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ITU - Telecommunication Standardization Sector

Temporary Document 19-E

TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION
ADVISORY GROUP

Geneva, 19-23 March 2001

Question(s):

SOURCE*: ITU-T SPECIAL STUDY GROUP CHAIRMAN

TITLE: SPECIAL STUDY GROUP ON "IMT-2000 AND BEYOND" STATUS REPORT

ABSTRACT

This Temporary Document provides a Status Report for the Special Study Group on "IMT-2000 and Beyond" since its establishment at WTSA-2000. This report includes three Annexes: Annex 1 contains the SSG structure and leadership, Annex 2 gives the list of Questions agreed by the SSG for study in the 2001-2004 ITU-T Study Period, and Annex 3 provides the Work Program.

Lead Study Group Activity

The Special Study Group on "IMT-2000 and Beyond" is the Lead Study Group on "IMT-2000 and Beyond" and for mobility. [WTSA-2000 Resolution 2: "Responsible for studies relating to network aspects of International Mobile Telecommunications 2000 (IMT-2000) and beyond, including wireless Internet, convergence of mobile and fixed networks, mobility management, mobile multimedia functions, internetworking, interoperability and enhancements to existing ITU-T Recommendations on IMT-2000."]

First SSG Meeting

The SSG has had one meeting since its inception.

2.1 Naming Convention

In order to ensure consistency when it is referred to both internally and externally, at its initial meeting 11-15 December 2000, the group decided that its long name should be **Special Study group on "IMT-2000 and Beyond"** and that its abbreviation should be **SSG**. All are kindly requested to follow this convention.

2.2 Handover from WP 3/11

Just prior to the first SSG meeting, SG 11 met 27 November to 6 December, 2000. Within SG 11, WP3/11 had been addressing IMT-2000 activities. During this meeting, WP 3/11 progressed its work as

far as possible according to its existing plans. This included preparation of and submission for approval the second issue of Supplement 30, "Supplement to ITU-T Recommendation Q.1701 Framework for IMT-2000 Networks – Roadmap to IMT-2000 Recommendations, Standards and Technical Specifications." At this meeting, WP 3/11 also took care of all aspects related to ensuring a smooth transition of their work to the new SSG. The SSG participants very much appreciated the efforts of WP 3/11 and hereby acknowledge with thanks their hard work, and especially their efforts towards a smooth transition to the SSG.

2.3 First Meeting

The first SSG meeting took place 11-15 December 2000 in Geneva. The report of this inaugural meeting is available as COM SSG-R1-E: <http://www.itu.int/itudoc/itu-t/ssgimt/reports/r001.html>. Some further information on COM SSG-R1-E is provided later within this report. A separate section below also addresses leadership issues within the SSG Management Team.

As this was the inaugural meeting of the SSG, it was anticipated that the bulk of this meeting would be spent on organizational matters. The key objectives set by the Chairman and accepted by the meeting, were:

- ?? definition of the work structure (working parties, reformulation of questions) of the SSG (see Annexes 1 and 2);
- ?? definition of the near term deliverables within the work plan that will quickly demonstrate value-added from the work of the SSG (see Annex 3);
- ?? plans defined for rapid establishment of key relationships, especially ITU-R, as well as with external bodies, to ensure that we work with them in a cooperative and collaborative manner; and
- ?? plans for working with ITU-D and ITU-R to support developing countries in their application of IMT-2000.

These objectives were met. Further information on the development of the questions is provided later in this report.

Interim Activities

Two Rapporteurs meetings were planned during the 11-15 December 2000 SSG meeting and took place:

- ?? Q.3/SSG Identification of existing and evolving IMT-2000 Systems
12-13 February, 2001, Stockholm, hosted by Ericsson
- ?? Q.1/SSG Service and network capability requirements and network architecture
14-16 February, 2001, Paris, hosted by DoCoMo Europe S.A.

