

**INTERNATIONAL STANDARDIZATION
TUTORIAL**

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Title: Location issue – Support decentralization, but with some flexibility

ABSTRACT

This paper is to support a combination of decentralization of the GTO operational location in view of the changes in the telecommunication arena over the recent decades and the continuation of the administrative headquarters in Geneva.

Introduction

The United Nations has decided to replace ITU with GTO as a global entity after major changes in the telecommunication arena over the recent decades. The changes are:

- The character of the ITU is towards considerations of issues of concern to all countries.
- Demographic shift in membership, participation and work programmed from a Euro-centric organization to an Asia-Pacific-centric organization.

Discussion

The purpose of replacing ITU with GTO is to meet the requirements of the new telecommunication arena which has been through the process of globalization. In the globalization era, the location of GTO operational activities should be global as well, located both in developing and developed countries.

However, GTO administrative headquarters should remain together in Geneva in order to maintain its core functions and its close proximity the headquarters location of other United Nations agencies.

The advantages of having GTO operational locations in both developing and developed countries are as follows;

1. No discrimination. Each country will have equal opportunity.
2. “Healthy competition” for each country in term of planning, management and operation. Can adopt and learn from each other for the benefits of both.
3. Each country will have the opportunity to host activities based on a rotation basis.
4. Members will have the opportunity to participate in work programmes and activities hosted by developed and developing countries.

Conclusion

Decentralization of GTO operational activities should be located in both developed and developing countries in order to provide a better global organization and serve its worldwide membership. However, the administrative headquarters should remain in Geneva, providing necessary core functions to the organization.