



## ITU-BDT Regional Seminar on Broadband Wireless Access (BWA) for European and CIS Countries

Moscow, Russia, 26 – 29 November 2007

### Convergence Strategy and role of IMS

Oscar González Soto  
ITU Consultant Expert  
Strategic Planning and Assessment



### Convergence Strategy Content

- **Convergence Dimensions**
  - **Role of IMS**
- **Convergence drivers**
  - **Economies of scale**
  - **Competition Level**
- **A stair case strategy and evolution trends**
  - **Business trends per category**
  - **Migration steps towards universal operation**



## Convergence Strategy Convergence dimensions

Convergence is taking place at several domains

- ➔ At **Network** domain
  - One network for all service types: NGN, IMS
- ➔ At **Service** domain
  - Fixed, Nomadic, Mobile, Interactive and Broadcasting, etc.
- ➔ At radio **Access** domain
  - DECT, WiMax, 3G, etc.
- ➔ At **Operational and Business** domain
  - OSS, Billing, etc, for all customer classes
- ➔ At **Terminal** domain
  - 2G, 3G, PDA, etc.

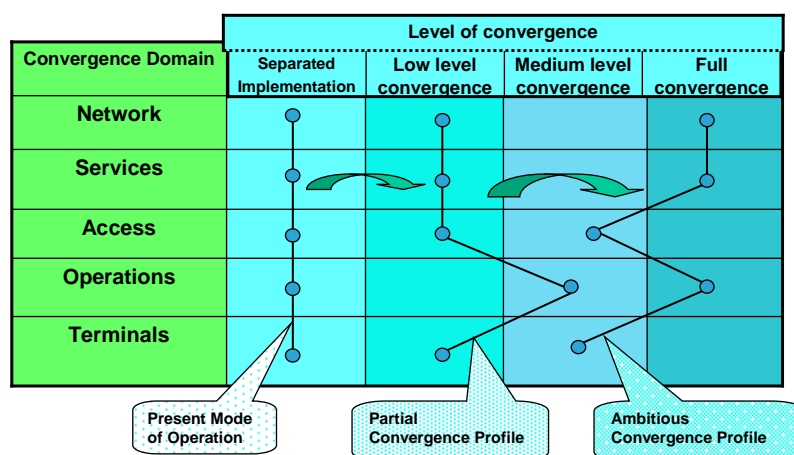
November, 2007

ITU/BDT/ Convergence Strategy O. G.S.

slide 3



## Convergence Strategy Convergence profiles



Migration profile driven by: Initial status, Market development, Economy of scale and Operator Strategy

November, 2007

ITU/BDT/ Convergence Strategy O. G.S.

slide 4



## Convergence Strategy Convergence dimensions

### Convergence steps at network and services domains

- Starting with the 5 current separated networks based on TDM ( PSTN, IN, SS7, Mobile, Data ATM/IP)
- Migrating to single IP based NGN at core segment
- Migrating at IP based NGN at Edge and Access Segments
- Incorporating partial pre-IMS open service architecture
- Incorporating full end-to-end IP mode with IPv6
- Implementing full IMS functionality



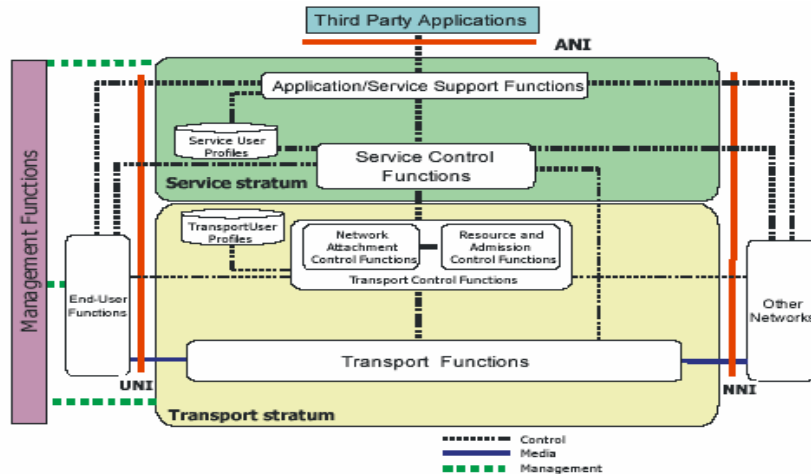
## Convergence Strategy Unified IMS Model for Mobile and Fixed

