

Document C17/INF/9-E  
31 March 2017  
English only

**Note by the Secretary-General**

**EFFECTIVENESS OF REGIONAL GROUPS FOR BRIDGING THE STANDARDIZATION GAP  
(WTSA RESOLUTION 44)**

**Summary**

In 2018, ITU will celebrate 50 years of the existence of regional groups. This document reports on the effectiveness of regional groups to Council as *per instructs* of Resolution 44 (WTSA-16).

**Action required**

This document is transmitted to the Council **for information**.

**References**

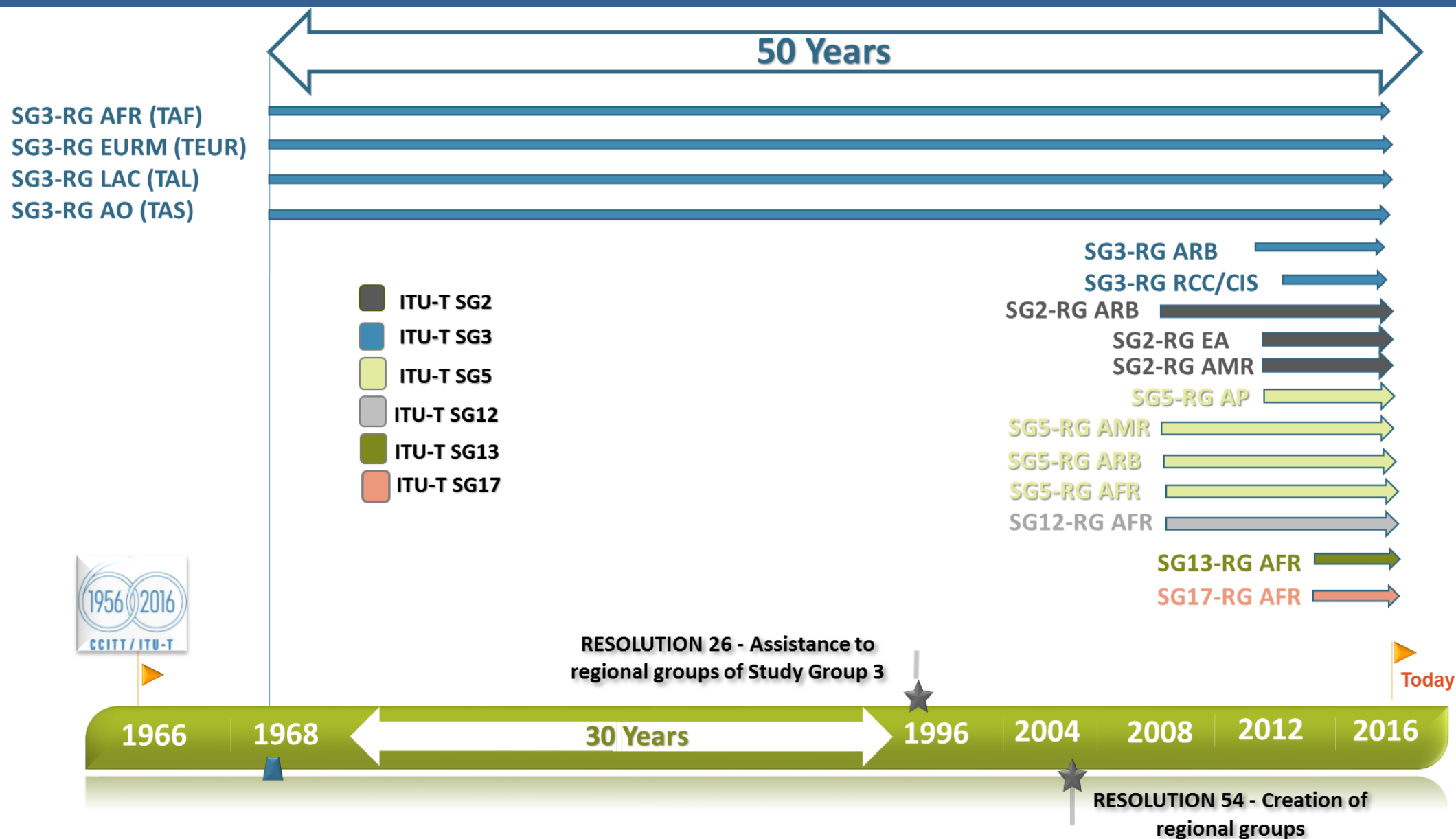
Council document [C17/72](#)



## ITU-T Regional Groups: Report to ITU Council 2017

# History and global presence of Regional Groups

# ITU-T Regional Groups - History



# ITU-T Regional Groups - Global Presence



**SG2 Regional Group for the Arab Region**  
**SG3 Regional Group for the Arab Region**  
**SG5 Regional Group for the Arab Region**



**SG3 Regional Group for RCC/CIS**



**SG3 Regional Group for Asia and Oceania**  
**SG5 Regional Group for Asia Pacific**



**SG2 Regional Group for the Americas**  
**SG3 Regional Group for Latin America and the Caribbean**  
**SG5 Regional Group for the Americas**

