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| Title: ITU logo | INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION  **TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION SECTOR**  STUDY PERIOD 2022-2024 | | TSAG-TD533 | | |
| **TSAG** | | |
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| **TD** | | | | | |
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| **Title:** | | ITU-T SG3 Lead Study Group Report | | | |
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| **Abstract:** | This TD reports on the progress to date on the lead study group roles of ITU-T SG3. It updates on activities since the last TSAG meeting (Geneva, 22-26 January 2024). |

**Report of Lead Study Group 3 Activities**

WTSA-20 assigned three lead study group function to Study Group 3 on the following topics:

* Tariff and accounting principles relating to international telecommunication/ICT
* Economic issues relating to international telecommunication/ICT
* Policy issues relating to international telecommunication/ICT.

# 1 Achievements

Annex 1 provides a set of tables that lists the results, between 10 November 2023 and 18 July 2024, of ITU-T SG3 concerning its work on Recommendations on the above lead study group topics.

# 2 Ongoing work

For the Study Period 2022-2024, ITU-T SG3 held its fifth meeting in Geneva from 9 to 18 July 2024.

Annex 2 presents recommendations and other texts in scope of the above lead study group functions currently under development in ITU-T study groups.

# 3 Lead study group on tariff and accounting principles relating to international telecommunication/ICT

The studies on accounting principles are being carried out by Q1/3, Q4/3, Q7/3, and Q12/3.

# 4 Lead study group for economic and policy issues relating to international telecommunication/ICT

The studies on economic and policy issues are being carried out by Q3/3, Q4/3, Q6/3, Q7/3, Q9/3, Q10/3, Q11/3, and Q12/3. The activities on economic issues are summarized as follows.

# 5 Implementation of ITU Resolutions

SG3 as Lead Study Group on tariff and accounting principles, on economic issues, and on policy issues relating to international telecommunication/ICT considers:

* Implementation of WTSA Resolutions 29, 44, 54, 61, 62, 64, 65, 84, 88, 89, and 95;
* Implementation of PP Resolutions 2, 21, 101, 102, 123, 130, 137, 146, 180, 197, 203, 204, 205, and 206;
* Implementation of WTDC Resolutions 22, 23, 63, and 77;
* Implementation of WCIT-12 Articles/Resolutions: 3.7, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, 8.1.1, 8.1.2, 8.2.1, 8.3.1, Appendix 1/1.2, Appendix 1/3.1.3, and Resolution 5 (Dubai 2012).

# 6 Engagement of developing countries

SG3 has six regional groups, of which five regional groups are active, and one regional group is established on an as-needed basis. In the reporting time frame, three regional groups of SG3 met with strong participation of developing countries, which helped to prepare the SG3 meeting:

* Report of ITU-T SG3 Regional Group for the Arab Region (SG3RG-ARB) meeting held in Kuwait City, Kuwait, 6-7 March 2024 ([SG3-TD175/PLEN](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-SG03-240709-TD-PLEN-0175/en));
* Report of ITU-T SG3 Regional Group for Africa (SG3RG-AFR) meeting held in Lilongwe, Malawi, 10-12 April 2024 ([SG3-TD168/PLEN](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-SG03-240709-TD-PLEN-0168/en)); and
* Report of ITU-T SG3 Regional Group for Asia and Oceania (SG3RG-AO)​ meeting held in Seoul, Korea (Rep. of), 4-6 June 2024 ([SG3-TD176/PLEN](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-SG03-240709-TD-PLEN-0176/en)).

## 6.1 Regional Recommendations

***Approved Regional Recommendation***

During the meeting of SG3 Regional Group for the Arab Region (SG3RG-ARB) held in Kuwait City, Kuwait from 6 to 7 March 2024, the following new draft regional Recommendation was approved:

* Regional Recommendation ITU-T D.700R (D7\_R\_OTT), *Principles for dealing with OTTs*

***Determined Regional Recommendation***

During the meeting of SG3 Regional Group for Africa (SG3RG-AFR) held in Lilongwe, Malwai from 10 to 12 April 2024, the following new draft regional Recommendation was determined:

* Regional Recommendation ITU-T D.609R (ex D.LicensingR), *Guidelines for determining the size of fees associated with authorizations/licences*

During the Plenary session on 9 July 2024 meeting, the group was informed of SG3RG-AFR’s decision to apply the approval process as per Section 9.2 of WTSA Resolution 1 ([SG3-TD169/PLEN](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-SG03-240709-TD-PLEN-0169/en)). SG3 agreed for TSB to initiate the TAP consultation for the text through the TSB Director among the Member States of the regional group.

# 7 Capacity building

* Bridging the Standardization Gap (BSG) activities are highlighted at meetings as a measure to build capacity and to improve working methods in study group functions.
* Tutorials and guidelines on the presentation, format and submission of contributions are routinely presented at meetings in order to advance the work of ITU-T SG3.