### Why IMS?

- Deliver person-to-person real-time IP-based multimedia communications
  - Person-to-person, person-to-machine
- Fully integrate real-time with non-real-time multimedia communications.
  - i.e., live streaming and chat
- Enable different services and applications to interact
  - i.e., combined use of presence and instant messaging
- Easy user setup of multiple services in a single session, or multiple synchronized sessions
- Operators have better control of service value chain
  - End-to-end QoS



## Convergence Strategy IMS Architecture



November, 2007

ITU/BDT/ Convergence Strategy O. G.S.

slide 7



## Convergence Strategy Evolution to IMS: Benefits

- **First advantage is the higher flexibility of the IMS functionality to adapt to the customer services**, irrespective of the technology they use and the access method to reach the network.
- **Saving in effort and time for the development and deployment** of a new service is considerably reduced once the architecture is ready at the network, implying economic savings and better Time to Market for a given service provider in a competitive market.
- **Efficient introduction on new services at a lower cost** will increase the service provider revenues and ARPU which is the major business driver for the healthy operation, market grow and financial results.
- **Higher utilization of services and better personalization** of functions to specific requirements from the end customers' point of view, a common use and feel for all services and applications

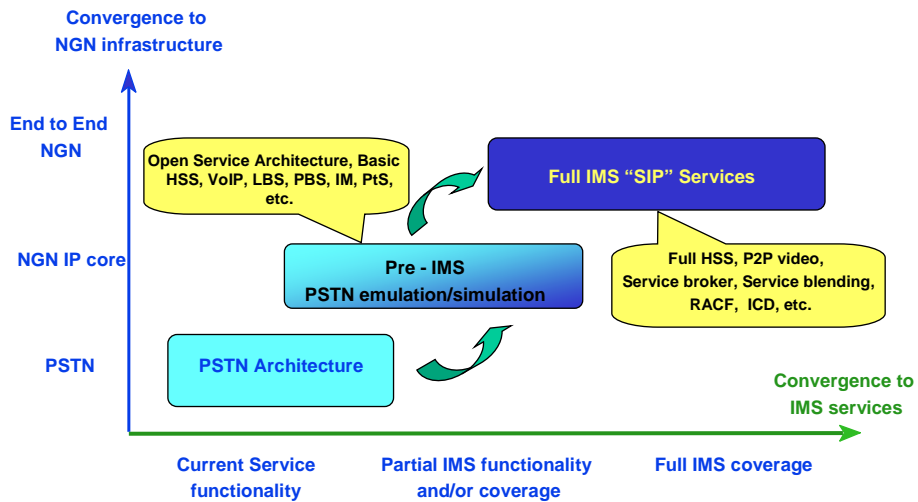
November, 2007

ITU/BDT/ Convergence Strategy O. G.S.

slide 8



## Convergence Strategy Evolution to IMS: Phases



November, 2007

ITU/BDT/ Convergence Strategy O. G.S.

slide 9



## Convergence Strategy Content

- **Convergence Dimensions**
  - Role of IMS
- **Convergence drivers**
  - Economies of scale
  - Competition Level
- **A stair case strategy and evolution trends**
  - Business trends per category
  - Migration steps towards universal operation

November, 2007

ITU/BDT/ Convergence Strategy O. G.S.

slide 10



## Convergence Strategy

### Key Factors: Economies of scale

Economies of scale are an inherent characteristic to the telecom technologies that impacts on solutions, evolution and also now survivability in competition

– The five dimensions of the economy of scale:

- By **Size** of the systems → Larger systems cheaper per unit
- By **Technology** capabilities → New technologies with higher capacity
- By **Traffic efficiency** with the occupancy → Higher utilization for a given GoS when more servers
- By customers **Density** → Quadratic increase with coverage radio
- By **Volume** of purchasing → Discount per volume in log scale



