



African Telecommunications Union

...promoting development of info-communications in Africa

An Overview of the International Telecommunication Regulations (ITRs) and the African Group Proposals

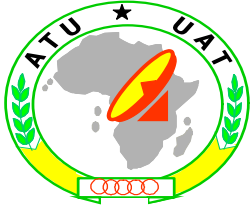
5TH ANNUAL EAIGF AND CONSULTATIVE MEETING ON ITRs NAIROBI, KENYA JULY 17-18, 2012

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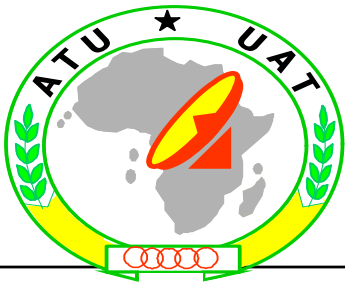
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PRESENTATION PLAN

- A BRIEF ABOUT ATU
- EFFORTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF ATU
- DEFINITION OF ITRs AND WHY ITRs ARE IMPORTANT
- THE NEED TO REVISE ITRs
- PREPARATORY PROCESS
- AFRICAN POSITION
- CONCLUSION

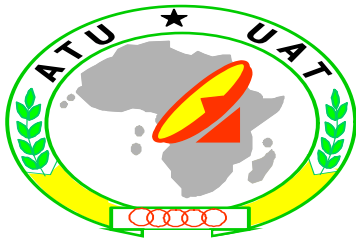


WHO IS ATU

- ❑ **Creation:** PATU was created in Addis Ababa in 1977
 - ❑ Specialised agency of the African Union in Telecommunication
 - ❑ Cape Town, 1999 PATU changed to “ATU”
 - ❑ restructured to accommodate public and private participation

- ❑ **ATU boasts of following members:**
 - ❑ 44 Member States
 - ❑ 16 Associate Members

- ❑ **Headquarters:** Nairobi (Kenya) - (temporary)



VISION, MISSION AND CORE ACTIVITIES

Vision

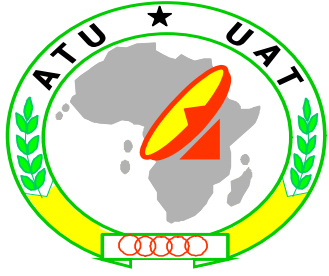
- To make Africa an active participant in the Global Information Society

Mission

- Promote the rapid development of ICT in Africa
 - universal service and access
 - Regional connectivity etc

Core Activities

- promote the development and adoption of appropriate African telecom policy and regulatory frameworks
- Spearhead the expansion of telecoms services on the continent
- Co-ordinate African position to global ICT decision-making conferences
 - ensuring equitable share of globally available resources
 - Bridge the global ICT divide



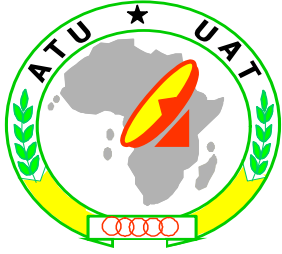
DEFINITION OF ITRs AND WHY ITRs ARE IMPORTANT

ITRs DEFINED

- The general principles for the provision and operation of international telecommunication
- ITRs are a binding international treaty like the Constitution/ Convention, Radio Regulations
- Last version of ITRs adopted in 1988 in Melbourne, Australia by WATTC-88 as a single treaty

The ITRs comprise ten articles which deal, inter alia,

- definition of international telecommunication services,
- cooperation between countries and national administrations,
- safety of life and priority of telecommunications,
- charging and accounting principles



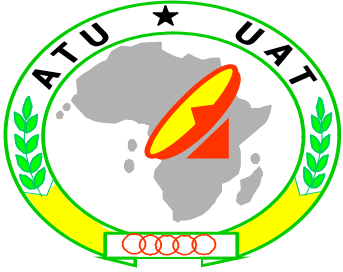
Why are ITRs Important?

