

World Conference on International Telecommunications 2012 (WCIT-12)

Information Session
WSIS Forum 2012

Geneva, Switzerland, 16 May 2012

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ITU



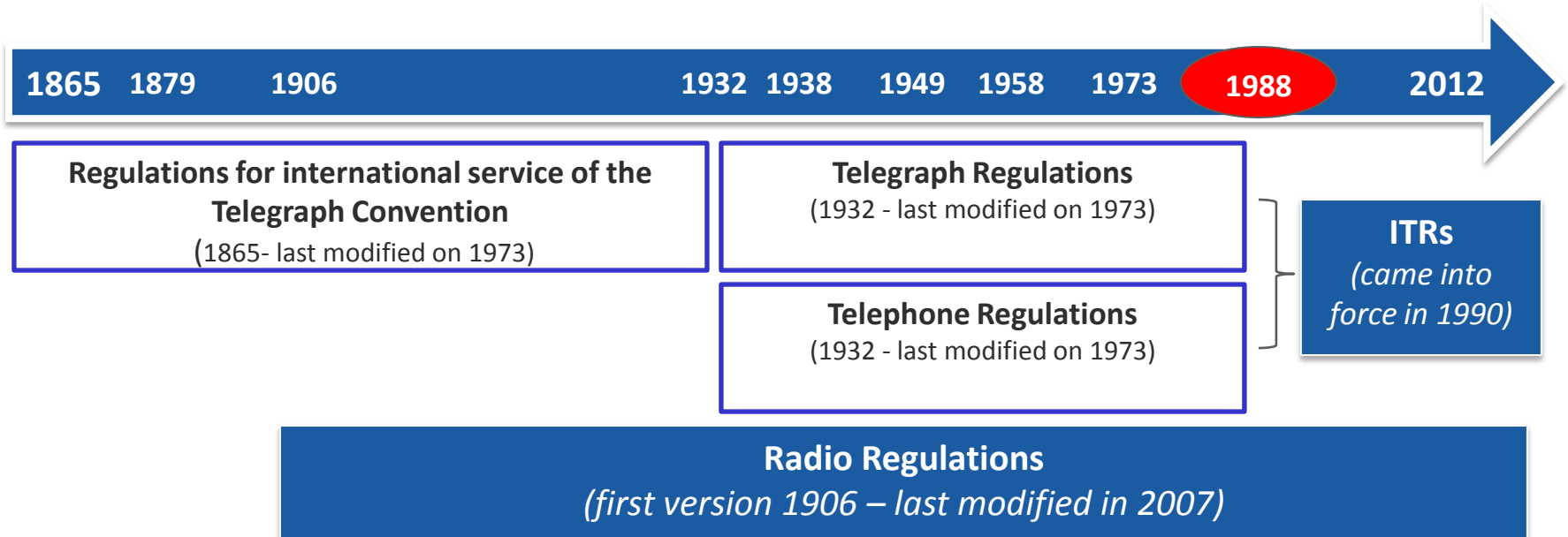
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[Content]

- **Background**
- Why the ITRs are important
- The need to revise ITRs
- Preparatory process
- Expectations for WCIT-12
- Useful information and links

Background

The International Telecommunication Regulations (ITRs) define the general principles for the provision and operation of international telecommunications



ITRs succeeded the Telegraph Regulations (1973) and Telephone Regulations (1973) in a new treaty adopted at WATTC-88 (Melbourne). [CS/Art. 4].

Background

- The current version of ITRs was adopted in 1988 in Melbourne, Australia, by WATTTC-88
- ITRs came into force in 1990, and are one of the four treaties of ITU.



- Signed by 178 countries, ITRs are a truly global treaty applied around the world

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Why the ITRs are important

The ITRs ...

- Establish general principles relating to the provision and operation of international telecoms;
- Facilitate global interconnection and interoperability;
- Underpin harmonious development and efficient operation of technical facilities;
- Promote efficiency, usefulness, and availability of international telecommunication services;
- Treaty-level provisions are required with respect to international telecommunication networks and services.