Both of the above Rapporteur's meetings were, similar to the 11-15 December 2000 SSG meeting, inaugural. They concentrated first on organizational matters and then on technical content. Both questions further defined their scope and charter, elaborated their work plans, and initiated the structure and some content for their deliverables. The reports for both these meetings are available in the SSG's IFA:

- ?? Q.3/SSG: http://ties.itu.int/u/imt2000/imt2000/wp2/q3/0102stockholm/tds/STO-018%20Approved_Report.doc
- ?? Q.1/SSG: <http://ties.itu.int/u/imt2000/imt2000/wp1/q1/0102paris/tds/PAR-015R1%20q1%20mtg%20rpt.doc>

It is worth noting that both questions felt it was essential to immediately proceed with interaction with external bodies. Waiting for the scheduled 7-11 May 2001 SSG meeting in order to initiate this interaction was agreed by all Rapporteurs meeting participants as too late to be consistent with achieving the deliverables the SSG has set for itself. To this end, SSG Chairmen's correspondence was drafted to initiate this interaction. This correspondence was reviewed within the Rapporteur's meetings and then circulated electronically to the general SSG membership prior to being sent to the addressees. This correspondence is available under ITU-R WP 8F (they were cc addressees) at:

<http://www.itu.int/itudoc/itu-r/sg8/docs/wp8f/2000-03/contrib/266e.html>

<http://www.itu.int/itudoc/itu-r/sg8/docs/wp8f/2000-03/contrib/267e.html>

It is anticipated that this correspondence will also be available on the SSG's IFA by the start of the TSAG meeting.

Future Activities

At the 11-15 December 2000 SSG meeting, initial plans were outlined for additional Rapporteurs meetings following the next SSG meeting, which is scheduled for 7-11 May 2001 in Geneva. It is anticipated that these will be further defined during that SSG meeting. A second SSG meeting in 2001 is tentatively scheduled for August or September, 2001, with the next SSG meeting after that planned for January, 2002, also outside Geneva.

At this time, we are anticipating an offer to host the SSG meeting in late August or early September 2001 from the Brazilian administration. Details are under discussion and this is subject to confirmation.

The possibility of a Seminar or Workshop in conjunction with the planned SSG meeting in the late August - early September timeframe is being explored. The precise format and scope of the workshop is yet to be decided. Any suggestions or guidelines from TSAG with respect to this event would be appreciated.

The work plan that has been developed within the SSG includes a number of deliverables for the end of 2001. It is possible that the January 2002, meeting will need to be brought forward to December, 2001. This will be considered further in the next SSG meetings.

Working Methods

The SSG has been using electronic correspondence to conduct as much of its initial organizational business as possible. Overall, this appears to be working quite well, but as anticipated, there are a few issues that will need to be addressed.

The SSG Management Team began using electronic correspondence to conduct its work immediately after WTSA-2000. This was followed by a teleconference on 9 November 2000 in preparation for the first SSG Management Team meeting 7-8 December 2000, just prior to the 11-15 December, 2000, inaugural SSG meeting. Two observations from the SSG Chairman from this initial activity are:

- ?? electronic correspondence depends on all interested parties being diligent about checking their email on a sufficiently frequent basis (at least twice per week); and
- ?? teleconferences cannot be scheduled without having at least some members participating having to do so at some rather odd hours.

These observations apply in a broader context: participants interested in staying up to date on the activities they are interested in will need to make a small but non-zero effort to do so. Rapporteurs planning teleconferences should recognize that, to be fair to all participants, conference calls should be scheduled on a rotational basis so that different parts of the world will in turn be participating during "off hours." Since there is no time slot that is good for all participants, this approach will at least spread the discomfort evenly. In anticipation that each individual Rapporteur is not likely to hold three conference calls between SSG or rapporteurs meetings, the SSG's Rapporteurs will need to coordinate with each other through the Scheduling Coordinator to ensure that the distribution of "discomfort" across all their activities is as fair as possible.

Concerning the electronic distribution of correspondence, there is some concern from the SSG Management Team that correspondence aimed at the general SSG membership may not in fact be getting to all the interested parties. We are working with the TSB to ensure that the most effective possible configurations for email reflectors are in place.

With respect to the conduct of email dialogues on progressing the technical work, the SSG feels that the TSB should quickly install appropriate tools to enable straightforward, web browser-based tracing of correspondence. An example of a suitable software package was identified at the 20-21 November 2000 SG Chairmen's meeting. It appears that this package is suitable from the SSG's point of view. The TSB is encouraged to proceed quickly in identifying and installing a suitable tool.