- Establish general principles for the provision and operation of international telecommunications
- Facilitates global interconnection and interoperability
- Underpin harmonious development and efficient operation of technical facilities
- Promote efficiency, usefulness and availability of international telecommunications services among others



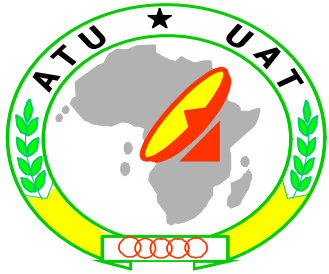
WHY REVISE THE ITRs, AFRICAN PERSPECTIVE

- ITRs are essential instruments of the International Telecommunications Union and should continue to play their role, in complementing CS/CV (CS Article 4)
- Africa strongly supports the review and update of ITRs to accommodate current challenges and progress of developing countries with regards to international telecommunications by protecting and providing level playing ground for commercial relations between operators in different countries regardless of their market power on the international market level



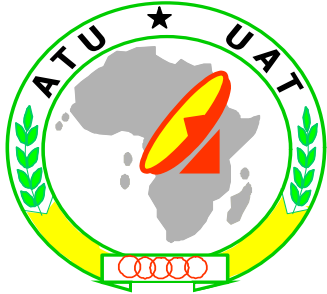
WHY REVISE THE ITRs, AFRICAN PERSPECTIVE Cont'd...

- New issues have arisen since Melbourne 1988 with relation to stable operation of International Telecommunication facilities such as:
 - Broadband and Infrastructure Development
 - Cyber security/space
 - WSIS affirmation and action lines.
 - Governments no longer control the operation of international facilities
 - Most countries have established independent regulatory bodies
 - Key technological changes have taken place , Internet Protocol (IP) is now de facto transport protocol for all kinds of data
 - Convergence in networks, services and content
 - The evolution of the ICT is introducing new services for which there may be no clear international framework to apply.



PREPARATORY PROCESS

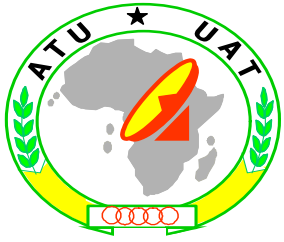
- Revision of ITRs has been under discussion since 1998
- The ITU PP 06 Antalya in its Resolution 146 instructed the ITU Council to approve World Conference on International Telecommunications (WCIT) to be held in 2012
- The ITU Council in pursuance of PP Resolution 146 (Antalya 2006) constituted Council Working Group for WCIT (CWG-WCIT) [see Council Resolution 1312]. Work concluded and report sent to Council 2012
- African Region held its 1st meeting in Cairo 14-17 November 2011 coordinated by ATU, and hosted by NTRA, Egypt. Attended by 50 Participants and several observers.
- 2nd meeting was held in Durban, South Africa from 21-24 May, 2012, organised by ATU in collaboration with ITU and hosted by Department of Communication of South Africa. Attended by about 190 participants and several observers



PREPARATORY PROCESS cont'd...

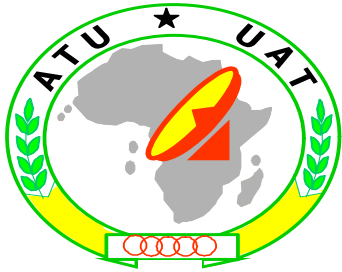
- African proposals discussed and included in the Compilation of Proposals to the 2012 ITU Council and WCIT-12
- Several additional contributions from individual African countries were submitted to the CWG-WCIT (Egypt, Rwanda and Côte d'Ivoire)
- Key issues brought up during this process include:
 - What core principles should guide the discussions
 - Do some provisions of the ITRs belong elsewhere e.g Constitution/Convention, ITU-T Recommendations?
 - What provisions should be added to cover new issues
- E-mail correspondence group was established by ATU to exchange views, and used to circulate proposals before submission:

WTSA-WCIT12-prep@atu-uat.org



What is in African Common Proposal?

