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| **STUDY GROUP 3** | |
| **Original: English** | |
| **Question(s):** | | All/3 | Geneva, 5-13 April 2017 | | |
| **CONTRIBUTION** | | | | | |
| **Source:** | | United States | | | |
| **Title:** | | TSB revisions to the Working Party 2/3 report (COM3 – R 15(Rev.1)) from the February 2016 Study Group 3 meeting | | | |
| **Purpose:** | | Discussion | | | |
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| **Keywords:** | Study Group (and Working Party) reports; Invited Experts |
| **Abstract:** | This contribution proposes that the Working Party 2/3 report, as agreed and approved at the last Study Group 3 meeting, not be revised as proposed by the TSB. |

**Discussion.** During its February 2016 meeting, Study Group 3 approved (see in Study Group 3 – Report 13, section 2.1b) the Working Party 2 report (Study Group 3 Report 15), which was posted 24 March 2016. The Working Party 2 report included section 5.13.31 discussing the decision by the Working Party that the co-rapporteurs for the Mobile Financial Services Rapporteur Group should hold 3 e-meetings “with the ITU-T members of the FG-DFS [Focus Group on Digital Financial Services].” This decision of the Working Party was approved by the Study Group as confirmed by the liaison (COM 3 – [LS 45](https://www.itu.int/ifa/t/2013/ls/sg3/sp15-sg3-oLS-00045.doc)) and sent to the FG-DFS, which states:

In this spirit of collaboration, the Study Group 3 co-rapporteurs on Mobile Financial Services will participate in 3 e-meetings with the ITU-T members of the FG-DFS for further information regarding the ongoing work in the Study Group.

Notwithstanding these decisions, without explanation to or consultation with Study Group 3 or its management, TSB edited this section of the report and posted a revised version of the report on 25 April 2016, [Report 15 rev.1](https://www.itu.int/dms_ties/itu-t/md/13/sg03/r/T13-SG03-R-0015!R1!MSW-E.docx). TSB announced the posting of the revisions in an email on the same date. This occurred two days before the first of the e-meetings discussed in this section of the Working Party 2 report, to which non-ITU-T member experts from the FG-DFS had been invited and participated.

The edits (in Section 5.13.31 of R 15Rev.1) included replacing “with the ITU-T members of the FG-DFS” with “and invited FG-DFS experts.” The TSB also added an additional sentence before that substitution, plus several new phrases before and after the replacements.

These were not editorial changes. The changes directly conflict with the language of the liaison sent to the FG-DFS. The discussion in the Working Party included the possibility of “inviting FG-DFS experts,” but not all aspects of the Working Party discussion are reflected in the report, and this part of the meeting discussion was not the final decision.

**Proposal.** The Working Party 2/3 report, as approved at the February 2016 Study Group 3 meeting and as confirmed by the liaison sent by Study Group 3 to the FG-DFS, should not be revised to reflect the edits unilaterally made by TSB without consultation with the Study Group. In addition, TSB was not asked by Study Group 3 or its management to review and revise the report.

TSB should provide Study Group 3 with the relevant sections of the ITU-T rules of procedure which it believes authorizes the actions it took.

As the rapporteur group meetings have all occurred and were held with the participation of experts not agreed to by the Study Group, the practical question raised by these tactics is moot because participation of invited experts already is authorised under existing ITU-T rules and procedures. The actions of TSB, however, raise serious concerns about the transparency of the processes followed.

Therefore, the United States seeks clarification on the relevant ITU-T rules used to revise it in this instance. We also request withdrawal of rev.1 of the Report of Working Party 2/3 in favor of the original text prior to TSB’s edits.

The United States would like this contribution to be made publicly available without restriction.

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