

ITU Forum on Conformance and Interoperability for the Americas Region



*Interactive Session
Findings of Group A*

1

Agenda

- Conformity Assessment
- Interoperability
- Capacity Building
- Assistance for the creation of test centers

2

Conformity Assessment

- **Main obstacles to be overcome**
 - Regulator actions to transform concepts in reality
 - Mainly a political problem than a technical problem
 - Weak regulatory framework
 - Inadequate legal framework
 - Lack of awareness at the policy level
 - Setting the priority
 - Lack of skills
 - National priorities
 - Lack of market surveillance and enforcement
 - Gap in the infrastructure

3

Conformity Assessment

- **LOCAL or REGIONAL strategies/actions needed?**
 - Institutions commitment
 - Identification of needs
 - Mapping to available infrastructure
 - Communication of “rules” (regulations, test methods to be used, etc.)

4

Conformity Assessment

- **Strategies/actions/assistance from international organizations?**
 - Facilitation of partnerships
 - Sharing global initiatives
 - Strategies preparation and participation from developing countries
 - ITU to produce harmonized protocol specifications and test specifications in a timely manner and develop ITU Recommendations “ITU Study Groups” in view of interoperability requirements for new technologies, applications and services.

5

Interoperability

- **Main obstacles to be overcome**
 - Understanding complexity
 - Dealing with multiplicity of standards -> define a set of minimum parameters
 - Understanding of what interoperability means
 - Preparation of precise RFP (Request for Proposal)
 - Establishing vendor trust
- **LOCAL or REGIONAL strategies/actions needed?**
 - Operators offering
 - Identify test labs capable to foster interoperability events
 - Identify market needs
- **Strategies/actions/assistance from international organizations?**
 - Support to spread interoperability culture/awareness
 - ITU to define a minimum mandatory set of requirements for quality of services for ensuring interoperable services

6

Capacity Building

- **Main obstacles to be overcome**
 - C&I is not a high priority for government
 - Lack of opportunity to get expertise
 - Lack of people awareness of scholarships
- **LOCAL or REGIONAL strategies/actions needed?**
 - Regional cooperation institutions to share expertise
- **Strategies/actions/assistance from international organizations?**
 - ITU to assess the type of training needed and provide the training including hands-on training,
 - ITU negotiating partnership with regional laboratories and other institutions in the position to deliver training for specialists from the region
 - Strategies to engage private companies in training activities

7

Assistance for the creation of Test Centers

- **Main obstacles to be overcome**
 - High cost of building a test lab (premises, human resources, accreditation, maintenance....)
 - Lack of awareness of priority of domain (e.g., wireless, broadcasting, NGN, EMC, safety,)
 - Government and private funding accessibility
 - Availability of competent expertise, including language skills

8

Assistance for the creation of Test Centers

- **LOCAL or REGIONAL strategies/actions needed?**
 - Scan of available services in local or region
 - Establishment of competitive fee structure for services
 - Encouraging the signature of MRA with other countries to avoid unnecessary duplication of testing services

9

Assistance for the creation of Test Centers

- **Strategies/actions/assistance from international organizations?**
 - ITU, and other partners, in cooperation with membership to identify policy and regulatory imperatives to accelerate the creation of C&I test centers and/or facilitate the establishment of MRAs in order to put in place the more appropriate C&I regime for each country. Propose and facilitate MRA signature between countries based on regional framework for MRAs according to ITU guidelines on C&I.
 - ITU in cooperation with other international organizations (e.g. UNIDO) and other partners (e.g. CPqD, CERT, SINTESIO, etc.) to support development/strengthening of calibration and ICT test labs

10