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The need to revise ITRs

- The current version of the ITRS has remained unchanged since 1988.



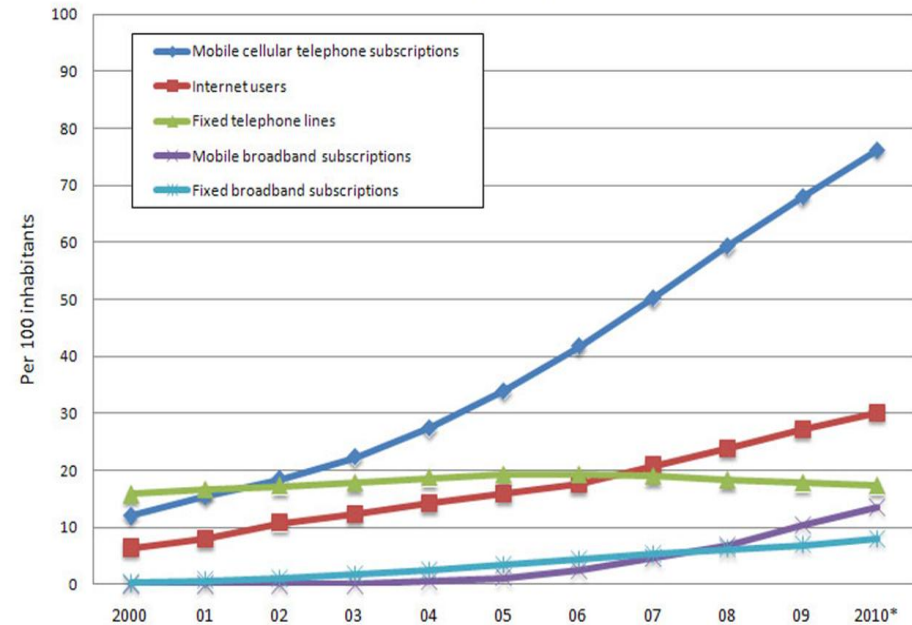
At that time:

- there were very few countries with a liberalized market;
- most operators were a monopoly regime, under government or state control;

The need to revise ITRs

- The international telecom environment has significantly evolved, both from the technical and policy perspectives, and that it continues to evolve rapidly;
- Advances in technology have resulted in an increased use of IP-enabled infrastructure and relevant applications, presenting opportunities and challenges for the ICT sector;
- As technology evolves, Member States are evaluating their policy and regulatory approaches to ensure an enabling environment.

Global ICT development, 2000-2010



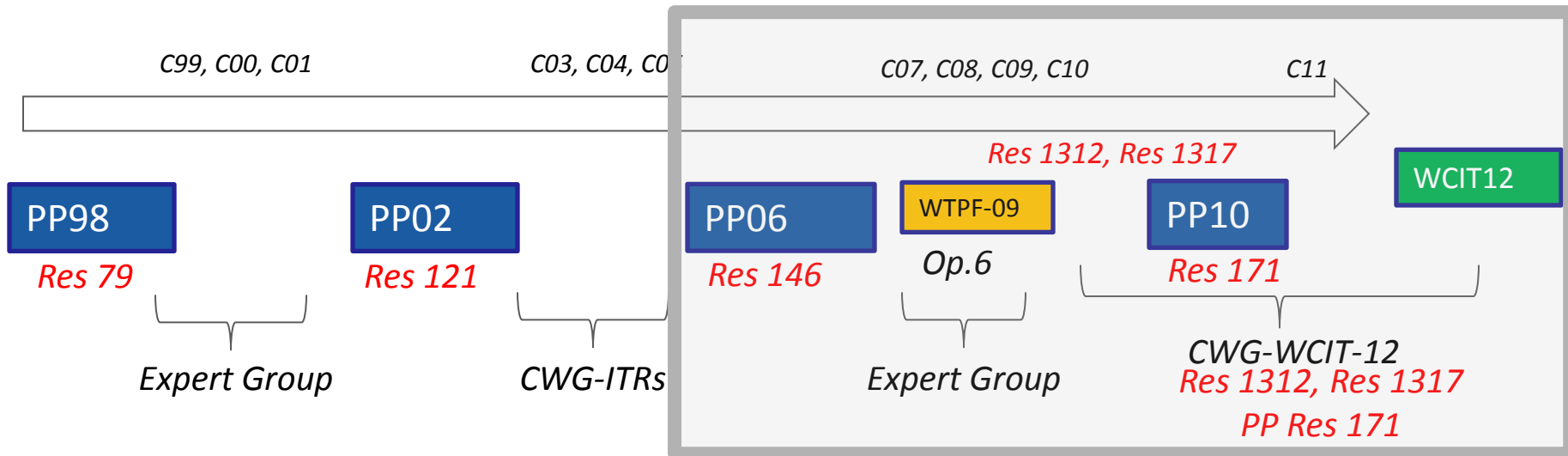
*Estimates
Source: ITU World Telecommunication /ICT Indicators database