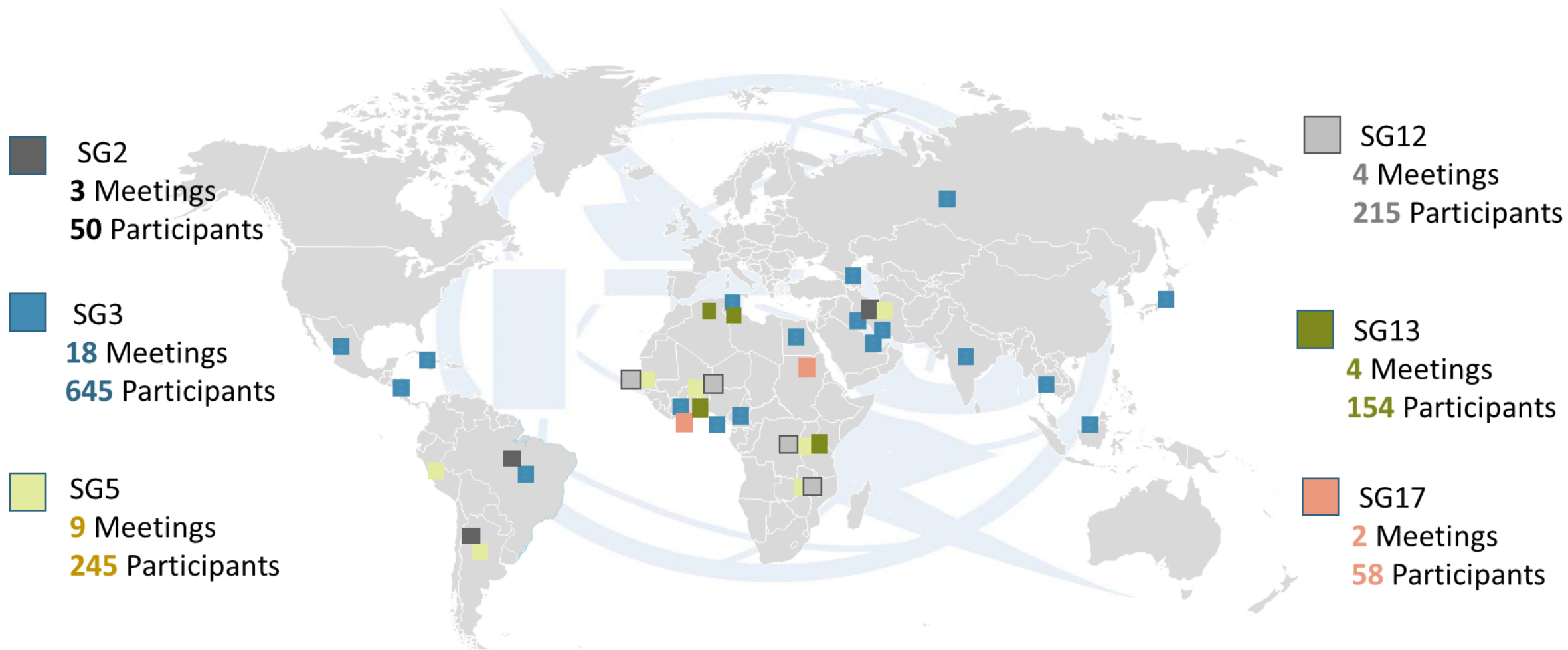


**SG2 Regional Group for East Africa**  
**SG3 Regional Group for Africa**  
**SG5 Regional Group for Africa**  
**SG12 Regional Group on QoS for the Africa Region**  
**SG13 Regional Group for Africa**  
**SG17 Regional Group for Africa**

# Regional Group meetings for 2013-2016



# Location and dates of Regional Group Meetings (2013-2016)



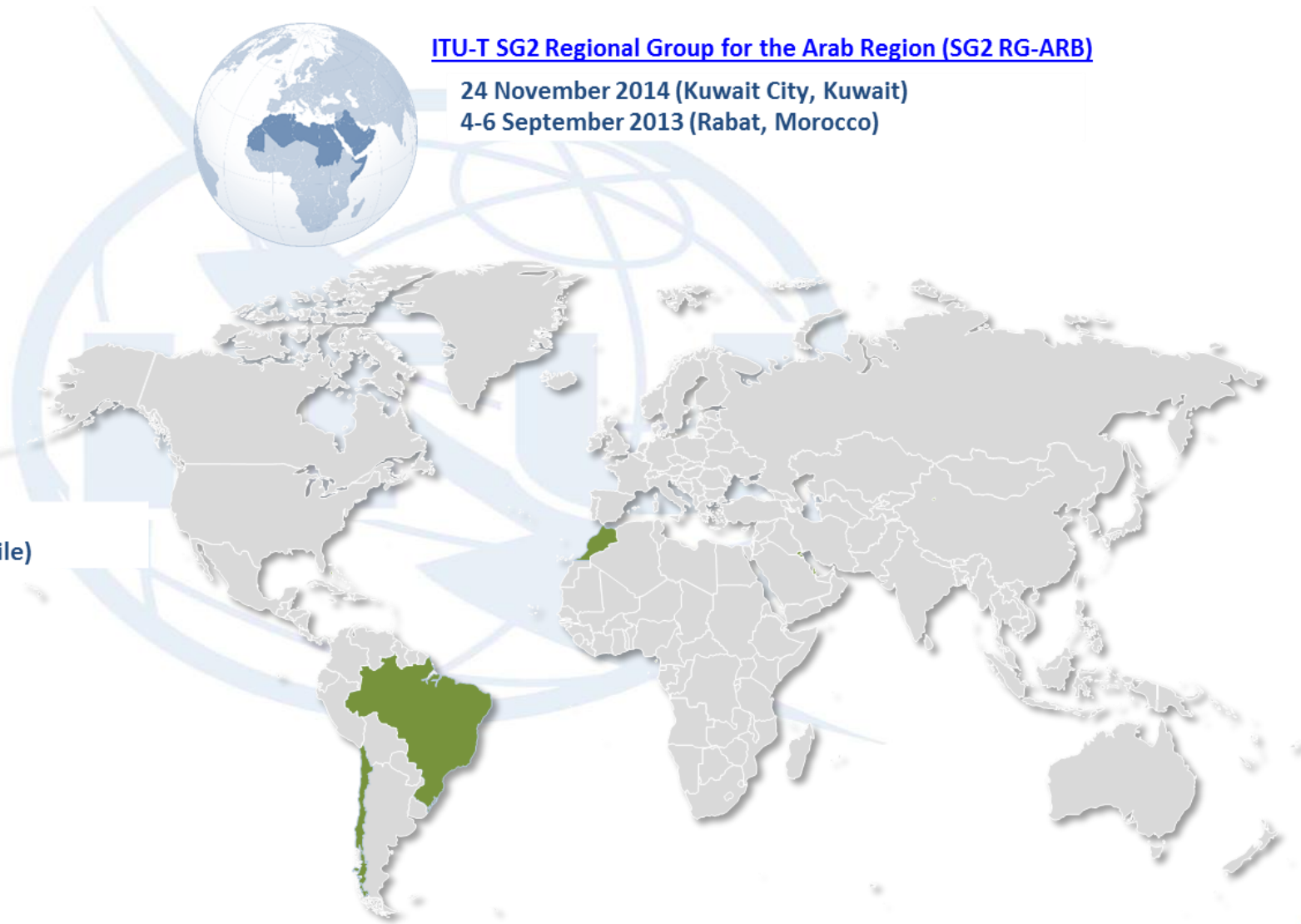
## SG2 RG Meetings : 4 meetings, 2 regions

