

## **ITU Forum on Conformance and Interoperability Testing in CIS and Europe Regions, Moscow (Russia), 9-11 November 2011**

### **Scope of the Forum**

At the kind invitation of Russian Federation Communication Administration and Federal State Unitary Enterprise «Central Science Research Telecommunication Institute» (FSUE ZNIIS), the ITU Forum on Conformance and Interoperability Testing in CIS and Europe Regions, was organised in Moscow (Russia), from 9 to 11 November 2011.

<http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/tech/events/index.html>.

The main objective of this Regional Seminar was to inform the attendees in the following subjects: Status of available test suites applicable to standards in order to fill the gaps where needed, Status of the needs of Developing Countries for building testing labs for conformance and interoperability testing; Existing testing labs and their areas of activities in the ICTs field; Assessment of the needs and the opportunities to establish type approval testing labs in the countries; Criteria and characteristics to establish accredited Bodies/Labs in the Regions for Type Approval/Homologation based on rules and recommendations, and also best practice; The ILAC, IAF and accreditation bodies, MRAs (Mutual Recognition Agreements) reference documents, framework and procedures for mutual recognition of conformity assessment of telecommunication equipment and systems; ITU testing approaches including ITU experience, conformance testing experience in different countries and technologies to be tested, application of Model networks for conformance/interoperability testing, proposed methodologies of protocols, equipment services and QoS/QoE/NP testing, experience from international testing projects, steps to be undertaken to facilitate the creation of regional test labs and to create capacity building opportunities at a regional level; Establishment of further actions on economical, technical and regional presence.

Moreover, the Seminar addressed relevant Resolutions from WTDC-10 (Res 47) WTSA-08 (res 76) and PP-10 Resolution 177 on Conformance and Interoperability.

The Seminar brought together leading specialists in the field, from top policy-makers to engineers, designers, planners, government officials, regulators, standards experts and others.

Welcoming address from Hosting Administration was from Mr. Andrey Mukhanov , Director General for International Cooperation Department of the Ministry of Telecom and Mass Communications of the Russian Federation.

The Seminar was opened by Mr. Yury Grin, Deputy Director of BDT.

More than 80 registered delegates participated in the Seminar.

Discussions were held in English and Russian. Simultaneous interpretation was provided.

**Achievements:** Strengthening standard-making capabilities, enhancement of knowledge and effective application of ITU Recommendations and Introduction of best practice application of ITU Recommendations. Improvement of the Regional presence of ITU and improvement of interactions between countries and ITU. Sharing of a number of ICT development experiences among all stakeholders for fostering the implementation of a programme for assisting Developing Countries in establishing Testing labs.

**Strengths:** Seminar very well attended in terms of number of participants and interest demonstrated by the attendees during all sessions. High quality of content of the presentations of the Speakers. Good internal coordination inside ITU and good participation of speakers from TSB and BDT.

### **Round Table Discussion**

The Seminar ended with a Panel Discussion on “How to establish a Conformance and Interoperability regime in the Region”. Topics dealt with during the Panel Discussion were:

1. Conformity assessments and Interoperability testing C&I Programme. Importance of ITU Interoperability testing events and ITU hosting the references to results, ITU Database. Recommendations / Increasing capacity building on Testing, Conformance and Interoperability in the Region, Possible approaches and training program. Recommendations
2. Possible approaches and scenarios for establishing a conformance and interoperability presence in the Region. Building labs vs shared test lab services through instruments such as MRA. Role of Regional and International Organizations (RCC, ISO, ILAC, etc.). Reference documentation.
3. Role of International Telecommunication Testing Centers (ITTCs). Testing experience of ITTC for CIS Region, Recommendations
4. How to facilitate international interoperability. Recommendations
5. ITU-T Recommendations Cup on Global Interoperability Testing. Ubiquitous Networking: from Interoperability testing to Connectivity testing. Recommendations
6. Analysis of ITU Recommendations suitable for conformance testing. The role of the ITU-T Study Groups. Recommendations
7. How Policy makers and Regulatory bodies can facilitate the establishment of an appropriate Conformance and Interoperability regime in the Region. National Laws and Regulations creating an orderly telecom marketplace. Recommendations
8. Participants were also reminded of the upcoming WTSA 2012 and were encouraged to reflect, during their preparation process, on what common proposals might be useful to positively influence and guide work on the subject of C&I and ITTCs

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- ITU to identify policy and regulatory imperatives in cooperation with membership to accelerate the creation of C&I Test Centres and mutual recognition of competence in conformity assessment in order to realise the ICT test centres and to have a framework for trusted sharing of conformity assessment services including production of test results. Propose and facilitate MRA signature between countries. Labs to follow the ITU-ITTC approach and encouraged to be accredited according to ISO Standards (ISO/CASCO toolkit) and ITU to prepare a general regional-based framework for MRAs according to the ITU guidelines ( insert right title D-sector).

- Finding funding solutions to assist and accelerate the realisation of the ITU C&I Programme
- Identification of test laboratory and relevant services in the region paying attention to priority problem areas in the region
- ITU to assist those projects that have been shown to be viable, e.g. to assist the region to solve problems of interoperability, service delivery and QoS
- Continuing ITU facilitated Interoperability events and maintenance of a record of results especially for new technologies. The services, applications, content, connectivity, QoS/QoE/NP testing, DSN testing and USN/IoT testing.
- Implementation of the Conformity database and ITU C&I Portal
- ITU to produce harmonized protocol specifications and test specifications in a timely manner and develop ITU Recommendation (ITU Study Groups) in view of Interoperability Requirements especially for new technologies. Applications, content, services, connectivity, QoS, QoE, testing could be focusing topics in the coming ITU-T new study period (2013 – 2016)
- ITU to assess the type of training needed and provide the training including hands-on training (paying attention to linguistic preferences)
- CIS to actively participate in the work of the ITU e.g. establish regional group meetings on an on- going basis. To discuss and report to RCC meetings the results and Recommendations of this Forum
- ITU to define a minimum mandatory set of requirements for QoS for ensuring interoperable services.

Recommendations of this Forum to will help to accelerate the process; the recommendations will be posted on the website.

Gratitude was expressed to the Hosting Administration, roundtable panellists, presenters, all participants, and interpreters.