At the Q.1/SSG meeting, the host organization (DoCoMo Europe S.A.) organized a videoconference with a remote site in Japan. This enabled a number of our colleagues in Japan to participate in the meeting, albeit during their evening period, and even after midnight the first day. The participants in Paris quickly decided to meet earlier in the day for the remainder of the meeting in order to reduce the burden on their colleagues at the remote site. Overall, the videoconference itself worked well, but there was some question as to how effective this was from the point of view of the participants in Yokosuka Research Park. It is essential that

participants at the main site remain alert to the situation at the remote site(s) in order to be sure the remote site(s) both gain value from their participation, and can be part of the discussion whenever they wish to be. Significant effort was put into doing this, and helped in achieving the objectives, but, as always, there is room for improvement.

All the issues listed above are considered to be normal start up items as opposed to fundamental problems. The members of the SSG have shown willingness to make use of various electronic mechanisms to progress the work. At this early stage, the problems being encountered are not fundamentally affecting the work, but they will need to be addressed and resolved as we get closer to the point where we are considering electronic approval of reports and draft Recommendations.

COM SSG-R1-E

Pursuant to the procedures in Recommendation A.1, the TSB and the SSG Chairman prepared a summary report of the 11-15 December, 2000 meeting. This was posted within a matter of a few days following the SSG meeting. This report was closely based on the draft report reviewed at the closing plenary of the SSG on 15 December, 2000, but it was condensed through deletion of interim results and the removal of some details leading up to the final agreements.

However, a number of parties expressed concerns that the posted report was not identical to the draft report reviewed at the closing plenary of the SSG on 15 December, 2000, although there has not been any indication of errors or omissions. Further, the report in TD PL/SSG-022R1¹ as distributed at the closing plenary was itself incomplete, and a number of edits were required to capture the discussions at the closing plenary, some of which were left to the discretion of the SSG Chairman. This report was completed just after the meeting and was immediately posted on TIES as TD PL/SSG-022R2. Several revisions were needed to deal with formatting problems and other issues associated with the word processing program being used, resulting in the posting of TD PL/SSG-022R4 a few days after the meeting.

In order to ensure that there was no question about the accuracy and completeness of the report, the SSG Chairman originally suggested that the detailed report also be posted as a COM SSG-R document. After some discussion with the TSB, it was decided to repost COM SSG-R1-E as a single report with two parts, Part I being the condensed report as originally posted, and Part II being the entire detailed report as contained in TD PL/SSG-022R4. This is what is currently posted.

Redefinition of SSG Questions

WTSA-2000 defined the mandate for the SSG in Resolution 2, and assigned a set of four questions to the SSG. Several of these have overlap with similar questions assigned to SG 11.

¹ TD PL/SSG-022 was distributed and reviewed at a mid-week plenary.

In attempting to define a workable structure for the SSG, the SSG Management team found that the mandate and Questions as assigned did not lend themselves to doing so. In order to be able to define a working structure for the SSG, the Resolution 2 mandate and the assigned questions were parsed and re-assembled as illustrated in Figure 1 below. The SSG Management Team's initial proposals in this direction were provided to the SSG as a whole. During the 11-15 December 2000, SSG meeting, the participants discussed this at length and refined the proposals down to a set of eight questions as has been reported in TSB Circular 20 dated 26 January 2001. All the draft revised or new questions were reviewed during the closing plenary of the SSG and agreement was achieved as reported in COM SSG-R1-E.

