

***Executive Summary* of
ITU-T Study Group 3 meeting**

Geneva, 8-17 April 2025

ITU-T SG3 meeting (Geneva, 8-17 April 2025)

- First SG3 meeting after WTSA-24, physical meeting with remote participation provided via Zoom.
- **Preparatory regional group meetings:**
 - SG3RG-LAC (Lima, Peru, 5-6 September 2024),
 - SG3RG-ARB (Amman, Jordan, 6 February 2025),
 - SG3RG-AO (Virtual, 10 February 2025); and
 - SG3RG-AFR (Libreville, Gabon, 19-21 February 2025).
- **Newcomers' session and Bridging the Standardization Gap (BSG) training:**
 - A round of introductions of all delegates took place at the end of the opening plenary, as part of the SG3 newcomers' session.
 - Joint BSG session with SG17 on 10 April and an additional BSG session on 15 April – both with interpretation.
- **Interpretation and webcast:**
 - Interpretation for Arabic, English, French, Russian, and Spanish were provided.
 - Webcast was available for the opening and closing plenaries of the meeting.

SG3 Management Team

Name			Member State	Role	Term
Mr	Ahmed	SAID	Egypt	Chair	Second
Mr	Tong	WU	China	Vice-chair	First
Mr	Sathish	KUMAR	India	Vice-chair	First
Ms	Eriko	HONDO	Japan	Vice-chair	Second
Mr	Frederick	ASUMANU	Ghana	Vice-chair	Second
Mr	Lanciné	FOFANA	Côte d'Ivoire	Vice-chair	First
Ms	Marthe	UWAMARIYA	Rwanda	Vice-chair	Second
Mr	Danilo	CAIXETA CARVALHO	Brazil	Vice-chair	First
Ms	Kelsie	RUTHERFORD	United States	Vice-chair	First
Mr	Mohammad	ALMOMANI	Jordan	Vice-chair	First
Mr	Zuhair	ALZUHAIR	Kuwait	Vice-chair	Second
Mr	Omar	ALNEMER	United Arab Emirates	Vice-chair	Second
Mr	Bakhtjon	SMANOV	Uzbekistan	Vice-chair	First

SG3 Working Party Structure, agreed at this meeting

WP1 Charging and accounting/settlement mechanisms	Q1	Development of charging and accounting/settlement mechanisms for current and future international telecommunication/ICT services and networks
	Q7	International mobile roaming issues (including charging, accounting and settlement mechanisms and roaming at border areas)
WP2 General economic and policy factors related to provision and cost of ICT services	Q3	Study of economic and policy factors relevant to the efficient provision of international telecommunication services
	Q8	Economic aspects of alternative calling procedures in the context of international telecommunication/ICT services and networks
	Q12	Economic and policy issues pertaining to international telecommunication/ICT services and networks that enable mobile financial services (MFS)
WP3 General economic and policy factors related to the enablers of ICT services	Q6	International Internet fibre cables and satellite Internet connectivity including relevant aspects of Internet protocol (IP) peering, regional traffic exchange points, fibre cables optimization, cost of provision of services and impact of Internet protocol version 6 (IPv6) deployment
	Q11	Economic and policy aspects of big data and digital identity in international telecommunication services and networks
WP4 General economic and policy factors related to the regulatory aspects of mobile communications, competition and convergence	Q9	Economic and policy aspects of the Internet, convergence (services or infrastructure) and OTTs in the context of international telecommunication/ICT services and networks
	Q10	Competition policy and relevant market definitions related to the economic aspects of international telecommunication services and networks

SG3 Working Party Leadership, agreed at this meeting

		Name	Country	Region
WP1	Chair	Ms Eriko Hondo	KDDI, Japan	Asia & Pacific
	Vice-chairs	Mr Danilo Caixeta Carvalho	Brazil	Americas
		Mr Lanciné Fofana	Côte d'Ivoire	Africa
WP2	Chair	Ms Hilda Mutseyekwa	Zimbabwe	Africa
	Vice-chairs	Mr Sathish Kumar	India	Asia & Pacific
		Mr Mohammad Ahmad Almomani	Jordan	Arab States
WP3	Chair	Ms Aminata Drame	SONATEL, Senegal	Africa
	Vice-chairs	Mr Tong Wu	China Telecom, China	Asia & Pacific
		Mr Faleh Alghamdi	Saudi Arabia	Arab States
WP4	Chair	Mr Omar Alnemer	United Arab Emirates	Arab States
	Vice-chairs	Mr Frederick Asumanu	Ghana	Africa
		Mr Tito Lopez	Paraguay	Americas

Participation Statistics

Delegates per Category	Council Region	Development Indicator
106 Member States	16 Region A (Americas)	23 Developed country
27 Sector Members	14 Region B (Western Europe)	91 Developing country
4 Associates	4 Region C (Eastern Europe and Northern Asia)	27 Least developed country
3 Academia	57 Region D (Africa)	
1 Res. 99	50 Region E (Asia and Australasia)	
12 ITU Staff		

Participation Statistics (*continued*)

Gender		On-site vs Remote		Countries represented	
103	Male	85	On-site participants	50	Number of Member States represented
49	Female	68	Remote participants	57	Total countries represented (all participant categories)
1	Not known				

Key Results

Approval

- New Recommendation ITU-T D.265 (ex D.datatariff), *Principles for tariff regulation of data services* [\[link\]](#)
 - In accordance with clause 9.5.4 of WTSA Resolution 1, the United States registered the following reservation to be appended to the Recommendation:
“The following country has expressed a reservation and will not apply this Recommendation: United States.”
- New Recommendation ITU-T D.1141(ex D.princip_bigdata), *Policy framework and principles for data protection in the context of big data related to telecommunication/information and communication technology services* [\[link\]](#)
 - In accordance with clause 9.5.4 of WTSA Resolution 1, the United States registered the following reservation to be appended to the Recommendation:
“The following country has expressed a reservation and will not apply this Recommendation: United States.”