### ITU-T SG2 Regional Group for the Arab Region (SG2 RG-ARB)

24 November 2014 (Kuwait City, Kuwait)  
4-6 September 2013 (Rabat, Morocco)

### ITU-T SG2 Regional Group for The Americas (SG2 RG-AMR)

14 June 2016 (Brasilia, Brazil)  
21 November 2014 (Santiago, Chile)





# SG3 RG Meetings: 18 meetings, 5 regions



## ITU-T SG3 Regional Group for the Arab Region (SG3 RG-ARB)

29-30 October 2013 (Manama, Bahrain)  
24-25 November 2014 (Kuwait City, Kuwait)  
30 November – 2 December 2015 (Manama, Bahrain)  
26-29 July 2016 (Tunis, Tunisia)



## ITU-T SG3 Regional Group for RCC/CIS (SG3RG-RCC/CIS)

4 December 2015 (Baku, Azerbaijan)  
3-4 August 2016 (Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation)



## ITU-T SG3 Regional Group for Asia and Oceania (SG3 RG-AO)

8-10 April 2013 (Tokyo, Japan)  
1-2 September 2014 (Yangon, Myanmar)  
29 September – 1 October 2015 (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)  
20-23 September (New Delhi, India)



## ITU-T SG3 Regional Group for Latin America and the Caribbean (SG3 RG-LAC)

19-22 March 2013 (Mexico City, Mexico)  
13-14 March 2014 (San Jose, Costa Rica)  
22-24 April 2015 (Nassau, Bahamas)  
16-17 June 2016 (Brasilia, Brazil)



## ITU-T SG3 Regional Group for Africa (SG3 RG-AFR)

4-7 February 2013 (Cairo, Egypt)  
20-21 February 2014 (Congo, Brazzaville)  
3-5 February 2015 (Sao Tome, Sao Tome and Principe)  
19-21 January 2016 (Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire)

## SG5 RG Meetings : 8 meetings, 4 regions



### ITU-T SG5 Regional Group for the Arab Region (SG5 RG-ARB)

24 November 2014 (Kuwait City, Kuwait)

4-6 September 2013 (Rabat, Morocco)

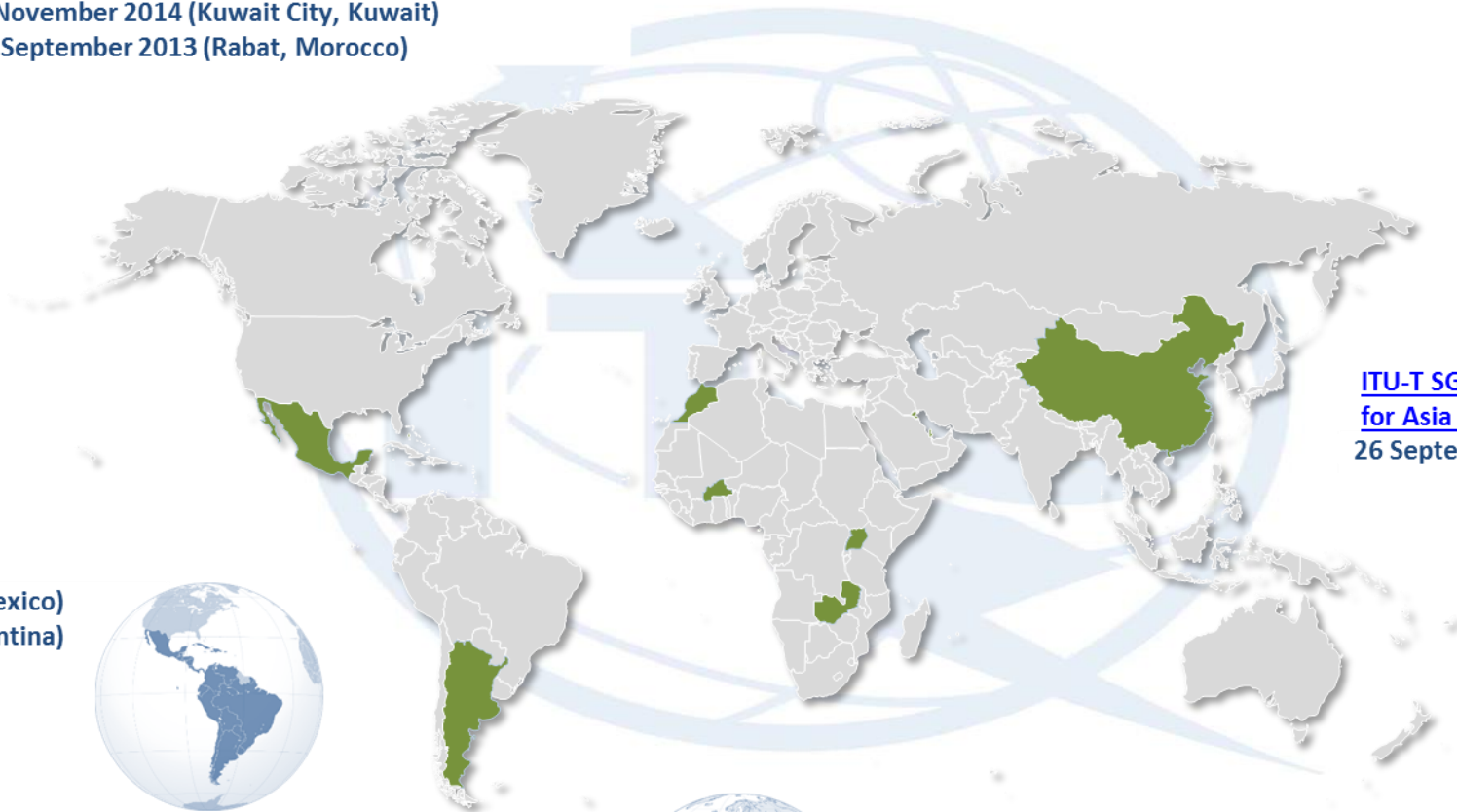
### ITU-T SG5 Regional Group for the Americas (SG5 RG-AMR)