## Convergence Strategy

### Key Factors: Competition level

#### Different Levels of Competition

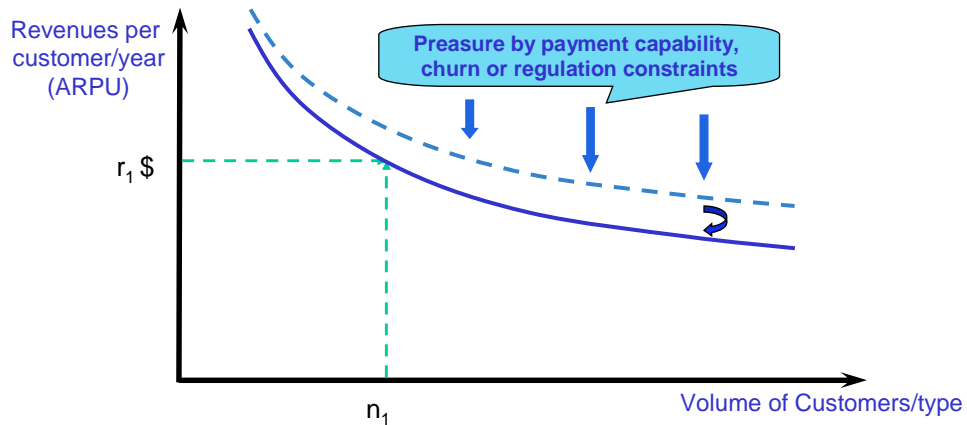
- **L1) Monopoly** for all geographical areas, customer classes and service types
- **L2) Limited monopoly** per area and/or service types while free operation for niche operators
- **L3) Moderate competition** for all network segments and services
- **L4) High competition** for high revenue customers and services
- **L5) Aggressive competition** for all areas, customers and services

*“Efficient telecom implies different competition levels as a function of **country size** and **development status**”*



## Convergence Strategy Key Factors: Competition level

Business feasibility space as a function of customer volume and ARPU



ARPU is up-limited by the economical development level and fixed costs

November, 2007

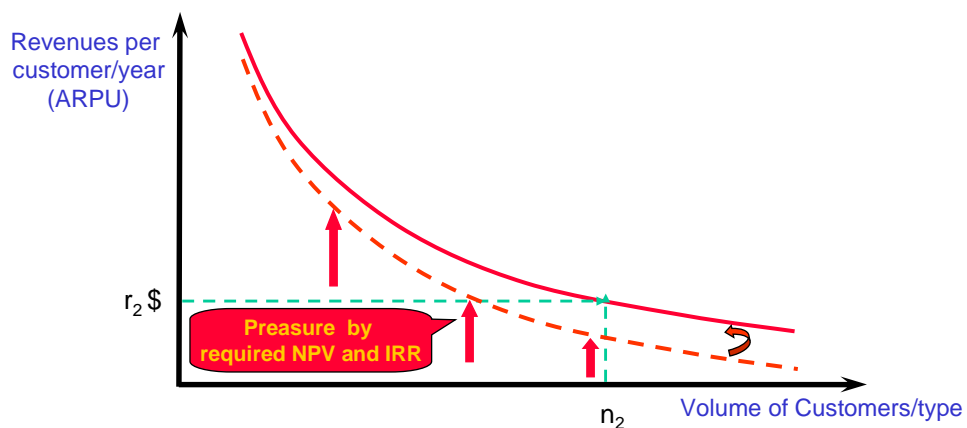
ITU/BDT/ Convergence Strategy O. G.S.

slide 13



## Convergence Strategy Key Factors: Competition level

Business feasibility space as a function of customer volume and ARPU



Business feasibility is down-limited by the need of a positive NPV

November, 2007

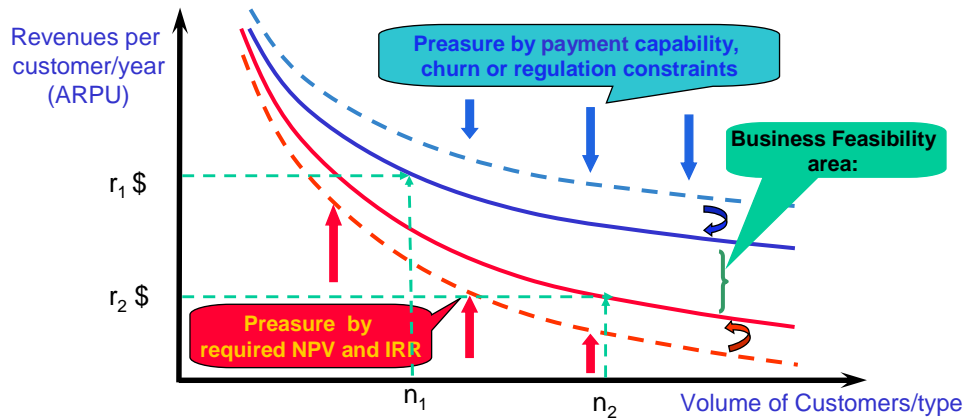
ITU/BDT/ Convergence Strategy O. G.S.