Key Results (*continued*)

Determination

- Draft new Recommendation ITU-T D.1142 (ex D.IoTpolicy), *Guidelines on economic and policy aspects of Internet of Things (IoT)*, as contained in [TD4/WP2](#), was determined by SG3 plenary.

Agreement

- Draft new Supplement 3 to ITU-T Recommendation D.50 (ex D.50.Suppl.3), *Guidelines for reducing the costs of international Internet connectivity for the Central African Backbone (CAB) project*, as contained in [TD40/PLEN](#), was agreed by SG3 plenary.

TAP agreed as default approval track for normative texts

- As the work of SG3 has policy or regulatory implications, the meeting agreed for SG3 to use the Traditional Approval Process (TAP) as the default approval track for normative texts.

Key Results (*continued*)

NWI for a draft new ITU-T Recommendation on “provisions for dealing with OTT players to stimulate national economies and development of the telecommunication industry” ([SG3-C15](#))

- Following Working Party level decision to establish a new work item, several Member States requested for a Statement to be added to WP report to reiterate opposition to the establishment of the NWI (see 3.3.6 of [WP4/3 report](#)).
- During the SG3 closing Plenary, agreement was reached that C15 (NWI proposal) is incorporated into the existing work item D.GuidelinesCostContribution as a separate section, without diluting the essence of the existing D.GuidelinesCostContribution work item and C15. No separate new work item as proposed in C15 was created, and it was agreed not to change the existing A.1 justification form for D.GuidelinesCostContribution (see 14.2 of [PLEN report](#)).

SG2-SG3 joint meeting on OTT definitions

- SG3 (Q9/3) and SG2 (Q3/2) to hold a joint Rapporteur Group meeting to work on OTT definitions (see [SG3-LS4](#)), scheduled virtually on 30 June 2025. Sudan’s proposed definitions related to OTTs ([SG3-C19](#)) suggested to serve as a starting point for discussions.

Key Results (*continued*)

Satellite related work items

[D.ecosat](#): Draft new Recommendation on “Economic and policy aspects of the provision of high-speed Internet connectivity by retail satellite operators”

- Work to be continued via a series of Editor’s sessions (to consolidate existing Cs), to be followed by an interim RGM Q6/3 to call for new Cs.
- Statement by Canada, France, the United Kingdom and the United States to reiterate continued concerns with D.ecosat (see 3.3.1 of [WP3/3 Report](#)).
- SG3 was reminded of **WTSA-24 Action 15**, recognizing the contribution that NGSO satellite systems can make to global connectivity and inviting Membership to actively contribute to the relevant study groups.

[TR_CostSatellite](#): Draft new Technical Report on “Cost models for provisioning Satellite Internet Connectivity Services”

- Provisionally approved the NWI TR_CostSatellite, subject to TSAG review (May 2025) (see 3.2.3 of [WP1/3 Report](#)).
- LS sent to TSAG ([SG3-LS2](#)), and to ITU-R Study Groups 1 and 4, ITU-D SG1 ([SG3-LS6](#)).

New work items initiated

Draft new ITU-T Technical Reports on:

- The Role of [weighted average cost of capital \(WACC\)](#) in regulatory decisions ([Study WACC](#))
- Cost accounting for telecommunication operators: guidelines and [accounting standards benchmarking](#) ([TR_CostAccounting](#))
- Cost models for provisioning [Satellite Internet Connectivity Services](#) ([TR_CostSatellite](#))*
- Re-Evaluating [Cost-Based Tariff Assessment](#) in Telecom ([TR_CostTariff](#))
- Prepaid telephone credits: economic and accounting considerations for market regulation and transparency ([TR_PrepaidCredits](#))
- Economic and regulatory aspects of [optical fibre platform sharing](#) in the maritime zone ([TR_EcoOptical](#))
- Investigating [anti-competitive practices](#) in telecommunications sector ([TR_AntiCompetition](#))
- [Cost-Benefit Analysis of Adopting Artificial Intelligence](#) in Telecommunications/ICTs ([TR_CostAI](#))

*Provisionally approved, see 3.2.3 of [WP1/3 Report](#).

Future activities

Meeting	Location	Dates	Comments
SG3RG-AFR Regional Group for Africa	TBC	Jan/Feb 2026 (TBC)	
SG3RG-AO Regional Group for Asia and Oceania	TBC	Sept/Oct 2025 (TBC)	
SG3RG-ARB Regional Group for the Arab Region	TBC	mid-February 2026 (TBC)	
SG3RG-LAC Regional Group for Latin America and the Caribbean	Montevideo, Uruguay (TBC)	6 to 10 October 2025 (TBC)	In conjunction with ITU Policy and Economics Colloquium (IPEC-25)
Rapporteur Group Meetings (RGMs) + 1 Day SG3 PLEN	Geneva, Switzerland	RGMs: 3-6 November 2025 + PLEN: 7 November 2025	
SG3 2026	Geneva, Switzerland (TBC)	12-21 May 2026 (TBC)	

More interim activities can be found in [TD9-R1](#).