

**NIST PARTICIPATION AND  
SUMMARY OF THE  
WORLD CONFERENCE ON  
INTERNATIONAL  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
(WCIT)**

**De-Brief for  
ISPAB**

**February 2013**

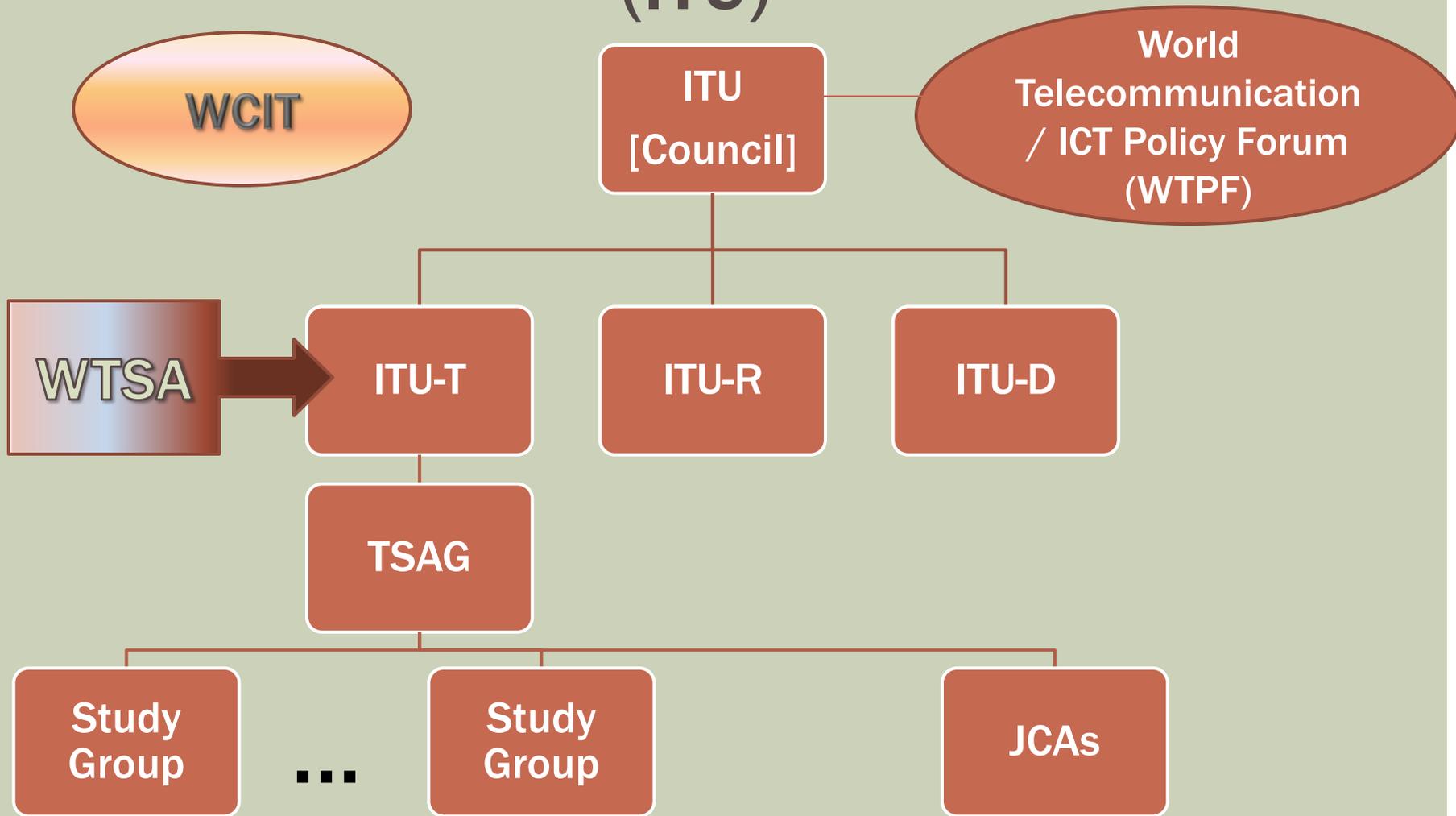
# TOPICS COVERED:

- International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
- World Conference on International Telecommunications (WCIT)
  - US process
  - Significant issues for NIST
  - Results

# INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION (ITU)

- Specialized UN agency for telecommunications
- Headquartered in Geneva, led by a Secretary-General
- 193 Member nations + industry and academia as Sector Members
- Three sectors:
  - Radiocommunications (ITU-R): e.g, spectrum allocation, satellite orbits, etc.
  - Standardization (ITU-T): standards development (Recommendations)
  - Development (ITU-D): technical support for developing nations

# International Telecommunications Union (ITU)



# MAJOR MEETINGS IN 2012

- **World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA)**
  - Held every 4 years
  - Participants: member states & sector members (industry)
  - Sets the program of work in ITU-T for the next 4 years
  - Was in Dubai, 20-29 November 2012
  
