

Executive Summary of ITU-T Study Group 3 Meeting

***Tariff and accounting principles and
international telecommunication/ICT economic and policy issues***

Geneva, 23-27 May 2022

General Information

- The meeting was held in Geneva, Switzerland from 23 to 27 May 2022.
- First SG3 meeting (out of three planned SG3 meetings) in the 2022-2024 Study Period;
- The meeting was a physical meeting with remote participation provided via Zoom;
- Four daily sessions from 09:30 to 17:30 hours (Geneva time);
- Interpretation for English, French, and Arabic was available for all Plenary and Working Party sessions;
- A Newcomers' Session and a Leadership Training for ITU-T SG3 Working Party Leaders, Rapporteurs, Editors, and all SG3 delegates were organized during the meeting.

Participation Statistics

Delegates per Category

Member States	85
Sector Members	13
Associates	1
Res. 99	1
ITU Staff	13

Council Region

Africa	35
Americas	16
Asia and Australasia	37
Eastern Europe and Northern Asia	4
Western Europe	8

Developed / Developing Economies

Developed country	18
Developing country	61
Least developed country	21

Total number of participants	113
Total number of countries	50

Physical Participants	48*
Remote Participants	52*

*Excludes ITU Staff

Meeting Statistics

Types of Documents

Contributions	20
TDs	47
Incoming Liaison Statements	26
Outgoing Liaison Statements	13

Contributors

Africa	12
The Americas	1
Arab States	0
Asia and the Pacific	2
CIS	0
Europe	0

Other statistics

Recommendations approved	0
Recommendations determined	0
Documents agreed	0
New work items proposed	3
New work items initiated	0
Baseline texts agreed	6
Ad-hoc sessions organized	2

Vision and Structure

- SG3 Chairman, Mr. Ahmed Said, set the “Perspective and Plans for ITU-T SG3 for the 2022-2024 Study Period” ([SG3-TD32/PLEN](#)).

The overall perspective is to make SG3 active, visible, and productive by:

- Strengthening collaboration and coordination,
 - Building new partnerships,
 - Organizing workshops to progress SG3 work,
 - Yielding results and fulfil the expectations.
- with innovations such as:
 - Organizing mini-RGMs within WP meetings,
 - Assembling a 1-day SG3 plenary after RGMs,
 - Facilitating dialogue among WP Chairs, Rapporteurs, Editors, and across SG3 regional groups.
 - SG3 structure was established with four working parties and WP leadership ([SG3-TD16/PLEN](#)).
 - SG3 appointed Rapporteurs and Associate Rapporteurs ([SG3-TD17/PLEN](#) and [SG3-TD43-R1/PLEN](#)) for the 10 SG3 Questions.
 - SG3 representatives to various groups were appointed.

SG3 Working Parties

WP1 <i>Charging and accounting/settlement mechanisms</i>	Chairman	Ms. Eriko Hondo	KDDI Corporation, Japan
	Vice-Chairmen	Ms. Ena Dekanic	United States
		Mr. Sultan Al-Ruweis	Saudi Arabia
WP2 <i>General economic and policy factors related to provision and cost of ICT services</i>	Chairman	Mr. Abraão Balbino e Silva	Brazil
	Vice-Chairman	Ms. Marthe Uwamariya	Rwanda
		Mr. Mihail Ion	Romania
		Mr. Omar Ali Alnemer	United Arab Emirates
WP3 <i>General economic and policy factors related to the enablers of ICT services</i>	Chairman	Ms. Aminata Drame	Senegal
	Vice-Chairmen	Ms. Liliana Nora Bein	Argentina
		Ms. Karima Mahmoudi	Tunisia
		Mr. Hui Chen	China (P.R.)
WP4 <i>General economic and policy factors related to the regulatory aspects of mobile communications, competition and convergence</i>	Chairman	Ms. Cynthia Reddock-Downes	Trinidad and Tobago
	Vice-Chairmen	Mr. Zuhair Al-Zuhair	Kuwait
		Mr. Frederick Asumanu	Ghana

Hot Topics

- Dispute Resolution Processes between Internet service providers and content and application providers (Study_DRCI)
- Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT):
 - DLT to improve management of the Universal Service Fund (TR_DLTUSF);
 - Accounting & Billing aspects in IoT ecosystem and integrated approach using DLT (TR_AccountingIoT)
- Roaming aspects of IoT and M2M including any related development and tariff principles
- Big Data:
 - Updates to Draft Recommendation on Policy framework and principles for data protection in the context of big data relating to international telecommunication services
 - Updates to Technical Paper on economic and policy aspects of Big Data in international telecommunication services and networks
- Interoperability for Competition in Mobile Financial Services (MFS)

Key Results

- SG3 continues to use the Traditional Approval Process (TAP) as the default approval process for normative texts.
- The stale work items will be reviewed at the SG3 meeting in March 2020, and all remaining stale WIs be discontinued.
- SG3 initiated the deletion procedure for Recommendation ITU-T D.280 (03/95), “*Principles for charging and billing, accounting and reimbursements for universal personal telecommunication*” ([TSB Circular 21](#)) (in coordination with SG2 to delete all UPT Recommendations).
- The objectives of upcoming SG3 Rapporteur Group Meetings (Geneva, 7-10 November 2022) were set ([SG3-TD35/PLEN](#)).
- SG3-internal coordination session on Distributed Ledger Technologies (DLT) was organized.

OTT matters

- No decision taken on proposed new Question for SG3 on OTTs as received by WTSA-20 ([SG3-C2](#)), discussions continue.
- Question 9/3 appears as best place to study OTTs.
- A drafting session took place for an ITU-T A.13 template NWI on OTTs; The NWI is to find alternative/compromise on the former stale mate work item proposal on OTT taxation.
- A new Correspondence Group on OTTs (CG-OTTs) was initiated, under the leadership of Ms. Cynthia Reddock-Downes (Trinidad and Tobago), with the assistance of Mr. Joaquim Simao Zindoga (Mozambique), Mr. Amit Sharma (Telecom Regulatory Authority of India), and Ms. Pauline T. Djoumessi Gnimpieba (Cameroon).
- The CG-OTTs is to further develop the draft NWI proposal until the SG3 RGMs in November 2022; with the possibility to establish that proposed work item at the SG3 plenary in Geneva on 11 November 2022.
CG-OTTs may also discuss proposals for other candidate new work items under Question 9/3, including possible work items having other forms of target deliverables.
- Preparations for a planned ITU Workshop in the area of Digital/OTT Taxation (exact title to be defined) were re-initiated, under the leadership of Mr. Fernando de Faria Siqueira (Brazil).

Upcoming SG3 Activities

Meeting	Location	Dates
SG3RG-AFR Regional Group for Africa	TBC	February 2023 (TBC)
SG3RG-AO Regional Group for Asia and Oceania	New Delhi, India	8-12 August 2022
SG3RG-ARB Regional Group for the Arab Region	TBC	August/September 2022 (TBC)
SG3RG-LAC Regional Group for Latin America and the Caribbean	Virtual	5-7 September 2022
ITU Workshop in the area of Digital/OTT Taxation	Geneva, Switzerland	3-4 November 2022
Rapporteur Group Meetings (RGMs) + 1 Day SG3 PLEN	Geneva, Switzerland	RGMs: 7-10 November 2022 PLEN: 11 November 2022
SG3 Meeting in 2023	Geneva, Switzerland	1-10 March 2023