

General overview of ITU-T SG3 and its Regional Groups



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

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About ITU-T Study Group 3

The mandate of SG3 was confirmed by WTSA-16 in Hammamet:

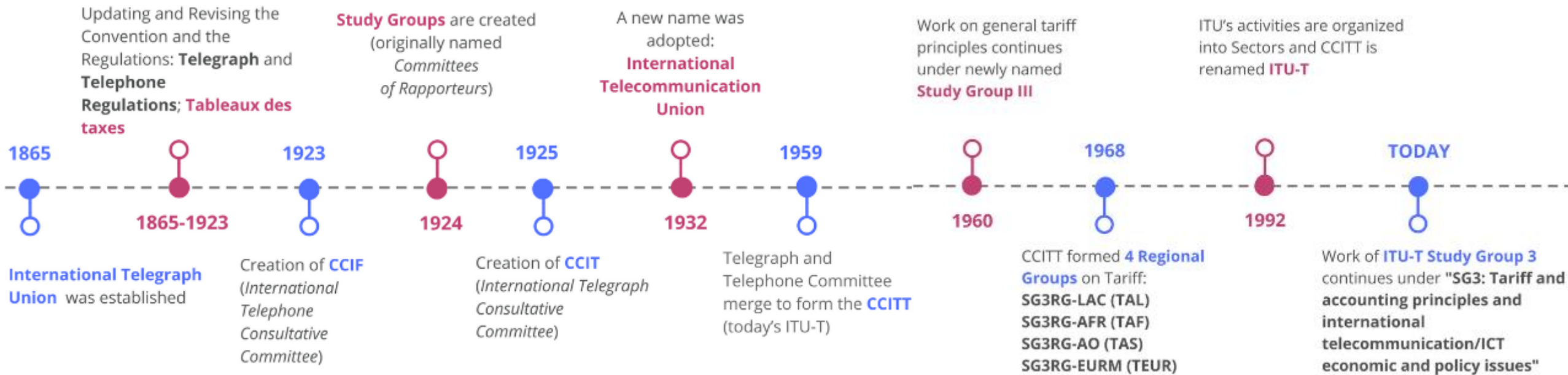
Study Group 3 is responsible, *inter alia*:

- 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**
- WTSA-16 Resolution 2 goes on to say that SG3:
...” will 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.”

SG3 is ITU-T Lead Study Group:

- on tariff and accounting principles relating to international telecommunication/ICT
- for economic issues relating to international telecommunication/ICT
- for policy issues relating to international telecommunication/ICT

ITU's long history and solid mandate in this area



ITU's work on tariffs and interconnection dates back to the origins of the ITU and as such, it can be said that it is part of the very DNA of the organization.

On tariff issues, **ITU-T Study Group 3** is the successor of Committees of Rapporteurs (later renamed study groups) dating back to **1928**, and has a long-standing mandate on economic and policy issues.

SG3 Mandate over the recent 6 Study Periods (1997-2020)

SG3 Mandate 1997-2000

- **Tariff and accounting principles** for international telecommunications services;
- Related telecommunication **economic and policy issues**;
- **Policy issues** related to **carriage and content**.

