



# Conformity and Interoperability Training for Arab Region

11-15 April 2016, Tunis, Tunisia

## Assessment Study on Conformance and Interoperability for Maghreb Countries

Riccardo Passerini  
Head Telecommunication Technologies and Network Development  
ITU-BDT, C&I Focal Point [riccardo.passerini@itu.int](mailto:riccardo.passerini@itu.int)

# **CONFORMITY AND INTEROPERABILITY ASSESSMENT ON A REGIONAL BASIS: Maghreb countries**



- **Collaboration among Regional and Sub-regional Organizations for Establishing common Conformity and Interoperability (C&I) Programmes and Mutual Recognition Agreements**

# Maghreb C&I Study



- The objective is to carry out the Conformity and Interoperability Assessment on a Regional Basis. This project aimed to identify all the necessary elements and promote the Collaboration among Regional and Sub-regional Organizations for establishing a common C&I Programme and Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs). It also presents possible scenarios to meet the needs and interests of Member States and Regions on C&I. The Assessment covers, among other items:
  - **General aspects of Maghreb region**
  - **Regulatory framework and Institutions**
  - **Accreditation, Laboratories, certification bodies and Marking**
  - **Recommendations for establishing common C&I programme and MRAs.**



# Methodology for conducting the Study



**International Telecommunication Union Arab Regional Office**  
**Union Internationale des Télécommunications Bureau Régional Arabe**

Reference: .....017532..... 5 May 2014

**H.E. Mr. Habib BEN YAHIA**

Secretary General of Arab Maghreb Union (AMU), Rabat-Morocco (sent to all Administrations of Maghreb also)

## **Subject: Conformance and Interoperability Assessment Study for Maghreb Region**

Excellence,

Reference to our letter No. 017461 dated 4 February 2014, regarding the intention of the BDT to conduct a Conformity and Interoperability (C&I) Assessment Studies on Regional and Sub-regional Basis: Collaboration among Regional and Sub-regional Organizations for establishing a common C&I Regime and Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs).

This project aims at identifying the necessary elements and promotes the Collaboration among Regional and Sub-regional Organizations for establishing a common C&I Regime and Mutual Recognition Agreements, seeking to present possible scenarios to meet the needs and interests of Member States and Regions.

I have the pleasure to recall that in Maghreb Region, BDT is going to conduct an Assessment study on C&I for the actual situation (in terms of Laboratories, Regulatory regimes, MRAs in force and so on) in the Maghreb Region as specified in the attached Terms of Reference. In close coordination with the ITU-BDT Counterpart, an ITU recruited expert, Mr. Karim LOUKIL (karim.wakil@cert.mincom.tn), is conducting the Study. Therefore, I would appreciate your kind action to facilitate a meeting with the ICT division in the Maghreb Union and Mr. LOUKIL during the process of the study to enable successful completion and achievement of best results of his mission.

Based on the result of the study, a common and integrated approach for establishing appropriate C&I regimes in Maghreb countries will be proposed, e.g. building additional labs for C&I Domains (mobile, EMC, NGN, broadband, etc.) and/or encouraging the establishment of Mutual Recognition Agreements - MRAs between countries in the Maghreb Region.

The results and proposals will be submitted for consideration to Maghreb Countries and also presented during a Workshop scheduled to be held for those countries in the second half of 2014.

Yours sincerely,

**Ebrahim AL HADDAD**

Regional Director,  
ITU Arab Regional Office

Annex 1: Term of Reference of the Assessment Study.

# Questionnaire on C&I in the region



## CONFORMITY AND INTEROPERABILITY ASSESSMENT ON A REGIONAL BASIS:

### SECTION ONE

- A) Geography and ICT Indicators
- B) Service Providers
- C) Regulatory Framework and Institutions (Per Country)
- D) Accreditation
- E) Laboratories
- F) Certification Bodies and Marking

### SECTION TWO

- G) Demographics
- H) Economy

# Deliverable/Outcome of Assessment Study



The deliverables of this assessment include the following recommendations, namely:

- Possible scenarios for establishing Common C&I Programme and Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs);
- Possible ways to facilitate the implementation of ITU Conformity and Interoperability programme
- Programme especially in the areas of Capacity building and the Establishment of Test Centres on regional and sub-regional basis.
- Regional or sub-regional organizations suitable to perform conformity assessment testing including the function of MRA coordination;
- Entities that are capable of providing funding opportunities to support the establishment of testing centers in the region.

# Deliverable/Outcome of Assessment Study



- Final Report
- Survey Findings
- Outcomes of the workshop for Maghreb, Tunis 9-11 December 2014
  - Recommendations: In Country C&I Test Lab
  - Criteria for selecting countries for establishing regional test centres
  - Proposed plan for a Maghreb framework MRA



# Follow-up of Assessment Study for Maghreb

- Joint declaration signed between ITU Regional Office of Cairo and UMA the Secretariat General of the Arab Maghreb Union (UMA) for collaboration and support to Maghreb countries for establishing a common MRA
- First meeting of C&I Expert Committee for Maghreb, Rabat (Morocco), 23-25 November 2015



**Outcome of the C&I Expert Committee for Maghreb,  
Rabat (Morocco), 23-25 November 2015**



- 1. Establish a Committee composed of Specialized Experts under the coordination of UMA and nominated by the Administrations of Member States participating in the meeting in Rabat. Other experts could join this Committee. This Committee is responsible, among other:
- 2. Identify:
  - a. the list of accreditation, standardization and certification bodies. In that regard, the representatives of the UMA countries are requested to fill in Annex II of the generic model of the MRA, proposed by the ITU and distributed at this meeting, and return it to the UMA.
  - b. specifications, procedures and standards adopted and used in the Maghreb countries as well as the additional requirements for each country. The representatives of the UMA countries are requested to fill Annex I of the MRA, proposed by the ITU and distributed at this meeting with the list of technical Regulations/Standards, and return them to the UMA.
  - c. list the specialized laboratories existing in the Maghreb Countries
- 3. Identify the list of directives and/or standards (applied worldwide) candidates to be adopted in the Maghreb countries
- 4. Analyse the draft MRA proposed by the ITU and inform UMA of any comments, observations and amendments for finalizing it as soon as possible.
- 5. The representatives of the UMA countries are requested to fill Annex III of the MRA, proposed by the ITU and distributed at this meeting, with the list of (Conformity Assessment Bodies-CABs) testing labs and certification bodies, and return it to the Secretariat of the UMA

# Thank you



C&I [Portal](#)

Riccardo Passerini  
Head Telecommunication Technologies and Network Development  
ITU-BDT, [riccardo.passerini@itu.int](mailto:riccardo.passerini@itu.int)