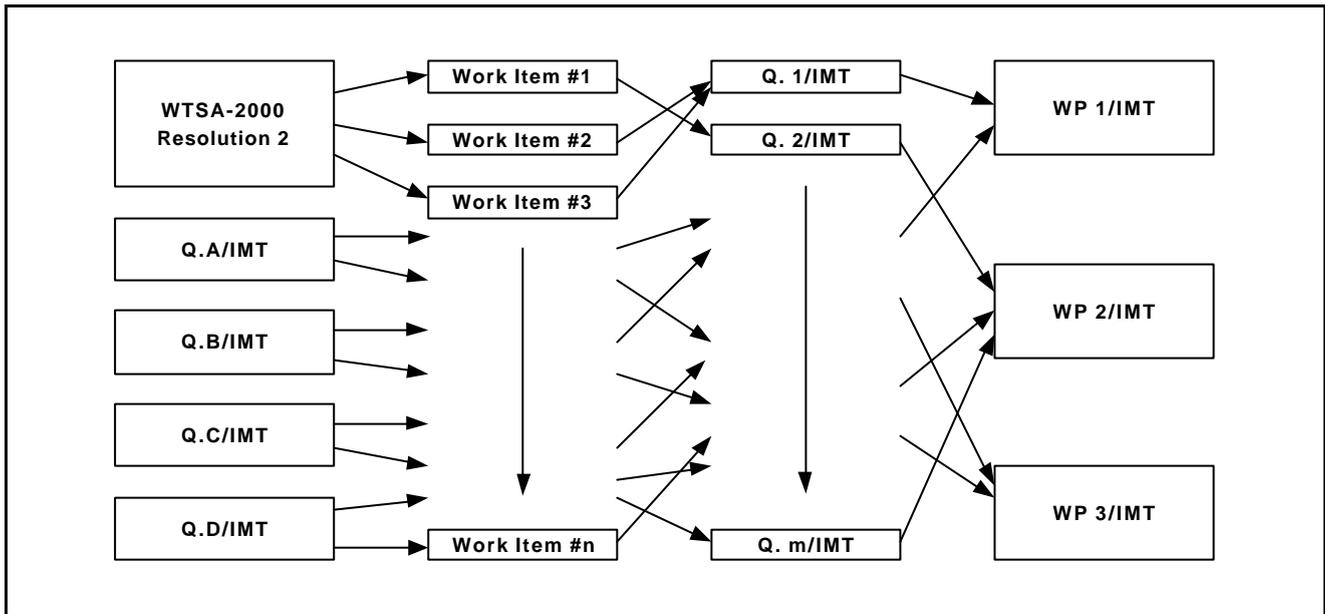


Figure 1 - Process applied to development of refined Questions for SSG

TSB Circular 20 provided the texts for these Questions and it is brought to the attention of TSAG: <http://www.itu.int/itudoc/itu-t/ssgimt/circ/020.html>.

It became apparent that there is some confusion and incomplete knowledge about the process for approving the revised questions as a result of a number of concerns expressed. This is being cleared up and, while it is anticipated that some minor revisions to the questions may be needed at the upcoming SSG meeting to address oversights or other small matters, it is expected that SSG participants will prefer to emphasize progressing the work through contributions and proposed text for deliverables.

SSG Leadership

The SSG has a large Management Team consisting of a Chairman and eleven Vice-Chairmen as appointed by WTSA-2000. The Vice-Chairmen provide great strength to the SSG Management Team as direct result of their diversity of perspective, breadth of experience, and wide-ranging leadership experience. The SSG Management Team has represented on it vendors, operators and regulators, and its membership is drawn from the full range of countries, from the most developed to the least developed.

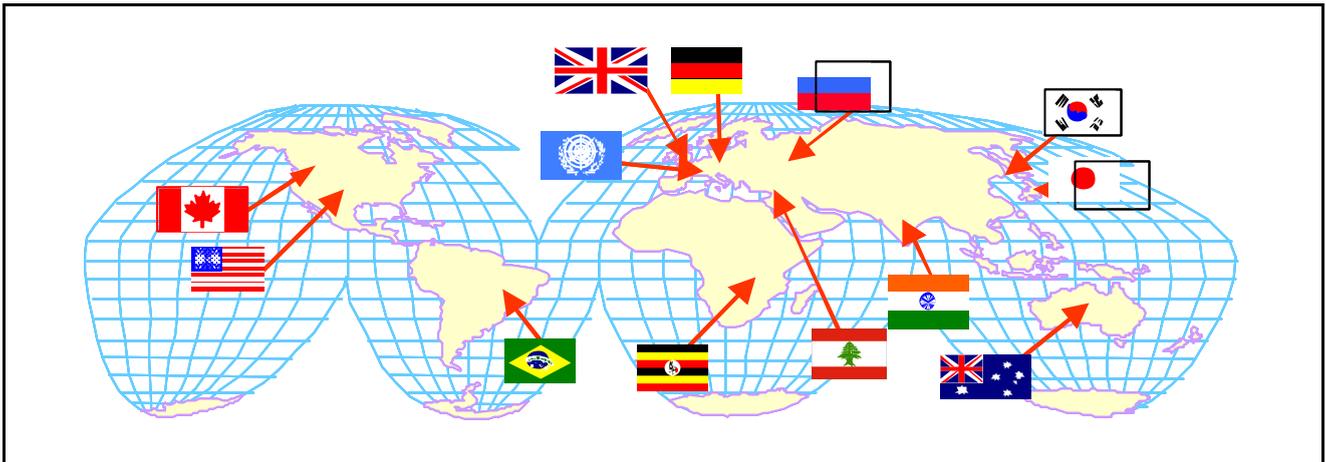


Figure 2 - SSG Management Team

Several members of the SSG Management Team have limited ITU-T experience, but all have substantial leadership experience, including running meetings of various types. Some concerns were expressed about the handling of a subset of the SSG meeting, but this is being addressed within the SSG Management Team and it is anticipated that this will no longer be a concern at the next SSG meeting.

