What is the ITU?

• International organization where governments and private sector coordinate global telecom networks and services
• Founded in 1865, it is the oldest specialized agency of the UN system
• 189 Member States, 650 Sector Members, 75 Sector Associates
• Website: http://www.itu.int
Issues of Convergence

• Problems of addressing ‘calls’ that pass from one network service to another:
  – Now widely possible to originate calls from IP address-based networks to other networks
  – But uncommon to terminate calls from other networks to IP address-based networks
  – To access a subscriber on an IP address-based network, some sort of global addressing scheme across PSTN and IP address-based networks needed

• ENUM may be solution
Why is discussion of ENUM important?

• Mapping of telephone numbers onto Internet
• Could allow conventional telephones to call IP terminals (e.g. PCs).
• Should telephone numbers used in this way be subject to government oversight and regulation?
• Who should exercise control over telephone numbers used in this way?
Caveats

• Complex topic
• Focused on E.164 infrastructure and policy issues, not ENUM services
• Work in progress
What is E.164?

• ITU-T Recommendation E.164: “The international public telecommunication numbering plan”
• Tied to treaty obligations (specific roles and obligations defined for ITU Member States and ITU-T TSB Director)
• Defines number structure and functionality for four principal categories of numbers
Examples of E.164 Resources

• Geographic areas
  – ITU Member States, including integrated numbering plan involving more than one (e.g. +1)

• Global Services
  – Universal International Freephone Numbers (+800)
  – Universal Personal Telecommunications (+878 + 2 digit IC)

• Networks
  – Global Mobile Systems (+881 + 1 digit IC)
  – Shared code for Networks (+ 882 + 2 digit IC)

• Groups of Countries
  – ETNS
Some Complexities

- In telecommunication numbering, regulatory tradition with government involvement
- In the Internet, management of naming and addressing has tradition of “self-regulation” – but increasing government interest
- National numbering/regulatory authorities involved in coordinating ENUM servers & services for their portion of E.164 resources in respective countries
Some National Issues

- Integrity of national numbering plans
- Competition between service providers
- Telecommunications network security
- Number portability
- Carrier selection
- Emergency services calls (including LBS)
- Privacy
- Control over personal records & slamming
- Legal intercept
Roles and Responsibilities

• Most ENUM service and administrative decisions are national issues under purview of ITU Member States, since most E.164 resources are utilized nationally.
• ITU to ensure that Member State has specifically authorized inclusion of geographic country code in the DNS.
• In integrated numbering plan, each ITU Member State within plan may administer their portion of E.164 resources mapped into DNS as they see fit.
ITU Responsibilities

• Define and implement administrative procedures that coordinate delegations of E.164 numbering resources into the agreed DNS name servers

• Defined in draft Recommendation E.A-ENUM under preparation by ITU-T Study Group 2

• Interim procedures agreed by SG2 at: www.itu.int/ITU-T/inr/enum/index.html
National Consideration Issues

- Consultation process with interested communities
- National deployment Issues
  - How do you authenticate the identity of the subscriber for ENUM services?
  - Who are ENUM Registrars, what are they responsible for?
  - How do you validate ENUM data for potential users (Add - Modify – Delete) NAPTR list of services and preferences?
  - How is data provisioned in the country code name servers?
  - Competition policy issues
- For info on actual consultations, see: www.itu.int/ITU-T/inr/enum/trials.html
ITU Past Activities

- Discussion with IETF and RIPE NCC on roles and responsibilities
- Preparation and circulation of tutorial papers, workshops
- ITU-T SG 2 ‘Supplement’ on issues that need to be addressed by national and international authorities
- ITU-T SG 2 Meetings in 2001 and 2002
- Interim administration arrangements
ITU Future Activities

- Workshops
- Cooperate with IAB/IETF on final choice of TLD, registry, operations requirements
- Further discuss new draft Recommendation E.A-ENUM (next SG meeting in May 2003)
- For more info:
  - www.itu.int/ITU-T/inr/enum/
  - www.itu.int/ITU-T/worksem/enum/
  - www.itu.int/newsroom/press_releases/2002/NP05.html
International Telecommunication Union

Helping the world communicate

Thank you