Overview of ITU-T

ITU-T - Leader in ICT and Telecommunication Global Standards

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ITU International Telecommunication Union

Committed to connecting the world

ITU Structure

Plenipotentiary Conference

ITU Council

General Secretariat

ITU-T
World **T**elecommunication **S**tandardization **A**ssembly

ITU-R
World Radiocommunication Conference
Radiocommunication Assembly

ITU-D
World Telecommunication Development Conference
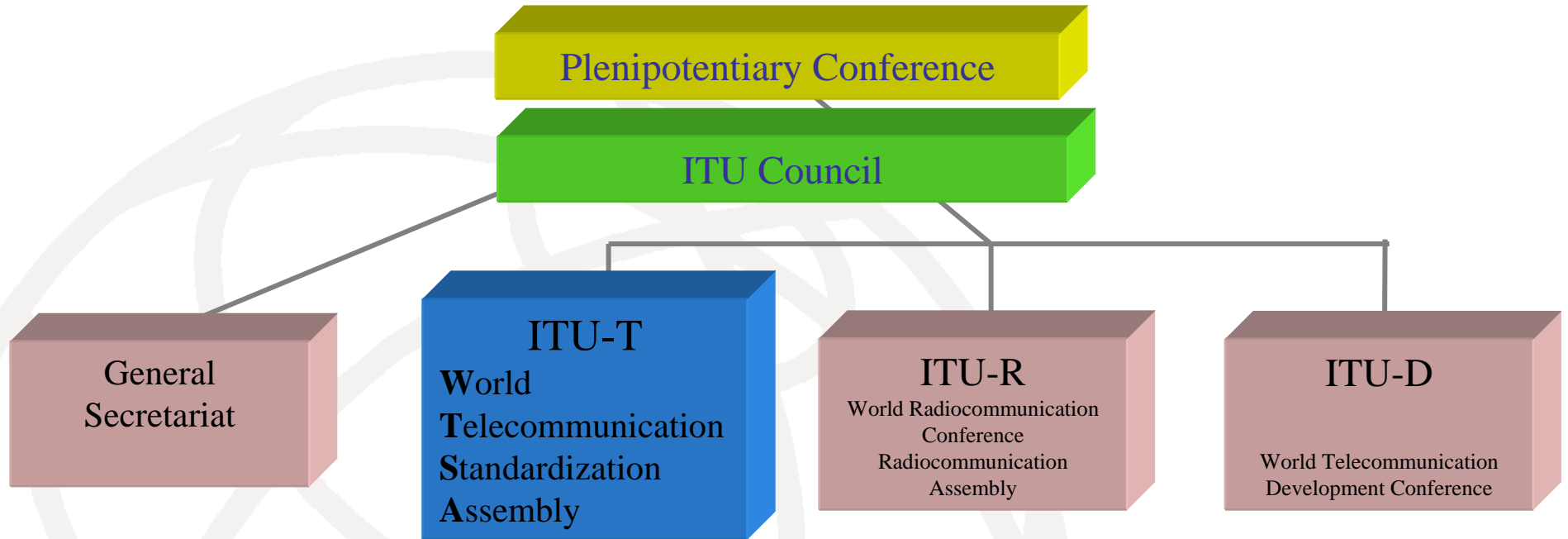
ITU-T: Telecommunication standardization on a world-wide basis on technical, operating and tariff, Questions. TSB: ITU-T Secretariat

ITU-R: Radio communications and wireless

ITU-D: Use and deployment of telecom networks and services in developing countries and countries with economy in transition

Gen. Sec.: Coordinates the Union's activities and the overall management of the union

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Regional working

- ## 5 ITU Regional Offices:
  - Africa Region
  - Americas Region
  - Arab Region
  - Asia & Pacific Region
  - Europe & CIS Region

- ## 6 Regional Organisations:
  - APT
  - Arab Group
  - ATU
  - CEPT
  - CITEL
  - RCC

