Emerging regulatory trends

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International Telecommunication Union
Global ICT Developments, 2008-2013

Note: *2012 and 2013 data are based on estimates.
Source: ITU World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators database.
Regulatory scene

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Source: ITU World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators database.
The broadband race
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Estimated active and fixed mobile broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants, 2013

- Europe: 67.5 (Active mobile), 27.0 (Fixed broadband)
- The Americas: 48.0 (Active mobile), 17.1 (Fixed broadband)
- CIS: 46.0 (Active mobile), 13.5 (Fixed broadband)
- Asia & Pacific: 22.4 (Active mobile), 7.6 (Fixed broadband)
- Arab States: 18.9 (Active mobile), 3.3 (Fixed broadband)
- Africa: 10.9 (Active mobile), 0.3 (Fixed broadband)

Note: *2012 and 2013 data are based on estimates.
Source: ITU World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators database.
Evolution of mobile device volumes, 2009-2018

Figure 4: Smartphone, PC, mobile routers and tablet subscriptions with cellular connection 2009-2018

Source: Ericsson (2012)
Growth in application usage on smartphones and tablets

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Growth in smartphone application usage

Growth in application usage on tablets

Note: *2012 and 2013 data are based on estimates.
Source: ITU World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators database.
Growth in IP traffic, Internet users and apps downloads (1994-2013)
Evolution of the global consumer IP traffic, 2010–2015

Figure 50: Evolution of the global consumer* IP traffic, 2010–2015

* Consumer traffic accounts for ~80% of world traffic in 2010 and ~87% in 2015.
Source: Cisco
“The global community of regulators has further recognized various options for policy-makers and regulators to create incentives for the private sector to invest in ICTs, such as adopting enabling policies, simplifying licensing regimes, making available more spectrum, reducing regulatory obligations and offering tax incentives.”

GSR11 Best practice guidelines on regulators approaches to advance the deployment of broadband, encourage innovation and enable digital inclusion of all.
Call for new regulatory models

1. Develop and promote favorable policies and regulatory framework, fair, transparent, stable, predictable and non-discriminatory that promote competition, foster continued technological and service innovation, and encourage investments on broadband infrastructure, services and applications.

2. Given the rapid pace of change in technology compared with the time needed to introduce and implement new legislation and regulations, adapt the regulatory environment to tackle the main threats facing consumers, for example the misuse of their personal data, whilst ensuring consumers enjoy the benefits.

3. Ensure that all stakeholders are informed about potential security and privacy challenges they may face with online services and have access to timely and accurate information, including about speeds and data traffic management.
3. The establishment of a culture of security that promotes trust in ICT applications, one in which there is effective enforcement of privacy and consumer protection based on the strengthening of cross international cooperation.

4. In meeting their broadband challenges, and to further develop digital opportunities, policy-makers and regulators need to embrace the changes occurring in the broadband ecosystem.

5. Governments should take steps to develop e-business enabling environments and adopt e-commerce regulations consistent with the cross-border nature of e-commerce.
Future challenges

1) How to ensure that the benefits of broadband are available to everyone – reversing the digital divide and not exacerbating it?

2) Need for more spectrum; Smart phones continue to be paving the way for mobile broadband growth.

3) Redefining universal access and service to extend universal service beyond network deployment only, thus aiming at providing access to the digital world to all based on sustainable business models (in the area of, for example, education, e-health and new media.)
6. Multiple players are now operating in the same markets but under different regimes.

7. In this new world, national boundaries are being eroded; markets are increasingly becoming global and interconnected.
Regulatory Trends

- The need to enhance greater collaboration and participation in multistakeholder processes of consumers, with a view to ensure that their needs are well taken into consideration and they benefit from the broadband services.
- The need for smart regulation based on open consultation involving all stakeholders, inclusive of actions and good coordination.
- The need for a regulatory framework that balances the interests of suppliers and users, in areas such as the protection of IPRs, data protection and digital rights management, without disadvantaging innovation.
- The need to ensure the sustainability of e-business solutions by engaging users, local and global ecosystem players in innovation processes from the early stages of design and testing.
GSR13

4th Generation Regulation: driving communications ahead

Regulators and industry leaders will examine the transformational nature of communications and the evolution to 4th generation ICT regulation in a connected society. A society led by the changing nature of the communication ecosystem, changing market dynamics and traffic patterns, and changing regulatory practices and roles.

www.itu.int/gsr13
ITU Reports

Trends in Telecommunication Reform 2013: Transnational aspects of regulation in a networked society

- Net neutrality: a regulatory perspective
- Spectrum policies in a hyperconnected digital mobile world
- International roaming services: a review of best practice policies
- Global and regional IP interconnection


Broadband Thematic reports in 2013:

- Developing successful Public-Private Partnerships to foster investment in universal broadband networks
- Competition and regulation in a converged broadband world

www.itu.int/ITU-D/treg/publications/bbreports.html

Regulatory, Economic and Financial Reports 2013:

- International Internet Connectivity in sub-Saharan Africa
- Strategies for the deployment of NGN and NGA in a broadband environment – regulatory and economic aspects (available soon)

Thank You

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