

I n t e r n a t i o n a l T e l e c o m m u n i c a t i o n U n i o n

ITU-T

TELECOMMUNICATION
STANDARDIZATION SECTOR
OF ITU

WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION
ASSEMBLY
Dubai, 20-29 November 2012

**Resolution 54 – Creation of, and assistance to,
regional groups**

ITU-T



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.

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RESOLUTION 54 (Rev. Dubai, 2012)

Creation of, and assistance to, regional groups

(Florianópolis, 2004; Johannesburg, 2008; Dubai, 2012)

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Dubai, 2012),

considering

- a) that Resolution 123 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the three Bureaux to work closely with each other in pursuing initiatives that assist in bridging the standardization gap between developing¹ and developed countries;
- b) that the work of certain study groups, particularly in relation to, among other things, tariff and accounting principles, next-generation networks (NGN) and future networks (FN), security, quality, mobility and multimedia, are of considerable strategic significance for developing countries during the next study cycle,

recognizing

- a) the relatively high level of participation and involvement of developing countries in the meetings of Study Groups 2, 3, 5 and 12 of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T), and their growing levels of participation in other study groups;
- b) that regional groups have been established within Study Groups 2, 3, 5 and 12;
- c) the satisfactory results obtained by the regional approach within the framework of the activities of Study Groups 2, 3, 5 and 12;
- d) that the activities of most of these regional groups have become increasingly important;
- e) the successful establishment of regional groups under Study Group 3, which leads studies relating to tariff and accounting matters (including costing methodologies) for international telecommunication services and study of related telecommunication economic, accounting and policy issues;
- f) the sustainability of the regional groups of Study Group 3, and the encouraging start of regional groups² established in accordance with this resolution,

noting

- a) the need to increase the participation of developing countries in the work of study groups, with a view to ensuring that their specific needs and concerns are better taken into account;
- b) the need to improve and strengthen the organization and working methods of the ITU-T study groups in the interests of enhancing the participation of developing countries;

¹ These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

² Regional groups are open, without exclusion, to the participation of all members belonging to the specific region where the regional group is created.

- c) the importance of having appropriate consultative frameworks for the formulation and study of Questions, the preparation of contributions and capacity building;
- d) the need for developing countries to be more present and more active within ITU-T's standardization forums;
- e) the need to encourage more inclusive participation in the work of ITU-T, e.g. by academia and experts working in the field of standardization of telecommunication/information and communication technologies, particularly from developing countries;
- f) the budgetary limitations, especially in developing-country institutions, for attendance at ITU-T events of specific interest to them,

bearing in mind

that the application of the organizational set-up and working methods of Study Groups 2, 3, 5 and 12 in some of the other study groups could serve to expand and improve the level of developing country participation in standardization activities and contribute to achieving the objectives of Resolution 123 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010),

taking into consideration

- a) the experiences and lessons learned by the regional groups of Study Group 3, and its successors, the regional groups of Study Groups 2, 5 and 12, regarding the operational as well as organizational set-up and working methods;
- b) the specific process for approving Recommendations foreseen for the regional groups of Study Group 3 in clause 9.2.1 of Resolution 1 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) of this assembly,

recognizing further

- a) that a common and coordinated approach in regard to standardization could serve to foster the promotion of standardization activities in developing countries;
- b) that joint meetings of regional groups of different ITU-T study groups, in particular if concatenated with a regional workshop and/or a meeting of a regional standardization body, could encourage the participation of developing countries in these meetings and increase the effectiveness of such joint meetings;
- c) that in developing countries, a few standardization experts are usually responsible for handling numerous standardization areas within their administrations,

resolves

- 1 to support, on a case-by-case basis, the coordinated creation of regional groups of ITU-T study groups, and to encourage cooperation and collaboration of these groups with regional standardization entities;
- 2 to invite the Council to consider providing support for the regional groups as appropriate,

invites the regions and their Member States

1 to pursue the creation of regional groups of parent ITU-T study groups in their respective regions in accordance with *resolves* 1 of this resolution, and to support their meetings and activities, as appropriate, in coordination with TSB;

2 to develop draft terms of reference and working methods for these regional groups, which are to be approved by the parent study group;

3 to create regional standardization bodies, as appropriate, and encourage joint and coordinated meetings of such bodies with the regional groups of ITU-T study groups in their respective regions, so that these standardization bodies act as an umbrella for such regional group meetings,

invites the regional groups thus created

1 to disseminate information about telecommunication standardization and encourage the involvement of developing countries in standardization activities in their regions, and to submit written contributions to the parent study group reflecting the priorities of their respective regions;

2 to cooperate closely with the relevant respective regional organizations,

instructs study groups and the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group

to coordinate joint meetings of the regional groups of ITU-T study groups,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, in collaboration with the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, within the allocated or contributed resources that are available

1 to provide all necessary support for creating and ensuring the smooth functioning of the regional groups;

2 to consider holding, whenever possible, workshops concurrently with meetings of the ITU-T regional groups;

3 to take all necessary measures to facilitate the organization of meetings and workshops of the regional groups,

calls upon the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

to cooperate with the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau in order to:

- i) continue to provide specific assistance to the current regional groups of Study Group 3 as well as other regional groups;
- ii) encourage the continuing development of computerized application tools related to their cost methodology by the members of the regional groups of Study Group 3;
- iii) take appropriate steps to facilitate meetings of the current and future regional groups of Study Group 3 and promote the necessary synergies between the two Sectors,

further invites the regional groups thus created

to cooperate closely with the relevant respective regional organizations, and to report on their work in their regions.