

**INTERNATIONAL STANDARDIZATION
TUTORIAL****STUDY PERIOD 2010-2013****English only
Original: English**

SPECIAL STUDY GROUP G – CONTRIBUTION 39**Source:** Niger**Title:** Support decentralization of GTO, but with flexibility

ABSTRACT

Considering GTO will be a “global entity” with a responsibility to interact and support all its members, which are located in every region of the world, and also considering the existing organizational base located in Geneva, it is considered best to decentralize GTO operations to better serve the needs of its members, but to implement such a structure with flexibility.

Introduction

Study Group G has been asked to consider the decentralization of the GTO to bring its operations closer to its members throughout the world, providing greater benefits to its members. The issues involved are discussed below.

Discussion.

Locations- the decentralization locations to be in countries:

- Where established ICT organisations exist,
- Where the ICT infrastructure is well established
- Also where members from nearby developing countries can travel to
- Easily accessible by airline,

Resources – the following should be considered:

- Availability of skilled people
- Availability of meeting facilities for conferences and accommodation
- Reliable infrastructure – power, transportation and safety issues

ICT facilities – for operational needs

- Availability of reliable broadband services
- Telephone, mobile and online services

Considering the above basic requirements, the decentralized offices can be distributed throughout the world including developing countries. This, however, is to be done with much flexibility to ensure:

- That there is a calendar of meetings where many of these decentralized members can meet in a particular country and this could be rotated.
- To promote personal contacts through meetings, in person and on-line, rather than be limited to a single country.

- To promote use of technology – for effective meetings.
- However the decentralization should not prevent members from participating in any critical conference or event at the Geneva, HQ, should the member wish to attend.
- Also noting that Geneva is quite an expensive location and the high cost of airfares often keeps members away from meetings, major events should be held in other regions. As the pace of technology development continues to increase, its use can enable remote participation at meetings to be more fruitful.
- Distributing some of the GTO operational locations to locations outside Geneva will bring advantages to the local ICT communities (e.g., operators, universities) increasing the awareness of its roles, and easier access to publications.

Conclusion

Considering the need to bridge the gap between many of its members, it's supported to decentralize the operations of the GTO, but to do so with some flexibility in order to take advantage of benefits present both in Geneva and in the regions.
