

Americas Region WTSA-08 preparatory meeting  
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# Facilitating participation in ITU-T activities

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# Types of collaboration

Same time  
*synchronous*

Different time  
*asynchronous*

Same place  
*co-located*

## ***Face-to-face meetings***

meeting rooms, projection systems, tabletop computer, flip charts etc

## ***Ongoing collaboration***

project management tools, e-calendars, wall charts, shift-work groupware etc

Different place  
*remote*

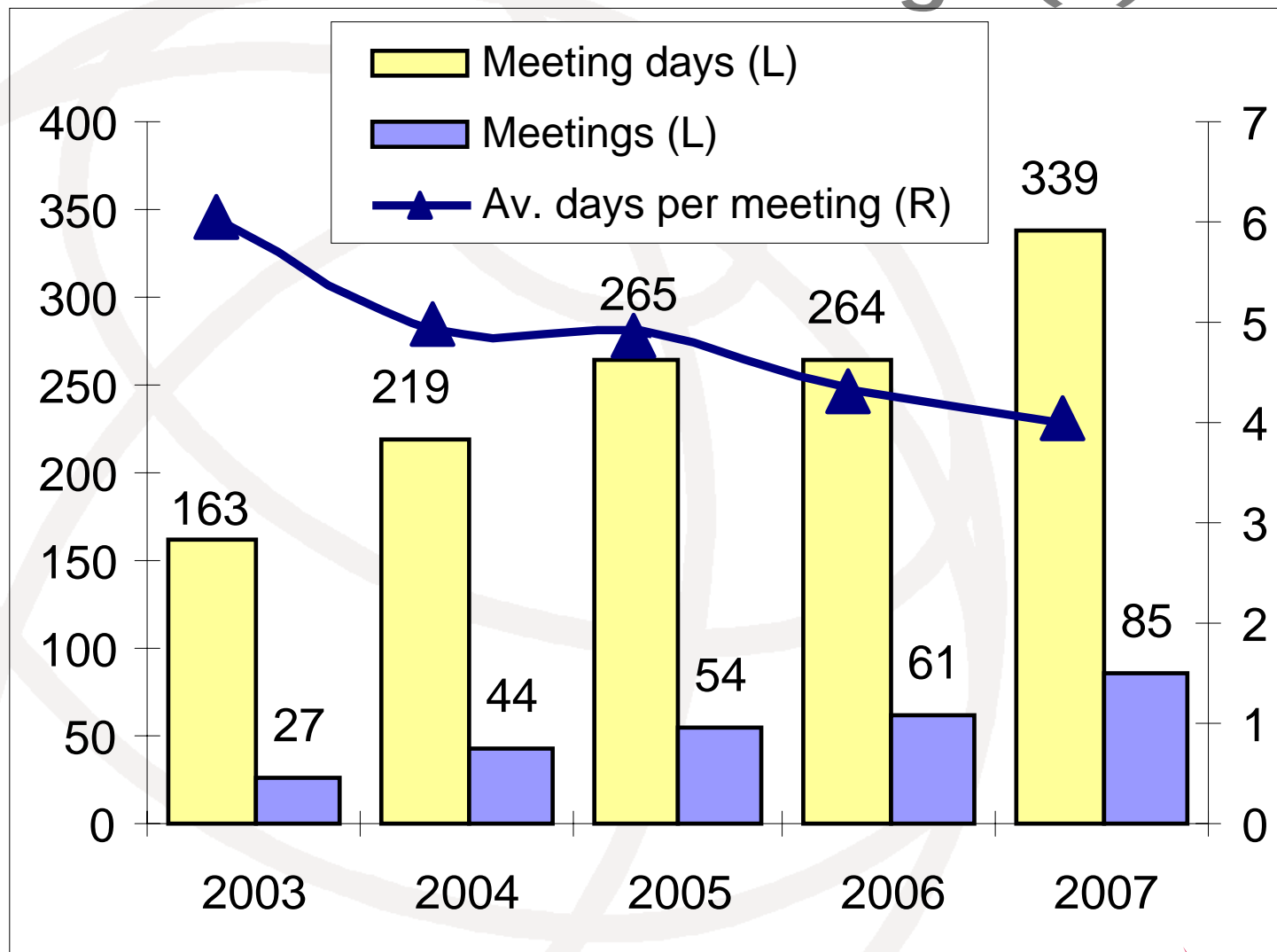
## ***Remote meetings***

remote collaboration tools, video/audio conferencing, IM/chat, telepresence, webcasts, virtual worlds etc