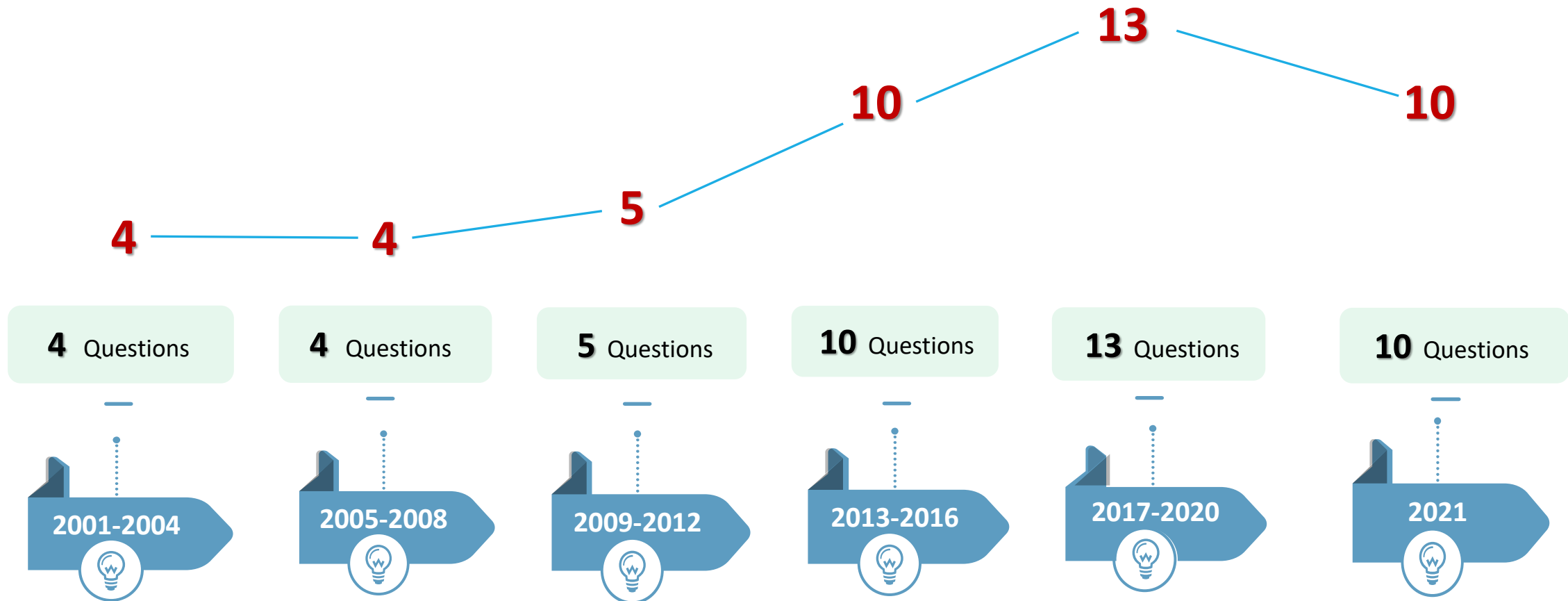
SG3 Mandate 2001-2016

- **Tariff and accounting principles** for international telecommunication services and study of related telecommunication **economic and policy issues**;
- To this end, Study Group 3 shall in particular foster collaboration among its Members with a view to the establishment of **rates at levels as low as possible** consistent with an efficient service and taking into account the necessity for maintaining independent financial administration of telecommunication on a sound basis.

SG3 Mandate 2017-2020

- **International telecommunication/ICT policy and economic issues and tariff and accounting matters** (including costing principles and methodologies)
- To this end, Study Group 3 shall in particular foster collaboration among its participants with a view to the establishment of **rates at levels as low as possible** consistent with an efficient service and taking into account the necessity for maintaining independent financial administration of telecommunications on a sound basis.
- **Economic and regulatory impact of the Internet, convergence** (services or infrastructure) and **new services, such as OTT**, on international telecommunication services and networks.

SG3 Mandate over the years (2001-2021)





Highlights of achievements

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION
TELECOMMUNICATIONS STANDARDIZATION SECTOR

SG3-C.07
STUDY GROUP 7
Originals Group

Questionnaire: 2/1

Source:

Title:

Purpose:

CONTRIBUTION

Document Title: Research, Comparison of Different Approaches to the Design of...
Author: Michael Muehlebach, Michael Muehlebach, Michael Muehlebach, Michael Muehlebach
Date: 2013-03-20
Purpose: This document is a contribution to the study group work.

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION
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CONTRIBUTION

