

ITU Regional Development Forum for Asia-Pacific Region

Yogyakarta, Indonesia, 27 – 29 July 2009

Outcome of WTSA-08 Resolutions: the Resolution 76

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Conformity

Ability of a product to meet the
requirement(s) of a standard

Interoperability

Ability of two or more systems or
applications or network management
products and services from different
suppliers to exchange information and to
mutually / fruitfully make use of it

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Res. 76 Resolves

1. that ITU-T Study Groups develop the necessary conformance testing ITU-T Recommendations asap;
2. that ITU-T Recommendations to address interoperability testing shall be progressed asap;
3. that ITU-T in collaboration with the other Sectors as appropriate, shall develop a programme to:
 - assist developing countries in capacity-building and training opportunities in conformity and interoperability testing;
 - assist developing countries in establishing regional or sub-regional centres suitable to perform conformity and interoperability testing as appropriate;
4. that conformance and interoperability testing requirements shall provide for verification of the parameters defined in ITU-T Recommendations

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Res. 76 Instructs the Study Groups

- 1) to identify as soon as possible those existing and future ITU-T Recommendations candidates for interoperability tests, e.g. interoperability of NGN equipment, terminals, audio video codecs, access and transport network that are capable of providing end-to-end interoperable services on a global scale;
- 2) to prepare those ITU-T Recommendations with a view to conducting conformity and interoperability tests as appropriate

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Res.76 Instructs the Director of TSB

- 1) in cooperation with BR & BDT, to conduct exploratory activities in each region to identify and prioritize the problems faced by developing countries related to achieving interoperability of ICT equipment and services;
- 2) based on results of instructs the Director of TSB 1 above, to study the items below:
 - a) the overall effect on ITU and manufacturers
 - b) legal and national and international regulatory implications
 - c) cost of set up of facility
 - d) location of testing facility
 - e) measures to be taken to build the necessary human resource capacities

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Res. 76 Instructs the Director of TSB

- 3) to carry out the necessary studies with the view to introduce the use of ITU Mark as a voluntary program permitting manufacturers and service providers to make a visible declaration that their equipment conforms to ITU-T Recommendations, and to increase the probability of interoperability; and to consider its possible application as an indication of a degree of interoperability capability in the future;
- 4) to study the financial and legal implications for the ITU-T and ICT industries, and all other concerns raised with regard to this proposal regarding the possible introduction of the ITU-T Mark;
- 5) to involve experts and external entities as appropriate;
- 6) to submit the result of these studies to Council-09 for its consideration and required actions;

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Res.76 invites

- Invites the Council:
 1. to consider the report of the TSB Director above,
 2. to report as appropriate on this matter to the 2010 Plenipotentiary Conference taking into account Resolution 158 (Antalya, 2006) “Financial issues for consideration by the Council”;
- Invites Member States & Sector Members:
 1. to contribute to the implementation of this Resolution;
 2. to encourage national and regional testing entities to assist ITU-T in implementing this Resolution.


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Objectives of Res. 76

- To meet the needs of developing countries for conformance and interoperability
- Conformity is a first step to increase the probability of interoperability between different manufacturers, vendors and service providers
- The establishment of laboratories able to carry out tests according to the ITU-T Recommendations requirements and training programmes
- A demonstration of conformance to ITU-T Recs through a voluntary ITU conformity programme
- Increased business opportunities and benefits to both suppliers and customers

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ITU – IEC - ISO

■ In June 2008, the 7th meeting of the [World Standards Cooperation](#) (WSC) recognized that:

- **global conformity assessment:** the accepted way of demonstrating that a product or service adheres to an International Standard, and its increasing importance in the context of the commitments of WTO Member States under the TBT Agreement.
- The **promotion of standardization** and conformity assessment was seen as facilitating global trade and providing tangible benefits to users of both standards and conformity assessment.

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WSC: Importance of interoperability

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 - Promotion of standardization and conformity assessment was seen as facilitating global trade and providing tangible benefits to users of both standards and of conformity assessment.

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The Global Standards Organization (GSC)

The mandate of GSC, that is NOT a standards organization, is to provide a venue for the leaders of the Participating Standards Organizations and the ITU to:

- Freely exchange information on the progress of standards development in the different regions and the state of the global standards development environment; and
- Collaborate in planning future standards development to gain synergy and to reduce duplication.

