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|  | INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION  **TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION SECTOR**  STUDY PERIOD 2025-2028 | | | TSAG-TD21 |
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| **Title:** | | ITU-T SG3 Lead Study Group Report | | |
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| **Abstract:** | This report provides updates about the SG3 lead study group activities. |

# 1 SG3 Lead Study Group Roles

WTSA-24 assigned three lead study group roles to ITU-T Study Group 3:

* Tariff and accounting principles relating to international telecommunication/ICT,
* Economic issues relating to international telecommunication/ICT, and
* Policy issues relating to international telecommunication/ICT.

# 2 Activities during the reporting period

During the reporting period between July 2024 and May 2025, SG3 held its first meeting of the study period in Geneva from 8 to 17 April 2025. Annex 1 provides the key results of the SG3 meeting.

# 3 Activities of SG3 Regional Groups

SG3 has six regional groups, of which five regional groups are active, and one regional group is established on an as-needed basis.

In the reporting time frame, four regional groups met with strong participation of developing countries, which helped to prepare the SG3 meeting:

* Report of SG3 Regional Group for Latin America and the Caribbean (SG3RG-LAC) meeting held in Lima, Peru, 5-6 September 2024 ([SG3-TD15/PLEN](https://www.itu.int/md/T25-SG03-250408-TD-PLEN-0015/en));
* Report of SG3 Regional Group for the Arab Region (SG3RG-ARB) meeting held in Amman, Jordan, 6 February 2025 ([SG3-TD16/PLEN](https://www.itu.int/md/T25-SG03-250408-TD-PLEN-0016/en));
* Report of SG3 Regional Group for the Asio Region (SG3RG-AO) meeting held virtually on 10 February 2025 ([SG3-TD17/PLEN](https://www.itu.int/md/T25-SG03-250408-TD-PLEN-0017/en)); and
* Report of SG3 Regional Group for Africa (SG3RG-AFR) meeting held in Libreville, Gabon, 19-21 February 2025 ([SG3-TD14/PLEN](https://www.itu.int/md/T25-SG03-250408-TD-PLEN-0014/en)).

# 4 Activities of Focus Group on Cost Models for Affordable Data Services (FG-CD)

The progress report of Focus Group on Costing Models for Affordable Data Services (FG-CD) was presented in [SG3-TD13/PLEN](https://www.itu.int/md/T25-SG03-250408-TD-PLEN-0013/en).

It was clarified that the work of the FG-CD would conclude by the next SG3 meeting scheduled in November 2025.

# 5 Cooperation with ITU-T Lead Study Groups, TSAG, and ITU-D and ITU-R

SG3 sent the following liaison statements:

* To SCV, ITU-T SG12 and ITU-T SG17 on the term digital financial service ([SG3-LS3](https://www.itu.int/net/itu-t/ls/ls.aspx?isn=34139)),
* To ITU-T SG2 on a joint Rapporteur Group meeting on OTT related definitions ([SG3-LS4](https://www.itu.int/net/itu-t/ls/ls.aspx?isn=34140)) and on the initiation of NWI TR\_CostAI, a draft Technical Report on Cost-Benefit Analysis of Adopting Artificial Intelligence in Telecommunications/ICTs ([SG3-LS8](https://www.itu.int/net/itu-t/ls/ls.aspx?isn=34144)), and
* To TSAG on the provisional approval of NWI TR\_CostSatellite, a draft Technical Report on cost models for provisioning Satellite Internet Connectivity Services ([SG3-LS2](https://www.itu.int/net/itu-t/ls/ls.aspx?isn=34138)).

SG3 liaised with Joint Coordination Activity on IMT2020 and Beyond (JCA-IMT2020) on the progress of work item Study\_NetworkSlicing: Study of network slicing in the international telecommunication ecosystem – a draft Technical Report with a focus on policy and regulatory aspects of network slicing ([SG3-LS5](https://www.itu.int/net/itu-t/ls/ls.aspx?isn=34141)).

SG3 sent liaison statements to ITU-D SG1 on the initiation of NWI TR\_AntiCompetition, a draft Technical Report on investigating anti-competitive practices in telecommunications sector ([SG3-LS1](https://www.itu.int/net/itu-t/ls/ls.aspx?isn=34137)), and NWI Study\_WACC, a draft Technical Report on the role of weighted average cost of capital (WACC) in regulatory decisions ([SG3-LS7](https://www.itu.int/net/itu-t/ls/ls.aspx?isn=34143)).

SG3 liaised with both ITU-D and ITU-R on the provisional approval of NWI TR\_CostSatellite, a draft Technical Report on cost models for provisioning Satellite Internet Connectivity Services ([SG3-LS6](https://www.itu.int/net/itu-t/ls/ls.aspx?isn=34142)).

# Annex 1: Key Results

**a) Recommendations approved (TAP – WTSA-24 Resolution 1):**

Determined draft new Recommendation ITU-T D.265, "Principles for tariff regulation of data services", as contained in [SG3-TD2/WP2](https://www.itu.int/md/T25-SG03-250408-TD-WP2-0002/en), was approved.

Determined draft new Recommendation ITU-T D.1141, "Policy framework and principles for data protection in the context of big data related to telecommunication/information and communication technology services", as contained in in [SG3-TD5/WP3](https://www.itu.int/md/T25-SG03-250408-TD-WP3-0005/en), was approved.

**b) Recommendations (not approved) (TAP – WTSA-24 Resolution 1):**

None.

**c) Amendment approved, Supplements agreed, Technical Reports/Papers agreed, Implementer’s guide approved:**

Draft new Supplement 3 to ITU-T Recommendation D.50 (ex D.50.Suppl.3), “Guidelines for reducing the costs of international Internet connectivity for the Central African Backbone (CAB) project”, as contained in [SG3-TD40/PLEN](https://www.itu.int/md/T25-SG03-250408-TD-PLEN-0040/en), was agreed by SG3 plenary (pursuant to Recommendation ITU-T A.13).

**d) Recommendations determined (TAP – WTSA-24 Resolution 1):**

Draft new Recommendation ITU-T D.1142 (ex D.IoTpolicy), “Guidelines on economic and policy aspects of Internet of Things (IoT)”, as contained in [SG3-TD4/WP2](https://www.itu.int/md/T25-SG03-250408-TD-WP2-0004/en), was determined by SG3 plenary (TAP, WTSA-24 Resolution 1).

**e) Recommendations deleted (WTSA-24 Resolution 1):**

None.

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