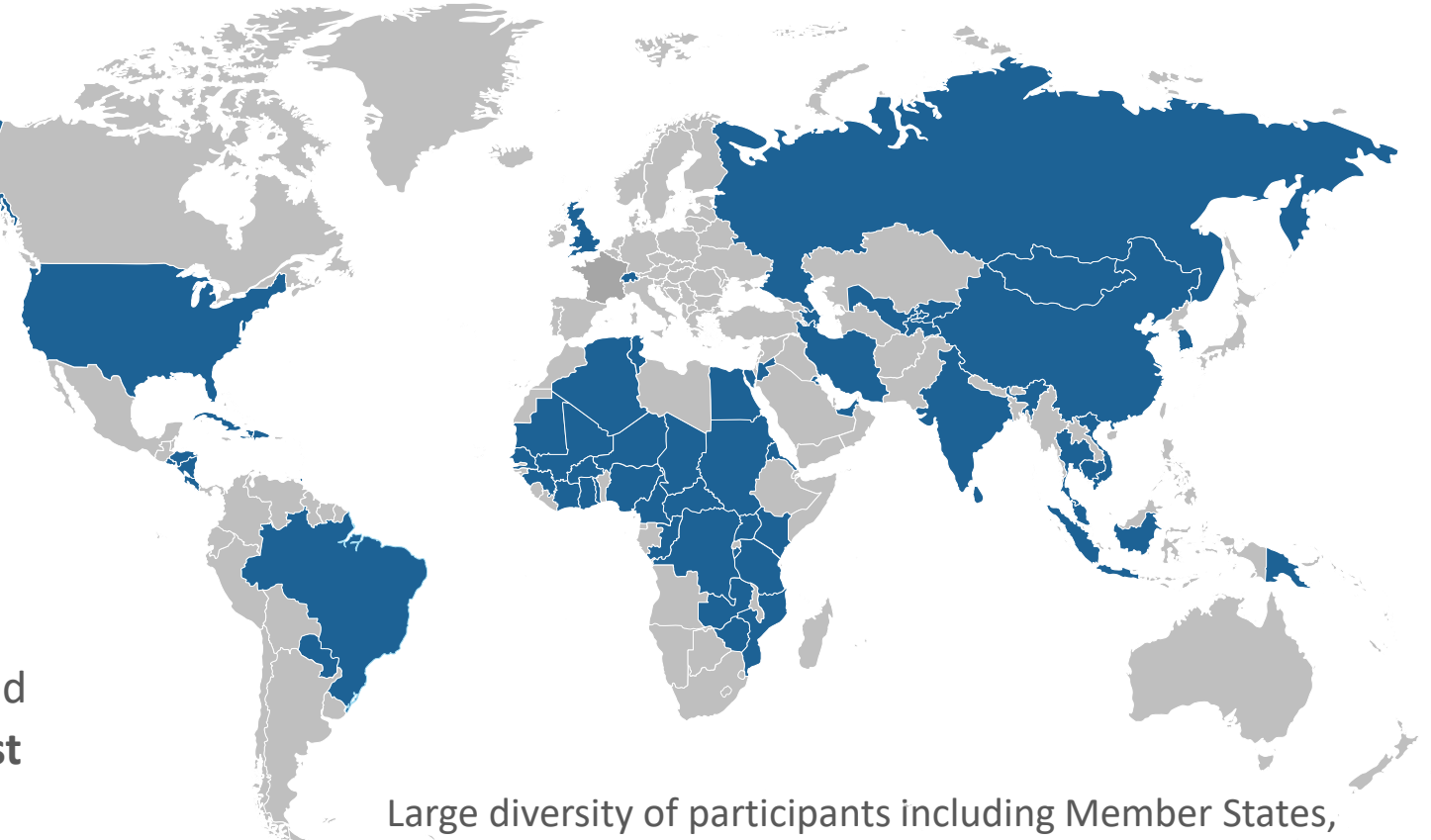
Document Title: Research, Comparison of Different Approaches to the Design of...
Author: Michael Muehlebach, Michael Muehlebach, Michael Muehlebach, Michael Muehlebach
Date: 2013-03-20
Purpose: This document is a contribution to the study group work.

SUEDE

ITU-T SG3: International Decision-Making at its Best

100 participants attended remotely during the last SG3 Meeting (August 2020)

21 distinct members submitted written contributions to the last SG3 Meeting (August 2020)



Large diversity of participants including Member States, Regulators, Private Sector Companies, User Groups, International and Regional Organizations, Academia

Recent publications by SG3

ITU-T D.1040 – *“Optimizing terrestrial cable utilization across multiple countries to boost regional and international connectivity”*


Summary: Provides a collaborative framework that can be applied in order to promote optimal cable utilization across multiple countries and boost regional and international connectivity.

ITU-T D.1101 – *“Enabling environment for voluntary commercial arrangements between telecommunications network operators and OTT providers”*

Summary: Addresses the measures for strengthening the commercial cooperation between over the top (OTT) providers and telecom operators.

ITU-T D.1140/X.1261 – *“Policy framework including principles for digital identity infrastructure”*

Summary: Sets out a policy framework including principles for digital identity infrastructure while recognizing the sovereign right of each Member State to regulate its Telecommunications.