Further, the mandate of GSC is to provide a venue for the leaders of the Participating Standards Organizations to: support the ITU as the preeminent global telecommunication and radiocommunication standards development organization.


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GSC: Importance of interoperability

- Global Standards Collaboration adopted RESOLUTION GSC-14/28 (17 July 2009): Interoperability
 - ◆ recognises that various mechanism are available to enhance interoperability, including developing “interoperable standards”, providing implementation guidelines, hosting interoperability events and human capacity building;
 - ◆ that PSOs consider interoperability as an explicit objective of standards development;
 - ◆ that compliance with technical standards can increase the probability of end-to-end interoperability but will not guarantee interoperability;
 - ◆ **Resolves:**
 - to exchange information among PSOs which have experience in interoperability.
 - to encourage PSOs and related Fora/Consortia to discuss issues related to interoperability.


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Some reasons WHY Res. 76 exists

- A number of Member States, Sector Members, especially from Developing Countries, and end-users have reported problems with an increase in the **supply of poor quality and even dangerous equipment, not conform to standards or not interoperable** of which a proportion has proved to be **counterfeit** or to have been **illegally imported**.
- Some **Governments** show a **lack of legal framework and effective systems** to ensure that appropriate technical regulations, based on international standards, are in place and enforced in order to meet their obligations to protect the safety of their citizens using telecommunications equipment and services and to meet their requirements for quality of service.
- Developing countries need to be assisted in creating testing facilities I and building capacity facilities in the regions


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Some results from the studies_1

- Need of testing for conformity assessment and interoperability in a **"Certified/Accredited"** voluntary programme to demonstrate compliance of products to standards
- Need to establish **reciprocal international or peer-to-peer recognition** of laboratories and certifiers to reduce costs of multiple repeated testing and creation of barriers to trade (ILAC, IAF): **two or more partners recognizes respective laboratories to have equivalent competence to carry out the same conformity assessment tasks.**
- **Industry reaction?** Massively involved (WiFi Alliance, WiMAX, IEEE-ICAP, ...) in certification and interoperability testing.
 - ◆ BUT still believes that the introduction of the ITU programme will cause additional expenditures


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Some results from the studies_2

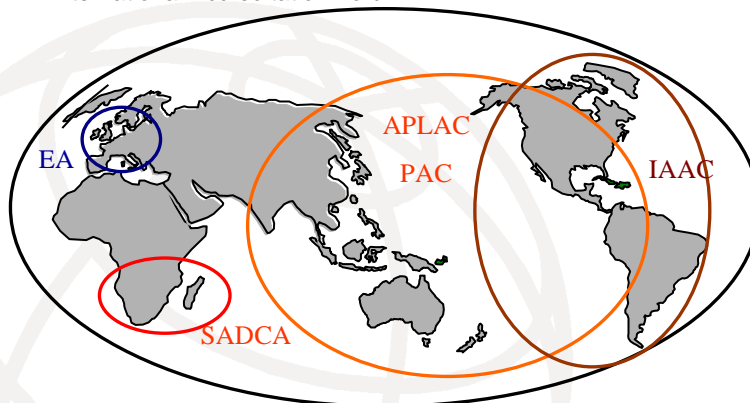
- Positive impact on
 - ◆ **ITU** (Recomm, ITU mission, Promo Recs)
 - ◆ **Industry** (costs, widen market ⇔ MRAs, no TBT issues)
 - ◆ **End Users** (Regulators, QoS, interoperability)
 - ◆ **Developing Countries** (capacity building opportunities, labs, stand. Gap, testing culture)
- Need to allocate budget and human resources to fully implement the programme (resolves and instructs)

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ILAC International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation


IAF International Accreditation Forum



Source ILAC

- APLAC Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation
- EA European cooperation for Accreditation
- IAAC Inter-American Accreditation Cooperation
- SADCA Southern African Development Cooperation for Accreditation

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Asia Pacific test laboratories

- Indonesia [PT PLN Research Development](#)
- Indonesia Laboratory for Quality Testing of Export and Import Goods (BPMBEI)
- Indonesia [PT Sucofindo Laboratory](#)
- Malaysia [SIRIM QAS International](#)
- Philippines [Solid Laguna Corp](#)
- Singapore Singapore Electrical Testing Services ([SETS](#))
- Singapore [PSB Corporation](#) (part of TÜV SÜD group)
- Thailand Electrical and Electronic Institute ([EEI](#))
- Thailand [Intertek Testing Services](#) (Thailand) Ltd
- Thailand [PSB Test \(Thailand\)](#) Co, Ltd (part of TÜV SÜD group)
- Thailand [TUV Rheinhal Thailand](#) Ltd (part of TÜV SÜD group)
- Vietnam Vietnam Certification Centre ([QUACERT](#)) ([INTI](#))
- China > 30 institutions

