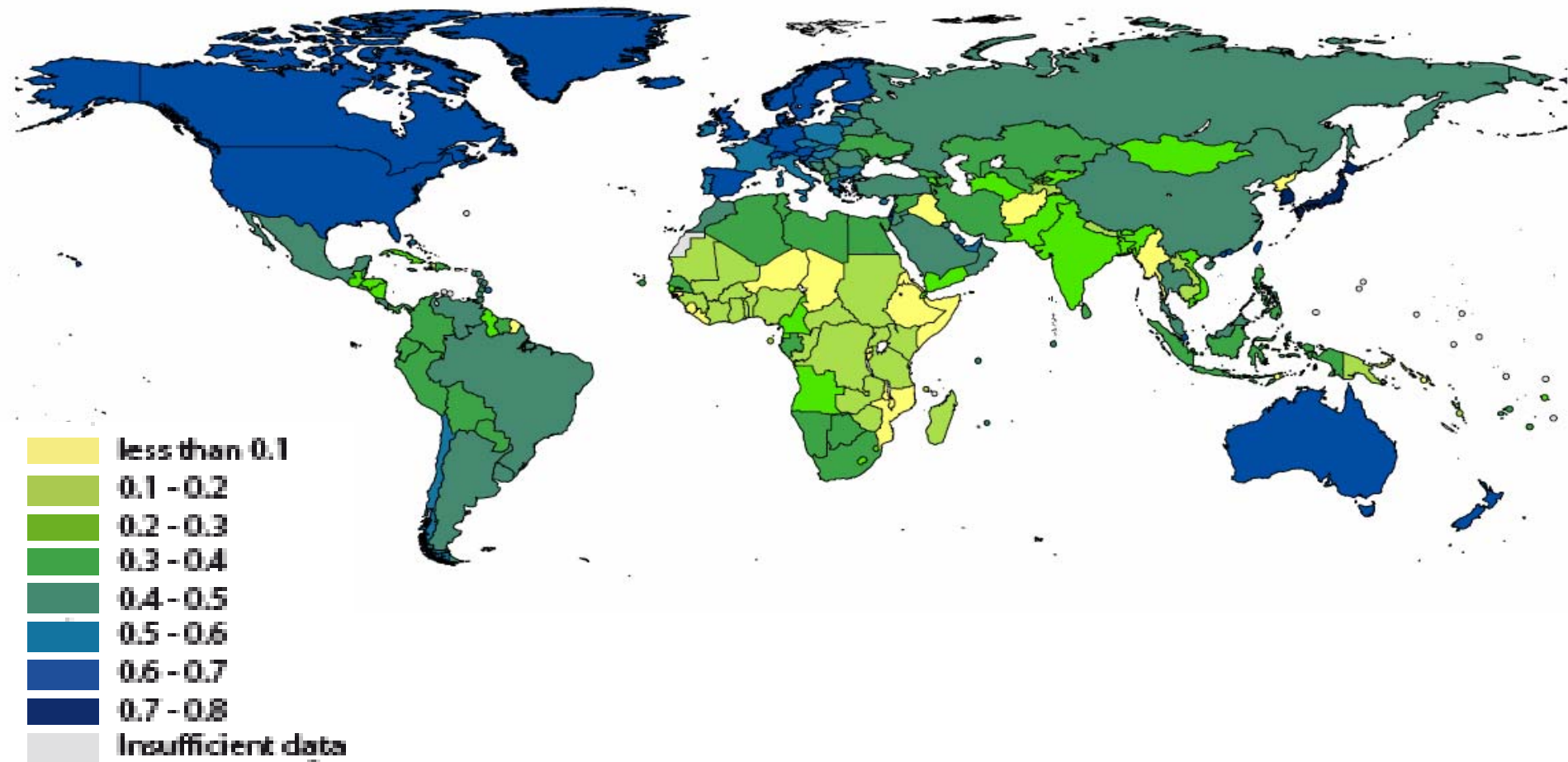
- **A composite index made from 11 separate indicators**
- **Structured around:**
 - **Opportunity (e.g., Coverage and tariffs)**
 - **Infrastructure (e.g., penetration rates for individuals and households)**
 - **Utilisation (e.g., access to Internet and broadband connections)**
- **Separate indices for fixed and mobile as well as a combined index**
- **Launched at WSIS Summit in Tunis**

DOI Indicators

	Indicator	Goal post	Indicator weight	Category weight
Opportunity	Percentage of population covered by mobile	100	33%	33%
	Internet access tariffs as a % of per capita income	.16	33%	
	Mobile tariffs as a % of per capita income	.20	33%	
Infrastructure	Proportion of households with a fixed telephone	100	20%	33%
	Mobile cellular subscribers per 100 inhabitants	100	20%	
	Proportion of households with Internet access	100	20%	
	Mobile Internet subscribers per 100 inhabitants	100	20%	
	Proportion of households with a computer	100	20%	
Utilization	Internet users per 100 inhabitants	85	33%	33%
	% of fixed broadband in fixed Internet subscribers	100	33%	
	% of mobile broadband in mobile Internet subscribers	100	33%	

DOI rankings worldwide, 2005

Covering 180 economies



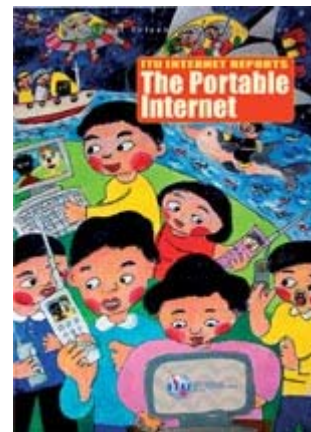
Source: ITU/UNCTAD/KADO "Digital Opportunity Index", see <http://www.itu.int/osg/spu/statistics/DOI/index.phtml>.



Publications: ITU Internet Reports

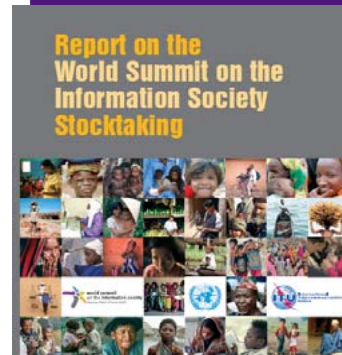
A series of reports tracking the development and policy implications of the Internet, with latest data

- 2005: The Internet of Things
- 2004: The Portable Internet
- 2003: Birth of Broadband
- 2002: Internet for a Mobile Generation
- 2001: IP Telephony
- 1999: Internet for Development
- 1997: Challenges to the Network



Other research-oriented publications

- **World Information Society Report**
 - **Inaugural edition, 5 July 2005**
- **World Telecom Development Report**
 - **A series of reports on broad themes (e.g. measuring access, restructuring, mobile)**
 - **Includes World Telecom Indicators**
- **Trends in Telecom Reform**
 - **Reports focusing on regulatory issues (e.g., VOIP, effective regulation, spam)**
 - **Annual regulatory questionnaire**
- **WSIS stocktaking database**
 - **See www.itu.int/stocktaking.**





Thank you

For more information, please see:

<http://www.itu.int/spu>

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