ITU-T SG3 Regional Groups

SG3: Global Footprint across 6 Regions



SG3RG-ARB - Regional Group for the Arab Region



SG3RG-AO - Regional Group for Asia and Oceania



SG3RG-LAC - Regional Group for Latin America and the Caribbean



SG3RG-AFR - Regional Group for Africa



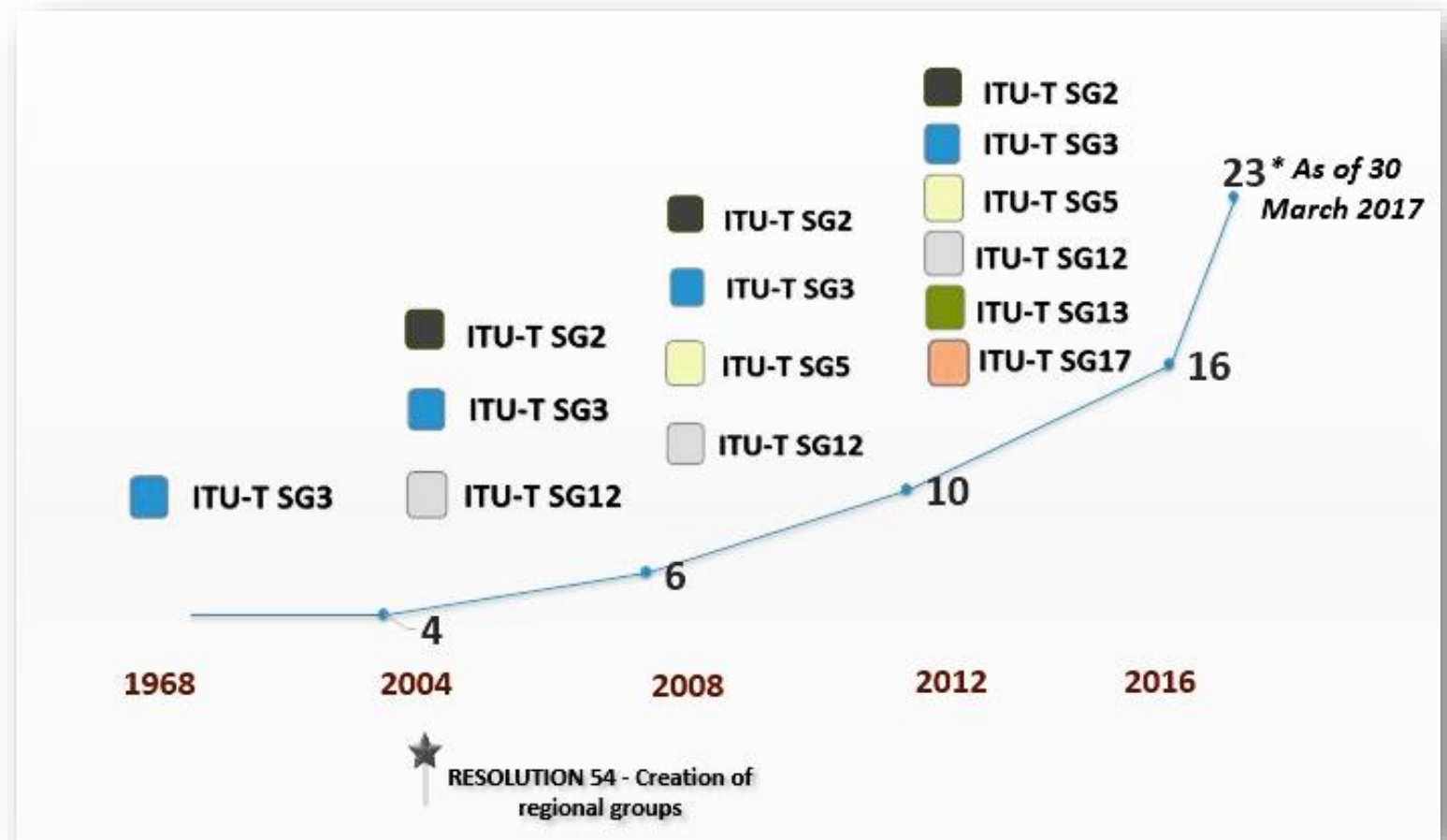
SG3RG-EECAT (former RCC/CIS) - Regional Group for Eastern Europe, Central Asia and Transcaucasia



