

3 DOHA ACTION PLAN

3.1 Introduction

The Doha Action Plan is a comprehensive package that will enable developing countries to promote the equitable and sustainable development of information and communication technology (ICT) networks and services. It consists of six programmes, to be implemented by the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) over the coming four years.

Programme 1: Regulatory reform

The focus will be on assisting ITU Member States and national regulatory authorities in creating and maintaining an enabling environment that fosters a supportive, transparent, pro-competitive and stable policy, legal and regulatory framework. This will provide the appropriate incentives for investment and promote universal, ubiquitous and affordable access to ICT. The programme will take into account the growing convergence between technologies and services and the development of next-generation networks.

Programme 2: Information and communication infrastructure and technology development

This programme will assist Member States and ITU-D Sector Members to maximize the use of appropriate new technologies in the development of ICT infrastructure, taking account of the accelerated convergence of networks and services. Programme activities will include forecasting of traffic and demand, network management, spectrum management and radio monitoring, interconnectivity, interoperability, network security and quality of service standards for wireline and wireless networks, terrestrial mobile communications, and broadcasting.

Programme 3: E-strategies and ICT applications

Developing countries will be encouraged to use ICT-based products, networks, services and applications. Joint activities will be undertaken with partners in the United Nations system, aimed at enhancing access to, and use of, secure, cost-effective ICT applications that are socio-economically beneficial. The goal is to help close the digital divide while also improving quality of life and the areas where ICT can achieve most, such as access to health services, business opportunities, sustainable development, and education.

Programme 4: Economics and finance, including costs and tariffs

The purpose of this programme is to assist ITU-D members to develop and implement financing policies and strategies that are appropriate to their economic situations, including those related to the internet and cost-oriented pricing. The overall aim is to foster equitable and affordable access to innovative and sustainable services.

Programme 5: Human capacity building

Strengthening the institutional and organizational capacity of developing countries is the goal of this programme. This is to be achieved through promoting human resource development activities that help staff adapt to the changing telecommunication and ICT environment. The programme will particularly address the training needs of policy-makers and regulators at the government level, as well as those of senior executives and managers in telecommunication and ICT companies.

Programme 6: Least developed countries and small island developing states, and emergency telecommunications

The programme for least developed countries (LDC) has been expanded to include small island developing states (SIDS) and emergency telecommunications. It aims to increase, by 2010, the average telephone density in LDCs and SIDS to five main lines per 100 inhabitants, and the number of internet connections to 10 users per 100 inhabitants. Assistance in disaster prevention, preparedness and relief are also areas covered by the programme, as well as the rehabilitation of infrastructure after a disaster.

Activities

WTDC-06 reaffirmed two cross-cutting activities that are critical to sustaining ICT development, and which will support implementation of the Doha Action Plan. These are ICT statistics, indicators and information and partnerships and promotion.

Special initiatives

WTDC-06 also approved special initiatives that focus on women, youth and children, indigenous people and communities, people with disabilities, communities living in underserved areas, and private-sector issues.

Study group work programme

The conference resolved that the two ITU-D study groups should be maintained, and decided on their terms of reference, list of questions to be studied and the appointment of chairmen and vice-chairmen to lead the groups' work over the next four years.

Telecommunication Development Advisory Group

The conference adopted a resolution inviting the next plenipotentiary conference to endorse the assignment to the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TDAG) of specific matters related to development issues, such as evaluating the efficiency of ITU-D study groups and approving changes to their working methods. The conference also elected TDAG officers.

Regional initiatives

An innovation in the Doha Action Plan is the design of regional initiatives that should help achieve economies of scale in ICT development. As requested by WTDC-06, each region grouped its initiatives under five categories and selected the top five projects that best met its particular priorities. Armed with an effective package that can be deployed across national borders, countries will be better able to attract the type of large-scale investment needed for many of the projects.

- **Africa**

The region puts priority on reinforcing human and institutional capacity; harmonizing policy and regulatory frameworks for the integration of African ICT markets; developing broadband access and broadcasting networks for regional interconnectivity; and introducing new digital technologies for radio and television broadcasting.