## ***Time-shift remote collaboration***

websites, forums, email, e-calendars, sharepoints, wikis, version control etc

# Participation / Duration in ITU-T meetings (1)



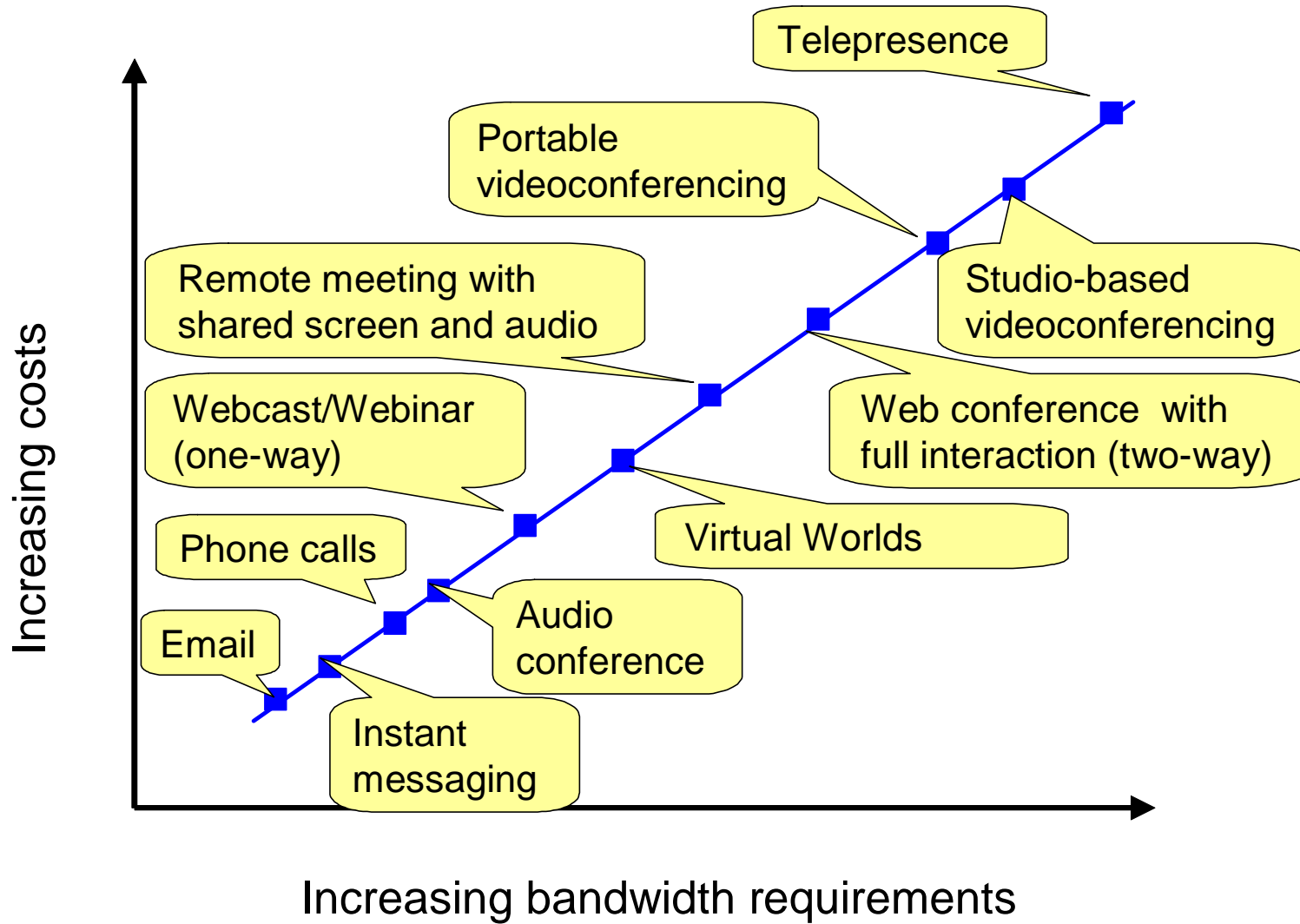


# Remote Participation

# Why remote participation?

- To assist in bridging the standardization gap, especially for delegates from developing countries
- To provide training materials (archived on web)
- To make participation in short meetings more efficient (e.g. steering committees, seminars, rapporteur groups)
- To contribute in reducing carbon footprint

# Segmenting the market



# Remote collaboration existing online tools (1)

- Free access to ITU-T Recommendations online (since 1 January 2007)
- TIES access (password protected) to meeting documents etc
- Other electronic tools, e.g., correspondence groups, informal FTP areas on website, Forums etc

# Remote collaboration tools (2)


## Audio/video tools

- Internet Broadcasting System (IBS)
  - In use since 2000 (mainly audio, with some video)
  - Large archive available ([www.itu.int/ibs/](http://www.itu.int/ibs/))
- E-learning
  - Public digital library
  - Training opportunities online (both instructor-led and self-paced)
  - See: [www.itu.int/ITU-D/hrd/elearning/](http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/hrd/elearning/)



# Remote collaboration tools (3)

## Remote participation

- ITU-T trial, launched by TSAG in Dec-07, to evaluate remote participation tools
  - **GoToMeeting**: used extensively within ITU for short (>2 hours) meetings, with up to 30 participants
  - **GoToWebinar**: used for covering Climate Change symposium in Kyoto, with up to 200 participants over 2 days (archived)  clip.wmv
  - **WebEx**: one year trial offered by CISCO

# Possible future scenarios

- Increasing share of ITU meetings held outside Geneva or in cyberspace
  - Workshops and symposia, Webinars
  - Regional block meetings
- Distributed participation in ITU meetings
  - Broadcast (two-way audio/video) to regional offices of Centres of Excellence, allowing for local interaction and participation
- Increased use of remote collaboration tools
  - Full-scale use of existing tools after trial period?
  - ITU-T workshops in Second Life?

# Remote collaboration tools

- For more information, see ITU Technology Watch Briefing Report #5, available at:  
<http://www.itu.int/oth/T2301000005/en>



# Standardization Regional “ Block ” Meetings

# ITU-T Standardization meetings today

Study Groups, working parties, Rapporteurs groups, Focus Groups mostly meet in Geneva

