INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

ITU-T E.164.3

TELECOMMUNICATION
STANDARDIZATION SECTOR
OF ITU

(09/2001)

SERIES E: OVERALL NETWORK OPERATION, TELEPHONE SERVICE, SERVICE OPERATION AND HUMAN FACTORS

International operation – Numbering plan of the international telephone service

Principles, criteria and procedures for the assignment and reclamation of E.164 country codes and associated identification codes for groups of countries

ITU-T Recommendation E.164.3

ITU-T E-SERIES RECOMMENDATIONS

OVERALL NETWORK OPERATION, TELEPHONE SERVICE, SERVICE OPERATION AND HUMAN FACTORS

INTERNATIONAL OPERATION	
Definitions	E.100–E.103
General provisions concerning Administrations	E.104–E.119
General provisions concerning users	E.120–E.139
Operation of international telephone services	E.140–E.159
Numbering plan of the international telephone service	**E.160–E.169**
International routing plan	E.170–E.179
Tones in national signalling systems	E.180–E.189
Numbering plan of the international telephone service	E.190–E.199
Maritime mobile service and public land mobile service	E.200–E.229
OPERATIONAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO CHARGING AND ACCOUNTING IN THE INTERNATIONAL TELEPHONE SERVICE	
Charging in the international telephone service	E.230–E.249
Measuring and recording call durations for accounting purposes	E.260–E.269
UTILIZATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TELEPHONE NETWORK FOR NON-TELEPHONY APPLICATIONS	
General	E.300–E.319
Phototelegraphy	E.320–E.329
ISDN PROVISIONS CONCERNING USERS	E.330–E.349
INTERNATIONAL ROUTING PLAN	E.350–E.399
NETWORK MANAGEMENT	
International service statistics	E.400–E.409
International network management	E.410–E.419
Checking the quality of the international telephone service	E.420–E.489
TRAFFIC ENGINEERING	
Measurement and recording of traffic	E.490–E.505
Forecasting of traffic	E.506–E.509
Determination of the number of circuits in manual operation	E.510–E.519
Determination of the number of circuits in automatic and semi-automatic operation	E.520–E.539
Grade of service	E.540–E.599
Definitions	E.600–E.649
Traffic engineering for IP-networks	E.650–E.699
ISDN traffic engineering	E.700–E.749
Mobile network traffic engineering	E.750–E.799
QUALITY OF TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES: CONCEPTS, MODELS, OBJECTIVES AND DEPENDABILITY PLANNING	
Terms and definitions related to the quality of telecommunication services	E.800–E.809
Models for telecommunication services	E.810–E.844
Objectives for quality of service and related concepts of telecommunication services	E.845–E.859
Use of quality of service objectives for planning of telecommunication networks	E.860–E.879
Field data collection and evaluation on the performance of equipment, networks and services	E.880–E.899

For further details, please refer to the list of ITU-T Recommendations.

ITU-T Recommendation E.164.3

Principles, criteria and procedures for the assignment and reclamation of E.164 country codes and associated identification codes for groups of countries

Summary

This Recommendation describes the principles, criteria and procedures for the assignment and reclamation of resources within a shared E.164 Country Code for Groups of Countries. These shared Country Codes coexist with all other E.164-based Country Codes assigned by ITU-T. The resource of the shared Country Code consists of a Country Code and a Group Identification Code (CC + GIC) and provides the capability for a Group of Countries to provide telecommunication services within the Group of Countries. TSB is responsible for the assignment of the CC + GIC.

Source

ITU-T Recommendation E.164.3 was prepared by ITU-T Study Group 2 (2001-2004) and approved under the WTSA Resolution 1 procedure on 14 September 2001.

History

This version is the first issue of ITU-T Rec. E.164.3.

FOREWORD

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is the United Nations specialized agency in the field of telecommunications. The ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) is a permanent organ of ITU. ITU-T is responsible for studying technical, operating and tariff questions and issuing Recommendations on them with a view to standardizing telecommunications on a worldwide basis.

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), which meets every four years, establishes the topics for study by the ITU-T study groups which, in turn, produce Recommendations on these topics.

The approval of ITU-T Recommendations is covered by the procedure laid down in WTSA Resolution 1.

In some areas of information technology which fall within ITU-T's purview, the necessary standards are prepared on a collaborative basis with ISO and IEC.

NOTE

In this Recommendation, the expression "Administration" is used for conciseness to indicate both a telecommunication administration and a recognized operating agency.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

ITU draws attention to the possibility that the practice or implementation of this Recommendation may involve the use of a claimed Intellectual Property Right. ITU takes no position concerning the evidence, validity or applicability of claimed Intellectual Property Rights, whether asserted by ITU members or others outside of the Recommendation development process.