- **Americas**

The region identified priorities in improving connectivity in rural, isolated and marginal urban areas; interconnection of information networks for disaster prevention; policies and programmes for large-scale development of broadband access to achieve universal service goals; improving spectrum management in the Caribbean; and establishing a virtual web-based centre of excellence.

- **Arab States**

The prioritized initiatives centre on establishing ICT indicators and capacity building; developing a regional regulatory framework; creating a centre for digital documentation and archiving of heritage; developing access nodes to connect Arab internet networks; and translation into Arabic of ICT terminology.

- **Asia-Pacific**

Regional initiatives include policy and regulatory cooperation in telecommunications and ICT; infrastructure development for rural communications; planning of next-generation networks; focusing on the needs of Pacific islands and small island developing states; and strengthening collaboration between ITU's standardization and development sectors.

- **Commonwealth of Independent States**

The region aims to strengthen the effective use of spectrum management to provide multimedia digital broadcast networks in mountainous terrain; to create international centres for the implementation and testing of new technologies; to implement e-applications based on broadband access; to introduce telemedicine technologies; and to establish centres of excellence that include development of next-generation networks, renewable energy sources and wireless access.

3.2 ITU-D and the World Summit on the Information Society

IMPACT OF WSIS OUTCOMES ON THE ITU-D MISSION AND WORK PROGRAMME

I Background information on the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)

WSIS: an ITU-led process

1 The overall managerial responsibility for WSIS was placed with ITU under decisions taken by the ITU Council in 2001 and under relevant United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolutions¹. Accordingly, the Secretary-General of ITU served as Secretary-General of the Summit and also chaired the High-Level Summit Organizing Committee (HLSOC), which was established by the UN Chief Executives Board (CEB) to coordinate Summit preparations for the UN system.

WSIS outcomes

2 World leaders reached a common understanding of the key global issues for the establishment of the information society and recognized the importance of ICTs for meeting development objectives. They adopted an ambitious set of targets for connectivity by 2015, and committed to a Plan of Action for key activities organized along 11 main action lines.

3 In the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, world leaders took the first steps at the global level. They agreed to ask the UN Secretary-General to start a process towards enhanced cooperation, and another process to convene a meeting of a new forum – the Internet Governance Forum (IGF). They also developed a specific and detailed plan for implementation and follow-up of the Summit outputs.

¹ Resolutions 56/183 (2001) and 57/238 (2002).

- 4 The following four documents were adopted during the whole WSIS process:
- The Geneva Declaration of Principles (December 2003)
 - The Geneva Plan of Action (December 2003)
 - The Tunis Commitment (November 2005)
 - The Tunis Agenda for the Information Society (November 2005).

WSIS: a singular and successful UN summit process

5 WSIS made remarkable advances in the involvement in a UN-style summit of non-governmental organizations, the private sector, civil society and media. WSIS was truly a multistakeholder process.

II Role of ITU in implementation and follow-up of the WSIS outcomes

6 WSIS confirmed the importance of ITU's traditional mandate and objectives. Specifically, § 64 in the Geneva Declaration of Principles recognizes that ITU's core competencies in the field of ICTs – assistance in bridging the digital divide, international and regional cooperation, radio spectrum management, standards development and the dissemination of information – are of critical importance for building the information society. In addition, the WSIS outputs recognize that ITU (along with UNESCO and UNDP) should play a leading facilitating role in the efforts to address more fully the issue of ICTs and development.

- 7 The Tunis Agenda for the Information Society (Tunis Agenda):
- encourages the Union to continue study of the question of international internet connectivity as an urgent matter in order to develop appropriate recommendations (§§ 27 c) ii and 50 d));
 - recognizes ITU expertise and encourages further work in the field of countering spam (§ 41), radio-frequency spectrum management (§ 96), development of indicators to measure the information society (§§ 114 to 118);
 - welcomes the ITU-led "Connect the World" initiative (§ 98);
 - recognizes the usefulness of the stocktaking of WSIS-related activities as a tool for assisting with the WSIS follow-up (§ 120).

8 The Summit decided that each action line implementation be moderated/facilitated by UN agencies when appropriate (§ 108). An annex to the Tunis Agenda offered an indicative non-exhaustive list of facilitators/moderators. WTDC-06 noted the consultation meeting of the WSIS action line moderators/facilitators, held in Geneva on 24 February 2006, which proposed an updated annex to the Tunis Agenda.