- **World Conference on International Telecommunications (WCIT)**
  - A treaty conference, hosted by ITU
  - Participants: member states, sector members, other specific organizations
  - Considered many proposed changes to the International Telecommunication Regulations (ITRs), last revised in 1988
  - Was in Dubai, 3-14 December 2012

# 1988 ITR INCLUDE:

- 10 Articles (covering purpose and scope of regs, definitions, international networks, international telecom services, charging & accounting, etc.)
- 3 Appendices elaborating on the Articles in the ITR
- 8 Resolutions, 3 Recommendations and 1 Opinion complementing the 10 Articles.
- *See copy of 1988 ITRs ( also available online at: [http://www.itu.int/dms\\_pub/itu-t/oth/3F/01/T3F010000010001PDFE.pdf](http://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-t/oth/3F/01/T3F010000010001PDFE.pdf))*

# MANY PROPOSALS TO EXPAND THE SCOPE OF THE 2012 ITRS

- Issues discussed at WCIT 2012 included ...
  - The status of ITU-T Recommendations (standards)
  - Cyber/information/data and network security
  - Definitions of telecommunications and ICTs
  - Misuse, fraud
  - Spam
  - Human Rights & Freedom of Expression
  - Accounting
  - E-Waste
  - Accessibility
  - Etc

# THE US PROCESS FOR WCIT

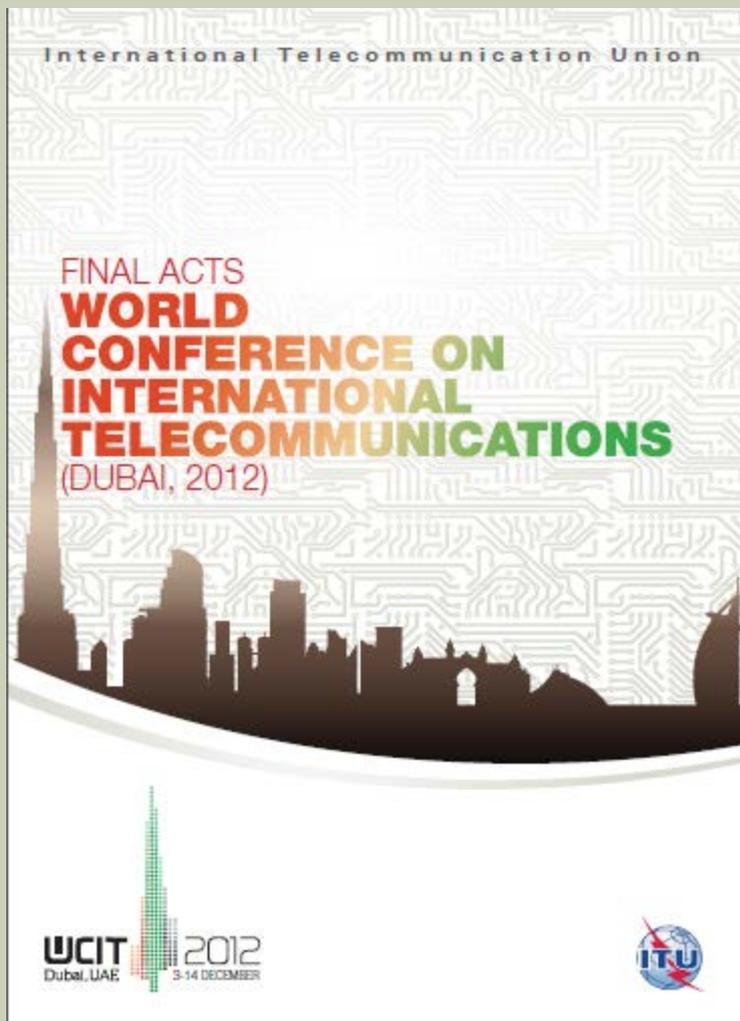
- Process led and coordinated by the State Dept, by Amb. Terry Kramer
  - Announced as Ambassador for WCIT in June 2012
  - Significant industry and international experience – leadership positions in Vodafone Group, Entrepreneur-in-Residence @ Harvard Business School, other varied experience as an entrepreneur
- USG agencies include (in no particular order):

■ State Dept.	DHS	DOC (NIST and NTIA)	
DOD	FCC	FTC	NASA
- Full U.S. delegation (including private sector) was >100 total members

# NIST PARTICIPATION

- Active engagement in State Dept. coordinated process
- NIST staff engaged in core delegation to WCIT and Issue Owner for Voluntary Recommendations (Standards)
- NIST will participate in WCIT and WTSA
- Leverage close partnerships with industry and standards community
- Key issues for NIST in WCIT
  - Keep intact voluntary nature of ITU-T Recommendations (standards)
  - No expansion of the ITRs to address cyber security
- Complements NIST participation in ITU-T and WTSA

# THE RESULTS ARE IN...



At the close of WCIT-12,...

- 89 of 193 Member States signed the ITRs). These signatories included Russia, China, and nations in the Middle East as well as most nations in Africa, Asia, and South America.
- 55 did not sign (including the US, Canada, and European Union members). \*
- 49 countries did not attend.
- The treaty comes into force on January 1, 2015, with signing Member States needing to ratify the final acts of the WCIT and deposit ratification at the ITU.

