

# INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT IN ITU-T: RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

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# ITU-T: General Considerations

- ITU is a UN specialized agency and inter-governmental organization responsible for global telecommunication/ICT matters
- ITU has a diverse membership/participant constituency
- Member States; Sector Members; Associates; Academia; SMEs
- Conditions of participation and financial obligations determined through ITU's legal instruments (Constitution and Convention) and various resolutions

# Participation Rights

- Sector Members
  - entitled to participate fully in activities of the Sector in which they are members, with the exception of formal votes or raising procedural matters (such as points of order or motions) and in treaty-making conferences such as WRCs, PPs and WCIT
  - entitled to serve as chair or vice-chair of SGs, TSAG and WTSA; may submit contributions to all and be represented in their own right
  - may participate in the governing body of ITU (the Council) and treaty events as observers in a non-advisory capacity

# Participation Rights

- Associates
  - entitled to participate in a single study group of a given Sector without taking part in decision-making or liaison activity of that SG
  - do not have the right to participate in Council, Sector advisory groups, major conferences and assemblies or treaty-making events
- Academia
  - do not have role in decision-making, including the adoption of resolutions or recommendations
  - can participate in various SGs, workshops and WPs
- Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs)
  - participation subject to ongoing review by Council for participation as Associates at a lower fee in ITU-T and ITU-D study groups

# Financial Obligations

- Financial obligations commensurate with participation rights
- Member States
  - one contributory unit set at CHF 318,000 by decision by a PP
- Sector Members
  - value of contributory unit one-fifth that of a MS, i.e. CHF 63,600
  - (compare ½ unit for MS @ CHF 159,000 vs SM @ 31,800)
- Associates
  - for ITU-R and ITU-T, financial commitment is CHF 10,600
- SMEs
  - reduced fees subject to the provisions of PP Resolution 209

# Challenges and Opportunities

- Enhance Sector Member (industry) participation rights as much as possible within legal limits established by CS and CV while building upon existing cooperative and collaborative mechanisms such as approving Recommendations, etc.
- Improve and strengthen understanding and perceptions of MS and SM roles and responsibilities
- Continue to build upon and strengthen existing collaborative mechanisms with other organizations (e.g., Rec. ITU-T A.5 (Generic procedures for including references to docs in other orgs in ITU-T Recs), A.18 (Joint coordination activities: Establishment and working procedures and A.25 (Generic procedures for incorporating text between ITU-T and other organizations)).

# Challenges and Opportunities

- Continue to optimize decision-making arrangements affecting industry in procedures and practices (e.g., approval of new work items in study groups)
- Examine working procedures in other organizations and explore the feasibility of their adoption in ITU-T