Conclusions

The SSG has moved quickly to establish a structure and work program based on the decisions taken at WTSA-2000. It has already begun the process of developing the deliverables defined within its work plan. It has initiated substantial interaction with other bodies and forums, making use of various means to get the necessary interaction underway as rapidly as possible. The SSG is moving quickly and boldly towards meeting the objectives set for it.

The ongoing support and active collaboration of the membership will, as with all Study Groups, be a key factor in making the SSG a successful entity within the ITU.

Annex 1 - SSG structure and Leadership

SSG Leadership

Chairman Mr. John Visser (Nortel Networks, Canada)

WP 1/SSG Service and Interface requirements for IMT-2000 and Beyond

Chairman: Mr. Syed Husain (Motorola, USA)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. Kirit Lathia (Siemens, Germany)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. Hiroshi Nakamura (NTT DoCoMo, Japan)

WP 2/SSG Application and Interworking of IMT-2000 Systems

Chairman: Mr. Leslie Graf (Ericsson, Australia)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. Maurice Ghazal (MPT, Lebanon)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. Patrick Masambu (Communications Commission, Uganda)

WP 3/SSG Harmonization and Convergence of IMT-2000 Systems

Chairman: Mr. Young Kim (Samsung Electronics, Korea)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. Krishna Sirohi (Ministry of Communications, India)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. Yuri Trofimov (NIIR, Russia)

Coordination Function

Coordinator

EDH

Mr. Ed Chien (USA)

Meeting Scheduling

Mr. Hiroshi Nakamura (NTT DoCoMo, Japan)

Publicity Mr. John Visser (Nortel Networks, Canada)

Liaison Mr. Mike Briggs (British Telecommunications, UK)

Seminars and Workshops Mr. Kirit Lathia (Siemens, Germany)

Project Plan Mr. Bruno Ramos (Anatel, Brazil)

Working Methods Mr. Mike Briggs (British Telecommunications, UK)

ITU-R WP 8F Liaison Mr. Jim Hoffmeyer (BellSouth, USA)

Annex 2 - List of Questions agreed by the SSG for study in the 2001-2004 ITU-T Study Period

The details of the Questions as agreed by the SSG may be found in TSB Circular 20 dated 26 January 2001.

List of Questions and Rapporteurs

<u>Question</u>	<u>Rapporteur</u>
Q.1/SSG Service and network capability requirements and network architecture	Mr. Ed Chien (USA)
Q.2/SSG NNI mobility management protocol	Mr. Jean-Claude Samou (France Telecom, France)
Q.3/SSG Identification of existing and evolving IMT2000 systems	Mr. Ilkka Hyvärinen (Nokia, Finland)
Q.4/SSG Interworking functions to be used with existing and evolving IMT2000 systems	(vacant)
Q.5/SSG To participate in the preparation of a Handbook on IMT-2000	Mr. Maurice Ghazal (MPT, Lebanon)
Q.6/SSG Harmonization of existing IMT-2000 systems	(vacant)
Q.7/SSG Convergence of fixed and existing IMT-2000 Systems	Mr. Frédéric Delmond (France Telecom, France)
Q.8/SSG Special study group working procedure	Mr. Mike Briggs (British Telecommunications, UK)

Assignment of Questions to WPs

WP 1 Service and Interface requirements for IMT-2000 and Beyond

Q.1/SSG	Service and network capability requirements and network architecture
Q.2/SSG	NNI mobility management protocol

WP 2 Application and Interworking of IMT-2000 Systems

Q.3/SSG	Identification of existing and evolving IMT-2000 Systems
Q.4/SSG	Interworking functions to be used with existing and evolving IMT-2000 systems
Q.5/SSG	To participate in the preparation of a Handbook on IMT-2000

WP 3 Harmonization and Convergence of IMT-2000 Systems

Q.6/SSG	Harmonisation of existing IMT-2000 Systems
Q.7/SSG	Convergence of fixed and existing IMT-2000 systems

Management Team

Q.8/SSG	Special Study Group working procedures
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Annex 3 - Work Program

N.B. This work program is subject to ongoing refinement as the SSG proceeds with its work. At this point, it represents an initial “snap shot” of the anticipated work.