1 October 2014 (Merida City, Mexico)

9 October 2013 (Mendoza, Argentina)



ITU-T BRIDGING THE STANDARDIZATION GAP



### ITU-T SG5 Regional Group for Asia and the Pacific (SG5 RG-AP)

26 September 2014 (Beijing, China)



### ITU-T SG5 Regional Group for Africa (SG5 RG-AFR)

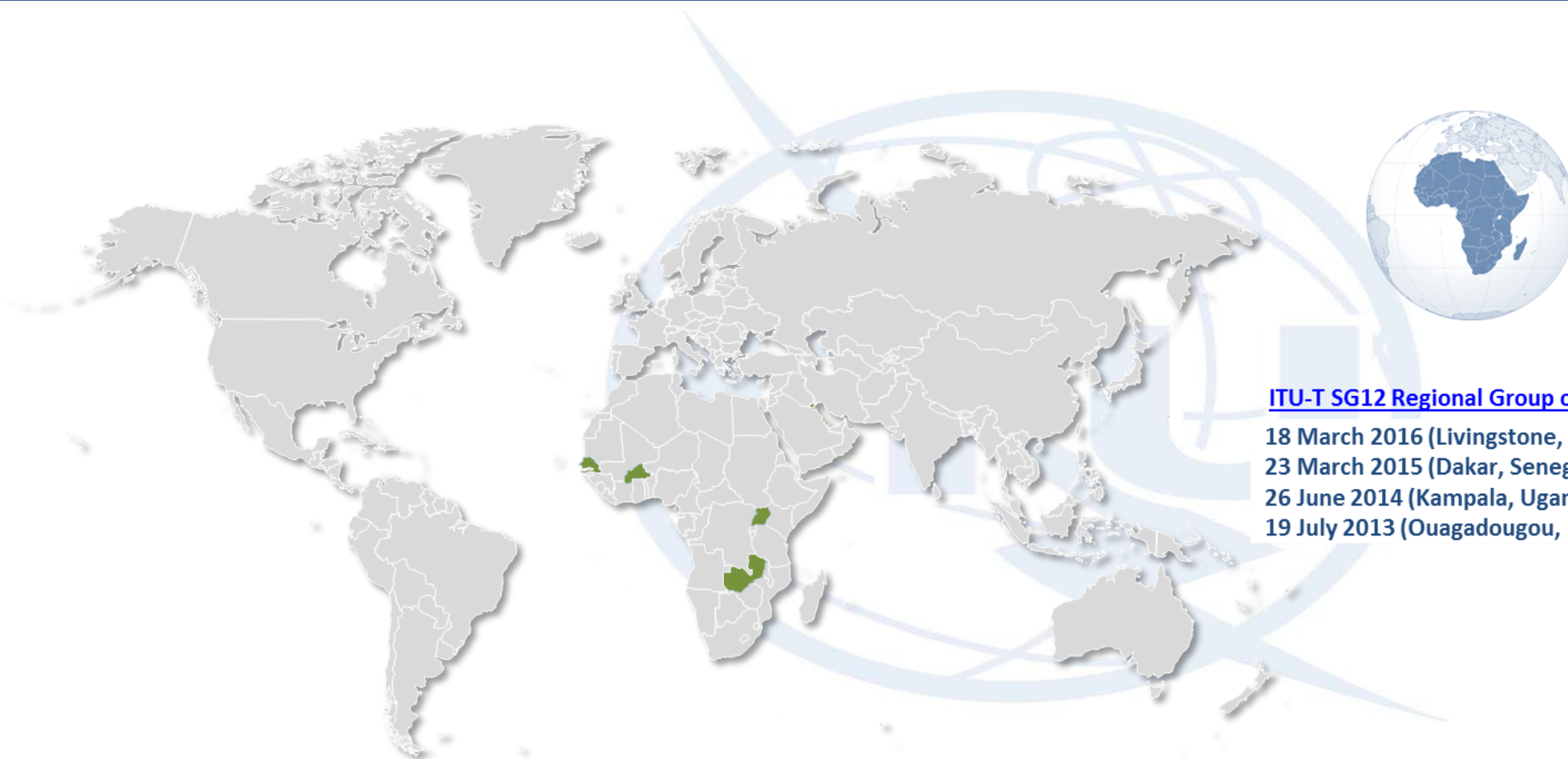
14-15 March 2016 (Livingstone, Zambia)

25-26 June 2015 (Kampala, Uganda)

16-17 July 2013 (Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso)



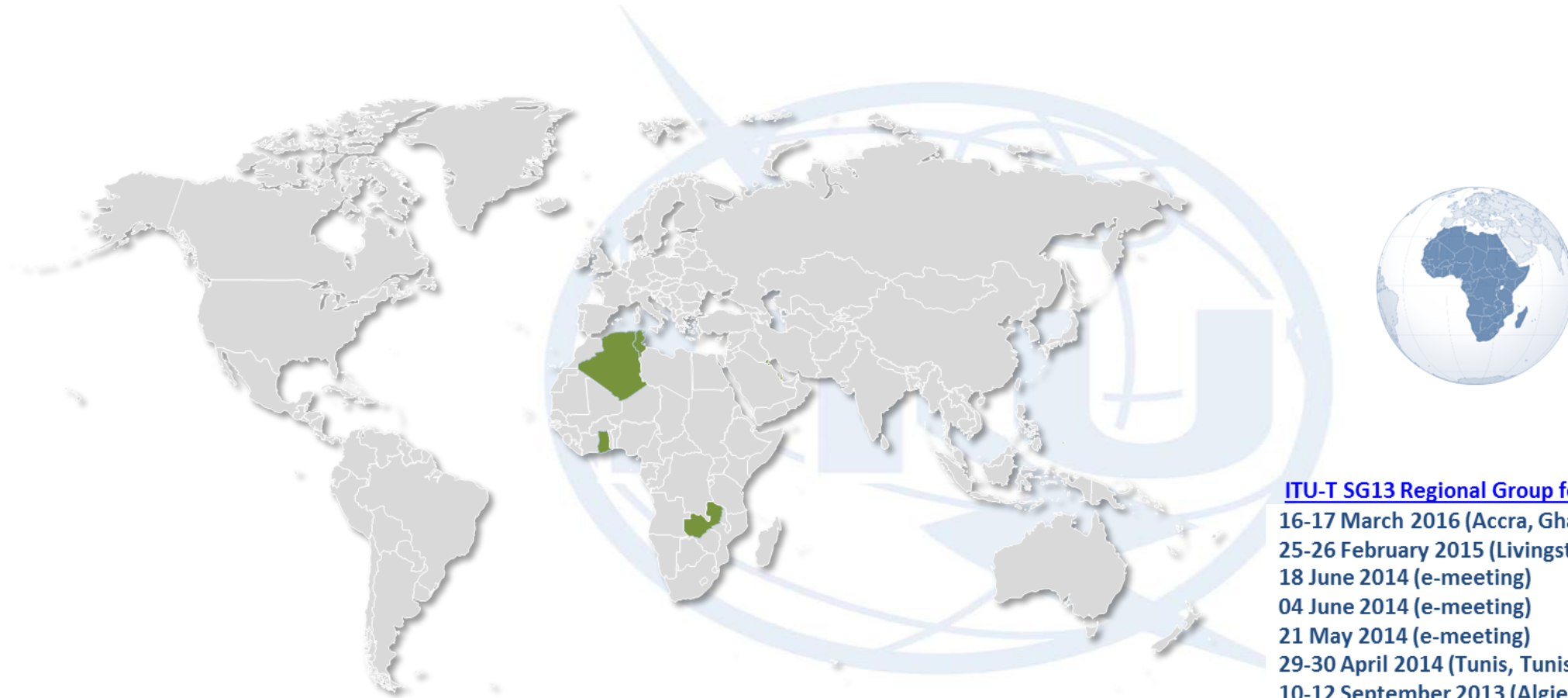
## SG12 RG Meetings : 4 meetings, 1 region



