

Paris Session  
2022



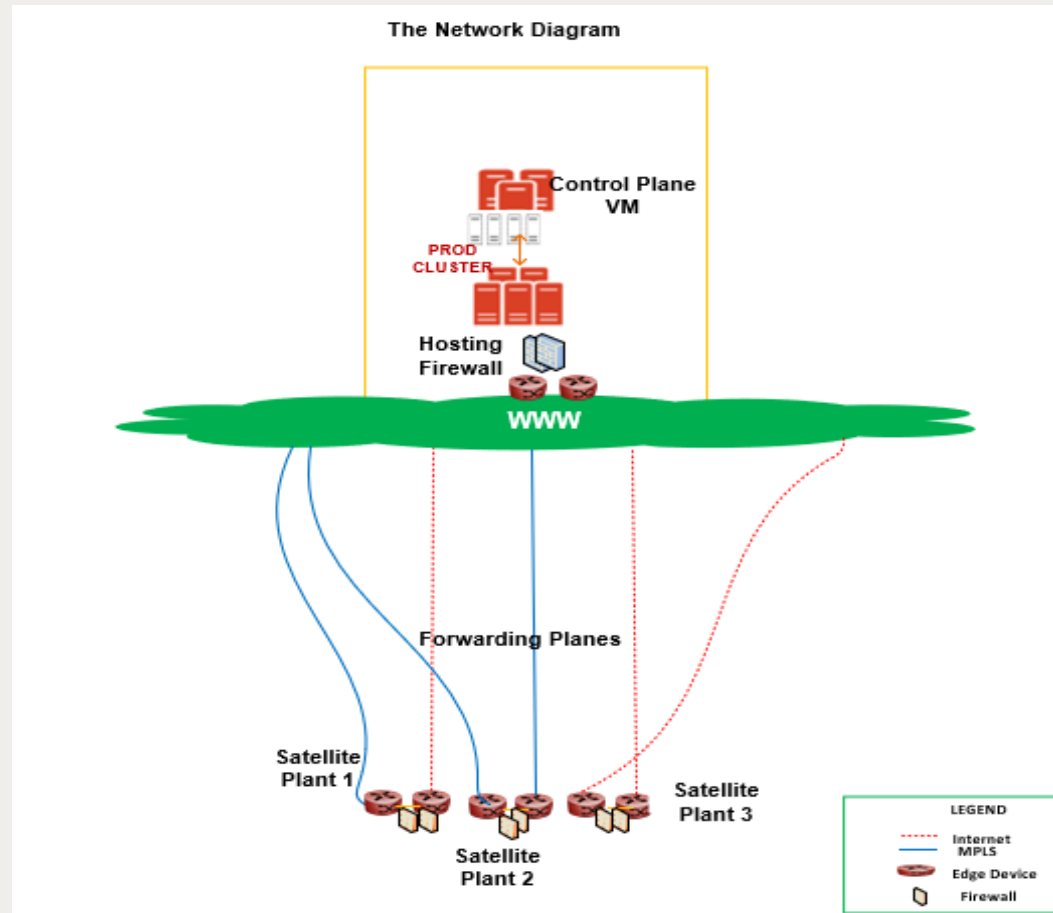
# The Utilisation of SDN by Electrical Power Utilities in Africa

*SC D2*

**PS 3 : Q3 – 04** - As packet-switched networks are becoming increasingly adopted as the main technology for power utilities' telecommunications networks, describe some challenges in preventing the adoption of a fully packet switched network for utilities.

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# SDN Network Architecture



Group Discussion Meeting

# SDN Technical Benefits

- Scalable fashion enabled by the control plane
- Reduced deployment time due to central management offered by control plane
- Downtime reduction due to repair or infrastructure hardware replacement
- Minimise lead-time in relation with setting up new links
- The cost of Internet vs MPLS transmission links

# African EPU SDN Adoption Challenges

- Legacy solutions reaching end-of-life, change hesitations
- Migration from legacy to packet enabled solutions, limited vendors
- Lack of funds for new deployments
- Cyber-security related risks
- Lack of Technical understanding and risk appetite
- Slow progression towards implementing SDN enabled solutions
- Owning data connectivity network vs leasing telecoms services
- Certain services with some not suitable
- SLA not including latencies on internet links