slide 14



## Convergence Strategy Key Factors: Competition level

Feasibility space highly dependent on country size and economic level



Business feasibility area limited by positive NPV and payment willingness



## Convergence Strategy Content

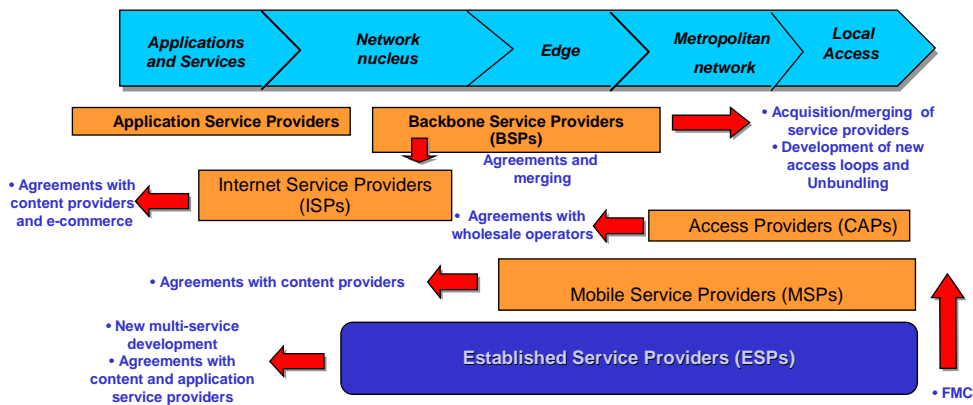
- **Convergence Dimensions**
  - Role of IMS
- **Convergence drivers**
  - Economies of scale
  - Competition Level
- **A stair case strategy and evolution trends**
  - Business trends per category
  - Migration steps towards universal operation





## Convergence Strategy Business domains and trends

Example of Value Added chain and operators movements to gain economy of scale and market



November, 2007

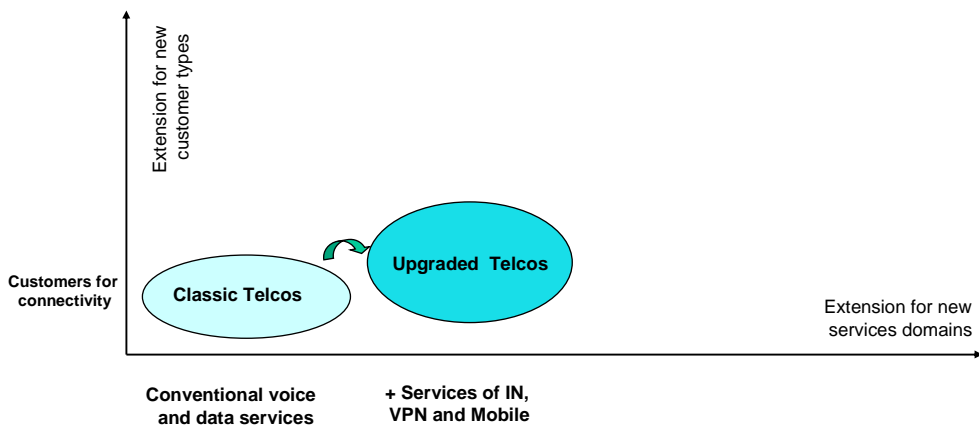
ITU/BDT/ Convergence Strategy O. G.S.

slide 17



## Convergence Strategy Migration steps

“staircase” for leading growing alternatives



November, 2007

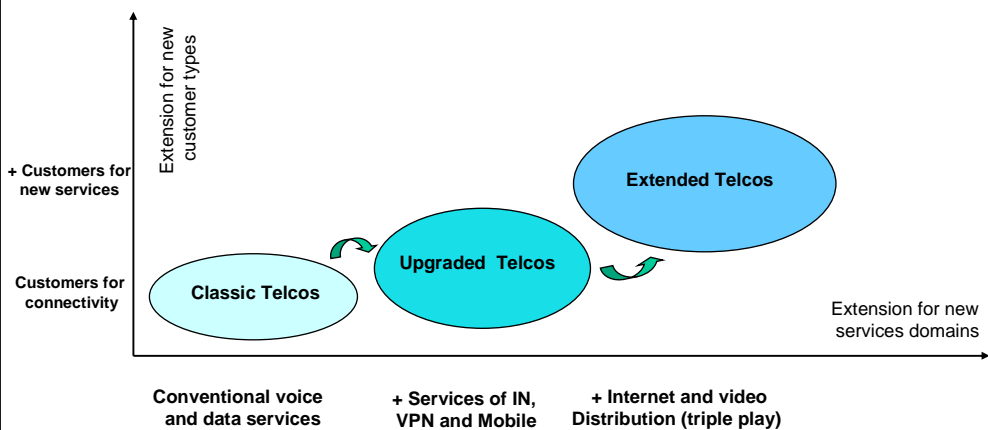
ITU/BDT/ Convergence Strategy O. G.S.