# 8 Focus Group on Cost Models for Affordable Data Services (FG-CD)

The progress report of the Focus Group on Cost Models for Affordable Data Services (FG-CD), including the outcomes of its second meeting in Lilongwe, Malawi from 8 to 10 April 2024, was presented to the SG3 plenary meeting, as contained in [SG3-TD166/PLEN](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-SG03-240709-TD-PLEN-0166/en).

As requested in the progress report, SG3 agreed to extend FG-CD lifetime for one more year until 3 October 2025.

# 9 Cooperation with ITU-T Lead Study Groups, and with TSAG

SG3 sent the following liaison statements:

* To ITU-T SG2 on a proposal for a Joint Working Party on OTT Definitions, and
* To TSAG on WTSA-24 preparations and latest WTSA Action Plan and draft “WTSA preparation guideline on Resolutions”.

# 10 Cooperation with other Coordination Groups

SG3 sent a liaison statement to Joint Coordination Activity on IMT2020 and Beyond (JCA-IMT2020) on the agreement of Draft new Technical Report ITU-T DSTR-STUDY\_IMT2020MVNOs, “5G related policy considering MVNOs” (STUDY\_IMT2020MVNOs).

# 11 Collaboration with ITU-D and ITU-R

SG3 sent a liaison statement to ITU-R and ITU-D on the creation of a new work item on economic and policy aspects of the provision of high-speed Internet connectivity by retail satellite operators.

# Annex 1 Achievements of ITU-T Study Group 3 on Tariff and accounting principles relating to international telecommunication/ICT, Economic issues relating to international telecommunication/ICT, Policy issues relating to international telecommunication/ICT (From 10 November 2023 until 18 July 2024)

**a) Recommendations approved (TAP – WTSA-20 Resolution 1):**

Determined draft revised Recommendation ITU-T D.212, “Charging and Accounting Principles for The Use of Signalling System No. 7” (as contained in [SG3-Report 14](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-SG03-R-0014/en)) was approved by the SG3 plenary.

**b) Supplements agreed**

None.

**c) Draft Recommendations determined (TAP – WTSA-20 Resolution 1):**

Draft new Recommendation ITU-T D.265, “Principles for Tariff Regulation of Data Services”, as contained in [SG3-TD187/PLEN](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-SG03-240709-TD-PLEN-0187/en), was determined by SG3 plenary.

Draft new Recommendation ITU-T D.1141, “Policy framework and principles for data protection in the context of big data relating to telecommunication/ICT services”, as contained in [SG3-TD181/PLEN, was determined by SG3 plenary.](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-SG03-240709-TD-PLEN-0181/en)

**d) Amendment approved, Supplements agreed, Technical Reports/Papers agreed, Implementer’s guide approved (pursuant to Recommendation ITU-T A.13):**

Draft new Technical Report ITU-T DSTR-STUDY\_DRCI, “Dispute Resolution between telecommunications operators and providers of OTTs” (STUDY\_DRCI), as contained in [SG3-TD184/PLEN](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-SG03-240709-TD-PLEN-0184/en), was agreed by SG3 plenary.

Draft new Technical Report ITU-T dSTR\_DLTUSF, “The Potential of Distributed Ledger Technology to Improve Management of Universal Service Funds” (TR\_DLTUSF), as contained in [SG3-TD185/PLEN](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-SG03-240709-TD-PLEN-0185/en), was agreed by SG3 plenary.

Draft new Technical Report ITU-T DSTR-STUDY\_IMT2020MVNOs, “5G related policy considering MVNOs” (STUDY\_IMT2020MVNOs), as contained in [SG3-TD183-R1/PLEN](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-SG03-240709-TD-PLEN-0183/en), was agreed by SG3 plenary.

Draft new Appendix I to Recommendation ITU-T D.1040, “Method of re-allocating the circuit capacity in the trans-multi-country terrestrial cable in a complex scenario”, as contained in [SG3-TD186/PLEN](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-SG03-240709-TD-PLEN-0186/en), was agreed by SG3 plenary.

Draft new Technical Report ITU-T DSTR-OTTBypass, “OTT Bypass”, contained in [SG3-TD182/PLEN](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-SG03-240709-TD-PLEN-0182/en), was agreed by SG3 plenary.

**e) Recommendation proposed for deletion**

None.

# Annex 2 Current work plan of ITU-T Study Group 3 on Tariff and accounting principles relating to international telecommunication/ICT, Economic issues relating to international telecommunication/ICT, Policy issues relating to international telecommunication/ICT (status 18 July 2024)

