ITU Regional Development Forum 2008
"Bridging the ICT Standardization Gap in Developing Countries" Tashkent, Uzbekistan, 10-11 June 2008

Current ITU-T Standardization Hot Topics:
Activities of the TSAG

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ITU Regional Development Forum, Tashkent 10-11 June 2008

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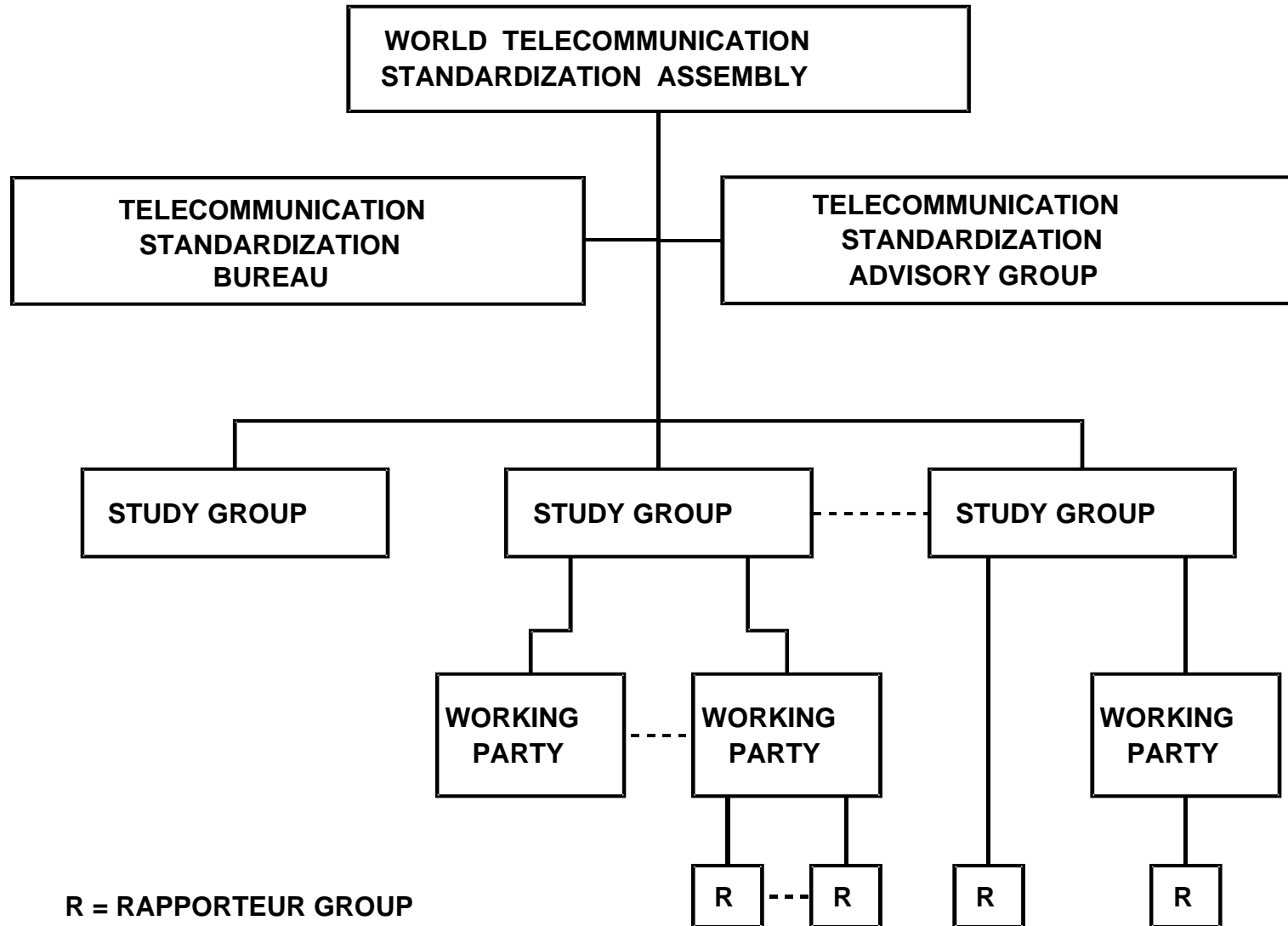
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What is TSAG?