Recommendation	ST	Q.	SG	Timing	Priority	Pages	Liaison	Area	Domain	References	Subject
Q.1701	R	1/SSG	SSG		M			15	10		Framework for IMT-2000 networks
Q.1711	R	1/SSG	SSG		M			15	27	COM 11-R 116	Network functional model for IMT-2000
Q.1721	R	6/SSG	SSG		M			15	03		Information flows for IMT-2000
Q.1731	R	6/SSG	SSG		M			15	03		Radio-technology independent requirements for IMT-2000 L2 radio interface
Q.1751	R	6/SSG	SSG		M			15	03		Interworking signalling requirements for IMT-2000 CS-1
Supplement 30 to Q-Series Recommendations	R	1/SSG	SSG		M			15	00		Specifications of International Mobile Telecommunications-2000
Tech. report	N	1/SSG	SSG	4Q 2001	H		ITU-T SG 2, 11, 12, 13, 16ITU-R WP 8D and 8F (WG-Vision)ITU-D SGs, SDOs	15	00		Summary of a gap analysis on the current status and trends in customer user needs, technology, market and standardization requirements
Rec.	N	1/SSG	SSG	2Q 2002	H		ITU-T SG 2, 11, 12, 13, 16ITU-R WP 8D and 8F (WG-Vision)ITU-D SGs, SDOs	15	19		Aspects of service capability requirements, including VHE
Rec.	N	1/SSG	SSG	4Q 2002	H		ITU-T SG 2, 11, 12, 13, 16ITU-R WP 8D and 8F (WG-Vision)ITU-D SGs, SDOs	15	10		Network capabilities requirements

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Recommendation	ST	Q.	SG	Timing	Priority	Pages	Liaison	Area	Domain	References	Subject
Rec.	N	1/SSG	SSG	2Q 2003	H		ITU-T SG 2, 11, 12, 13, 16ITU-R WP 8D and 8F (WG-Vision)ITU-D SGs, SDOs	15	27		Long-term high-level network architecture for beyond IMT 2000 systems, including definition of functional entities (FEs), allocation of functional capabilities to FEs, and interfaces model among FEs
Rec.	N	2/SSG	SSG	4Q 2003	H		Relevant SDOs (IETF),relevant ITU-T SGs, ITU-R SGs and ITU-D SGs	15	03		Mobility features and protocols to interoperability, transport layers, and mobility management
Tech. Report	N	2/SSG	SSG	2Q 2002	H		Relevant SDOs (IETF),relevant ITU-T SGs, ITU-R SGs and ITU-D SGs	15	03		Determine if any new protocols or enhancements are needed for the Common NNI (Mobility Management) to support the features identified and Global roaming between IMT-2000 family member networks
Rec.	N	2/SSG	SSG	2Q 2002	H		Relevant SDOs (IETF),relevant ITU-T SGs, ITU-R SGs and ITU-D SGs	15	10		Enhancements needed to the LMF and AMF state models to support IMT-2000 Mobility Management features
Rec's	N	3/SSG	SSG	4Q 2001 1st Recs	H		SDOs (in particular UWCC),ITU-T SG 11, ITU-R WP 8F	15	27		Architecture and specifications of each release of IMT-2000 family members, making reference to specifications produced by SDOs
Rec's	N	4/SSG	SSG	4Q 2002 1st Recs	H		SDOs (IETF), ITU-T SG 2, 7, 11, 13, Q.3/SSG, ITU-R WP 8D and 8F	15	07		Functions required to interwork between IMT-2000 family members (developed by the SDOs) and Packet Data Networks
Rec's	N	4/SSG	SSG	4Q 2002 1st Recs	H		SDOs (IETF), ITU-T SG 2, 7, 11, 13, Q.3/SSG, ITU-R WP 8D and 8F	15	07		Functions required to interwork between IMT-2000 family members (developed by the SDOs) and PSTN/ISDN