SG3RG-EURM - Regional Group for Europe and the Mediterranean Basin

History of SG3's Regional Groups: 50 years and counting

50 | **ITU-T**
REGIONAL
GROUPS
1968-2018



| *Study Period (2017-2020)*

Ongoing work



SG3: Current structure with 4 Working Parties (1/2)

WP1/3	Charging and accounting/settlement mechanisms
<u>Q1/3</u>	Development of charging and accounting/settlement mechanisms for current and future international telecommunication/ICT services and network
WP2/3	General economic and policy factors related to provision and cost of ICT services
<u>Q3/3</u>	Study of economic and policy factors relevant to the efficient provision of international telecommunication services
<u>Q4/3</u>	Regional studies for the development of cost models together with related economic and policy issues
<u>Q8/3</u>	Economic aspects of alternative calling procedures in the context of international telecommunications/ICT services and networks
<u>Q12/3</u>	Economic and policy issues pertaining to international telecommunication/ICT services and networks that enable Mobile Financial Services (MFS)

Note: SG3 current structure following the endorsement by TSAG on 18 January 2021.

SG3: Current structure with 4 Working Parties (2/2)

WP3/3	General economic and policy factors related to the enablers of ICT services
<u>Q6/3</u>	International Internet and Fibre Cables connectivity including relevant aspects of Internet protocol (IP) peering, regional traffic exchange points, Fibre Cables optimization, cost of provision of services and impact of Internet protocol version 6 (IPv6) deployment
<u>Q11/3</u>	Economic and policy aspects of big data and digital identity in international telecommunications services and networks
WP4/3	General economic and policy factors related to the regulatory aspects of mobile communications, competition and convergence
<u>Q7/3</u>	International mobile roaming issues (including charging, accounting and settlement mechanisms and roaming at border areas)
<u>Q9/3</u>	Economic and policy aspects of the Internet, convergence (services or infrastructure) and OTTs in the context of international telecommunication/ICT services and networks
<u>Q10/3</u>	Competition policy and relevant market definitions related to the economic aspects of international telecommunication services and networks

| *Study Period (2017-2020)*

SG3 Online Resources



Videos on SG3



Tackling the cost of international mobile roaming with ITU

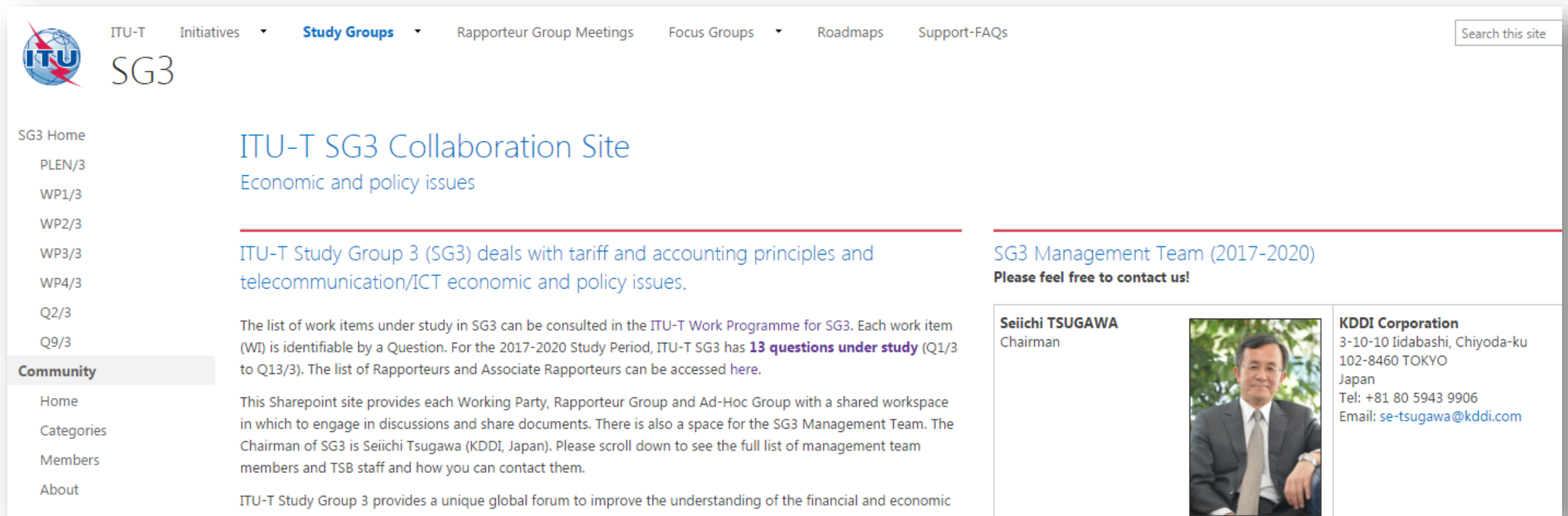
Tackling the cost of international mobile roaming

