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| **itu-old** | INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION | SG3RG-AFR– R 2 – E |
| **TELECOMMUNICATIONSTANDARDIZATION SECTOR**STUDY PERIOD 2013-2016 | **March 2014** |
| **Original: English** |
| **Question(s):** | 4/3 |  |
| **STUDY GROUP 3 REGIONAL GROUP FOR AFRICA****REPORT 2** |
| **Source:** | Co-Chairmen, SG3RG-AFR |
| **Title:** | Report of SG3RG-AFR meeting held in Brazzaville, Congo (Republic of) on 20-21 February 2014 |

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**1 General**

1.1 At the kind invitation of the Regulatory Agency for Post and Electronic Communications (ARPCE), the ITU-T Study Group 3 Regional Group for Africa (SG3RG-AFR) met on 20 and 21 February 2014 at the ARPCE Headquarters in Brazzaville (Republic of the Congo).

The meeting was preceded on 18 and 19 February 2014 by a Regional Economic and Financial Forum of Telecommunications/ICTs for Africa, organized by the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) for members of the group.

1.2 The meeting was attended by some 30 participants from 14 countries. The full list of participants is available in [TD18](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0018/en).

1.3 Saliou Toure, Co-Chairman of SG3RG-AFR, opened the meeting, welcomed all participants, and thanked the host ARPCE for their kind invitation. He conveyed the regrets of the Co-Chairman Abossé Akue-Kpakpo who was not able to attend. Vice-Chairmen Josephine Adou and Raynold Mfungahema introduced themselves as did the TSB Secretariat (Lara Srivastava and Emmanuelle Labare). The Co-Chairman then reminded members that, in order to facilitate the distribution of information and documents among the members of SG3RG-AFR, an electronic distribution list (reflector) had been established. He invited all delegates attending the SG3RG-AFR meeting for the first time to subscribe to the distribution list. He also strongly encouraged participants to contribute and participate at the [ITU-T Study Group 3](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/studygroups/2013-2016/03/sg3rglac/Pages/mgmt.aspx) meeting to be held 26-30 May 2014 in Geneva (Switzerland).

# 2 Adoption of the agenda

The Co-Chairman introduced the Draft agenda in [TD17Rev1](https://www.itu.int/md/choice_md.asp?id=T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0017!R1!MSW-E&lang=en&type=mitems) which was **adopted** without change.

# 3 General overview of SG3 and its regional groups

The counsellor went through her PowerPoint presentation contained in [TD19](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0019/en) which provided an overview of Study Group 3 and its regional groups. This was well received by the group and seen as a valuable tool for both newcomers and seasoned participants.

In the context of the mandate of SG3, one delegate proposed that the group should study the value of the radio spectrum inasmuch as it affects the costs and tariffs of international telecommunications services. The price of spectrum also affects the cost of roaming, which is an important mandate of the group. It was noted by the Co-Chairman that the technical aspects related to spectrum fall within the mandate of the ITU-R and that costing matters are mainly a domestic issue. The group decided to create an ad-hoc group (comprised of Congo-Brazzaville and Sudan) to develop a possible role for the international study group in this area. Their initial report is contained in [TD41](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0041/en). It states that in order to stimulate the efficient and international use of new technologies and products, one must capitalize on the volume production (i.e. economies of scale), which requires universal standards for spectrum valuation and pricing. And that in this respect, Study Group 3 could act as a lever to provide developing countries in particular with access to these new technologies, which are going to be increasingly be radio-based in future and need to be priced accordingly. This is in fact in the very spirit of ITU’s Resolution 44 on Bridging the Standardization Gap. The working group on spectrum proposes that members join the group to further chart out a possible role of Study Group 3 in the economics of spectrum, taking into account the group’s mandate.

