

# **Regional Standardization Forum for Africa**

**(Kampala, Uganda, 23-25 June 2014)**

## **Rights of Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia Participants**

**Hiroshi Ota and Vijay Mauree  
ITU/TSB**

# Why ITU is different

- ITU is a specialized agency of the United Nations, a treaty-based, Inter-Governmental Organization (IGO)
- However, other entities and organizations can join and participate
- Rapporteurs need to understand the different rights enjoyed by different participants at meetings and between meetings

# Member States

- By right, MSs can participate in all activities of the Union
- Right to make contributions to all meetings
- Right to vote

# ITU-T Sector Members

- Right to participate in all activities of ITU-T, including chairing groups
- Take part in progressing work
- Take part in most consensus-based decisions
- Take part in all but the final MS-only step of TAP and AAP (when needed)
- Right to make contributions to all meetings of ITU-T

# Associates (WTSA Resolution 31)

- Right to participate in the ONE study group they join, including chairing groups
- Cannot take part in decision-making
  - Carefully defined within AAP procedures
- Cannot take part in liaison activities
- An Associate is not a form of membership

# Academia

- Includes academia, universities and their associated research establishments
- Can participate in the ITU-T Sector
  - ➔ Broader than Associate rights
- Cannot take part in decision-making
- Authorized under Resolution 169 of the 2010 Plenipotentiary Conference
- Detailed rules in ITU-T have yet to be developed

# MSs and SMs – working together

- Traditionally, a SG *adopts*, and formal consultation of MSs is needed to *approve*, a Recommendation
  - ➔ This is part of the TAP
- “MSs and SMs shall adopt questions in accordance with procedures ... including the indication whether or not a resulting recommendation shall be the subject of a formal consultation of MSs” (ITU Convention CV246A, PP-98)

# MSs and SMs – working together

- “Recommendations ... are adopted by a SG in accordance with procedures...Those recommendations which do not require formal consultation of MSs for their approval shall be considered as approved” (ITU Convention CV246B, PP-98)
  - This is the basis for the AAP
- This shall not be used for Questions and Recommendations having policy or regulatory implications (CV246D, PP-98)



# Other rights to remember in your work

- In formal voting situations, only MSs have the right to vote
- Only SMs, MSs, Associates and academia participants can submit contributions to meetings
  - Other inputs are submitted as Temporary Documents (TD)
- The chairman of a meeting can invite an outside expert (WTSA Resolution 1, §2.3.1)