### ITU-T SG12 Regional Group on QoS for the Africa Region (SG12 RG-AFR)

18 March 2016 (Livingstone, Zambia)  
23 March 2015 (Dakar, Senegal)  
26 June 2014 (Kampala, Uganda)  
19 July 2013 (Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso)

## SG13 RG Meetings : 4 meetings, 3 e-meetings, 1 region

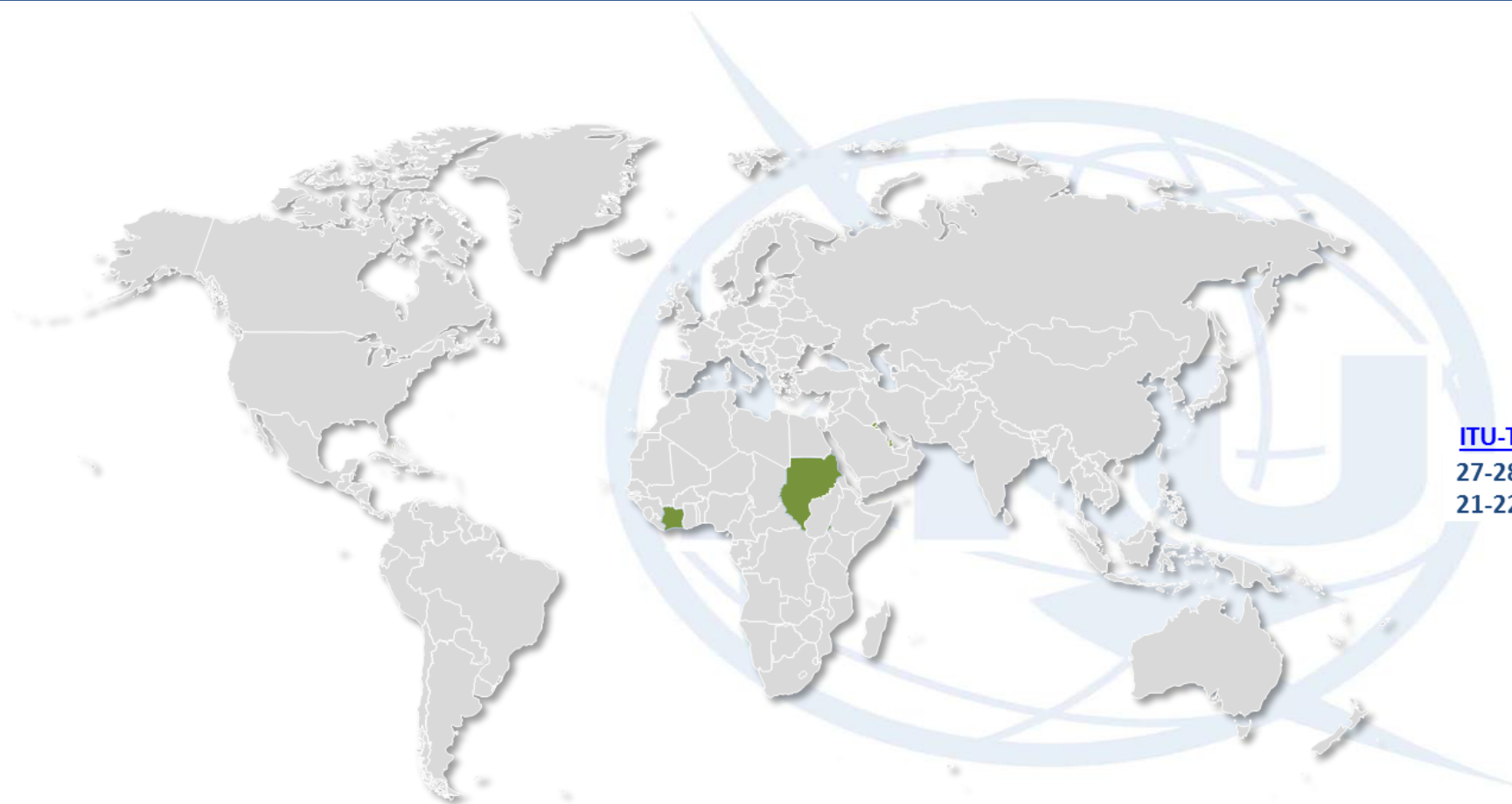


### ITU-T SG13 Regional Group for Africa (SG13 RG-AFR)

16-17 March 2016 (Accra, Ghana)  
25-26 February 2015 (Livingstone, Zambia)  
18 June 2014 (e-meeting)  
04 June 2014 (e-meeting)  
21 May 2014 (e-meeting)  
29-30 April 2014 (Tunis, Tunisia)  
10-12 September 2013 (Algiers, Algeria)