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Some fundamental elements

- The **vendor's decision** to participate in the programme is voluntary
- Tests performed in 1st, 2nd, 3rd party labs
- Role of an independent **Accredited Certifier**
- Possible accreditation by a National Accreditation Body (**NAB**) ensuring compliance with specific requirements for independent activities (ISO/IEC toolkit).

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Mutual Recognition Agreements/Arrangements

- **MRAs Agreements among governments** require legislation, complexity of governmental negotiations and parliamentary process.
- **MRAs Arrangements among non-government actors**, do not require legislation, they function on the basis of peer assessment, not accreditation, but achieve the same effects: more effective in most cases. Each laboratory in a System is assessed by a team of its peers (other labs) and each Certification Body (CB) similarly.
- The IEC's conformity assessment (CA) Systems (3rd-party certification schemes) are all MR Arrangements. They require all their members compulsorily to accept each other's certificates and test results.
- Most of the laboratories and CBs concerned are also accredited.


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ITU conformity programme

- **Encourage and assist Developing Countries for Conformity Assessment and Interoperability for testing laboratories and capacity building opportunities**
- **Encourage vendors to carry out conformity assessment and interoperability testing**
- **Develop and operate a voluntary "ITU Conformity & Interoperability Mark scheme to:**
 - ◆ enable vendors to make reference and/or to give visibility to ITU when conformity and, when possible, inter-operability requirements have been demonstrated in the context of the scheme
 - ◆ to stimulate and develop the culture of conformance assessment testing, capacity building and surveillance worldwide


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The Vendor

A vendor who receives a certificate issued by an accredited certifier indicating its equipment has been tested to show conformity or interoperability to ITU-T Recommendation (s), or provides a declaration by a high ranking executive of the company to that effect, may request ITU to acknowledge the availability of the certification or declaration and permit the visible recognition by means of an ITU Conformity Mark


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Conformity Certificate / Declaration

- **Certification of Conformity** always conducted by an accredited third party entity
- **Supplier's Declaration** of conformity issued by an executive expressly designated by the vendor that, after e.g. 1st or 3rd party testing) , according to ISO 17050


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ITU conformity mark scheme "ITU (inside) concept"

- a scheme relying on accredited testing and certification. Accreditation will provide confidence in the results of the conformity assessment process.
- The accreditation "filter" – ITU image
 - route 1: Accredited laboratory and Supplier's declaration (SDoC)
 - route 2: All the procedure performed under the responsibility of an accredited certifier


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Supplier's declaration, When?

- risk associated with non compliance is low and penalties for placing noncompliant products on the market are affordable, and
- removal efforts from the market of noncompliant products is adequate.

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3rd Party Certification, when?

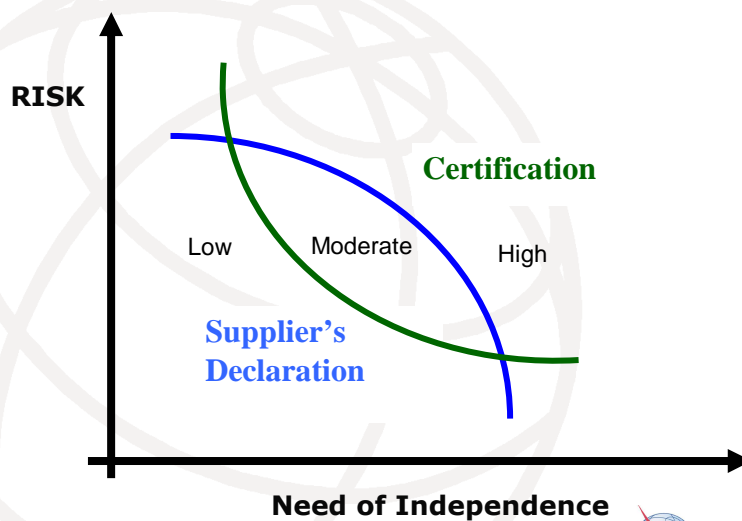
- Certification is always conducted by a third party and is adopted if the risks associated with non-conformity are from moderate to high
- Certification includes evaluation of test results and the attestation of the compliance to referred standards
- Conformity and Certification to foresee a sort of in-factory / market/ periodical form of surveillance to ensure ongoing conformity