| **SG** | **Q** | **No.** | **Title** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SG3 | - | D6\_R\_ROAM\*\*\* | Regional Recommendation to address high roaming charges, regulatory approaches and impact on traffic |
| SG3 | - | D7\_R\_OTTBypass\*\*\* | Regional Recommendation on OTT bypass including national and regional collaboration between Member States and operators to deal with the OTT bypass issue |
| SG3 | - | D7\_R\_ROAM\*\*\* | Regional Recommendation to address high roaming charges, regulatory approaches and impact on traffic |
| SG3 | - | D7\_R\_OTT\*\*\* | Draft Regional Recommendation on OTT |
| SG3 | - | D.502R\*\*\* | Regional Recommendation for Asia-Oceanic (AO) region on the aspects of International Mobile Roaming |
| SG3 | 3 | D.Classification\* | Classification of telecommunications services in data networks |
| SG3 | - | D.GVR\*\*\* | Towards better governance of telecommunication regulation |
| SG3 | 3 | D.IoTpolicy\* | Guidelines on Tariff and regulatory aspects of Internet of Things (IoT) |
| SG3 | 3 | D.Licensing\* | Mechanisms for pricing of licenses for mobile/broadband/fixed |
| SG3 | - | DSTR-LAN\*\* | Assessment of the socio-economic impact of Local Area Networks using technologies including Wi-Fi, New Radio -Unlicensed (NR-U) on consumers in Asia and Oceania |
| SG3 | - | DSTR-USO\*\* | Regional Technical Report ITU-T DSTR-USO "Economic and policy factors relevant to the provision of Universal Service Obligations (USO)" |
| SG3 | 3 | STUDY\_DTRANS\*\* | Future of Regulation for Digital Transformation |
| SG3 | 3 | Study\_NetworkSlicing\*\* | Technical Report on Study of network slicing in the international telecommunication ecosystem |
| SG3 | - | [Study\_MFS](http://www.itu.int/itu-t/workprog/wp_item.aspx?isn=19117)\*\* | ITU-T Technical Report Study\_MFS "Outcome-based Mobile Financial Services (MFS) Policies and Regulations" |
| SG3 | - | [Study\_OTTnetworkinvestment](http://www.itu.int/itu-t/workprog/wp_item.aspx?isn=19116)\*\* | ITU-T Technical Report "OTTs Impact on Telecommunications Network Investment" |
| SG3 | - | [TR\_IPv6-AO](http://www.itu.int/itu-t/workprog/wp_item.aspx?isn=19046)\*\* | Technical report on the challenges, use cases and related economic and cost advantages of IPv6 for the Asia and Oceania Region |
| SG3 | 6 | D.50.Suppl.3\*\* | Reducing the cost of the international Internet connectivity of the Central African Backbone (CAB) project, Central African Republic component |
| SG3 | 6 | D.CompIIC\* | Draft Recommendation ITU-T D.XX on Framework for the Competitive Provision of International Internet Connectivity (IIC) |
| SG3 | 6 | STUDY\_TCST\*\* | Charging and accounting settlements in Trans-multi-country terrestrial cable circuit |
| SG3 | 6 | D.ecosat\* | Economic and policy aspects of the provision of high-speed Internet connectivity by retail satellite operators |
| SG3 | 7 | D.IoT/M2M Roaming\* | Roaming aspects of IoT and M2M including any related development and tariff principles |
| SG3 | 7 | TR\_DLT\*\* | Usage of Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT) to handle accounting, policy, regulatory and economic issues in the international telecommunications/ICT domain |
| SG3 | 9 | D.OTTBypass\* | OTT Bypass |
| SG3 | 9 | STUDY\_Convergence\*\* | Study on the economic impact of convergence of technology and services and the role of the Regulator |
| SG3 | 9 | Study\_OTTs\*\* | Study on policy, regulatory, and economic aspects of OTTs in the context of international telecommunication/ICT services and networks |
| SG3 | 9 | D.GuidelinesCostContribution\* | Guidelines on Potential Cost Contribution mechanisms between OTT service providers and telecom network service operators towards the expansion and development of high-capacity telecom networks |
| SG3 | 10 | TR\_OTTReporting\*\* | Technical Report on Establishing International Reporting Standards for OTT Applications |
| SG3 | 10 | D.USSD\* | Principles for commercial negotiations between wholesale USSD, SMS Access markets and Mobile Telecommunication Networks |
| SG3 | 11 | STUDY\_bigdata\*\* | Technical Paper on economic and policy aspects of Big Data in international telecommunication services and networks |
| SG3 | 11 | DSTR-AIstrat\*\* | Guidelines for a Framework to develop AI Principles as related to telecommunication/ICT plans and strategies |
| SG3 | 12 | D.AgentMFS\* | Guidelines for Mobile Financial Service Agents |
| SG3 | 12 | D.InteropCompetition\* | Interoperability for Competition in Mobile Financial Services |
| SG3 | 12 | STUDY\_DCB\*\* | Direct Carrier Billing |
| SG3 | 12 | TR\_ DSTR-DFSNPS\*\* | Technical Report on Cooperation frameworks between Authorities, Users and Providers for the development of the National Payments System |
| SG3 | 12 | TR\_ DSTR-ECOM\*\* | Technical Report on Development of e-commerce in developing countries through mobile money (and vice versa) |

Notes:  
\* Marked draft Recommendations are for determination.

\*\* Texts for approval by agreement (AAP/TAP not applicable)

\*\*\* Regional Recommendation

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