## SG17 RG Meetings : 2 meetings, 1 region



ITU-T SG17 Regional Group for Africa (SG3 RG-AFR)

27-28 July 2016 (Khartoum, Sudan)

21-22 January 2016 (Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire)

# Relevant Articles and Resolutions



## Relevant CV, CS Articles and PP Resolutions

**Article 14** of the ITU Convention authorizes the creation of study groups with a view to standardizing telecommunications on a worldwide basis;

**Article 17** of the ITU Constitution states that "the functions of the Telecommunication Standardization Sector shall be, bearing in mind the particular concerns of the developing countries, to fulfil the purposes of the Union relating to telecommunication standardization ...";

**Resolution 123** (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference instructs the Secretary General and the Directors of the three Bureaux to work closely with each other in pursuing initiatives that assist in bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries, and to further collaborate with relevant regional organizations and support their work in this area;

## Relevant CV, CS Articles and PP Resolutions

- ❖ Outcome for the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) in the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019, adopted in Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, focused on the promotion of participation of membership, in particular developing countries, in the definition and adoption of non-discriminatory international standards with a view to bridging the standardization gap:

– increased participation in the ITU-T standardization process, including attendance of meetings, submission of contributions, taking leadership positions and hosting of meetings/workshops, especially from developing countries;

# WTSA-16 Resolution 44

*resolves*

4 to support, within available or otherwise contributed resources, and on a case-by-case basis, the coordinated creation of regional groups of ITU-T study groups, and encourage cooperation and collaboration of these groups with other regional standardization entities;

*resolves further that ITU regional offices*

1 be engaged in the activities of TSB in order to promote and coordinate standardization activities in their regions so as to support the implementation of the relevant parts of this resolution and carry out the objectives of the action plan, launch campaigns to attract new Sector Members, Associates and academia from developing countries to join ITU-T, and provide the necessary assistance to the regional groups of ITU-T study groups;

## ITU-T

TELECOMMUNICATION  
STANDARDIZATION SECTOR  
OF ITU

WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION  
ASSEMBLY

Hammamet, 25 October – 3 November 2016

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**Resolution 44 – Bridging the standardization  
gap between developing and developed  
countries**

# WTSA-16 Resolution 54

## *resolves*

- 1 to support, on a case-by-case basis, the coordinated creation of regional groups of ITU-T study groups;
- 2 to encourage cooperation and collaboration of regional groups with regional standardization entities (regional organizations, regional standardization bodies, and so forth);
- 3 to invite the ITU Council to consider providing support for the regional groups as appropriate,

## *invites the regions and their Member States*

- 1 to pursue the creation of regional groups of parent ITU-T study groups in their respective regions, to take the necessary steps in accordance with *resolves* 1 to 3 of this resolution, and to support meetings and activities of the regional groups, as appropriate, in coordination with the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau;
- 2 to develop draft terms of reference and working methods for these regional groups, which are to be approved by the parent study group, as regards areas of concern to them;
- 3 to create regional standardization bodies, as appropriate, and encourage joint and coordinated meetings of such bodies with the regional groups of ITU-T study groups in their respective regions, so that these standardization bodies act as an umbrella for such regional group meetings,

International Telecommunication Union

# ITU-T

TELECOMMUNICATION  
STANDARDIZATION SECTOR  
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ASSEMBLY

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**Resolution 54 – Creation of, and assistance to,  
regional groups**