slide 18



## Convergence Strategy Migration steps

“staircase” for leading growing alternatives



November, 2007

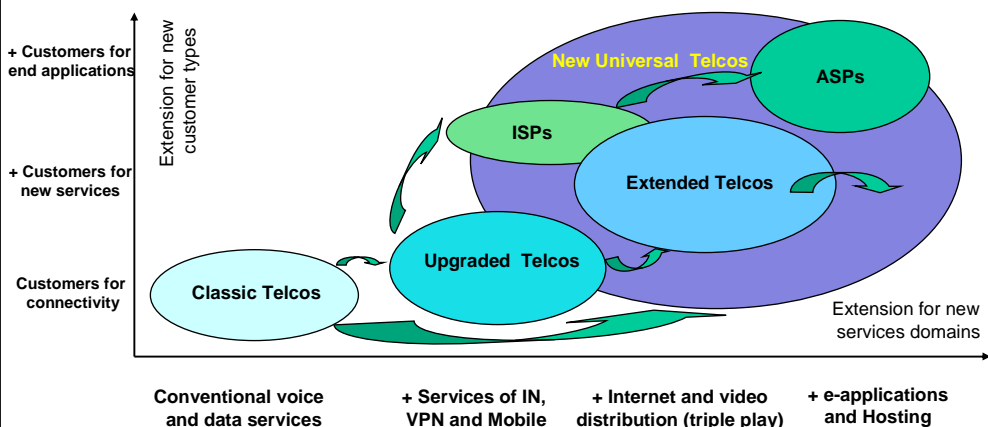
ITU/BDT/ Convergence Strategy O. G.S.

slide 19



## Convergence Strategy Migration steps

“staircase” for New Universal Telcos



Specific migration and timeframe to be optimized for the country context and regulatory conditions

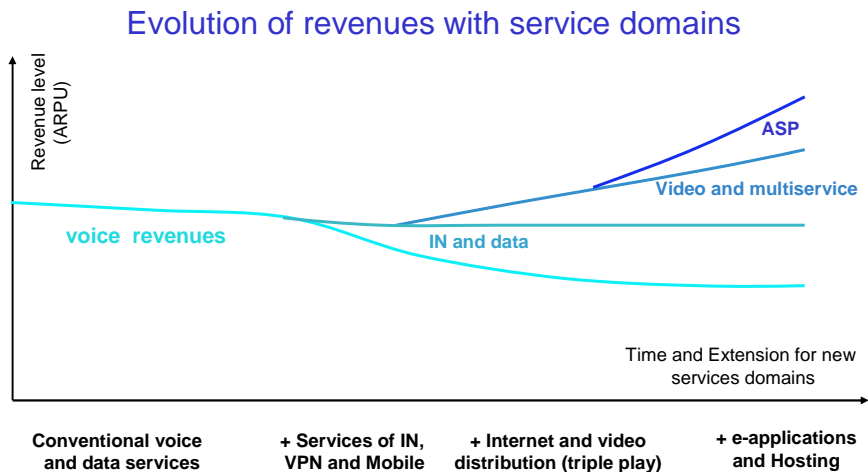
November, 2007

ITU/BDT/ Convergence Strategy O. G.S.

slide 20



## Convergence Strategy Migration steps



Convergence strategy is fundamental to grow in a competitive environment

November, 2007

ITU/BDT/ Convergence Strategy O. G.S.

slide 21



## Convergence Strategy Business Planning case

Evaluations to be based on robusts techno-economical tools due to high number of alternatives and complexity

Case study performed for medium size country with mixes of customer classes and services domains:

