

ITU-T Study Group 3 on Economic and Policy Issues:

Executive Summary of Study Group 3 Meeting held in Geneva from 16 – 20 March 2015

Leadership Team (Present)

Chairman:

Mr. S. TSUGAWA (J)

Vice-Chairmen:

Ms. J. ADOU BIENDJUI (CTD)

Mr. B.N. LEE (K)

Mr. L. MARTINKOVICKS (USA)

Mr. R. MFUNGAHEMA (TZA)

Mr. A. SAID (EGY)

Mr. D. WURGES (F)

Documents

56 Contributions

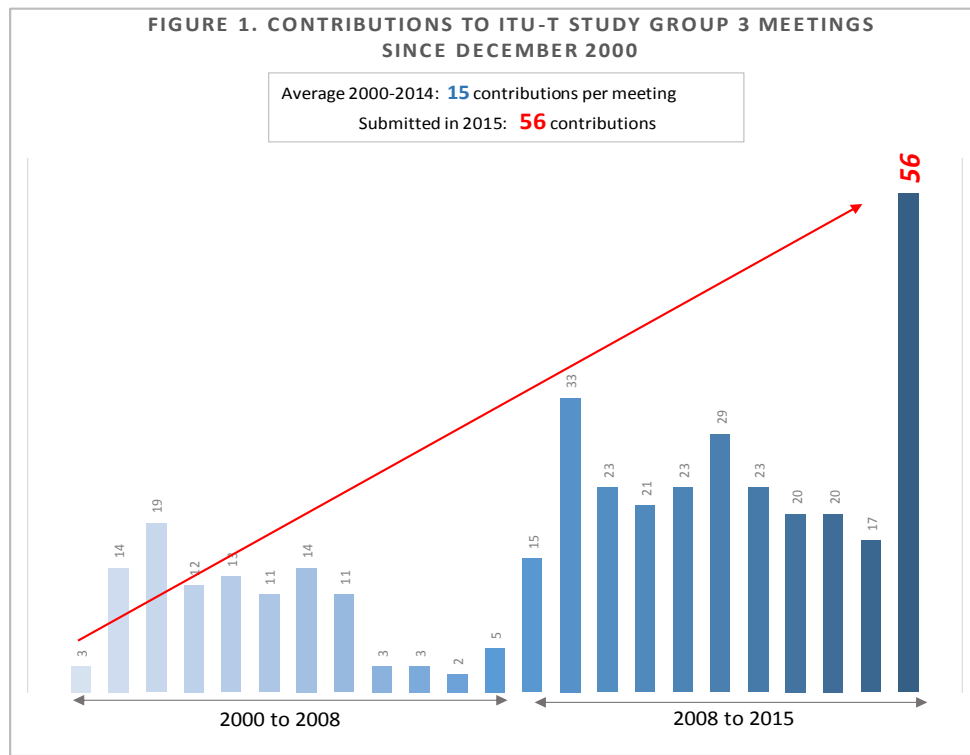
73 TDs

Participation and Contributions

56 contributions were received to this meeting, almost 4 times the average number of contributions over the last 15 years.

Some **100** delegates from **47 different countries** attended, in addition to academia participants, regional and international bodies (e.g. ARIN, WTO, and European Union)

34 newcomers registered for the meeting.



New regional group

A new regional group was approved, for the RCC member states. Its first meeting will be held sometime during the summer. SG3 now has 6 regional groups, the most of any study group.

Structure of Study Group 3 and New Questions under Study

At the start of a new study period in 2013, the Chairman presented a discussion paper ([TD80Rev1](#)) on the working methods and structure of SG3 going forward, which included the proposed re-wording of working party titles and questions, ideas on increasing the input and output to and from SG3, enhancing the visibility and effectiveness of the study group, and ensuring simplicity and transparency of working methods.

Input and reactions from the regional group and administrations received at the last two SG3 meetings were largely favourable. Input from delegates and regions was sought.

To this meeting, contributions from members were received to expand the number of questions from 5 to 10 or to 17: [C41](#), [C42](#), and [C43](#).