Shift from
fix to mobile, from
voice to data
as the drivers of
traffic and main
sources of revenue

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Preparatory process – Timeline



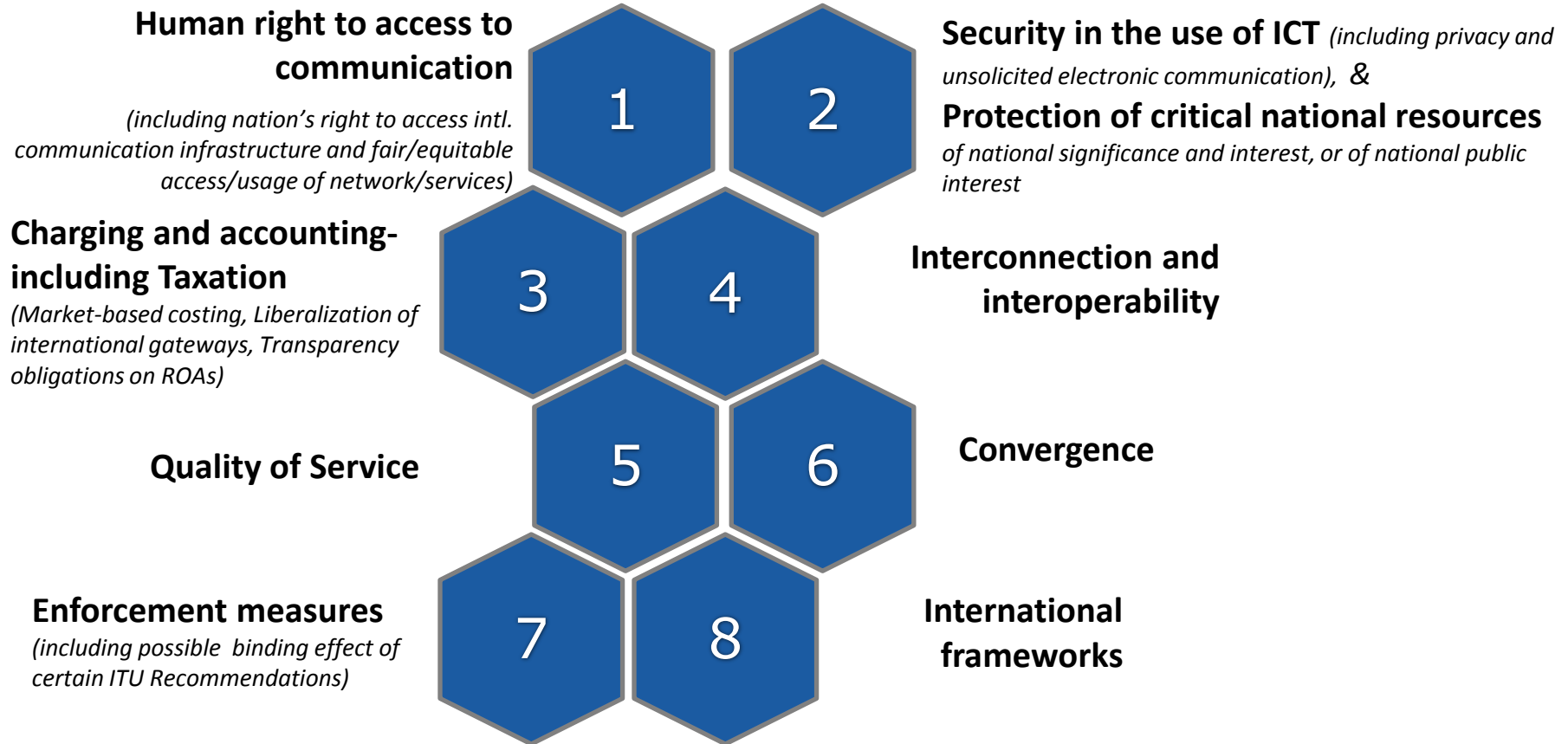
- ❖ C09 adopted Resolution 1312, creating the Council Working Group to Prepare for the WCIT 12 (CWG-WCIT12) initiating the preparatory process towards WCIT-12. Its task was to draw up a consolidated report on all ITR issues, to be used to support the work of WCIT-12.
- ❖ Following a report of the CWG-WCIT12, C10 adopted Resolution 1317 to fix the dates and agenda for the WCIT.
- ❖ The working group also reported to the PP10, which adopted Resolution 171 (Guadalajara) to guide the future work of the group.