# WCIT 2012 - SIGNATORIES OF THE FINAL ACTS: 89 (IN GREEN)

AFGHANISTAN	ALBANIE	ALGÉRIE	ALLEMAGNE	ANDORRE	ANGOLA	ARABIE SAOUDITE	ARGENTINE	ARMÉNIE	AUSTRALIE
AUTRICHE	AZERBAÏDJAN	BAHREÏN	BANGLADESH	BARBADE	BÉLARUS	BELGIQUE	BELIZE	BÉNIN	BHOUTAN
BOTSWANA	BRÉSIL	BRUNÉI DARUSSALAM	BULGARIE	BURKINA FASO	BURUNDI	CAMBODGE	CANADA	CAP-VERT	RÉPUBLIQUE CENTRAFRICAINE
CHILI	CHINE	CHYPRE	COLOMBIE	COMORES	RÉPUBLIQUE DU CONGO	RÉPUBLIQUE DE CORÉE	COSTA RICA	CÔTE D'IVOIRE	CROATIE
CUBA	DANEMARK	DJIBOUTI	RÉPUBLIQUE DOMINICAINE	EGYPTE	EL SALVADOR	EMIRATS ARABES UNIS	ESPAGNE	ESTONIE	ETATS-UNIS
FÉDÉRATION DE RUSSIE	FINLANDE	FRANCE	GABON	GAMBIE	GÉORGIE	GHANA	GRÈCE	GUATEMALA	GUYANA
HAÏTI	HONGRIE	INDE	INDONÉSIE	RÉPUBLIQUE ISLAMIQUE D'IRAN	IRAQ	IRLANDE	ISRAËL	ITALIE	JAMAÏQUE
JAPON	JORDANIE	KAZAKHSTAN	KENYA	KOWEÏT	LESOTHO	LETTONIE	LIBAN	LIBÉRIA	LIBYE
LIECHTENSTEIN	LITUANIE	LUXEMBOURG	MALAISIE	MALAWI	MALI	MALTE	MAROC	ILES MARSHALL	MAURICE
MEXIQUE	MOLDOVA	MONGOLIE	MONTÉNÉGRO	MOZAMBIQUE	NAMIBIE	NEPAL	NIGER	NIGÉRIA	NORVÈGE
NOUVELLE-ZELANDE	OMAN	OUGANDA	OUZBÉKISTAN	PANAMA	PAPOUASIE-NOUVELLE-GUINEE	PARAGUAY	PAYS-BAS	PÉROU	PHILIPPINES
POLOGNE	PORTUGAL	QATAR	KIRGHIZISTAN	SLOVAQUIE	RÉPUBLIQUE TCHEQUE	ROYAUME-UNI	RWANDA	SAINTE-LUCIE	SÉNÉGAL
SERBIE	SIERRA LEONE	SINGAPOUR	SLOVÉNIE	SOMALIE	SOUDAN	SOUDAN DU SUD	SRI LANKA	RÉPUBLIQUE SUDAFRICAINE	SUÈDE
SUISSE	SWAZILAND	TANZANIE	THAÏLANDE	TOGO	TRINITÉ-ET-TOBAGO	TUNISIE	TURQUIE	UKRAINE	URUGUAY
VENEZUELA	VIET NAM	YÉMEN	ZIMBABWE						



# MAJOR REASONS FOR NOT SIGNING

1. Operating Agency (OA) v Recognized Operating Agency (ROA) v Authorized Operating Agency (AOA)
2. Security
3. Spam
4. Internet Issues

# POSITIVE RESULTS (1)

1. The voluntary nature of standards produced by the ITU (known as Recommendations) has been maintained. Signatories of either the 1988 or the 2012 ITRs have agreed to this policy.
2. The term “ICTs” is not used anywhere in the main body of the ITRs. The long-accepted term and definition for “telecommunications” was maintained, as reflected in the ITU Constitution... for now.  
(Neither “information and communications technology (ICT)” nor “telecommunications/ICTs” were adopted.)
3. The treaty generally remained high-level, including in areas where we raised objections.

# POSITIVE RESULTS (2)

4. This was an important opportunity for a global discussion of regulators with many non-government stakeholders in attendance to discuss issues such as internet governance, routing, cyber security, and spam. Many countries expressed simply a desire to have such a discussion to air their needs and proposed solutions, regardless of the outcome.
5. Routing was limited to ITU-T Recommendations' treatment of routing to effectively exclude internet routing under the related clauses.
6. Roaming transparency was addressed, and the European Telecommunications Network Operators' Association (ETNO) proposal (aka "sending-party pays") was not accepted.

# SO WHAT? WHO CARES?

## ISSUES FOR US STAKEHOLDERS

- How will this high level treaty be implemented (differently?) by multi-national companies?
- Need to work with developing countries
  - Find ways to increase their participation in other forums and organizations, too
- Reinforce our regional outreach

***THANK YOU***