# 4 Results of the ITU-T Study Group 3 meeting

4.1 The Co-Chairman from Sonatel (Senegal) introduced [TD20](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0020/en), [TD21](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0021/en), [TD22](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0022/en) and [TD23](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0023/en) containing the reports of the 27-31 May 2013 meeting of Study Group 3 and its working parties. He informed those present that two workshops will be held during the May 2014 Study Group 3 meeting in Geneva – one on the topic of NGN and the other on Cost Models such as roaming.

Delegates encouraged the TSB and the BDT to continue their vital collaboration in the areas under the mandate of the group for the purposes of information sharing and training.

The Co-Chairman emphasized the vital role of contributions from delegates for the work of the study group. If no documents are received under a particular agenda item, the work does not move forward on that agenda item.

4. 2 The counsellor introduced [TD24](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0024/en), [TD25](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0025/en) and [TD26](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0026/en) containing the reports of the 2013 meetings of SG3RG-AO, SG3RG-LAC and SG3RG-ARB respectively.

The group took note of the documents.

# 5 Report of the last SG3RG-AFR meeting

The Co-Chairman of SG3RG-AFR, introduced [TD27](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0027/en), containing the report of the previous meeting of SG3RG-AFR, held in Cairo (Egypt) on 6 and 7 February 2013. He noted that the group should find means to expand membership and increase participation further in the work of the group.

He added that the African group had already begun work on a list of new questions of interest to the region. These questions were also shared with the ITU-T Study Group 3 members in Geneva at the May 2013 meeting: 1) billing and settlement system for termination of international calls,
2) financial impact of spam on service provision, 3) cost of migration from IPv4 to IPv6,
4) cost of inefficient use of numbering resources, 5) dispute settlement, and 6) the financial implications of convergence.

The group approved the final version of the report.

# 6 Impact of WCIT-12 and WTSA-12 on Study Group 3: Summary Table

The counsellor introduced [TD28](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0028/en) on WTSA-12 and WCIT-12, containing a summary in tabular form of the significant items of relevance for Study Group 3 coming out of both forums. The objective of the document is to facilitate discussion of new topics of interest to the group. The group took note of the document.

The Co-Chairman encouraged contributions on these topics for the next meeting as well as the May 2014 meeting of Study Group 3 in Geneva.

# 7 Summary of Outcomes of the 5th WTPF

The Counsellor introduced [TD29](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0029/en), containing the WTPF Chairman’s report of the 5th World Telecommunication Policy Forum held in May 2013. The group took note of the report.

# 8 Terms of Reference for the SG3RG-AFR

The Co-Chairman introduced [TD30](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0030/en) containing a Draft Terms of Reference for the group. After some discussion, changes were made to the document.

The document was edited live on screen. A new version [TD30Rev1](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0030/en) was adopted by the group.

It was suggested that the invitation letters/announcement for meetings of ITU-T Study Group 3 should contain a recommendation to ensure continuity of representation in the group. There were also calls made for continued coordination between the sectors on items under study.

# 9 SG3RG-AFR Cost Model and its Implementation: Review of ITU-T D.600r

The last meeting of SG3RG-AFR decided to set up a working group on the review of ITU-T D.600r, chaired by Ms J. Adou (Côte d'Ivoire). The group, which would work online, was tasked with proposing a draft revision of Recommendation ITU-T D.600R.

The rapporteur for the group, J. Adou (Ivory Coast) took the floor to update the participants on the group’s progress ([C11](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-C-0011/en)). It was proposed that a forward-looking LRIC cost model be developed. The model should take into account, *inter alia*, technological advances, QoS, profitability, efficiency, capacity and the use of bundled packages. Capacity building in the area of cost modelling was seen as key.

The BDT noted that they had done some work on cost models through the ITU-EU HIPSSA project which contains useful information that might be of assistance to the group. This information was shared with the study group.

Some delegates noted the drawbacks of the LRIC model and noted the need to estimate capital costs when constructing the model. Member states that have developed their own cost models might be of particular assistance to the group. One of the members of the group reminded the participants that LRIC was used at the BDT Capacity Building Workshops on Regulatory Auditing and Cost Modeling in Sub-Saharan Africa held in 2013 in Gambia and Tanzania.

