Announcement

ITU and OLPC collaborate to bring laptops to school children in the Pacific Islands

On the occasion of the Pacific ICT Ministerial Forum: Connecting the Unconnected held from 17-20 February 2009 in Nuku’alofa, Kingdom of Tonga, Mr Sami Al-Basheer, Director of the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau and Mr Michael Hutak, Regional Director, Oceania, One Laptop Per Child (OLPC), announced a new joint effort to bring laptops to school children in least developed countries in the Asia-Pacific region, in particular the Pacific Island countries.

As part of a shared ITU-OLPC effort in Asia-Pacific, ITU will identify potential partner countries and coordinate with Governments and relevant agencies to identify requirements and will handle administrative requirements, including facilitating shipping of equipment.

OLPC will supply laptops to participating countries, with the support of donors, and will work with all partners to realize sustainable programs through cohesive deployment in schools, sufficient capacity-building and effective technical support.