
**Addendum 3 to
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SOURCE: United States of America

TITLE: Proposed New Question on Conformance Testing

USA/22/3 Objective(s): 2

The United States proposes that a new question be established in ITU-D Study Group (To Be Determined) to examine issues raised in Plenipotentiary Resolution 177 (Rev Guadalajara 2010) and WTSA Resolution 76 (Dubai 2012), specifically to do the following:

- (1) Identify and assess challenges, priorities, and problems with respect to the application of ITU-T Recommendations, approaches to meeting the confidence needs associated with equipment conformance to ITU-T Recommendations such as conformity assessment, type approval and training.
- (2) Examine how developing countries can manage these approaches to meeting confidence needs and examine effective information sharing systems to assist in this work.
- (3) Examine global trends related to these matters.

New Question on Conformance Testing

1 Statement of the situation or problem

Plenipotentiary Resolution 177 (Guadalajara, 2010), WTDC Resolution 47 (Dubai, 2014), WTSA Resolution 76 (Dubai, 2012) as well as the Action Plan approved by Council 2013 (particularly Pillars 3 and 4) highlighted the importance of human and institutional capacity building and training opportunities related to type approval, conformity assessment and other related matters.

Inclusion of an ITU-D Study Group Question on this matter provides an effective way to further the aims of WTDC Resolution 47 (Dubai, 2014), WTSA Resolution 76 (Dubai, 2012) and Plenipotentiary Resolution 177 (Guadalajara, 2010).

Member States and ITU-D Sector Members can assist and guide each other by conducting studies, building tools to bridge the standardization gap, and navigating issues related to matters raised in the above mentioned Resolutions. ITU-D can harness the energy of its membership to examine these important issues.

2 Question for study

A Question would be established in ITU-D Study Group (To Be Determined) to examine these issues and do the following, taking into account the economic impact of previously mentioned programs including on Sector Members and Member States:

2.1 Identify and assess what the challenges, priorities, and problems are for countries, sub-regions, or regions with respect to the application of ITU-T Recommendations, approaches to meeting the confidence needs associated with equipment conformance to ITU-T Recommendations and other related issues identifying critical issues/priority issues in countries, sub-regions, or regions, and identifying related best-practices.

2.2 Examine how information transfer, know-how, training, institutional and human capacity development can strengthen the ability of developing countries in reducing risks associated with low quality equipment, and equipment interoperability issues. Examine effective information sharing systems and best practices to assist in this work.

2.3 Examine global trends related to these matters.

3 Expected output

The output will be a report on the results of the work concluded for each step identified above.

A final report will synthesize previous activities, and lay out a conceptual framework to chart relevant players, subject matter areas (e.g., commercial, legal, policy), providing a “road-map” that allows for more effective and efficient information dissemination and in-country planning.

4 Timing

4.1 Annual progress reports will be submitted to ITU-D Study Group (To Be Determined).

4.2 A final report will be submitted to ITU-D Study Group (To Be Determined).

5 Proposers

United States of America

6 Sources of input

1. Member States, Sector Members, and relevant experts.
2. Examination of regulations, policies, practices in countries that have created systems to manage these matters.
3. Other relevant international organizations.

7 Target audience

Target audience	Developed countries	Developing countries	Least developed countries (LDCs)
Telecom policy-makers	Yes	Yes	Yes
Telecom regulators	Yes	Yes	Yes
Service providers/operators	Yes	Yes	Yes
Manufacturers	Yes	Yes	Yes
Consumers/end-users	Yes	Yes	Yes
Standards Development Organizations, including Consortia	Yes	Yes	Yes
Testing Laboratories	Yes	Yes	Yes
Certification Bodies	Yes	Yes	Yes
Respective enforcement / Market research agencies			

a) Target audience

Depending on the nature of the output, policy and decision makers, upper- to middle-level managers in operators, laboratories, SDOs, certification bodies, market research agencies, regulators, and ministries in developed, developing and least developed countries will be the predominant users of the output. Compliance managers at equipment manufacturers and system integrators could also use the output for information.

b) Proposed methods for the implementation of the results

The results of the Question are to be distributed through ITU-D interim and final reports. This will provide a means for the audience to have periodic updates of the work carried out and a means for the audience to provide input and/or seek clarification/more information from ITU-D Study Group (To Be Determined) should they need it.

8 Proposed Methods of Handling the Question or Issue

The Question will be addressed within a study group over a four-year study period (with submission of interim results), and will be managed by a Rapporteur and Vice-Rapporteurs. This

will enable Member States and Sector Members to contribute their experiences and lessons they have learned with respect to conformity assessment, type approval and interoperability.

9. Coordination

9.1 The ITU-D Study Group dealing with this Question will need to coordinate with:

- Relevant ITU-T Study Groups, particularly Study Group 11
- Relevant focal points in BDT and ITU Regional Offices
- Coordinators of relevant project activities in BDT
- Standards development organizations (SDOs)
- Conformity Assessment Bodies (including testing organizations and laboratories, accreditation organizations, etc.) and Industry Consortia
- Consumers/end-users
- Experts in this field

10. BDT programme link

- WTDC Resolution 47 (Dubai, 2014)
- WTSA Resolution 76 (Dubai, 2012)
- WTSA Resolution 44 (Dubai, 2012)
- C&I Action Plan Pillars 3 and 4 (C13/24(Rev.1))

Links to BDT programmes designed at human capacity development, assistance to operators in developing and least developed countries, programmes that deal with technical assistance and programmes concerning Conformance & Interoperability.

11. Other relevant information

As may become apparent within the life of this Question.