Introduction to ITU-T Study Group 3



An Introduction to ITU-T Study Group 3

SG3 SHAREPOINT Collaboration space



The screenshot shows the ITU-T SG3 Collaboration Site. The top navigation bar includes 'ITU-T', 'Initiatives', 'Study Groups', 'Rapporteur Group Meetings', 'Focus Groups', 'Roadmaps', and 'Support-FAQs'. A search box is located in the top right corner. The left sidebar contains a navigation menu with 'SG3 Home' and sub-items: 'PLEN/3', 'WP1/3', 'WP2/3', 'WP3/3', 'WP4/3', 'Q2/3', and 'Q9/3'. Below these is a 'Community' section with links for 'Home', 'Categories', 'Members', and 'About'. The main content area features the title 'ITU-T SG3 Collaboration Site' and subtitle 'Economic and policy issues'. A red horizontal line separates the title from the main text. The main text states: 'ITU-T Study Group 3 (SG3) deals with tariff and accounting principles and telecommunication/ICT economic and policy issues.' Below this, it says: 'The list of work items under study in SG3 can be consulted in the ITU-T Work Programme for SG3. Each work item (WI) is identifiable by a Question. For the 2017-2020 Study Period, ITU-T SG3 has **13 questions under study** (Q1/3 to Q13/3). The list of Rapporteurs and Associate Rapporteurs can be accessed [here](#).' A second red horizontal line is below this text. The bottom section is titled 'SG3 Management Team (2017-2020)' and includes the text 'Please feel free to contact us!'. It features a profile for 'Seiichi TSUGAWA', Chairman, with a photo and contact information for 'KDDI Corporation' (3-10-10 Iidabashi, Chiyoda-ku, 102-8460 TOKYO, Japan; Tel: +81 80 5943 9906; Email: se-tsugawa@kddi.com).

