



ITU-T Study Group 3

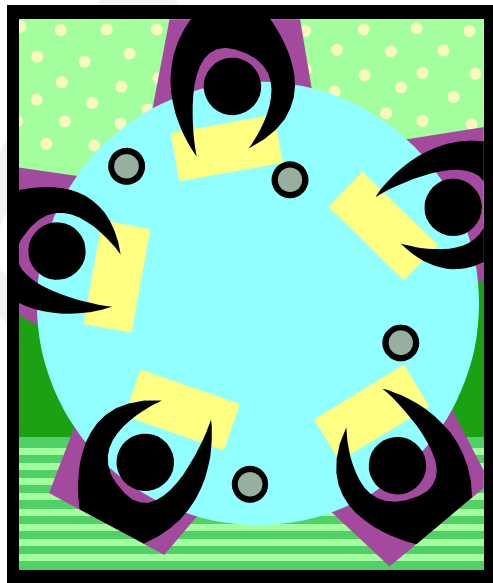
General overview of SG3 and its Regional Groups

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ITU: Towards global consensus

A unique global public/private partnership develops standards in a unique contribution-driven, and consensus-based, environment.



193 Governments

Member State Administrations,
National Regulatory Authorities

700 Private Sector Members

Business associations
International organizations
NGOs

63 Academic Members

Universities
Research Institutes



ITU-T and Standardization

- Standards play a strategic role in fostering innovation and competitive markets.
- ITU-T Standards (*Recommendations*) help bring products and services to market rapidly.
- Manufacturers, network operators and consumers alike stand to benefit from lower prices and higher product/service availability through, inter alia:
 - Reduction of technical barriers;
 - Promotion of trust;
 - Enhanced compatibility and interoperability between systems.



ITU-T's Strategic Goals

- To develop interoperable, non-discriminatory international standards (*ITU-T Recommendations*)
- To assist in bridging the standardization gap between developed and developing countries
- To extend and facilitate international cooperation among international, regional and national standardization bodies

The ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) is a platform for governments and the private sector to coordinate development of the telecommunication networks and services that connect the world.



Benefits of Membership and Participation in ITU-T Standardization Process

- **Universality:** Simultaneous acceptance of ITU-T standards by 193 member countries, through a process of consensus
- **Speed:** Fastest approval process in the ICT standards world (8 weeks)
- **Openness:** Open standards, in line with clear and coherent intellectual property policies
- **Efficiency:** Avoidance of cumbersome licensing procedures in multiple markets
- **Partnership:** Tight coordination with other standards development organizations



ITU-T Standardization Process

- The standardization work of the ITU is organized by **Study Groups** (SGs) in which representatives of the ITU-T membership develop *Recommendations* (i.e. standards) for the various fields of international telecommunications
- Each study group has its own area of responsibility, leadership, and authority to initiate, develop and propose ITU-T Recommendations and other deliverables.
- Study Groups typically cover one or more specific technical subjects



Establishment of Study Groups

- Study Groups are **established by the WTSA** (*World Telecommunications Standardization Assembly*) every 4 years
- The 4 year period between WTSA's is called a "**study period**", i.e. this is the 2013-2016 study period
- Traditionally, study groups are **identified by a number**
- There are currently 10 ITU-T Study Groups, e.g.
 - SG2 Operational Aspects
 - SG3 Economic and Policy Issues
 - SG9 Broadband Cable and TV
 - SG16 Multimedia
 - SG17 Security
- Some Study Groups also have **Regional Groups (RGs)** e.g. **SG3RG-AFR, SG3RG-ARB, SG3RG-AO, SG3RG-LAC**



How do Study Groups work?

- The work of the Study Groups is fuelled by **Contributions** (Cs) submitted by members
- Contributions are submitted to Study Groups well in advance of when they meet
 - Preparation for meetings and collaborative work continue between meetings through online tools (e.g. [mailing lists](#))
- Contributions are presented at Study Group meetings and discussed by the group in a spirit of cooperation and consensus
- It is important for contributions to have clear conclusions and recommendations for action so that the group may move the work forward on key deliverables, such as *ITU-T Recommendations*
 - See [Guidelines](#) for preparing contributions (TIES password required)



What is the mandate of SG3 as agreed by the WTSA in 2012?