They meet also in the regions when invited

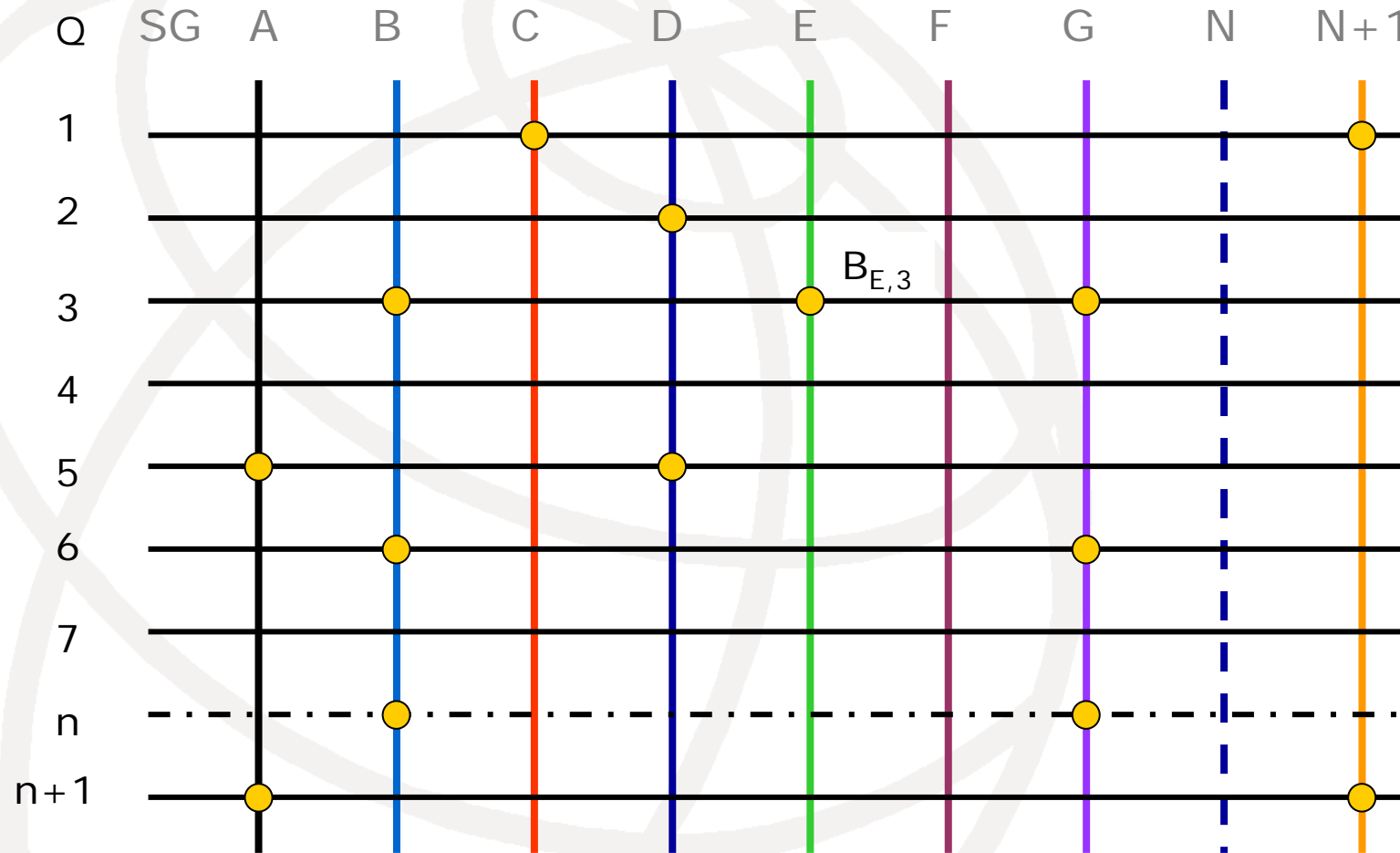
Need to involve membership in the regions in face-to-face meetings

Need to increase standardization meetings out of Geneva

# The Standardization Regional “Block” Meetings (SRBMs) concept

- Cooperation with regional organizations: CITEEL, RCC, APT, ATU, LAS,...
- One per year per region possibly co-located with the ITU Development Forums
- Topics decided by the membership and transversal to any ITU-T Study Groups
- Official status as generator of contributions to parent study groups
- TSB secretarial support, EDH facilities as any other SG meeting

# Drawing $B_{K,J}$ the concept: any Question from any SG



# The Standardization Regional “Block” Meetings (S-RBMs) : Pros and Cos

## ■ **PROS:**

- More participation of experts from the region: study, progress, approval process - “have a voice in global standards”
- Increase of contributions from the region
- Lower costs associated (travel/accomodation Region/Geneva) for regional experts
- Same TSB facilities available on site: regional presence
- Possibility to co-locate S-RBMs with ITU Forums or other events
- Potential increase of membership: sector’s promotion
- Reduce standardization gap and digital divide increase capacity building
- Possibility to reduce Study group meetings duration

## ■ **COS:**

- TSB staff to move for one-two weeks
- Funding / associated organizational costs
- Risk to work on too much regional-oriented standards
- Need to look for co-location with ITU Forums or other events



# Conclusions

Two approaches can be adopted for meetings:

- Remote
- Regional

Both meet the requirements to bridge standardization gap, to increase regional presence, to promote the sector in the regions, to increase membership

*Obrigado  
Muchas Gracias  
Thank you*

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**Committed to Connecting the World**

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