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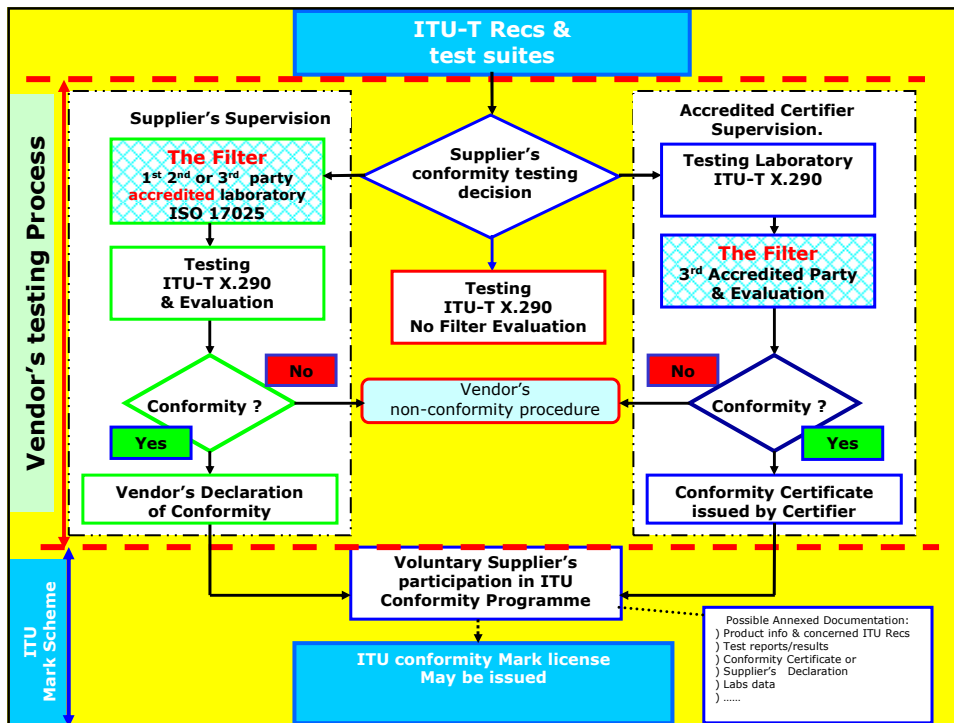
Supplier's Declaration / Certification – Risk relationship



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TSB Director's report to Council-09

- Consultation with Experts and External Organizations (IEC, ISO, TIA, ANSI, ETSI, Regulators, Laboratories, Governments)
 - ◆ ITU: TSB, BDT, BR and Legal Affairs consultation
 - ◆ Representatives of Administrations,
 - ◆ Experts in training, testing, certification, market analysis
 - ◆ Representatives of Regulators and Industry
 - ◆ Participation in and organization of events

CONSULTATION MEETING ON CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT AND INTEROPERABILITY (Geneva 20-21 JULY 09)

- Unanimous supporting to Res. 76 in favor of labs set-up and training in developing countries
- Certification and Mark: a mean to reduce testing costs and to improve time to market in the spirit of WTO/TBT principles
- ITU Mark Programme:
 - ◆ ITU: programme free for ITU members
 - ◆ Developing countries: a need to ensure that their investments for the development of network are supported by ITU standards as worldwide reliable Institution
 - ◆ Industry: ITU mark not necessary to demonstrate conformity or interoperability
 - ◆ Need to establish a surveillance program
- TSB: Need to develop a pilot project for conformity assessment and to promote an interoperability “fest” with volunteer partners also in order to establish criteria for potential charging of non ITU members


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Conclusions on Res. 76

- The Res. 76: to meet the needs of Developing Countries for conformance and interoperability
- The conformity as a first step to increase the probability of interoperability between different manufacturers, vendors, service providers
- The identification of Labs able to carry out tests according to the ITU-T Recommendations requirements and training programs
- The voluntary based ITU conformity programme as a demonstration of conformance to ITU-T Recs.
- The increased business opportunities and benefits to both suppliers and customers, positive industry response
- Need of a surveillance strategy/ data base

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Thank you Any Question ?

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