- Multiservice IP Network with integrated operation available
- Three service categories: Voice, Data/Internet, Video distribution
- Modeling demands, multiservice traffic flows, dimensioning, network resources, CAPEX, OPEX and financial results for different levels of competition
- Evaluate differential future Cash-flows, NPV, IRR, etc. for a 10 years period

November, 2007

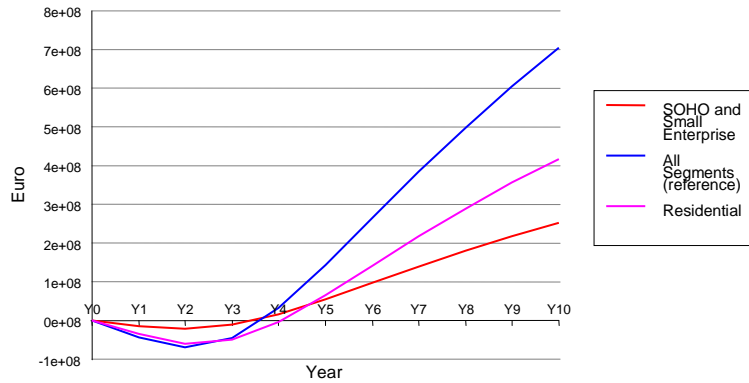
ITU/BDT/ Convergence Strategy O. G.S.

slide 22



## Convergence Strategy Role of Business Planning

Effects of the mix of **customers** on Reference Scenario: Low competition level  
Network NPV



- SME and SOHO with quicker recovery but less NPV and company value at medium term
- "All customer segments" case with much better behavior

November, 2007

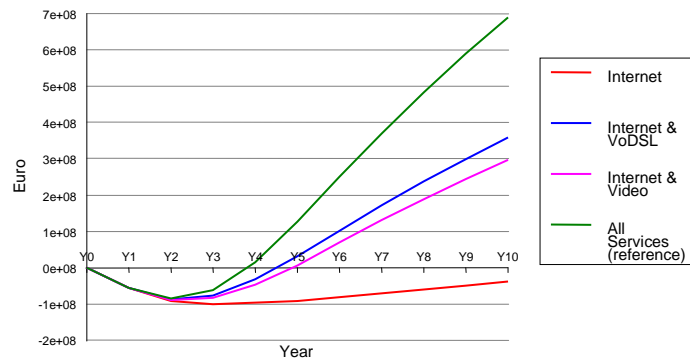
ITU/BDT/ Convergence Strategy O. G.S.

slide 23



## Convergence Strategy Role of Business Planning

Effects of the mix of **services** on Reference Scenario: Low competition level  
Network NPV



- Major impact of service classes on NPV and company survivability
  - Single service classes without future
  - High benefit of "all services" case

November, 2007

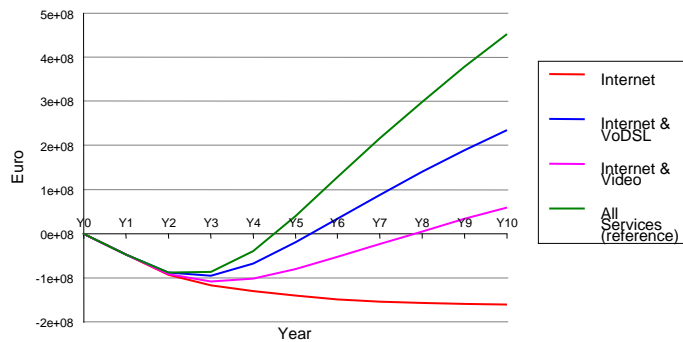
ITU/BDT/ Convergence Strategy O. G.S.

slide 24



## Convergence Strategy Role of Business Planning

Effects of the mix of services on typical scenario: Medium competition level  
Network NPV



- Increase of competition level amplifies the previous effects on feasibility: big differences between service mixes
- Data only or single service classes without feasibility at medium term
  - Very robust behavior for the “all services” case

November, 2007

ITU/BDT/ Convergence Strategy O. G.S.

slide 25



## Convergence Strategy Recommendations

- Perform proper modeling of key techno-economical factors for business evaluation of convergence alternatives
- Focus on multiple services domains and new services with IMS implementations
  - Take benefit of all economies of scale

**!! Which convergence will happen ?  
Combination Driven by Market, Economy of scale and  
Competition !!**

November, 2007

ITU/BDT/ Convergence Strategy O. G.S.

slide 26