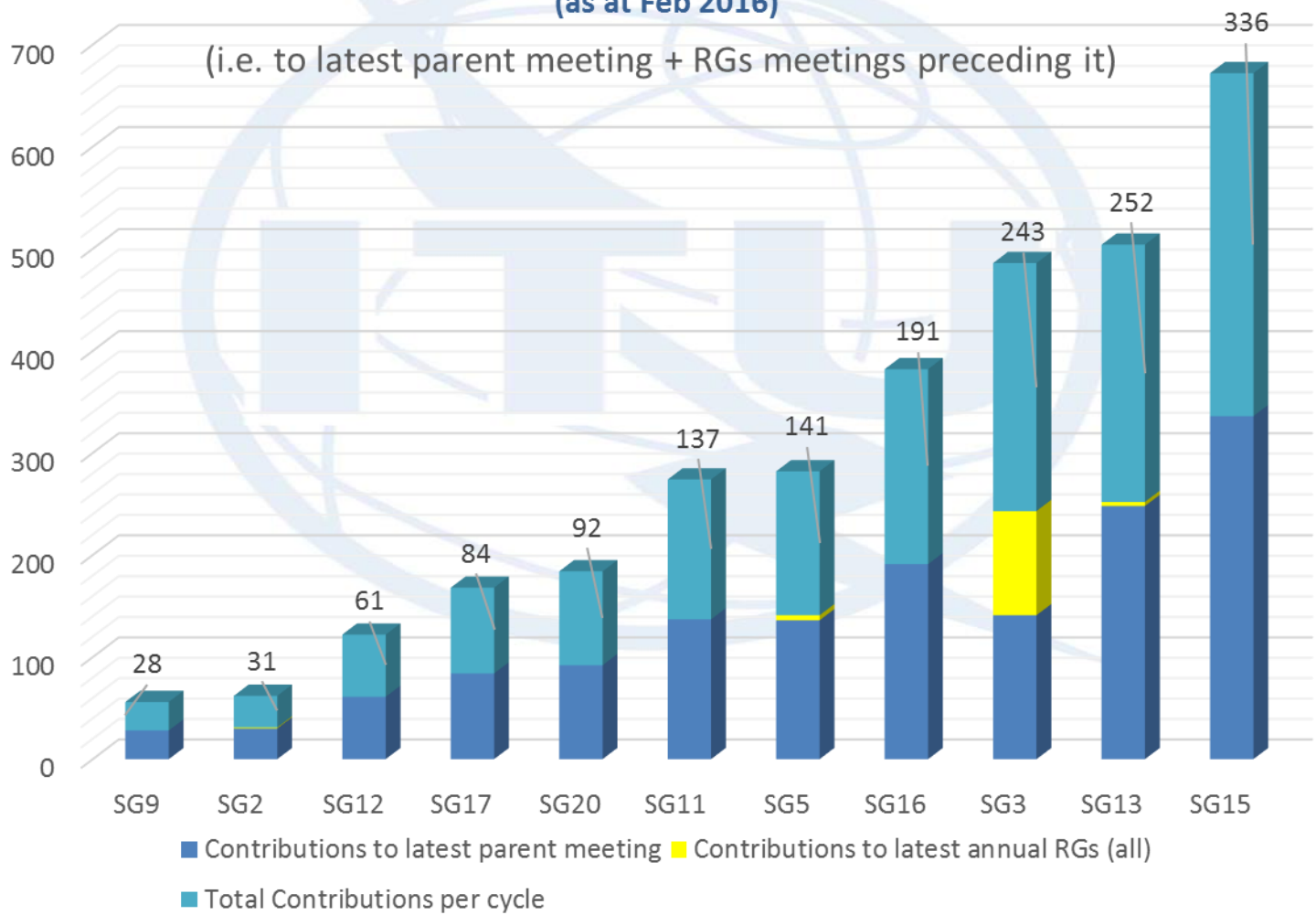
# Impact of Regional Groups

# Impact of RGs - Case Study: SG3

## Total Contributions received in this SG cycle

(as at Feb 2016)

(i.e. to latest parent meeting + RGs meetings preceding it)





# Impact of RGs - Case Study: SG3RG-AFR

SG3RG-AFR, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, 19-21 January 2016

## Quantity

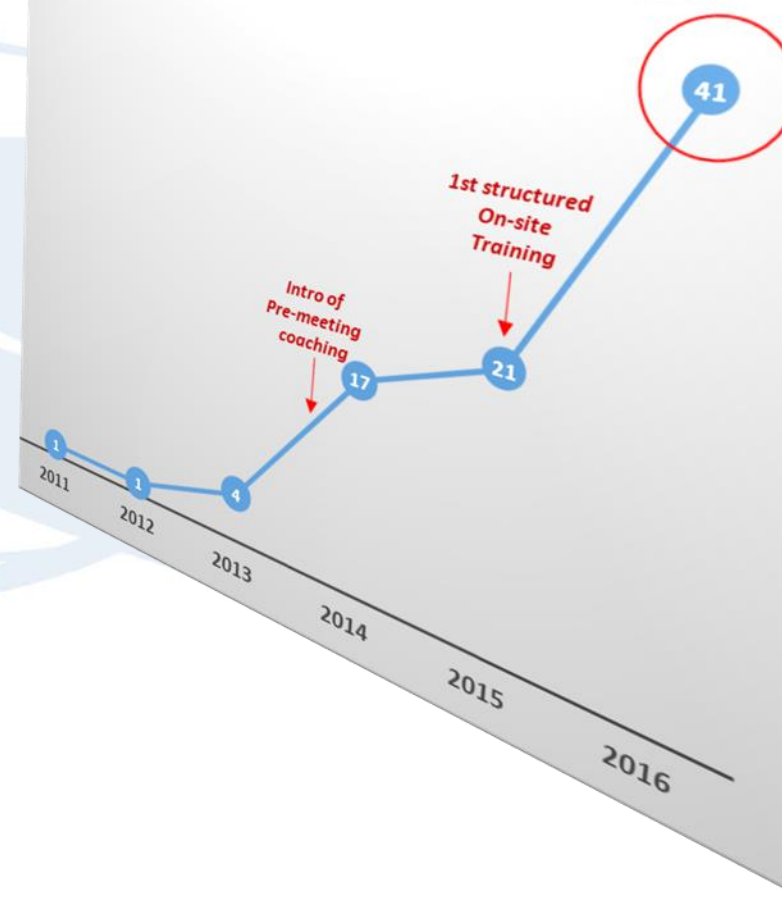


## Diversity



## Contributions to SG3RG-AFR since 2011

Average per meeting in previous 2 Study Periods: **3** contributions  
Submitted to a single meeting in 2016: **41** contributions



