

Numbering misuse



- Numbering misuse :

- A misuse of a directly assigned international numbering resource occurs where the use of that numbering resource does not confirm to the relevant ITU-T Recommendation(s) assignment criteria for which it was assigned or when an unassigned numbering resource is used in the provision of a telecommunication service
- For Mobile operators it was noted that there is an additional area of potential fraud associated with inbound roamers

• International numbering Resources:

- Inmarsat and groups of countries

These numbering resources are assigned for the Country Codes Inmarsat and Groups of Countries are responsible for follow-up actions regarding alleged misuse of numbering resources

Codes for Inmarsat (e.g., +870).

Codes for Groups Of Countries (e.g., +388).

- Numbering resources for global services and networks

These numbering resources are assigned for the Country Codes for global services and networks

- Numbering resources for trials

These numbering resources are assigned for Country Codes for trials.

- Numbering resources that have not been assigned

These numbering resources are listed as "spare" or "reserved" in the ITU publications

- **Reasons of Numbering misuse:**
 - the results of an analysis that 80% of misuse occurs in active telephone numbering ranges. The analysis further indicated that misuse is based on high call termination rates
 - operators are tracing possible cases of misuse, the commercial relationship between operators contributed to the difficulty of the determining the extent of some cases
 - some Operators chose to not pursue legal remedies because of timing, complexity and evidentiary requirements
 - Lack of transparency of national telephone numbering plans. Operators as a consequent may have limited knowledge of national numbering plans, valid telephone number allocations, and to whom the telephone number has been allocated.

- **Recommendation:**

- GSMA Fraud Forum provides guidance to assist Operators in countering fraud by identifying telephone numbers, publicising them. This allows operators to consider blocking those identified telephone numbers to prevent financial harm. The extent of blocking of telephone numbers is an operational decision of each Operator.