As of the date of approval of this Recommendation, ITU had not received notice of intellectual property, protected by patents, which may be required to implement this Recommendation. However, implementors are cautioned that this may not represent the latest information and are therefore strongly urged to consult the TSB patent database.

CONTENTS

ITU-T Recommendation E.164.3

Principles, criteria and procedures for the assignment and reclamation of E.164 country codes and associated identification codes for groups of countries

1 Introduction

ITU-T has determined the allocation of a shared E.164 Country Code(s) for use by a Group of Countries (GoC). This Recommendation defines the format and the use of this shared numbering resource as well as the principles, criteria and procedures for its assignment and reclamation.

2 Scope

This Recommendation details the principles, criteria and procedures for the assignment and reclamation of E.164 Country Codes (CCs) and associated Group Identification Codes (GICs) for Groups of Countries. These shared Country Codes coexist with existing geographic Country Codes. The shared codes are not geographic and provide the capability for a Group of Countries (GoC) to provide telecommunication services by the use of a single CC + GIC.

3 References

The following ITU-T Recommendations and other references contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this Recommendation. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All Recommendations and other references are subject to revision; users of this Recommendation are therefore encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent edition of the Recommendations and other references listed below. A list of the currently valid ITU-T Recommendations is regularly published. The reference to a document within this Recommendation does not give it, as a stand-alone document, the status of a Recommendation.

- ITU-T Recommendation E.164 (1997), *The international public telecommunication numbering plan*.
- ITU-T Recommendation E.164.2 (2001), *E.164 numbering resources for trials*.
- ITU-T Recommendation E.190 (1997), *Principles and responsibilities for the management, assignment and reclamation of E-Series international numbering resources*.

4 Definitions

This Recommendation defines the following terms:

4.1 applicant: All the Administrations who sign the written application for initial assignment of the resource.

4.2 assignee: All the Administrations of the countries within a GoC having one or more CC + GIC assigned to them.

4.3 Group Identification Code (GIC): A one-digit Identification Code assigned to a GoC.

4.4 Group Identification Code Administrator (GICA): The organization entrusted by the assignee with the administration and management of the numbering resource behind a specific CC + GIC.

4.5 Group of Countries (GoC): Several countries sharing the same CC + GIC. This could include geographic areas as referred to in ITU-T Rec. E.164.

5 Abbreviations

This Recommendation uses the following abbreviations:

CC Country Code

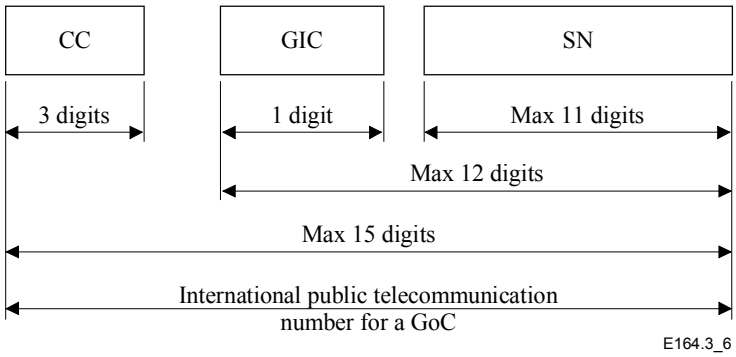
GIC Group Identification Code

GICA Group Identification Code Administrator

GoC Group of Countries

6 Resource format

Figure 1 shows the international public telecommunication number for shared Country Codes for a GoC.



CC Country Code that is shared
GIC Group Identification Code
GoC Group of Countries
SN Subscriber Number

NOTE – National and international prefixes are not part of the international public telecommunication number for shared Country Codes.

Figure 1/E.164.3 – International public telecommunication number for shared country codes for a GoC

7 General

7.1 The principles and responsibilities for resource management, assignment and reclamation, as defined in ITU-T Rec. E.190, should also be conformed to.

7.2 Applications for the assignment of E.164 Country Codes and GIC are to be considered on an individual basis and on their own merits.

7.3 TSB maintains the right, at any time during the application process, to request from the Applicant additional information considered necessary to validate an application.

7.4 TSB reserves the right to audit:

– the information provided in the application;

– the use of existing numbering resources if and when applying for supplementary resources;

– the assigned numbering resources if it is suspected that they are not being utilized in conformance with the application.

7.5 The assignee needs to return the assigned numbering resource if it is no longer being utilized in conformance with the assignment criteria.

8 Assignment principles

8.1 Reservation of a CC + GIC is not authorized.

8.2 Applicants who wish to trial a new service should request the temporary assignment of a shared Country Code for trials per ITU-T Rec. E.164.2.

8.3 Countries within a GoC need not be geographically contiguous.

8.4 The applicants and assignees of a specific CC + GIC are the Administrations of all the countries in the associated GoC. The Administration of a country that joins an existing GoC shares the assignment of the CC + GIC with all its assignee responsibilities delineated in this Recommendation. Similarly, the Administration of a country that withdraws from an existing GoC terminates its assignee responsibilities.