- ## Various regional groups

ITU Membership

- **Member States** (voluntary financial contributions)
  - » ITU   **191**

- **Sector Members** (usual fee 31,500 CHF per annum)
  - » **ITU-T**   **303** ⎫
  - » ITU-R   277 ⎬ **560**
  - » ITU-D   299 ⎭

Total ITU-T 424

- **Associates** (10,600 CHF per annum)
  - » **ITU-T**   **121** ⎫
  - » ITU-R   27 ⎬ **155**
  - » ITU-D   7 ⎭

Total: 715

ITU-T Structure

WTSA
WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION ASSEMBLY

TSAG

Workshops, Seminars, Symposia, …

IPR ad hoc

WTSA
TSAG
Study Groups
Working Parties
Questions
Regional Groups
Academia

Study Group

S.G.

S.G.

WP   **WP**   **WP**   **WP**

Focus Groups

Q   **Q**   **Q**   **Q**

Q = Question: Develops Recommendations

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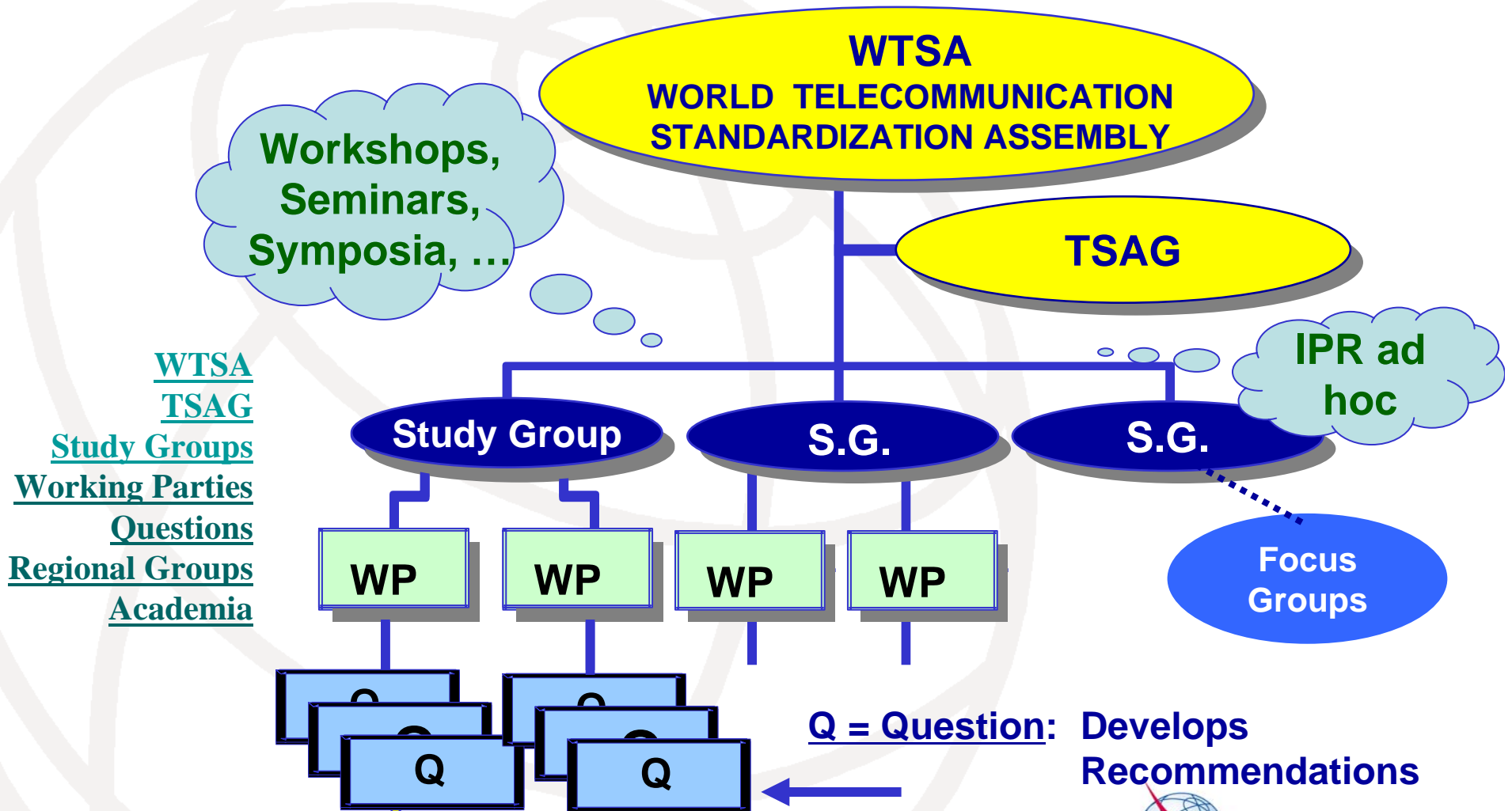
Why ITU-T is different