- The mandate of SG3 for the 2013-2016 study period was confirmed by WTSA in Dubai in November 2012
- Study Group 3 is responsible for, *inter alia*:
 - **Tariff and accounting** matters for international telecommunication services (including **costing** methodologies)
 - Related telecommunications accounting, **economic and policy** issues
- WTSA-12 Resolution 2 goes on to say that SG3:
 - ..."shall in particular foster collaboration among its participants with a view to the **establishment of rates** at levels as low as possible consistent with an efficient service and taking into account the necessity for maintaining independent financial administration of telecommunications on a sound basis"



SG3 and ITU-T Recommendations

- SG3 is the home for **ITU-T D Series Recommendations** – for example:
 - Charging and accounting in NGN, international satellite, mobile services (e.g. Recommendation **ITU-T D.271**)
 - Transmission of accounting information, time-scale for settlement of accounts (e.g. Recommendation **ITU-T D. 195**)
 - Principles applicable to international internet connection (Recommendation **ITU-T D.50**)
- SG3 is also the home for **Regional Recommendations** on tariff and accounting:
 - D. 300s (EUR), D. 400s (LAC), D500s (AO), D.600s (AFR)
 - e.g. D.500 R: *Accounting rates applicable to telephone relations b/w countries in Asia and Oceania*, or D.603R *Minimizing collection charges on inter-African calls*

The structure of SG3

- Study Groups are structured according to a number of **Questions (Qs)** and **Working Parties (WPs)**.
- SG3 has been assigned 5 Questions, with a wide scope
- Generally speaking, the work of SG3 is organized into 3 Working Parties, which meet at every SG3 Meeting
- SG3 also has a dedicated *Ad-Hoc Group on Developing Country Issues*
- The Chairman of SG3 is Seiichi Tsugawa (KDDI, Japan). There are 8 Vice-Chairmen (see contact info [here](#))
- The day to day work of the Study Group (esp. between meetings) relies heavily on **Rapporteur Groups**:
 - SG3 currently has 8 rapporteur groups and a number of [Rapporteurs and Co-Rapporteurs](#)



Working Parties of SG3

Working Party 1:

Chairman: Leslie Martinkovics (Verizon Communications, USA)

Question 1/3: Development of charging and accounting/settlement mechanisms for international telecomms services using the Next Generation Networks (NGNs) and any possible future development, including adaptation of existing D-series Recommendations to the evolving user needs.

Working Party 2:

Chairman: Alexander Yakovenko (Rostelecom, Russian Federation)

Question 2/3: Development of charging and accounting/settlement mechanisms for international telecomms services, other than those studied in Q1/3, including adaptation of existing D-series Recommendations to the evolving user needs.

Working Party 3:

Chairman: Raynold Mfungahema (Tanzania)

Question 3/3: Study of economic and policy factors relevant to the efficient provision of international telecommunication services.



Questions assigned to SG3 by WTSA

Question 1/3 (led by Chairman of WP 1/3)

Development of charging and accounting/settlement mechanisms for international telecommunications services using the Next Generation Networks (NGNs) and any possible future development, including adaptation of existing D-series Recommendations to the evolving user needs

Question 2/3 ((led by Chairman of WP 2/3)

Development of charging and accounting/settlement mechanisms for international telecommunications services, other than those studied in Question 1/3, including adaptation of existing D-series Recommendations to the evolving user needs.

Question 3/3 (led by Chairman of WP 3/3)

Study of economic and policy factors relevant to the efficient provision of international telecommunication services.

Question 4/3 (led by Rapporteur)

Regional studies for the development of cost models together with related economic and policy issues.

Question 5/3 (led by Rapporteur)

Terms and definitions for Recommendations dealing with tariff and accounting principles.



SG3 has 4 active Regional Groups

<u>SG3RG-AFR</u>	Study Group 3 Regional Group for Africa
<u>SG3RG-AO</u>	Study Group 3 Regional Group for Asia and Oceania
<u>SG3RG-ARB</u>	Study Group 3 Regional Group for the Arab States
<u>SG3RG-LAC</u>	Study Group 3 Regional Group for Latin America & the Caribbean

Resolution 54 of WTSA-12 invites the regions and its Member States, *inter alia*

- To pursue the creation of regional groups of parent ITU-T study groups...
- To develop draft terms of reference and working methods for these regional groups, which are to be approved by the parent SG...
- To create regional standardization bodies, as appropriate ...

invites the regional groups thus created

- To **disseminate information** about telecommunication standardization...
- To **encourage involvement of developing countries** in standardization activities in their regions...
- To **submit written contributions** to the parent study group reflecting the priorities of the relevant region...



