

Introduction to ITU-T Study Group 3



Ahmed Said
Chairman of ITU-T Study Group 3

ITU Workshop on “Economic and fiscal incentives to accelerate digital transformation of data and applications over telecommunication infrastructure”

3 - 4 November 2022

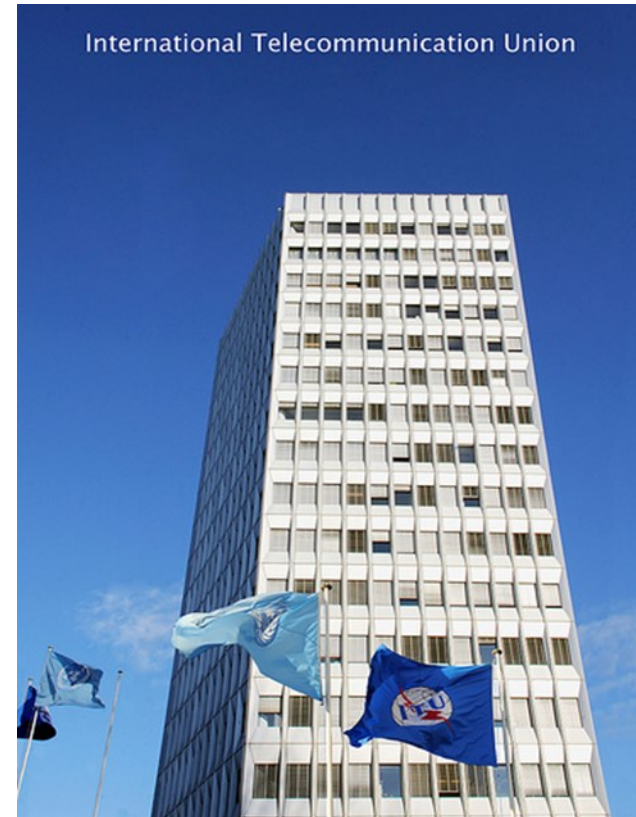


About ITU



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- ❑ The United Nations Specialized Agency for Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs)
- ❑ Committed to connecting the world
- ❑ Founded in Paris in 1865 as the International Telegraph Union
- ❑ +155 years of experience and innovation





ITU is global

193

Member States

+800

Private-sector enterprises,
academia, international
and regional organizations



- Developing **technical standards** for the interconnection and interoperability of digital technologies
- Bridging the **standardization gap** between developed and developing countries
- Fostering cooperation among national, regional and international **standards bodies**



ITU-T Study Groups



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ITU-T standardization work is carried out by the technical Study Groups (SGs) in which representatives of the ITU-T membership develop consensus based Recommendations (standards) for the various fields of international telecommunications.



[SG2 - Operational aspects](#)



[SG3 - Economic & policy issues](#)



[SG5 – Environment, EMF & circular economy](#)



[SG9 - Broadband cable & TV](#)



[SG11 - Protocols, testing & combating counterfeiting](#)



[SG12 - Performance, QoS & QoE](#)



[SG13 - Future networks](#)



[SG15 - Transport, access & home](#)



[SG16 - Multimedia & digital technologies](#)



[SG17 - Security](#)



[SG20 - IoT, smart cities & communities](#)

Economic and policy issues



Tariff and accounting principles and international telecommunication/ICT economic and policy issues

Study Group 3 is responsible, *inter alia*:

- for studying international telecommunication/ICT **policy and economic issues** and **tariff and accounting matters** (including costing principles and methodologies),
- with a view to informing the development of **enabling regulatory models and frameworks**
- to study **the economic and regulatory impact of the Internet**, convergence (services or infrastructure) and new services, such as OTT, on international telecommunication services and networks.
- consider **new and emerging technologies and services**, including a **combination of new and traditional operators**, to enable a policy environment for digital transformation.

SG3 is Lead ITU-T Study Group:

- on **tariff and accounting principles**
- for **economic issues**
- for **policy issues**.

relating to international telecommunication/ICT.

- More than 100 delegates participate in SG3 meetings
- Majority of delegates are from Member States
- SG3 has strong support from developing countries.

SG3 Chairman: Mr Ahmed Said (National Telecommunication Regulatory Authority (NTRA), Egypt).