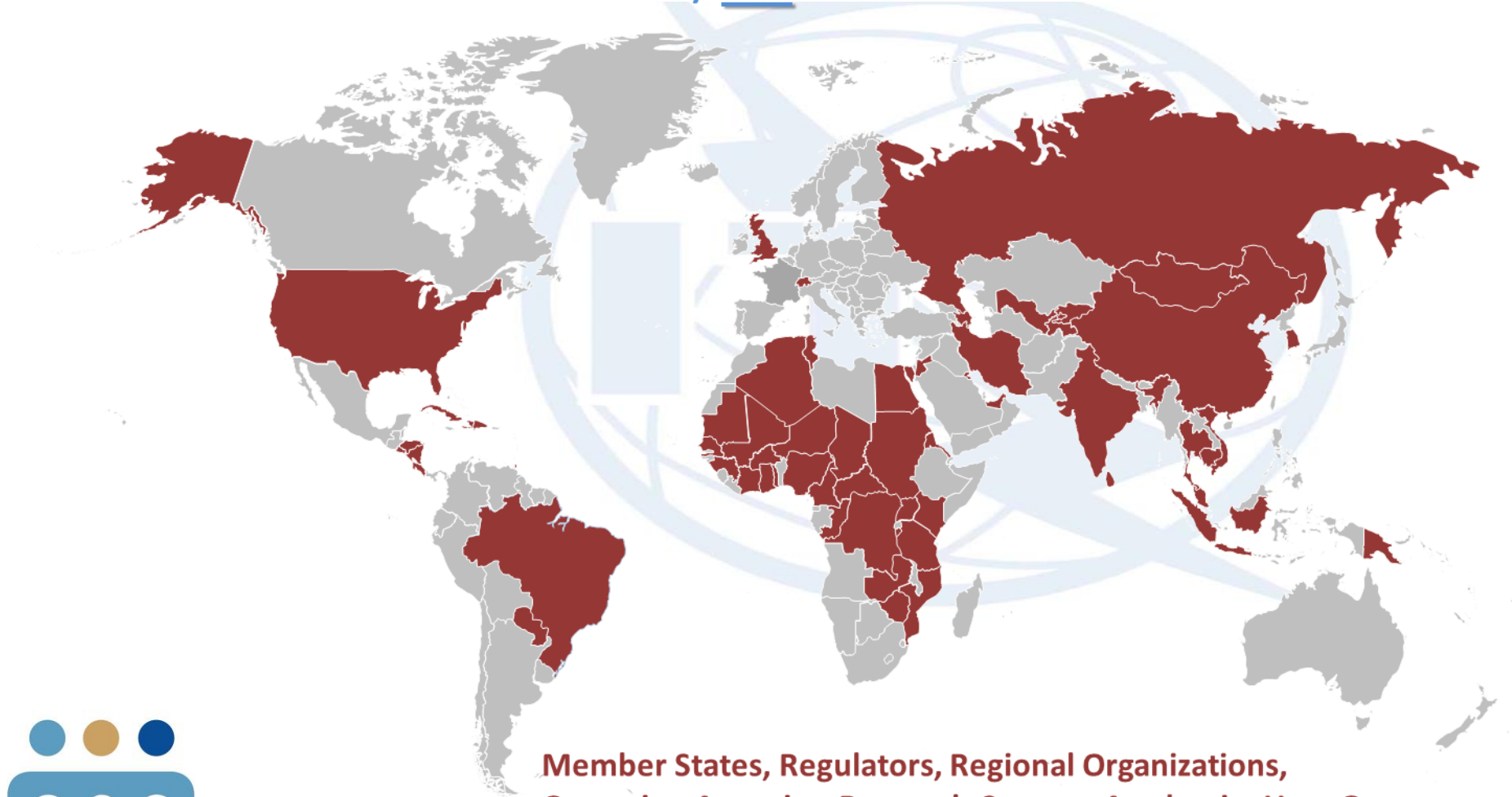
# Impact of RGs - Case Study: SG3RG-AFR

SG3RG-AFR, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, 19-21 January 2016



## Impact of RGs - Case Study: SG3

Written contributions submitted by 76 distinct members to the SG3 meeting in 2016



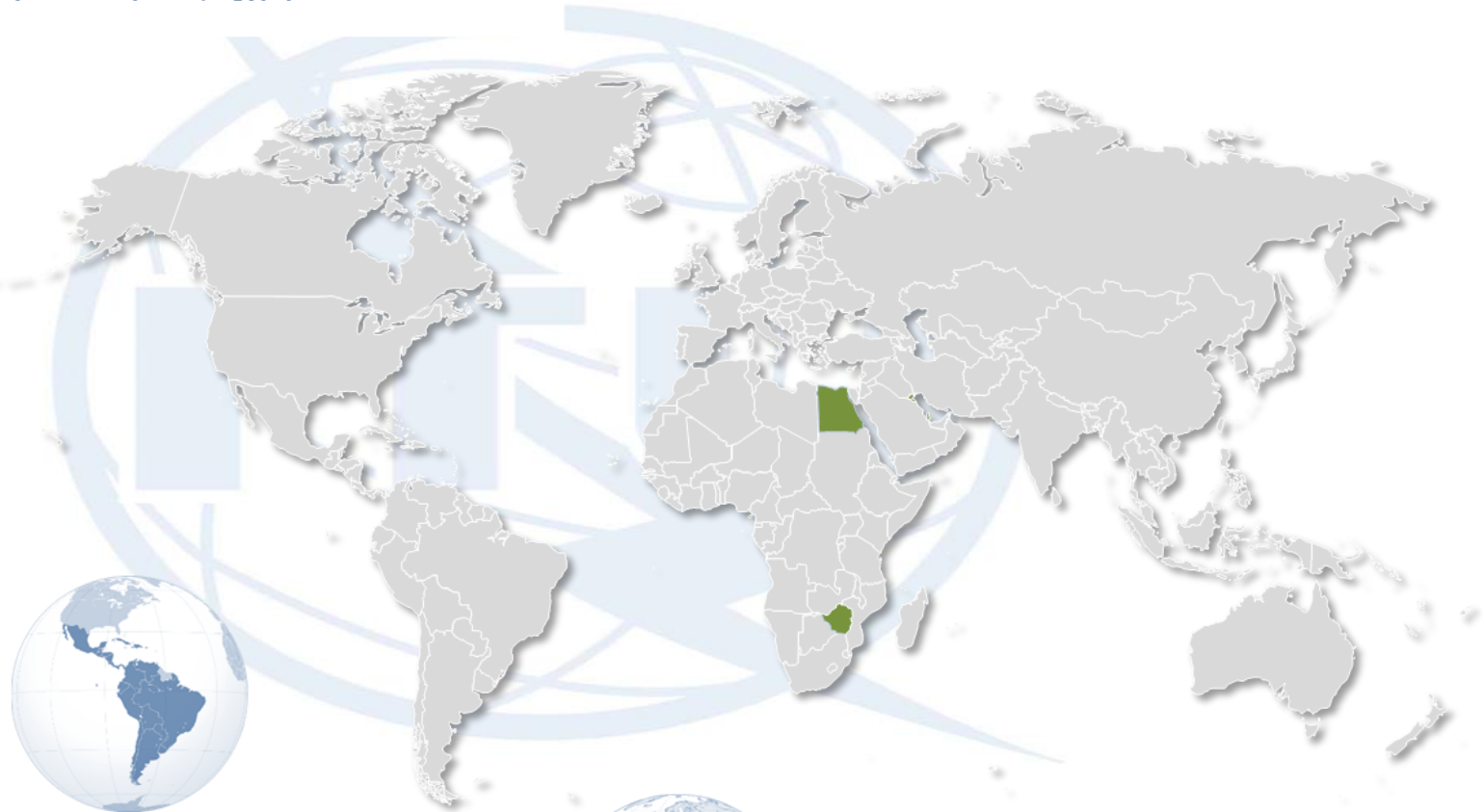
**Member States, Regulators, Regional Organizations,  
Operating Agencies, Research Centers, Academia, User Groups**

# Regional Group Meetings: January to April 2017

# Regional Group Meetings: January to April 2017



ITU-T Regional Groups for the Arab Region  
SG 13- 5-6 April 2017 (Cairo, Egypt)



ITU-T Regional Groups for Latin America  
and the Caribbean & the Americas  
SG3 - 6-10 March 2017  
(Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago)  
SG2 - 7 March 2017  
(Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago)



ITU-T Regional Groups for Africa and East Africa  
SG3 - 31 January – 3 February 2017  
(Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe)

# Thank you



ITU-T Bridging the Standardization Gap

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