The group renewed the working group’s mandate to revise ITU-T D. 600r. The group will be led by J. Adou (Ivory Coast) with members from Burundi, Burkina Faso, CAF, Congo, Ghana, DRC, Senegal, Zimbabwe.

# 10 International Internet Connectivity and ITU-T D.50

The BDT representative introduced [TD32](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0032/en) containing the results of the 2013 ITU survey on tariff policies on international Internet connectivity (IIC).

On behalf of the rapporteur on ITU-T D.50, the Co-Chairman introduced [C13](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-C-0013/en), which updated the participants on the approval of Supplement 2 to ITU-T D.50 at the May 2013 ITU-T Study Group 3 meeting.

The representative from the Democratic Republic of the Congo presented contribution [C5](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-C-0005/en) on Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) in their country and best practices in this area.

The representative from Sonatel (Senegal) introduced their contribution ([C9](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-C-0009/en)) on international Internet connectivity. He highlighted that the costs of international Internet connectivity remain high in Africa. The question is whether or not the objectives of the ITU-T D.50 have been realized. Sonatel proposed that a survey be conducted across the region to collect information on this topic, e.g. on the cost for a country to purchase each megabyte of data, on the price of megabyte for a consumer and so on. The Co-Chairman asked the BDT to confirm whether this data was available. Unfortunately, despite attempts to collect some of this information, there are limited responses from members. The Co-Chairman urged the members present to respond to ITU questionnaires as diligently as possible.

The mandate of the IIC Working Group was renewed, to be led by A. Drame (Sonatel-Senegal). Members of the group include Burkina Faso, Burundi, DRC, Guinea, Niger.

# 11 Study of Hubbing (and other Alternative Calling Procedures)

The representative from Sonatel (Senegal) introduced [C8](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-C-0008/en) containing their contribution on hubbing. He noted that no ITU definition of hubbing currently exists and there is no regulation in this area. He urged that the African region act to ensure that ITU-T Study Group 3 establish guidelines on hubbing, e.g. on routing, QoS, invoicing, dispute resolution.

Sonatel proposes that the starting point should be a survey on hubbing in the region, on questions such as the proportion of traffic routed using hubbing, the evolution of the average purchase price, the quality of service and so on. The results would then be fed into the work of the regional working group on commercial agreements.

Participants agreed to form a working group on hubbing (and other alternative calling procedures) led by M. Pathe Barry (Guinea), with members from DRC, Côte d’Ivoire, and Senegal. It was agreed that the questionnaire developed by the group be circulated via the mailing list.

# 12 Study on the impact of the Internet on Voice and SMS Traffic

The BDT representative introduced [TD31](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0031/en), containing the results of the annual ITU Tariff Policies 2013 survey on costs and tariffs.

The representative from Sonatel (Senegal) introduced their contribution contained in [C10](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-C-0010/en) on the impact of the Internet on voice and SMS traffic. He proposed that a working group on this topic be created to better gauge the magnitude of the phenomenon in the region and to propose ways to address any negative effects on traffic and revenues.

A working group was therefore set up led by E. Nizeye (Burundi), with members from Congo, Kenya, and Sao Tome and Principe.

The Co-Chairman recommended that those delegations present might try to encourage operators to attend future meetings so as to include as many of them as possible in the dialogue.

# 13 International mobile Roaming

The BDT representative introduced [TD33](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0033/en) containing the results of the ITU Tariff Policies Survey on Mobile Roaming to which there were 97 responses. She went on to introduce a “How to Regulatory Guide for Roaming” in [TD34](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0034/en). The counsellor presented [TD36](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0036/en), containing the report she drafted of the ITU High-Level Workshop on International Mobile Roaming Services, organized by the BDT in coordination with the TSB. The event was held in Geneva from 23-24 September 2013.