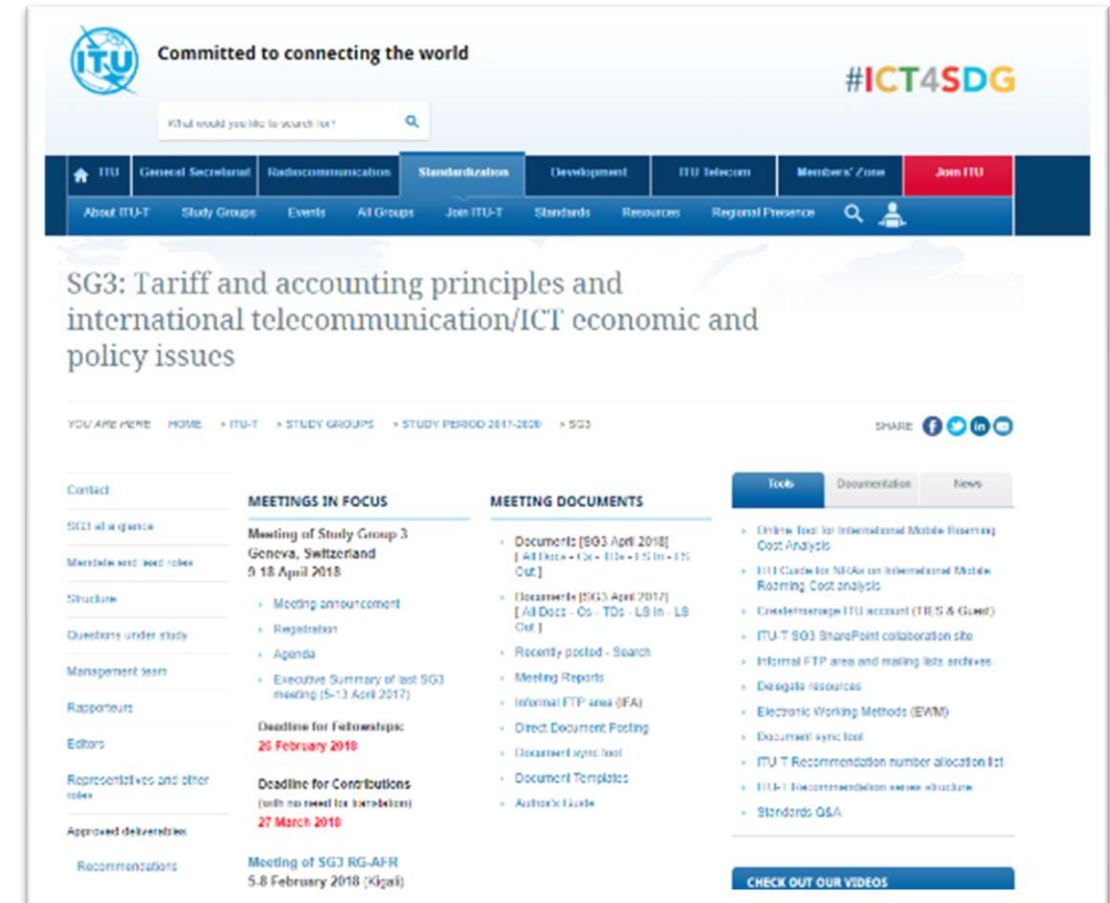
SG3 Online tools

SG3 at a glance

 www.itu.int/tariffs

Mailing Lists and Informal FTP Area (IFA)

 <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/studygroups/2017-2020/03/Pages/ifa-structure.aspx>



The screenshot shows the ITU website interface for the SG3 study group. At the top, there is the ITU logo and the slogan "Committed to connecting the world". A search bar is present with the placeholder text "What would you like to search for?". Below the search bar is a navigation menu with tabs for "ITU", "General Secretariat", "Radiocommunication", "Standardization", "Development", "ITU Telecom", and "Members' Zone". A secondary menu below it includes "About ITU-T", "Study Groups", "Events", "All Groups", "Join ITU-T", "Standards", "Resources", and "Regional Presence". The main heading reads "SG3: Tariff and accounting principles and international telecommunication/ICT economic and policy issues". Below this, there is a breadcrumb trail: "YOU ARE HERE: HOME > ITU-T > STUDY GROUPS > STUDY PERIOD 2017-2020 > SG3". There are social media share icons for Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and YouTube. The page content is organized into three columns: "Contact" (with links for "SG3 at a glance", "Membership and roles", "Structure", "Questions under study", "Management team", "Rapporteur", "Editors", "Representatives and other roles", "Approved deliberations", and "Recommendations"), "MEETINGS IN FOCUS" (listing a meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, 9-18 April 2018, with links for "Meeting announcement", "Registration", "Agenda", and "Executive Summary of last SG3 meeting (5-13 April 2017)", and also "Deadline for Follow-ups: 26 February 2018" and "Deadline for Contributions (with no need for formalities): 27 March 2018", and a meeting in Kigali, 5-8 February 2018), and "MEETING DOCUMENTS" (listing documents for April 2018 and April 2017, "Recently posted - Search", "Meeting Reports", "Informal FTP area (IFA)", "Direct Document Posting", "Document sync tool", "Document Templates", and "Author's Guide"). On the right side, there is a "Tools" section with links for "Online tool for International Mobile Roaming Cost Analysis", "ITU Guide for N/A on International Mobile Roaming Cost Analysis", "Create/manage ITU account (TRES & Guest)", "ITU-T SG3 SharePoint collaboration site", "Informal FTP area and mailing lists archive", "Delegate resources", "Electronic Working Methods (EWM)", "Document sync tool", "ITU-T Recommendation number allocation list", "ITU-T Recommendation www structure", and "Standards Q&A". At the bottom right, there is a "CHECK OUT OUR VIDEOS" button.

ITU-T SG3 is strengthening ties between technology, business and policy for a new era in international standardization

“ ITU’s technical standardization work is predominantly industry-driven, with business requirements forming the main fuel to standardization. ITU-T **Study Group 3** is taking action in response to the perception among ITU members that the **alignment of technology, business and policy** will see significant improvement if technical standardization grants **equal weight to technical innovation, business needs and policy requirements.**”

Chaesub Lee, TSB Director