8.5 A subsequent CC + GIC can be assigned to the same GoC in the event of exhaust.

8.6 There is no limit to the number of GoCs a country may participate in.

8.7 The services offered through a CC + GIC are not to duplicate global services for which E.164 Country Codes have been assigned.

8.8 In all cases, the CC is 3 digits in length and the GIC is 1 digit in length.

8.9 The number of digits following the GIC should be a minimum of nine digits including service indicator(s) and subscriber numbers. Any exception to the minimum of nine digits should be documented in the application and subject to approval by TSB. Following the CC + GIC, a maximum of ten per cent of the total capacity of the numbering resource is permitted to be shorter than nine digits in length.

8.10 The format and quantity of the digits following the GIC should provide adequate capacity to accommodate current and future requirements.

9 Criteria for assignment

9.1 TSB receives a written application for the assignment of a CC + GIC jointly from all the Administrations (the Applicant) of the countries in the initial associated GoC. Such an application should, by its filing, describe the services to be offered by the CC + GIC. Each Administration of the countries applying for the CC + GIC needs to be specifically identified and the signature of an authorized representative of each Administration needs to be a part of the application.

9.2 The GoC on whose behalf the application is made is to consist of a minimum of four countries.

9.3 If only one service is to be offered through the CC + GIC, the Applicant affirms that this service is to be accessible (i.e. CC + GIC is open and routed from any Applicant country from at least one service provider) from all countries forming the GoC. If multiple services are to be offered through the CC + GIC, the Applicant affirms that every service is to be accessible from at least a majority of the countries and at least one service is to be accessible from every country. The Applicant affirms that CC + GIC and services are to be made accessible in the countries of the initial associated GoC within three years of assignment.[1]

9.4 The Applicant provides evidence that it has selected a Group Identification Code Administrator (GICA) and provides contact information to TSB for the GICA.

---

[1] Since the code assignment 388-3 was made to ETNS prior to the development of these guidelines, the following exception to criteria in 9.3 applies to ETNS: The applicant affirms that at least one service will be accessible from at least four (4) countries by February 2004.

9.5 The Applicant provides a description of its numbering plan, including the length of any service indicator(s) and subscriber numbers.

9.6 The Applicant affirms that services offered by its CC + GIC are not to duplicate Global Services for which Country Codes for Global Services have been assigned.

9.7 The Applicant affirms that the CC + GIC is to be used for the provision of public correspondence services.

9.8 The Applicant affirms that there are to be no restrictions by the GoC on the ability of calling users outside of the GoC to access the services provided through the CC + GIC.

9.9 On an application for an additional CC + GIC, to an existing GoC, in addition to the above, the Applicant needs to provide information substantiating the imminent exhaust (i.e. 70 per cent utilization with the projection of a total exhaust in two years) of the currently assigned CC + GIC and supporting the efficient format and assignment of the digits following the CC + GIC.

10 Procedures for assignment

10.1 The Applicant is to provide evidence that the criteria in clause 9 are to be met. For criteria requiring future compliance, the assignee is responsible for reporting that compliance to TSB by the time specified in the specific criterion.

10.2 The Applicant may request a specific GIC within a shared CC reserved for GoCs. Such requests may be accommodated by TSB unless the requested CC + GIC has already been requested by or assigned to another applicant GoC.

10.3 If the criteria for assignment are not met, TSB should detail the areas of non-conformance. The Applicant can submit a supplement to its original application to TSB that responds with new or clarifying information.

10.4 After the assignment has been made, TSB is to respond in writing to the Applicant and the assignment is to be published in the appropriate media, e.g. the ITU website (TIES) and the ITU Operational Bulletin.

10.5 If the criteria for assignment are not met as determined by TSB, the CC + GIC is not to be assigned.

10.6 All GICs within a shared CC are to be assigned prior to assigning an additional shared CC for a GoC.

10.7 TSB should wait for a period of at least two years before reassigning a previously assigned GIC unless a shorter time interval is requested by an Applicant GoC and agreed by the previous code assignees.

11 Criteria and procedures for changing the composition of the GoC

11.1 TSB should receive immediate notice of changes of the GoC, i.e. of countries joining or leaving the Group.

11.2 If after the CC + GIC has been made accessible in the Applicant countries in accordance with clause 9 and the number of countries constituting the GoC changes, then the countries remaining in the GoC are permitted to retain the existing CC + GIC if the number of remaining countries is a minimum of two.

11.3 Countries intending to join a GoC become assignees and share the assignment once they have confirmed in writing to TSB that they conform to the criteria for assignment.