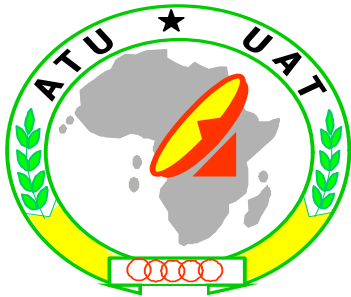
- Position has been taken on all Articles except Art. 2 & 6. These were delayed till we see all other articles of ITRs are resolved
- Old Article 6 was moved to Appendix but include 2 articles on CPND and dispute resolution
- New Article 6 renamed Economic and Policy issues
- No definite position taken by Africa on other diverse articles of less importance



SUMMARY OF PRELIMINARY AFRICAN PROPOSALS FOR THE ITRs REVISION

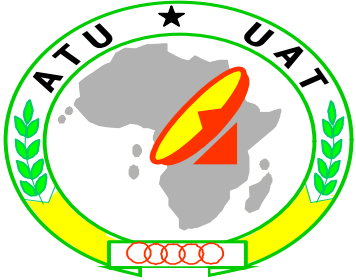
Issues of [C116](#) :

- 6.1.1:** collection charges avoids dissymmetry and be transparent.
- 6.2:** Accounting, Transit and Termination Rates are by mutual agreement between OAs, and shall be Cost Based .
- New 6.12:** Rates (transit, termination and roaming) are cost based.
- New 6.7:** Access to alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, and standing to have recourse to the relevant regulatory or competition authorities of the other party's country.



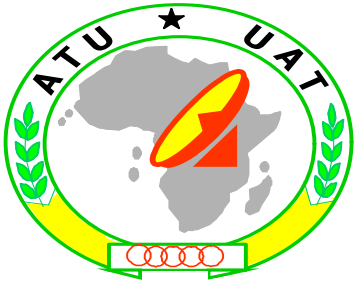
SUMMARY OF PRELIMINARY AFRICAN PROPOSALS FOR THE ITRs REVISION cont'd

- New xx:** on settlement of disputes by national or international body mutually agreeable to the parties in dispute
- 9.1 b):** Special Arrangements SHALL avoid : financial misappropriation/ technical harm/stoppage
- New:** Intercept and Monitoring subject to due process authorization in accordance with national law
- New: Security:**
 - New X1 : MS cooperate in technical matters in security.
 - New X2 : MS Cooperate to harmonize policies, investigation and prosecution of cybercrime



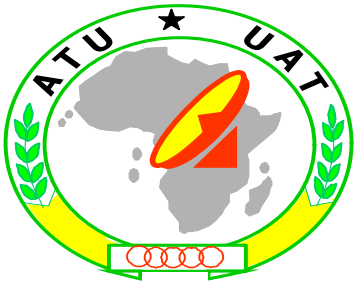
MAIN ISSUES OF CONCERN IN THE ITRS

- General:** Transfer of obligations and commitments to Operating Agencies (OA), in line with CS §38.
- 1.4:** Mandatory application of SOME ITU-T Recommendations.
- 1.7:** Right of MS to authorize (Not Recognize) OAs.
- 1.9:** “NO” observance of other MSs treaties !!
- 2:** Definitions: need not be detailed or very granular.
- 3.a:** CPND/CLI/OI: Identification of the Origin of the Call. Important for Fraud and Security.



MAIN ISSUES OF CONCERN IN THE ITRS cont'd...

- 3.b:** Availability of Routing Information: But subject to technical, operational and commercial difficulties !! However is important as (§ 3.a).
- 3.c:** Allocation of Numbering, Naming and Addressing
- 3.d:** Misuse of Numbering
- 4.3:** Quality of Service
- 4.a:** Transparency of Roaming charges
- 4.b:** Avoidance of double Taxation
- New:** Security and Confidence in ICT
- 9:** Special Arrangements: Shall avoid Harm, and preserve security



CONCLUSION

- Africa is highly engaged in the ITRs revision process
- Africa is concerned with connectivity, costing and accounting, QoS and security issues, among others
- Africa expected to come up with a unified common proposal
- Encourage the various sub-regions in the continent to carry out sub-regional discussions with a view to making the African wide forum more solid ???
- The third and final African preparatory meeting for WTSA-12 & WCIT-12 will be held in Accra Ghana from 25 - 26 September, 2012 and all are welcome to participate

Thank you