Invited expert, Dr. Simon Forge, then presented his roaming cost model (in [TD35](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0035/en)) as commissioned by the TSB for use by national regulators. He mentioned that the mark-up for operators in the case of roaming is exorbitant, e.g. in the case of mobile user from Europe travelling to countries in Africa, the mark-up can be in the order of 16 times. These are not cost-based but rather arbitrary prices – with wholesale tariffs quite divorced from underlying costs. The net effect is to reduce the efficiency in the market in terms of competition. He went on to outline the process of using the cost model and the importance of data gathering. Mobile operators are typically reluctant to share price and cost information – however it is becoming increasingly important for regulators to have access to this sort of information. Any efforts in this area must involve multiple countries, rather than a single member state. International cooperation is vital. National regulatory authorities must be able to understand the accounting procedures that are going on within operators. Asking operators to act responsibly is not enough, as evidenced by the EU case. The expert suggested that ideally, it would be useful to find a realistic estimate for a target level for the additional cost of roaming above the domestic tariff, and publish such a level in further enhancements to [ITU-T D.98](http://www.itu.int/rec/T-REC-D.98/en). He suggested that overall, cost-based mobile roaming tariffs worldwide should be the objective. In summary, the expert suggested that a common roaming cost model be introduced, and a two-step process for enforcement be undertaken: regional agreements followed by inter-regional bilateral agreements.

The presentation was well received and delegates emphasized the arbitrariness of the high costs of roaming. Understanding the real costs of roaming was seen as a key priority. Participants called for ways to enable regulators to reduce tariffs through regulation.

The representative from Ghana presented their contribution [C16](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-C-0016/en) on the approval of the questionnaire for operators on roaming. He suggested that the questionnaire as presented in TD35 be sent by administrators to operators in order to gather the necessary information on roaming. Ghana then went on to present its contribution [C17](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-C-0017/en) on the development of a Roaming Cost Model for the region, using as a basis the cost model commissioned by the TSB.

The SG3RG-AFR Vice-Chairman, Raynold Mfungahema, mentioned the work of the African Union in the area of roaming. He noted an important difference to consider with Europe, namely that regulations are implemented directly in the member states. This is not the case for Africa.

The representative from Côte d’Ivoire went on to introduce their contribution on mobile roaming, [C12](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-C-0012/en), which proposed a new recommendation on roaming or alternatively, an annex to the roaming recommendation ITU-T D.98. She noted that [ITU-T D.98](http://www.itu.int/rec/T-REC-D.98/en) was a good starting point. Nonetheless, roaming tariffs remain high.

The group agreed to set up an Ad-Hoc group on the development of a new recommendation on roaming, led by F. Asumanu (Ghana). Members of the group include Côte d’Ivoire, Senegal, Uganda, Tanzania, and Central African Republic.

# 14 Cross-border Mobile Connectivity

## There were no documents to consider under this agenda item. The group decided to remove this agenda item from future meetings until further notice.

# 15 Other Economic and Policy Issues of Interest to SG3RG-AFR

The representative from Sonatel (Senegal) presented their contribution [C7](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-C-0007/en) on commercial agreements for international telecommunication services. The contribution contains a proposal to create a working group on commercial agreements, to ensure African input to the work of the parent study group’s rapporteur group on this topic.

The group agreed to create a working group on commercial agreements led by S. Toure (Sonatel, Senegal), with members from Burkina Faso, Congo, DRC, Côte d’Ivoire, Malawi, Niger, Sao Tome, Sudan.

The DRC noted their contribution [C6](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-C-0006/en) on the development of broadband in their country.

**15.1 Dispute Resolution**

## There were no documents to consider under this agenda item.

**15.2 Costs of Transition from IPv4 to IPv6**

## There were no documents to consider under this agenda item.

**15.3 Numbering Misuse and Associated Costs**

## There were no documents to consider under this agenda item.

**15.4 Cost implications of Network Convergence**

## There were no documents to consider under this agenda item.

**15.5 Broadband Development**

The representative from the Democratic Republic of the Congo presented their contribution ([C6](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-C-0006/en)) on the development of broadband in their country.

