ABOUT ITSO

ITSO is an intergovernmental organization with 149 member states, that incorporates the principle set forth in Resolution 1721 (XVI) of the General Assembly of the United Nations, which established that communication by means of satellite should be available to the nations of the world as soon as practicable on a global and non-discriminatory basis. Originally established in 1973 as INTELSAT, the International Telecommunications Satellite Organization was restructured in 2001. The restructuring led to the creation of a private entity, Intelsat S.A. and to the continuation of the intergovernmental organization with a new acronym (ITSO). ITSO’s mission is to monitor the performance of Intelsat’s public service obligations and to safeguard the Parties’ Common Heritage.

WHO WE ARE

Intergovernmental organization, regionally diverse membership split among 5 regions.

REGION A
AMERICAS
26 MEMBER

Argentina Bahamas Barbados Bolivia Brazil Canada Chile Colombia Costa Rica Cuba Dominican Republic Ecuador El Salvador Guatemala Haiti Honduras Jamaica Mexico Nicaragua Panama Paraguay Peru Trinidad and Tobago United States of America Uruguay Venezuela

REGION B
WESTERN EUROPE
27 MEMBERS

Austria Belgium Croatia Cyprus Denmark Estonia Finland France Germany Greece Hungary Iceland Ireland Italy Liechtenstein Luxembourg Malta Monaco Netherlands Norway Portugal Spain Sweden Switzerland Turkey United Kingdom Vatican

REGION C
EASTERN EUROPE & NORTHERN ASIA
14 MEMBERS

Armenia Azerbaijan Bosnia and Herzegovina Czech Republic Georgia Kazakhstan Kyrgyzstan Montenegro Poland Romania Russia Serbia Tajikistan Uzbekistan

REGION D
AFRICA
45 MEMBERS


REGION E
ASIA & AUSTRALASIA
37 MEMBERS

Afghanistan Australia Bahrain Bangladesh Bhutan Brunei China Fiji India Federated States of Micronesia Indonesia Iran Iraq Israel Japan Jordan Kuwait Lebanon Malaysia Mongolia Nepal New Zealand Oman Pakistan Qatar Vietnam Papua New Guinea Philippines Popular Democratic Republic of Korea Republic of Korea Saudi Arabia Singapore Sri Lanka Syria Thailand United Arab Emirates Yemen
INTELSAT’s restructuring to reflect regulatory and competitive pressures while ensuring the ability to continue to meet its universal service and access commitments in the long term. The restructuring led to the creation of a private entity, Intelsat S.A., and to the continuation of the intergovernmental organization with a new acronym (ITSO) and mission.

Establishment of the International Telecommunications Satellite Organization (INTELSAT) with the mission to ensure the availability of international telecommunications services to all countries of the world on a non-discriminatory basis.

The 35th Assembly of Parties decided that the performance by Intelsat of its Public Service Obligations remains as important as it was in 2001, that the ITSO Agreement plays a crucial role in ensuring that the principles, obligations and objectives as defined during the restructuring continue to be adhered to and that it is essential to continue to have a mechanism in place for upholding and protecting the Public Service Obligations as well as the Parties Common Heritage Assets.

ITSO AGREEMENT
- The establishment of ITSO
- The main purpose and Core Principles of ITSO
  - Maintain global connectivity and global coverage
  - Serve lifeline connectivity customers
  - Provide non-discriminatory access to Intelsat’s system
- The supervisory role of ITSO to ensure that Intelsat carries out the performance of the Core Principles
- The protection of the Parties Common Heritage orbital locations and associated frequency assignments which are unique in their capability to ensure global coverage and to directly, instantly and reliably connect the countries around the world
- The structure of ITSO, which is comprised of the Assembly of Parties and an executive organ, headed by the Director General, responsible to the Assembly of Parties
- The role of the Director General
- The rights and obligations of the Parties; among others.
- The dispute resolution mechanism.

Effective from January 16th, 2017, the amended Article XII, Paragraph (c) (ii) of the ITSO Agreement ensures that if Intelsat or any future entity using the Common Heritage frequency assignments, waives such frequency assignment(s), uses such assignment(s) in ways other than those set forth in the ITSO Agreement, or declares bankruptcy, the Notifying Administrations shall authorize the use of such frequency assignment(s) only by entities that have signed a public services agreement, which will enable ITSO to ensure that the selected entities fulfill the Core Principles.
GOALS & OBJECTIVES

OBJECTIVE 01
Maintain the continuity of the provision of international public telecommunications satellite services.

OBJECTIVE 02
Protect the Parties’ Common Heritage orbital locations and associated frequency assignments.

OBJECTIVE 03
Contribute to the promotion of a global information and communications infrastructure.

ITSO RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Creation and promotion of awareness about the value and the role of satellite communications in the decision making during WRC processes
2. Successful completion of the ratification process of the amendment to the ITSO Agreement
3. Participation and contributions to the UN Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development, the ITU Smart Sustainable Development Initiative (SSDM), the ITU m-Powering Development Initiative and the World Economic Forum Internet for All Partnerships with other organizations, countries, and private sector actors resulting in the development and implementation of regional projects
4. Capacity Building Initiative
5. ITSO Program on International Communications Regulation and Policy at American University Washington College of Law
6. Publications and contributions in the field of satellite communications
Membership Benefits

Vested interest in the Parties’ Common Heritage orbital locations and associated frequencies assignments.

Non-discriminatory access to Intelsat’s system.

Protection under Article IV(b) of the ITSO Agreement for certain domestic public telecommunications services for areas with difficult topography which could be considered on the same basis as international public telecommunications services.

Dispute Resolution mechanism under the ITSO Agreement.

Taking part in promoting international public telecommunications services to meet the needs of the information and communication society.

Assistance on customer related issues with Intelsat.

Capacity Building.

Access to free online courses and materials.

Advice regarding ICT policy and regulation.

Participating in and benefiting from studies on specific ICT related topics.

New opportunities that might arise during the implementation of the Amended to Article XII, Paragraph (c) (ii) of the ITSO Agreement.

No monetary contribution is required for membership.

Upcoming Events

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| 08 FEB | ITSO Advisory Committee  
8-9 February 2018  
ITSO Advisory Committee Meeting. |
| 12 JUN | ITSO Symposium  
12 June 2018  
Pre-Meeting Event to AP-38, a half day ITSO Symposium. |
| 13 JUN | 38th Assembly of Parties  
13-15 June 2018  
AP-38 to be held in Washington, D.C. United States of America. |

| | | Capacity Building Seminars Webinars |
Executive Organ

Patrick Masambu
Director General

Renata Brazil David
Director of Legal Affairs

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