Preparatory process – Current progress

- CWG-WCIT12 held three meetings in 2010, two 2011, and in February, April, and June 2012.
- Last meeting established and published:
 - The latest version of the compilation of all proposals;
 - Dates of future meetings and work-plans.
- Key issues brought up:
 - What core principles should guide discussions?
 - Do some provisions belong elsewhere? (*e.g. ITU Constitution/Convention, ITU-T Recommendations*)
 - What provisions should be added to cover new issues?

Proposals made during the preparatory process

Proposals made could be grouped as follows:



Preparatory process –Work Plan

- Work Plan agreed by CWG-WCIT12

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| 27-29 Feb 12 | 23-25 Apr 12 | 20-22 Jun 12 | 3-14 Dec 12 |
| 1 st draft of new ITRs | 2 nd draft of new ITRs | Final draft of the future ITRs | WCIT -12 |
| Progress the report to WCIT-12 | Progress the report to WCIT-12 | Finalize report to WCIT-12 | |

Preparatory process – Regional preparation

- Both CWG-WCIT and the regional meetings are open to Sector Members;
- Regional preparations are taking place back-to-back with the WTSA-12 regional preparations;
- Some regions may organize their own regional preparatory meetings and invite ITU to participate;
- For some regions, ITU would organise a preparatory meeting in collaboration with the regional organisation;
- The regional meetings are taking place in the February-May 2012 timeframe.

Preparatory process – Regional preparation

APT Preparatory Meeting



Dates: 19-24 March 2012

Venue: Cairns, Australia

[Learn more...](#)

RCC Preparatory Meeting



Dates: 2-6 April 2012

Venue: Tashkent, Uzbekistan

[Learn more...](#)

Arab States Preparatory Meeting



Dates: 28 April – 1 May 2012

Venue: Cairo, Egypt

[Learn more...](#)

Americas Region Preparatory Meeting



Dates: 14-15 May 2012

Venue: Buenos Aires, Argentina

[Learn more...](#)

The Africa region Preparatory Meeting



Dates: 21-24 May 2012

Venue: Durban, South Africa

[Learn more...](#)

Other WCIT focused meetings

In addition to ITU-facilitated meetings and the Council Working Group, there are also meetings in partnership with other organizations. Full list [here](#).

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Expectations for WCIT-12

- WCIT-12 presents key opportunities to increase good collaboration between countries;
 - Help countries to reach new levels of economic and social development by means of efficient telecom services;
 - Make ITRs relevant, and valuable to the full membership, so that they address and alleviate the many concerns that are out there.
- Sector Members usually participate as part of national delegations

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Further information available at:

- WCIT-12:

<http://www.itu.int/wcit>

- CWG-WCIT12:

<http://www.itu.int/council/groups/cwg-wcit12/index.html>

Thank you

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