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14
3-5 JUNE
The Gulf Hotel Bahrain
Manama, Bahrain

PROVISIONAL
PROGRAMME

CAPITALIZING ON THE POTENTIAL OF THE DIGITAL WORLD

Organized by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) under the Patronage of His Royal Highness Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al-Khalifa, Prime Minister of Bahrain.

Chaired by Dr Mohammed Al Amer, Chairman, Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA), Bahrain.

The first two days of GSR, the GRID sessions (3-4 June 2014), are open to regulators, policy makers and ITU-D Sector Members; the third day (5 June 2014) will remain exclusive for regulators and policy makers.

Under the central theme of “Capitalizing on the potential of the digital world”, participants will examine ways to ensure that the full array of benefits of the digital world is brought to all citizens in an informed, responsive and safe manner. Undoubtedly, this can only be achieved through effective and smart regulation targeted at empowering consumers, redefining responsibilities and creating the conditions for a data driven economy to flourish.

GSR will be preceded by a series of pre-events on 2 June 2014. Industry workshops (in the morning), and two parallel “by invitation only” meetings (in the afternoon): the Private Sector Chief Regulatory Officers’ meeting CRO and the Regulatory Associations’ meeting (RA).

For latest updates, please check www.itu.int/gsr14

WHAT IS GSR?



The Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR) brings together heads of national telecom/ICT regulatory authorities from around the world and has earned a reputation as the global annual venue for regulators to share their views and experiences on the most pressing regulatory issues they have identified.

GSR also fosters a dynamic Global Industry Regulators Dialogue (GRID), between regulators, policy makers, industry leaders and other key ICT stakeholders. GSR's Global Dialogue provides a neutral platform for ITU-D Sector Members to share their views on major issues facing the ICT sector.

GSR features an Opening Debate and interactive panel discussions. GSR concludes with the adoption by regulators of a set of regulatory best practice guidelines.

GSR offers unique networking opportunities in the lead up to and during the event through the online interactive networking platform to set up appointments using a PC or a smartphone.

3 Tuesday

GLOBAL REGULATORS-INDUSTRY DIALOGUE

09:00 – 10:00 **OPENING CEREMONY**

10:00 – 10:15 **COFFEE BREAK**

10:15 – 12:00 **OPENING DEBATE: REDEFINING RESPONSIBILITIES IN A DATA DRIVEN DIGITAL WORLD**

- Policy makers, regulators and industry leaders will share their visions on their respective responsibilities vis à vis consumers and society at large and the need to redefine these responsibilities to maximize the potential of a data-driven digital society

12:00 – 14:00 **LUNCH**

14:00 – 15:30 **CHANGING ICT CONSUMER BEHAVIORS: CONSUMER EMPOWERMENT AND PROTECTION IN THE DIGITAL AGE**

- A consumer perspective: understanding the changing usage patterns and what local and globalized ICT consumers of digital services want
- Redefining consumer protection needs (privacy, data protection, intellectual property rights (IPR), protection against fraud, misuse, etc.), priorities and roles in the era of social media and identifying who is responsible
- Defining the responsibilities of operators (telecom, broadcasters, etc.) and app players vis à vis consumers in terms of data protection, privacy and security measures
- Is there a need for a new type of co-regulation?

15:30 – 15:45 **COFFEE BREAK**

15:45 – 17:00 **WHY COMPETITION MATTERS**

- Understanding the effects of ICT regulation on competition, how effective competition drives innovation, impacts prices and service uptake
- Policy and regulatory measures to ensure that consumers effectively benefit from a competitive environment: switching and number portability, leased lines pricing, licensing, price regulation, etc.
- Why are interoperability of data delivery platforms and QoS important in a digital world?
- Regulatory measures to prevent anti-competitive behaviors and market dominance in a converged content and distribution market (integrated services, cable operators, media and technology providers, etc.) and who are the new competitors on the block

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Wednesday

GLOBAL REGULATORS-INDUSTRY DIALOGUE

09:00 – 10:30 **BIG DATA: AN OPPORTUNITY OR A THREAT?**

- Maximizing the potential of data and why it matters for consumers, industry players and governments
- Understanding the issues at stake
- The link with open data (crowd sourcing, cloud computing, etc,)
- Is there a need to regulate data management and service providers?
- How to prevent market dominance in this area and protect the rights of data owners?
- Addressing privacy, copyright and IPR, transparency and digital security issues

10:30 – 10:45 **COFFEE BREAK**

10:45 – 12:00 **IS IT TIME TO RETHINK SPECTRUM LICENSING?**

- Taking into account the need for more spectrum, spectrum sharing and refarming: how to balance licensed spectrum obligations and costs with those of license-exempt operators?
- How to ensure a level playing field among licensed and license-exempt operators providing mobile services?
- Is it time to rethink the licensing framework, mechanisms and fees? Is auctioning still the way forward?

12:00 – 14:00 **LUNCH**

14:00 – 15:30 NETWORK DEBATE: MEETING THE DEMAND FOR CAPACITY, ARE WE GETTING THERE?

- Rolling out ultra high speed wired and wireless broadband, where are we?
- What are the main barriers to reduce network deployment costs?
- Innovative regulatory, policy and commercial approaches (e.g. telco-built CDNs, Network Functions Virtualization (NFV))
- Infrastructure sharing approaches and cross border cooperation

15:30 – 15:45 COFFEE BREAK

15:45 – 17:00 NEW BUSINESS MODELS DRIVEN BY DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS AND SERVICES

- A financial perspective on the business case of application providers, OTTs, cloud providers, start-ups, etc.
- Understanding their business models
- How to generate revenues in the digital ecosystem? Shifting revenue streams
- Is cost sharing a solution?
- In light of the call for light regulation, is there a need to regulate? How to do so in a globalized world?

5 | Thursday

REGULATORS' DAY

09:00 – 10:30 REGULATORY IMPACT ASSESSMENT: SPURRING REGULATORY EFFICIENCY

- What can regulators do to assess the impact of future regulation?
- What are the methods regulators can use to perform regulatory impact assessment?
- What elements need to be considered in such an assessment?
- What are the benefits of conducting such an assessment?

10:30 – 10:45 COFFEE BREAK

10:45 – 12:00 TAKING THE REGULATORY MODEL TO THE NEXT LEVEL

- Case studies on new types of converged regulators, addressing convergence of media, broadcasting and competition authorities
- Adapting to change: Institutional design, functions, responsibilities and enforcement powers
- Best practices and lessons learned, country experiences
- How regulators from developed countries can assist regulators in developing countries to address regulatory challenges in dealing with advanced technologies

12:00 – 14:00 LUNCH

14:00 – 15:30 HOW TO MONITOR BROADBAND PLAN/DIGITAL AGENDAS' IMPLEMENTATION?

- Setting KPIs and measuring progress expanding beyond coverage, speed and availability to consider adoption levels
- Who is in charge? What is the role of the regulator?
- What are the reporting mechanisms to the government, consumers, industry?
- Is the plan making a difference?

15:30 – 15:45 COFFEE BREAK

15:45 – 17:00 WAY FORWARD AND CLOSING



GSR JULY 2013 |



www.itu.int/gsr14