- Unique partnership of governments (Member States) and private sector (Sector Members)
    - Today, 95% of work is done by private sector
    - Remaining 5% regulatory or policy impact
- Truly global and not-discriminatory standards
- Working together for consensus decisions
- Very flexible to start new initiatives
- Fast & transparent procedures
- Brand name
- Common IPR Policy and copyright

www.itu.int/ITU-T

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ITU-T is fast

- **start** work: 1 day / few weeks
- **develop** work: from weeks to 2-3 yrs
- **approve** technical standards: average 9 weeks
- **publish** work: couple of days after approval

ITU-T product

- Around 210 new and updated Recommendations are produced each year

- Approx. 95% approved under AAP (alternative approval procedure) rules

- More than 3300 ITU-T Recommendations are in force

- With only a small number of exceptions all in-force ITU-T Recommendations are available for downloading from ITU website in PDF form free of charge:

  itu.int/ITU-T/publications/recs.html

ITU-T hot topics

- Next generation network (NGN), IPTV

- Home networking

- Cybersecurity & identity management (IdM)

- Ubiquitous networks

- Next generation multimedia conferencing, videocoding

- Broadband access and transport network, optical fibres

- Packet based transport

- Accessibility

- ICT & climate change

ITU-T's Focus Group concept
(Recommendation A.7)

- Create forum-like entities as an "arms-length" organization under ITU-T Study Group

- Goal:
  – Encourage participation of non-members / members of other organizations (forums) / experts / individuals

- Organizational freedom to establish its own rules
  – can keep own brand name and at the same time benefit from ITU's branding, have its own deliverables

ITU-T Focus Groups

In operation:

- NGN Management

- From/In/To Cars Communication

Recently concluded activities:

- Identity Management IdM

- IPTV

- NGN

Possible new Focus Groups:

- ICTs and Climate Change

- Beyond NGN

The Global Standards Initiative

Hot topics work is carried forward by ITU-T's Global Standards Initiatives (GSIs) which encompasses all the relevant study items work across various ITU-T Study Groups. GSIs are co-located meetings of concerned study groups, or rapporteur groups from the various concerned study groups.

The goals are:

•to address the market needs for standards and to produce global standards quickly

•to further strengthen the ITU-T's leading role amongst the other SDOs

•to keep visibility of the work spread between different technical groups in ITU-T

# Global Standard Initiative: GSI

Workshops: some activities in 2008

Up coming:

- ITU Symposium 2 on ICTs and Climate Change, London, United Kingdom, 17 – 18 June 2008

- ITU-T/IEEE workshop on the next generation optical access
  Geneva, 19 – 20 June 2008

- ITU Workshop: "ICT Standards and Intellectual Property Rights",

  1 July 2008, Geneva

- ITU Workshop on transition to IPv6,

  4/5 September 2008, Geneva

http://itu.int/ITU-T/worksem

Technology Watch

- **Technology Watch** surveys the ICT environment for new study topics

- **Technology Watch Briefing Reports** provide an up-to-date assessment of promising new technologies. Recent papers:

  - Remote collaboration tools

  - Ubiquitous Sensor Networks

  - ICTs and Climate Change

  - Telepresence

  - High-performance video-conferencing

  - Intelligent Transport Systems

- **All available free on ITU-T website**
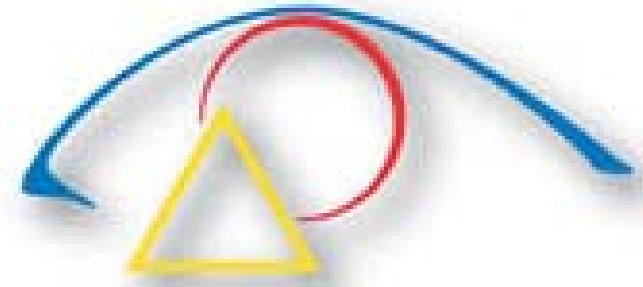
Cooperation between ITU-T and Universities

Given the knowledge that many new technologies find life in the minds of the academic and research communities, ITU is increasingly looking to attract more involvement from the world's universities and other academic institutions

Following a consultation meeting held in January 2007 an informal discussion group has been formed with universities to discuss ways to increase their participation in the work of ITU-T. To participate in the discussion please join the mailing list by sending a request to tsbuni@itu.int

(see http://itu.int/ITU-T/uni)

Kaleidoscope Conferences

In order to solicit standardization work on emerging technologies, ITU-T organizes multi-topic events (Kaleidoscopic Conferences) with the aim to enhance participation of academia and research organizations in ITU-T activities

The first on the theme "Innovation in NGN" took place on 12-13 May 2008 (see: http://itu.int/ITU-T/uni/kaleidoscope)

- More than 140 papers received in response to call for papers

- Over 50 papers presented at the conference

- Best 3 papers awarded prizes totalling $10,000

- Special edition of IEEE Communications magazine

One place to share knowledge, procedures, experiences and results by experts, scientists, visionaries and academics from all over the world

Unique networking environment in which to discover new standardization areas and new technologies that can be input into ITU-T Study Groups and Technology Watch-Correspondence Group

Next Kaleidoscope event will be held in Argentina, 7-8 September 2009

Direct participation mechanisms in ITU-T work

- Sector members
  - Participation in all SGs (CHF 31,800 per year)

- Associate members
  - Participation limited to one SG (CHF 10,600 per year)
- Open and free participation in meetings of Focus Groups
- Free participation by invitation of chairman to SG and Rapporteur groups meetings as experts
- Free participation in Workshops and Seminars
- Free access to Recommendations on line (3 million copies downloaded free of charge in 2007)
- Possibility to co-organize events
- Research project sponsors
- Free participation in Kaleidocope
- Internships (e.g. students, researchers)

Reducing the standardization gap

Objective

- End disparities in the ability of representatives of developing countries, relative to representatives of developed countries, to **access, implement, contribute to and influence international ICT standards**, specifically ITU Recommendations

– Status

- Much has been done to improve access:
  - » Regional Forums
  - » Regional Groups
  - » Remote working
  - » Meetings in the regions

– Expected Results at WTSA-08

- Revision of related Resolutions

Possible new initiatives for WTSA-08

- Reduced number of study groups

- Recommendation to Council/PP-10 for new category of membership for academia

- Reduced Sector Membership fee for small and medium enterprises from developing countries

- Concerns about proliferation of standards bodies

- Proposals to improve collaboration with and participation of research institutes

- New work on climate change

- New work on "ITU inside" concept

Conclusions

- ITU making effort to facilitate participation of the membership in a more transparent, dynamic, innovative, and evolving international public/private partnership for standardization
- Ready to listen to the needs of the regions

- Encourage you to participate

ITU:

The place for ICT global standards

Thank you!
Malcolm.Johnson @itu.int

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