An ad-hoc group was set up to consider new questions as proposed in [C41](#), [C42](#), and [C43](#) and reach consensus. The report of the ad-hoc group is contained in [TD261](#). After discussions, it was agreed to send a revised list of **10 new questions** to TSAG, pending a 4-week deadline for comments. The first 5 questions would remain unchanged (with the exception to a minor editorial change to Q1/3 and 5/3) and 5 new questions would be added as follows:

Q1 /3	Development of charging and accounting/settlement mechanisms for international telecommunications services using Next Generation Networks (NGNs), <u>future networks</u> , and any possible future development, including adaptation of existing D-series Recommendations to the evolving user needs
Q2 /3	Development of charging and accounting/settlement mechanisms for international telecommunications services other than those studied in Question 1/3 including adaptation of existing D-series Recommendations to the evolving user needs
Q3 /3	Study of economic and policy factors relevant to the efficient provision of international telecommunication services
Q4 /3	Regional studies for the development of cost models together with related economic and policy issues
Q5 /3	Terms and definitions for Recommendations dealing with tariff and accounting principles <u>together with related economic and policy issues</u>
<u>Q6 /3</u>	<u>International Internet Connectivity including relevant aspects of IP peering, regional traffic exchange points, cost of provision of services and impact of transition from IPv4 to IPv6</u>
<u>Q7 /3</u>	<u>International Mobile Roaming issues (including charging, accounting and settlement mechanisms and roaming at border areas)</u>
<u>Q8 /3</u>	<u>Alternative Calling Procedures and Misappropriation and Misuse of facilities and services including CLI, CPND and OI.</u>
<u>Q9 /3</u>	<u>Economic and regulatory impact of the Internet, convergence (services or infrastructure) and new services, such as OTT, on international telecommunication services and networks</u>
<u>Q10 /3</u>	<u>Definition of relevant markets, competition policy and identification of operators with SMP as it relates to the economic aspects of the international telecommunication services and networks</u>

Discussions on New Draft Recommendation on charging for international mobile roaming

A number of members (38) submitted draft text for a new recommendation on roaming.

An ad-hoc group was set up and developed a consolidated draft recommendation base text in [TD251](#). The mobile rapporteur group terms of reference were revised as per the meeting in [TD266Rev2](#). It was decided to create a drafting group (Chaired by Bahrain) to add the contributions to this meeting on roaming to base text

[TD251](#). 1. The drafting group would submit its report to the Rapporteur Group. The Rapporteur Group is to meet in Geneva 16-17 September 2015, prior to the ITU High-Level Dialogue on IMR on 18 September 2015.

New technical paper on International Mobile Roaming

The “ITU Technical Guide for NRAs on International Mobile Roaming Cost analysis” was approved as an ITU technical paper.

The guide is aimed at helping NRAs understand the cost difference for operators between a roaming mobile call (or data session) and a domestic mobile call or (data session).

SG3 approved 10 new work items and 3 new rapporteur groups

There was significant discussion on new areas of focus for the study group. Following discussion in the regions, and in the working parties, three new rapporteur groups were formed on:

1. Governance of telecommunication regulators, led by Tunisia
2. International aspects of universal service, led by Paraguay
3. Economic and competitiveness aspects of mobile financial services, led by Uganda

Ten new work items were approved as follows:

D.ROAM	International Mobile Roaming
D.MFS	Competition in Mobile Financial Services
D.MFSTM	Mobile Financial Services Transaction Cost Model
D.50Supp_IXP	Action plan for establishing and connecting regional IXPs
D.Supp50_OTT	OTTs in the context of IIC
D.UnivServ	Universal Service in the context of IIC
D.SMP	Identification of Relevant markets and SMP
D.OTT	Economic Impact of OTTs
STUDY_OTT	Study on Economic Impact of OTTs
D.GVR	Towards better governance of telecommunication regulation

Upcoming SG3 Meetings

The next meeting of ITU-T Study Group 3 is planned for Geneva in February 2016 (22 February to 1 March 2016). It was agreed to extend the number of days for the meeting from 5 days to 7 days.

It was also agreed to hold 2 workshops at the next SG3 meeting, one on commercial agreements for international telecommunication services, and one on the economic impact of OTTs.