INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

CCITT

THE INTERNATIONAL
TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE
CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

D.155

(10/92)

GENERAL TARIFF PRINCIPLES

CHARGING AND ACCOUNTING IN INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

GUIDING PRINCIPLES GOVERNING THE APPORTIONMENT OF ACCOUNTING RATES IN INTERCONTINENTAL TELEPHONE RELATIONS

Recommendation D.155

FOREWORD

The CCITT (the International Telegraph and Telephone Consultative Committee) is a permanent organ of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). CCITT is responsible for studying technical, operating and tariff questions and issuing Recommendations on them with a view to standardizing telecommunications on a worldwide basis.

The Plenary Assembly of CCITT which meets every four years, establishes the topics for study and approves Recommendations prepared by its Study Groups. The approval of Recommendations by the members of CCITT between Plenary Assemblies is covered by the procedure laid down in CCITT Resolution No. 2 (Melbourne, 1988).

Recommendation D.155 has been revised twice during study period 1988-1992 by Study Group III and was approved under the Resolution No. 2 procedure respectively on the 16th of June 1992 and on the 1st of October 1992.

CCITT NOTE

In this Recommendation, the expression "Administration" is used for conciseness to indicate both a telecommunication administration and a recognized private operating agency.

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Recommendation D.155

GUIDING PRINCIPLES GOVERNING THE APPORTIONMENT OF ACCOUNTING RATES IN INTERCONTINENTAL TELEPHONE RELATIONS

(Malaga-Torremolinos, 1984; amended at Melbourne, 1988, revised 1992)

The CCITT,

considering

(a) that the apportionment of accounting rates in the intercontinental telephone service is already discussed in CCITT Recommendations, for example, Recommendations D.150 and D.151;

(b) that, on grounds of fairness, additional guiding principles should be established to ensure that accounting rates between the terminal and any transit Administration concerned should be apportioned in such a way as to take account of the service rendered by each of these Administrations;

(c) that the telecommunication facilities provided by Administrations should be used as profitably as possible;

(d) that in accounting between Administrations the principle of remunerating the first transit exchange as described in Recommendation D.150 is gradually being superseded by the concept of a remuneration plan for switched transit,

(e) that the principles relating to the establishment of telephone accounting rates are contained in Recommendation D.140.

recommends

General principles

In an intercontinental telephone link, bilateral or multilateral agreements between the Administrations concerned should normally provide for the application of the same accounting rate in both directions of the relation, regardless of the route used.

1 Direct relations

1.1 A direct relation is a relation between two terminal Administrations in which the traffic is routed over direct circuits, i.e. over circuits established for the exclusive use of these terminal Administrations.

1.2 In the case of traffic routed over direct circuits, the accounting rate is in principle shared equally between the Administrations of the terminal countries in respect of each traffic direction. A sharing basis of other than 50/50 may be applied if the intercontinental facilities made available by each Administration in the terminal countries are not essentially equivalent.

1.3 If a direct link exists and the traffic is unilaterally diverted by the Administration of the country of origin to the financial detriment of the country of destination, via a transit route not agreed between the two parties, it is for the Administration of origin to reach agreement with the transit Administration with a view to remunerating it by drawing on the terminal share of the Administration of origin, unless the Administration of destination is prepared to agree to a different share.

If, however, the route which has not been agreed has been chosen for reasons such as failure or impairment of quality of the direct route, or traffic overflow, the Administration of origin will negotiate with the Administrations concerned on the basis of the provisions set out in § 2.2 of this Recommendation.

2 Switched transit relations

2.1 A switched transit relation is a relation between two terminal Administrations in which the traffic is routed by switching through one or more international transit exchanges in one or more countries other than the country of origin and the country of destination.

2.2 The accounting rate in a switched transit relation should normally be divided into two terminal shares and one or more transit shares, as applicable.

The balance of the accounting rate after deduction of the transit shares should be divided equitably, in principle on a 50/50 basis, between the terminal Administrations concerned. A sharing basis of other than 50/50 may be applied if the intercontinental facilities made available by each Administration in the terminal countries are not equivalent.

3 Temporary alternative routes

3.1 A temporary alternative route is an alternative route used for a short period of time to meet high congestion occurring in the international network at either foreseeable or, in the case of unexpected events, unforeseeable periods.

3.2 Transit countries should be remunerated on the basis of facilities provided. The accounting rate should be allocated in two terminal shares and one or more transit shares. The accounting rate, transit shares and divisions of revenue should be those applicable normally for transit routing of switched telephone traffic.

3.3 Where conditions warrant it and all concerned Administrations agree, special accounting arrangements may be implemented. These may include, but are not limited to, waiver of accounting, or a transit charge lower than the normal rate.