

**INTERNATIONAL STANDARDIZATION
TUTORIAL****STUDY PERIOD 2010-2013****English only
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STUDY GROUP SPECIAL G – CONTRIBUTION 31**Source:** Kenya**Title:** Support having only e-meetings**Abstract**

To conduct all GTO meetings virtually using emails and collaborative systems such as video conferencing that will reduce the carbon footprint, save money and take advantage of modern technology

Introduction

Some country representatives could not attend the meeting physically due to the cost of travelling and this leads to non-representation of the said country in any decision making at GTO.

E-meetings

There will be several important meetings in a year and each member country is required to attend the meetings so that their views are recorded and taken into consideration before any decision is finalized. Currently the meetings are not well represented by poor countries. Besides that, attending all these meeting requires lots of money for a country like us and the travelling contributes to carbon footprint.

Using the ICT technology that we have now, we don't have to physically be present to attend the meetings. The fund for travelling can be used for other purposes and this will greatly reduce the carbon footprint. Below are our suggestions:

- All meetings to be conducted virtually – this will definitely increase the participation from poor member countries and each country can be represented by many individuals. These meetings can be conducted in the following manner
 - Emails – prior to the said virtual meetings, discussion can take place in email exchanges. This will give ample time for the participants to discuss their views.
 - Phone conferencing or video conferencing – There will be a small cost involved in setting up the system initially. The use of this technology will also promote the usage of ICT in each country. These meetings can be held at a specific time that is suitable for all to attend.

Conclusion

Our proposal is to conduct GTO meetings virtually as that will help in reducing the cost for members from poor countries and which will also reduce the carbon footprint. This method will also increase the number of participants from various economics.