12 Criteria and procedures for resource reclamation

12.1 TSB is to notify the assignee in writing that the code is subject to reclamation.

12.2 The CC + GIC may be reclaimed if the assignment principles and the criteria for assignment are no longer met or the CC + GIC is not in use for a period of two years.

12.3 The CC + GIC may be reclaimed if the criteria for change of the composition of GoC, if applicable, are not met.

12.4 At the time of CC + GIC reclamation of an assigned code, TSB should publish the date of reclamation and the CC + GIC should not be reassigned for a period of two years and is to be indicated as "spare".

12.5 If the Applicant or assignee determines that the CC + GIC is no longer required, TSB is to be notified in writing. TSB is to respond in writing to the Applicant and publish the reclamation in the appropriate media, e.g. the ITU website (TIES) and the ITU Operational Bulletin.

13 Appeals and reconsideration process

If an Applicant is denied an assignment by TSB or an assignee wants to contest a reclamation by TSB, the following process should be followed.

13.1 Appeal to TSB

13.1.1 In response to a letter of denial from TSB, the Applicant can submit a supplement to its original application that responds to the reason(s) for denial contained in the letter. In order to be considered by TSB, the response needs to include new or clarifying information.

13.1.2 In response to a reclamation letter from TSB, the assignee can appeal the reclamation in a letter to TSB, stating the reasons why the code should not be reclaimed.

13.1.3 TSB is to consult with the appropriate ITU-T Study Group in accordance with Resolution 20. The ITU-T Study Group is then to provide advice to TSB regarding the amended application or reclamation response.

13.1.4 If TSB determines that, based on the new information, the assignment or the reclamation should be rescinded, the Applicant is to be so informed.

13.1.5 If TSB determines that the application is still to be denied, or the codes should still be reclaimed, the Applicant is to be so informed and the reason(s) are to be provided.

13.2 Reconsideration by the appropriate Study Group

13.2.1 If the Applicant has been again denied a CC + GIC assignment or the assignee has had his CC + GIC reclaimed after following the appeal steps in 13.1, the Applicant or assignee can request reconsideration of the denial or reclamation by the appropriate ITU-T Study Group at its next meeting.

13.2.2 The Applicant or assignee should submit this request, in writing, to TSB for presentation at the next ITU-T Study Group meeting. The Applicant or assignee has the opportunity to present this request at the meeting. This request should be submitted at least two months prior to the ITU-T Study Group meeting to allow its circulation and consideration.

13.2.3 The submission should present the position of the Applicant or assignee regarding the application or reclamation, including its justification for this request. The Applicant or assignee must attach to the submission a copy of the original documentation, the supplement to it, and the correspondence from TSB.

13.2.4 The ITU-T Study Group is to consider this request and determine its conclusion at the same meeting during which this request was discussed.

13.2.5 If the ITU-T Study Group's decision is to support this request, the Chairman of the ITU-T Study Group is to send a letter to TSB with its advice and with the related rationale.

13.2.6 If the ITU-T Study Group's advice is to reject the request, the Chairman of the ITU-T Study Group needs to send a letter to TSB advising that the request be rejected with the related rationale for the decision.

13.2.7 If the ITU-T Study Group cannot reach a conclusion, the Chairman of the ITU-T Study Group needs to advise TSB accordingly.

13.2.8 TSB needs to consider the ITU-T Study Group's advice and inform the Applicant or the assignee of TSB's decision. If the decision is to make the assignment or the reclamation, TSB would do so following the appropriate procedures. If the decision is to deny the application or to reclaim the code again, TSB informs the Applicant or the assignee and the appropriate ITU-T Study Group of the denial and the basis for it.

SERIES OF ITU-T RECOMMENDATIONS

Series A	Organization of the work of ITU-T
Series B	Means of expression: definitions, symbols, classification
Series C	General telecommunication statistics
Series D	General tariff principles
Series E	**Overall network operation, telephone service, service operation and human factors**
Series F	Non-telephone telecommunication services
Series G	Transmission systems and media, digital systems and networks
Series H	Audiovisual and multimedia systems
Series I	Integrated services digital network
Series J	Cable networks and transmission of television, sound programme and other multimedia signals
Series K	Protection against interference
Series L	Construction, installation and protection of cables and other elements of outside plant
Series M	TMN and network maintenance: international transmission systems, telephone circuits, telegraphy, facsimile and leased circuits
Series N	Maintenance: international sound programme and television transmission circuits
Series O	Specifications of measuring equipment
Series P	Telephone transmission quality, telephone installations, local line networks
Series Q	Switching and signalling
Series R	Telegraph transmission
Series S	Telegraph services terminal equipment
Series T	Terminals for telematic services
Series U	Telegraph switching
Series V	Data communication over the telephone network
Series X	Data networks and open system communications
Series Y	Global information infrastructure and Internet protocol aspects
Series Z	Languages and general software aspects for telecommunication systems

Printed in Switzerland
Geneva, 2003