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Recommendation	ST	Q.	SG	Timing	Priority	Pages	Liaison	Area	Domain	References	Subject
Rec's	N	4/SSG	SSG	4Q 2002 1st Recs	H		SDOs (IETF), ITU-T SG 2, 7, 11, 13, Q.3/SSG, ITU-R WP 8D and 8F	15	07		Functions required to interwork between IMT-2000 family members developed by the SDOs
Handbook on IMT-2000	N	5/SSG	SSG	1Q 2002	H		All INTU-T SGs, ITU-R WP 8D, 8F, ITU-D SG 2, SDOs	15	00		Handbook to assist countries in the deployment of existing and evolving IMT-2000 systems
Rec.	N	6/SSG	SSG	4Q 2002	H		ITU-T SG 2, 11, 12, ITU-R, SDOs (IETF)	15	00		Harmonization requirements of existing IMT-2000 networks
Rec.	N	6/SSG	SSG	4Q 2005	H		ITU-T SG 2, 11, 12, ITU-R, SDOs (IETF)	15	27		Mid-term information flows for the harmonized network architecture
Rec.	N	6/SSG	SSG	4Q 2004	H		ITU-T SG 2, 11, 12, ITU-R, SDOs (IETF)	15	27	Q.1711 (Functional architecture)	Mid-term harmonized network architecture
Rec.	N	6/SSG	SSG	4Q 2001	H		ITU-T SG 2, 11, 12, ITU-R, SDOs (IETF)	15	00		Develop and Analyse appropriate harmonisation principles and the existing IMT-2000 systems to be harmonised
Rec.	N	7/SSG	SSG	4Q 2003	H		ITU-R WP 8D and WP 8F, 8A, 8B, related questions 77/8, 229/8, ITU-R JTG 1-6-8-9, ITU-T SG 11, 13, 16, Q.1/SSG, SDOs, IETF, ETSI, ATM Forum	15	27		Access network interface requirements for utilizing IMT-2000 RTT as FWA
Rec.	N	7/SSG	SSG	4Q 2004	H		ITU-R WP 8D and WP 8F, 8A, 8B, related questions 77/8, 229/8, ITU-R JTG 1-6-8-9, ITU-T SG 11, 13, 16, Q.1/SSG, SDOs, IETF, ETSI, ATM Forum	15	27		Architectural and network interface requirements for converged core network consistent with the long term network architecture as delivered by Q.1/SSG

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Recommendation	ST	Q.	SG	Timing	Priority	Pages	Liaison	Area	Domain	References	Subject
Rec.	N	7/SSG	SSG	1Q 2003	H		ITU-R WP 8D and WP 8F, 8A, 8B, related questions 77/8, 229/8, ITU-R JTG 1-6-8-9, ITU-T SG 11, 13, 16, Q.1/SSG, SDOs, IETF, ETSI, ATM Forum	15	27		Network architecture and interface requirements to facilitate evolution of existing fixed networks towards converged core network, supporting IMT-2000 capabilities
Rec.	N	7/SSG	SSG	2Q 2002	H		ITU-R WP 8D and WP 8F, 8A, 8B, related questions 77/8, 229/8, ITU-R JTG 1-6-8-9, ITU-T SG 11, 13, 16, Q.1/SSG, SDOs, IETF, ETSI, ATM Forum	15	00		Principles and requirements for convergence of fixed and IMT-2000 family
Rec.	N	7/SSG	SSG	4Q 2004	H		ITU-R WP 8D and WP 8F, 8A, 8B, related questions 77/8, 229/8, ITU-R JTG 1-6-8-9, ITU-T SG 11, 13, 16, Q.1/SSG, SDOs, IETF, ETSI, ATM Forum	15	00		Migration path for network convergence
A.9	R	8/SSG	SSG	3Q 2001	H	2	TSAG, ITU-T SG 11, ITU-R WP 8F	99	99		New types of output document to meet the requirements of industry for technical specifications of different status to those found in traditional ITU recommendations.
A.9	R	8/SSG	SSG	1Q 2002	H	3	TSAG, ITU-T SG 11, ITU-R WP 8F	99	99		A set of working procedures based on the provisional set provided by the WTSA in Recommendation A.9., including: Reporting; Working methods; Work programme; Approval of output.