ITU-T SG3 and the ITU/BDT Regional Economic and Financial Forums of Telecoms/ICTs for Africa, Arab States, Asia and Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean

- In coordination with Study Group 3 Regional Meetings, the ITU's development bureau (BDT) organizes **Regional Forums** addressed at policy makers, regulators and operators in the different regions
- Typically, these forums are held **immediately preceding the SG3 Regional Meeting**, e.g. 2 days for Forum, 2 days for SG3RG
- The Regional Forums are a unique platform for stakeholders to exchange information and knowledge on regulatory, economic, costing and tariff issues, and provide invaluable and effective support to the work of the ITU-T Regional Study Groups;
- BDT also collects *Regulatory* and *Tariff Policies* data through annual surveys. This data is shared with Forum and SG3RG participants at the annual regional meetings.
 - See also the [ITU ICTEye](#) database

Study Group 3 is unique (1)

- Unique global forum to improve the understanding of the financial and economic aspects associated with the growth of ICT, particularly with respect to the shift to IP-based and NGN/Future Networks and the exponential rise in mobile wireless communications.
- SG3's mandate is long-standing and dates back to the early days of the *International Telegraph Union* in terms of interconnection, the improvement of daily operations and the settlement of accounts.

Study Group 3 is unique (2)

- SG3 **membership is diverse** and includes Member States as well as service providers (Sector Members), Academia Members and international organizations (e.g. WTO).
- It is the **only** ITU-T Study Group that deals with **policy and economic issues**
- It is **uniquely flexible** in terms of procedure: it allows for rapporteur groups to be formed on themes and topics of interest to the SG, rather than being linked to specific Questions (as is the case with other Study Groups)



SG3's Mandate is broad in scope

- The mandate of SG3 is broad and complex. SG3 is tackling a growing number of issues, notably in light of the outcomes of the WTSA-12 and WCIT-12.
- In May 2013, SG3 approved a number of new supplements to Recommendations
 - e.g. international internet connectivity, credit management and fraud mitigation for international telecom services.
- During the 2009-2012 Study Period, one of the main highlights was the approval of a new Recommendation ITU-T D.98 on mobile roaming.
 - Furthermore, a revised Recommendation ITU-T D.195 shortened the time-scale for the settlement of accounts for international telecommunication services.
 - A new supplement to Recommendation ITU-T D.211 covering the termination of international short message service (SMS) was also approved.



Examples of issues being tackled by SG3

- NGN Charging and Accounting
- International Internet Connectivity, including IP peering, Regional Traffic Exchange Points, and cost of provision of services
- Economic impact of transition from IPv4 to IPv6
- Mobile Roaming Issues (including roaming in border areas)
- Mobile Tariff Issues other than roaming
- Cross-border Connectivity Issues (Tariff Issues, Financial Aspects)
- Fixed and Leased Line Tariff Issues
- Pricing and accounting/settlement issues related to international telecom services
- Use of commercial agreements for the provision of international telecommunication services
- Dispute Resolution related to Charging and Invoicing
- Alternative Calling Procedures on international telecommunication networks
- Misappropriation and Misuse of Facilities and Services, including CLI, CPND, OI
- Network Externalities



Recommendations, Resolutions and Treaty Articles related to the work of SG3 (cont'd)

- [ITU-T D-Series Recommendations](#)
- [WTSA-12 Resolution 29](#) on Alternative Calling Procedures
- [WTSA-12 Resolution 44](#) on Bridging the Standardization Gap
- [WTSA-12 Resolution 54](#) on Creation of and Assistance to Regional Groups
- [WTSA-12 Resolution 61](#) on Countering and combating Misappropriation and misuse of international telecommunication numbering resources
- [WTSA-12 Resolution 62](#) on Dispute Settlement
- [WTSA-12 Resolution 64](#) on IP address allocation and facilitating the transition to and deployment of IPv6
- [WTSA-12 Resolution 65](#) on Calling Party Number Delivery (CPND), Calling Line Identification (CLI), and Origin Identification (OI)



Recommendations, Resolutions and Treaty Articles related to the work of SG3 (cont'd)

- [WTSA-12 Opinion 1](#) on the Practical Application of Network Externality Premium
- [ITR Article 3.7](#) on Regional Traffic Exchange Points
- [ITR Article 4.4 to 4.7](#) on Mobile Roaming
- [ITR Article 8.1.2](#) on Encouraging Investments and Competitive Wholesale Pricing
- [ITR Article 8.1.1.](#) and [8.2.1](#) on Use of Commercial Agreements for international telecommunication service arrangements
- [ITR Article 8.3.1](#) on Avoidance of Double Taxation for international telecommunication services
- [WCIT Resolution 5](#) on International telecoms service traffic termination and exchange



Home page of Study Group 3

<http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/studygroups/2013-2016/03/Pages/default.aspx>

Mailing Lists and Informal FTP Area (IFA)

<http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/studygroups/2013-2016/03/Pages/ifa-structure.aspx>



Thank you!

***We look forward to seeing you at
an ITU-T Study Group 3 meeting
in the near future!***

**For more information, please contact us at:
tsbsg3@itu.int**