SG3 structure



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Working Party 1/3 Charging and accounting/ settlement mechanisms	Working Party 2/3 General economic and policy factors related to provision and cost of ICT services	Working Party 3/3 General economic and policy factors related to the enablers of ICT services	Working Party 4/3 General economic and policy factors related to the regulatory aspects of mobile communications, competition & convergence
<u>Question 1/3</u> Charging, accounting/ settlement	<u>Question 3/3</u> Efficient provision of int'l telecom. services	<u>Question 6/3</u> Int'l Internet, Fibre cables connectivity, IP peering, reg. traffic exchange points, IPv6 deployment	<u>Question 7/3</u> Int'l mobile roaming
	<u>Question 4/3</u> Studies of regional cost models		<u>Question 9/3</u> Internet, convergence, OTTs
	<u>Question 8/3</u> Alternative calling procedures	<u>Question 11/3</u> Big data, digital identity	<u>Question 10/3</u> Competition policy & relevant market definitions
	<u>Question 12/3</u> Mobile Financial Services		

Question 9/3



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Economic and regulatory relationship between the Internet, convergence (services or infrastructure), and Over the Top (OTT) and international telecommunications networks and services

Question 9/3 studies:

- economic and regulatory relationship between the Internet, convergence (services or infrastructure), and **Over the Top (OTT) and international telecommunications networks and services**, with explicit consideration to developing countries.
- terms and definitions for recommendations or studies dealing with this question.

Q9/3 Rapporteur: Ms. Hilda Mutseyekwa (Postal and Telecommunications Regulatory Authority of Zimbabwe (POTRAZ), Zimbabwe)

ITU-T Standards on OTT (1/2)



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Recommendation ITU-T D.262 (05/2019), Collaborative framework for OTTs

- provides a collaborative framework in order to
 - promote competition, consumer protection, consumer benefits,
 - dynamic innovation, sustainable investment and infrastructure development,
 - accessibility and affordability in relation to the global growth of the over the top (OTT) applications.
 - Provides a definition of over-the-top (OTT):

An application accessed and delivered over the public Internet that may be a direct technical/functional substitute for traditional international telecommunication services.

NOTE – The definition of OTT is a matter of national sovereignty and may vary among Member States.

Recommendation ITU-T D.1101 (08/2020), Enabling environment for voluntary commercial arrangements between telecommunication network operators and OTT providers

- addresses the measures for strengthening the commercial cooperation between over the top (OTT) providers and telecom operators.
- Network operators and OTTs are part of the international telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) ecosystem.
- Encourages relevant stakeholders to work towards an enabling regulatory environment that supports and encourages the development of innovative business models in line with the advancement of technology and innovations, which are changing faster than ever.



Recommendation ITU-T D.1102 (12/2021), *Customer redress and consumer protection mechanisms for OTTs*

- proposes initiatives to be taken by Member States and Regulatory Authorities and OTT providers to ensure good customer service and consumer protection for users of OTTs.

African regional Recommendation ITU-T D.608R (2022/05), *OTT Voice Bypass*

- covers the need for national and regional collaboration to mitigate the challenges posed by OTT bypass to ensure effective consumer protection and revenue assurance for operators and Member States.

Other results and ongoing work related to OTTs



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Technical Report (2017), *Economic impact of OTTs*

- provides technical and policy background to the international community in both developed and developing countries as to the nature and implications of Over-the-Top (OTT) and related online services.

Ongoing work at the SG3 regional and international level on

- OTT bypass
- OTTs in the context of international Internet connectivity
- Customer redress mechanism and consumer protection.

and other related work in SG3 on

- Alternative calling procedures, and misappropriation and misuse of facilities and services (CLI, CPND and OI)
- Economic impact of SIMBOX bypass
- 'Double charging' in terms of accounting/settlement mechanisms for international telecommunications services.

SG3 activities on Economic and Fiscal Incentives



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Ongoing discussions within SG3 whether to start the development of a new ITU-T Technical Report on *“Study on policy, regulatory, and economic aspects of OTTs in the context of international telecommunication/ICT services and networks”*.

Way-forward was to organize an ITU workshop on economic and fiscal incentives:

- To share information
- To hear views and experiences
- To consider establishing collaboration with partners.
- Take into account for the proposed work item the lessons learnt from this workshop.

ITU-T Study Group 3 webpage:
<https://www.itu.int/go/tsg3>

Contact SG3:
tsb3g3@itu.int

Thank you



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