**15.6** **Economic Impact of OTT applications for developing countries**

The counsellor presented contribution [C15](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-C-0015/en) on behalf of Egypt on the economic impact of OTTs on developing countries. It was decided that this topic be treated by the working group on the impact of IP on voice and SMS traffic (see point 12).

The representative from BDT noted that the next Global Symposium for Regulators (to be held in Bahrain from 3-5 June 2014) will be on the theme of “Capitalizing on the potential of the digital world” and that in the framework of the GSR, a report on “New business models driven by digital communications and services” is under development. This paper will be distributed by BDT in the mailing list by June 2014 to support the work of SG3RG-AFR.

# 16 Chairman’s Discussion Paper on Working Methods and the Structure of SG3: Call for Contributions

The Co-Chairman introduced [TD37](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0037/en), containing the Chairman’s discussion paper on working methods and structure of ITU-T Study Group 3. He called for the group to agree on minor editorial changes to the working party titles as set out in Box 1 of [TD37](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0037/en). He also asked for the input of participants on the list of issues provided in the Chairman’s paper.

On behalf of Egypt, the Counsellor presented Contribution [C14](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-C-0014/en) which contained Egypt’s response to the Chairman’s discussion paper, which supported the spirit of the discussion paper and urged delegates to develop a response on behalf of the African group.

After some discussion, the regional group adopted the minor editorial changes as proposed by the Chairman in his working paper to the title of the Working Parties.

As for the list of issues/questions, the group came to an agreement to submit the following proposal to the Chairman of ITU-T Study Group 3:

* Delete the following issues from the issues list:
	+ Fixed and leased tariffs,
	+ Network externalities
* Add the following issues from the issues list:
	+ Economic impact of the Internet and OTT players on voice, SMS/MMS and video traffic

# 17 Presentation and Submission of Contributions to SG3

The counsellor introduced [TD38](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0038/en) and [TD39](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0039/en), containing information and guidelines on the presentation, format and submission of contributions to the work of Study Group 3.

# 18 Programme of Work and Action Points

The meeting created 7 working groups as set out in Table 1 below. The first 5 groups met face-to-face during the meeting in Congo-Brazzaville. Their reports are posted online and listed below in the far right column.

**Table 1. Working Groups as confirmed at SG3RG-AFR (20-21 February 2014)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of Working Group** | **Rapporteur**  | **Members** | **Report**  |
| **Working group on Draft Recommendation to include a Roaming Cost Model** | F. Asumanu (Ghana)  | J. Nguessan (Ivory Coast), R. Mfungahema (Tanzania), S. B. Umar (Uganda), J-C Ntahondi (Burundi), A. M. Ndiaye (Senegal), K. Clemence (Tanzania), S. Nalimbi (CAF), B. Djibrilla (ATU) | [TD45](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0045/en) |
| **Working Group on the Revision of D.600r** | J. Adou ( Côte d’Ivoire )  | M. F. Tony (Congo-Brazzaville), R. Ciza (DRC), N. O. Some (Burkina Faso), F. Asumanu (Ghana), S. Nalimbi (CAF), R. Panananhu (Zimbabwe) | [TD44](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0044/en) |
| **Working group on the impact of IP on SMS and Voice Traffic** | E. Nizeye (Burundi) | C. Mendes (Sao Tome and Principe)R. Ciza (DRC), E. Mwasho (Kenya), T. Goma (Congo-Brazzaville), M. Pathe Barry (Guinea) | [TD43](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0043/en) |
| **Working Group on Hubbing (and other Alternative Calling Procedures )** | M. Pathe Barry (Guinea) | R. Ciza (DRC), A.M. Ndiaye (Senegal), T. Goma (Congo-Brazzaville), J-C Ntahondi (Burundi) | [TD42](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0042/en) |
| **Working group on Spectrum Pricing**  | B. Mouandza Mboundzou (Congo-Brazzaville) | Z. M. Mudathier (Sudan) | [TD41](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0041/en) |
| **Working Group on IIC** | A. Drame (Sonatel, Senegal)  | N. O. Some (Burkina Faso), J.C. Ntahondi (Burundi), R. Ciza (DRC), M. Pathe Barry (Guinea), Y. Arouna (Niger)  | n/a  |
| **Working group on commercial agreements** | S. Toure (Sonatel, Senegal) | Y. S Maiga (Burkina Faso) T. Malela Fila (Congo-Brazzaville), J. Adou (Ivory Coast), R. Sawerengera-Msuku (Malawi), Y. Arouna (Niger), C. Mendes (Sao Tome and Principe), Z. M. Mudathier (Sudan). | n/a |