- **TSAG is an advisory group to the ITU-T Sector, open to all ITU-T membership**
- **Basic Responsibilities include:**
  - ▶ **Review priorities, programmes, operations, finances, strategies**
  - ▶ **Provide guidelines for work of the SGs**
  - ▶ **Foster cooperation within and external to ITU-T**
  - ▶ **Advice on improvements to work methods**
  - ▶ **Recommend creation of other groups, AND…**

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What is TSAG?

- **TSAG earned the trust of the membership through prudent, proactive advice**

- **WTSA-1996 realized 4 years between Assemblies did not match the rapid pace of telecom developments**

- **Resolution 22 gave authorization for TSAG to take action between WTSAs on:**

  - ▶ **Changing priorities, work allocation, SG structure, work methods, external relationships, internal coordination, ……**

- **TSAG is action-oriented, fast-moving, operates like a Study Group**

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ITU-T Structure

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                    ┌─────────────────────────────────┐
                    │ WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION          │
                    │ STANDARDIZATION ASSEMBLY         │
                    └─────────────────────────────────┘
                                    │
   ┌──────────────────────┐        │        ┌──────────────────────┐
   │ TELECOMMUNICATION     │────────┼────────│ TELECOMMUNICATION     │
   │ STANDARDIZATION       │        │        │ STANDARDIZATION       │
   │ BUREAU                │        │        │ ADVISORY GROUP        │
   └──────────────────────┘        │        └──────────────────────┘
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         ┌──────────────────────────┼──────────────────────────┐
  ┌──────────────┐          ┌──────────────┐          ┌──────────────┐
  │ STUDY GROUP  │          │ STUDY GROUP  │- - - - - -│ STUDY GROUP  │
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WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION ASSEMBLY

TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION BUREAU

TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION ADVISORY GROUP

STUDY GROUP

STUDY GROUP

STUDY GROUP

WORKING PARTY

WORKING PARTY

WORKING PARTY

R

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R = RAPPORTEUR GROUP

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Hot Issues Cooled by TSAG

- **New approval process for Recommendations that do not have policy or regulatory implications**
  - ▶ **Reduced ITU-T "time-to-market" of approved, published Recommendations from more than 4 YEARS to about 9 WEEKS, reduced travel and saved TSB several million CHF**

- **Regularly resolved cross-SG issues and ensured transparency, especially for those who could not attend all meetings**

- **Moved work between SGs; created coordination groups; achieved "Time-E" for all-electronic capabilities**

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Hot Issues Cooled by TSAG

- **Provided permanently archived, electronic access to all documents, summaries and explanations of Recommendations to assist developing countries**

- **Opened new forms of participation and decision-making to close the Standardization Gap**

- **Improved awareness and reporting for Workshops and Seminars**

- **Turned competition with other standards bodies into cooperation and collaboration**

- **Free downloading of ITU-T Recommendations**

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How TSAG Helps ITU-T and You

- **By meeting in the same cycle as meetings of the Study Groups, it shortens the time to solve problems and to respond to demands of the membership (i.e., every 8-9 months)**

- **TSAG Group on Bridging the Standardization Gap**

- **TSAG Young Delegates Group**

- **TSAG builds the roads and the bridges that allow all members to navigate through the standards landscape as quickly or as deliberately as they want, ensuring openness and transparency**

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The Current Hot Issues

- **Hot technical issues – it is hard to anticipate what the hot technical issues will be in 3, 5 and 10 years**
  - ▶ **The marketplace will let us know**
  - ▶ **TSAG and TSB Technology Watch functions will help**
- **The Hot TSAG issue is how to ensure ITU-T will be ready, <u>regardless</u> of the technical subject**

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The Current Hot Issues

- **Study Group structure**
  - ▶ **Efficient for those who create the standards**
  - ▶ **Understandable to the outside world that has to communicate with ITU-T**
  - ▶ **Consolidation that groups related work**
  - ▶ **Ensure manageable-sized groupings**
  - ▶ **The "RIGHT" groups, not the "right # of groups**

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The Current Hot Issues

- **Coordination**
  - ▶ **Internal, among multiple SGs working on specialized aspects of large projects**
  - ▶ **External, with national and regional bodies, and with forums and consortia**
- **Continue increased use of ICTs in ITU-T**
- **Bridging the Standardization Gap**
- **Technology Watch – what are the new areas for standardization within the ITU-T mandate**

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Thank you

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