The following action list was approved by the meeting (Table 2):

**Table 2. SG3RG-AFR Action Points for follow-up (20-21 February 2014, Congo-Brazzaville)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Action/Objective**  | **Person responsible** | **Deadlines** |
| **1) Develop a questionnaire on Hubbing with a view to 2) Submit a contribution on Hubbing**  | M. Pathe Barry (Guinea) & Working Group on Hubbing and Alternative Calling Procedures  | Validation of Questionnaire and Collection of Data **31 May 2014**Report on the Collection of Data**31 October 2014**Finalization of report and submission to SG3RG-AFR meeting (February 2015)**31 December 2014**  |
| **1) Develop a questionnaire on the impact of Internet on Voice and SMS traffic with a view to 2) Submit a contribution on on the impact of Internet on SMS and voice traffic** |  E. Nizeye (Burundi) & Working Group on impact of Internet on SMS and Voice  | Validation of Questionnaire and Collection of Data **31 Mai 2014**Report on the Collection of Data**31 October 2014**Finalization of report and submission to February 2015 SG3RG-AFR meeting**31 December 2014**  |
| **Develop draft of revised Recommendation D.600r** | J. Adou ( Côte d’Ivoire ) & Working group on Revision of D. 600R | Examination of current Recommendation ITU-T D.600R**--March 2014**Examination of BDT report on cost models used in the region**--April 2014**Proposal for a methodology for the collection of data to feed into the cost model**--May to July 2014** Development of a draft proposal for a revised Recommendation ITU-T D. 600r**--July to Sept 2014** Preparation of the contribution on the draft revision of the ITU-T D. 600 R **--September to December 2014**Submission of the contribution to February 2015 meeting of SG3RG-AFR**--December 2014**  |
| **Develop draft recommendation on Roaming Charges to include a Roaming Cost Model**  | F. Asumanu (Ghana) & Working Group on Roaming Cost Model  | Send out questionnaire commissioned by TSB (Annex 3 to TD35) to member countries-- Co-Chairman (S. Toure) to send via SG3RG-AFR mailing list **March 2014**Each member state to send that questionnaire to its top 2 operators and gather data**-- by June 2014** Submission by member states of data to the Working Group Chair**-- by July 2014**Analysis of this data by Working Group via mailing list **-- between July 2014 – November 2014**Develop draft text for recommendation based on analysis **-- By December 2014**Submit Draft Recommendation for consideration by February 2015 SG3RG-AFR **--by January 2015** Submit Draft Recommendation to ITU-T SG3 for approval **--by March 2015**  |

# 19 Date and venue of next SG3RG-AFR

The next SG3RG-AFR is tentatively scheduled for February 2015. Sao Tome and Principe offered to host the next meeting of SG3RG-AFR in 2015, subject to confirmation from their Ministry within the week. If Sao Tome and Principe is for some reason unable to host in 2015, Tanzania kindly offered to host the meeting. In addition, Côte d’Ivoire offered to host the meeting in 2016.

# 20 Any other business

The Counsellor introduced [TD40](https://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-140220-TD-PLEN-0040/en) on guidelines for establishing national standardization secretariats. The guidelines were noted by the participants.

# 21 Close of meeting

The Co-Chairman from Sonatel (Senegal) thanked the host country, the management team, participants, the hostesses, the interpreters and the staff of TSB, BDT and the ITU Regional Office for their hard work and their support.

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