9 At the international level, the Tunis Agenda outlines a clear distinction between implementation and follow-up. It generally refers to UNGA Resolution 57/270B, setting WSIS as part of the UN integrated follow-up to major UN conferences.

10 The Tunis Agenda provides a detailed blueprint for implementation and follow-up actions, involving all stakeholders. Various UN bodies (the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD), the UN Secretary-General, CEB, ITU, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and other UN agencies and the regional commissions) are mentioned in this regard. A key output is the recognition that ITU, UNESCO and UNDP should be major players in the implementation process, reflecting the unique competencies of these three entities.

III ITU as moderator/facilitator in implementation of the WSIS action lines

11 Pursuant to § 8 above, ITU was identified as a moderator/facilitator of two action lines (C2 and C5) and as a partner in other action lines (C1, C3, C4, C6, C7 and C11).*

12 The Tunis Agenda states that coordination of multistakeholder implementation activities would help to avoid duplication of activities through, *inter alia*, information exchange, creation of knowledge, sharing of best practices and assistance in developing multistakeholder as well as public-private partnerships (§ 110).

ITU as a leading agency in the UN Group on the Information Society (UNGIS)

13 The Tunis Agenda, in § 103, requests the UN Secretary-General, in consultation with members of CEB, to establish, within CEB, a UN Group on the Information Society (UNGIS) consisting of the relevant UN bodies and organizations with the mandate to facilitate the implementation of WSIS outcomes. In considering lead agencies for this group, the text provides that CEB should take into consideration the experiences and activities of ITU, UNESCO and UNDP.

ITU's participation in the overall review

14 The Summit further requested UNGA to "make an overall review of the implementation of WSIS outcomes in 2015" (§ 111 of the Tunis Agenda).

15 The Summit requested ECOSOC to oversee the system-wide follow-up of the Geneva and Tunis outcomes of WSIS (§ 105 of the Tunis Agenda). ITU is also expected to contribute to the UNGA implementation review in 2015.

Other WSIS decisions relevant to ITU

16 ITU should contribute towards enhanced cooperation regarding internet governance and, pursuant to § 78 of the Tunis Agenda, shall make available its proven expertise to the new Internet Governance Forum.

17 The Summit calls upon "the UN General Assembly to declare 17 May as World Information Society Day to help to raise awareness, on an annual basis, of the importance of this global facility, on the issues dealt within the Summit."² Since 17 May is already World Telecommunication Day, ITU is expected to work closely with UNGA on the establishment of this World Information Society Day.

IV Inclusion of the WSIS outcomes in the ITU-D activities

18 A comparison of paragraphs of the Geneva Plan of Action with the programmes, activities and initiatives of the Istanbul and Doha Action Plans shows a high degree of correspondence between the intentions expressed by the signatories of the WSIS accord and the ITU-D membership as expressed in the Istanbul and Doha Action Plans. This is an indication of how important the groundwork done by ITU, and particularly ITU-D, may be in achieving the goals of WSIS. The mapping is summarized in the table given in **Annex 1** below. The table in **Annex 2** below shows the mapping of the Tunis Agenda on the Doha Action Plan.

* The Syrian Arab Republic, on behalf of the Arab States, argued for the inclusion of C8 among the action lines where ITU-T is heavily involved (see the relevant WTSA-04 resolutions).

² § 121 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society.

19 Implementation is foreseen at the international, regional and national levels. There is a strong challenge for ITU involvement, as shown in the Annex to the Tunis Agenda, confirming the relevance of the Union's mission, including development.

V Proposals for the Doha Action Plan

20 Based on the Geneva Plan of Action and the Tunis Agenda, it is clear that the overall WSIS outputs will be fundamental elements for ITU-D until 2015, taking into account available human and financial resources.

21 ITU-D is the leading ITU Sector in the implementation of the outcomes of WSIS relevant to its mandate.

22 The following principles could be used to guide the implementation of the WSIS outcomes in the work programme of BDT:

- ITU-D should help Member States and their partners in implementing the WSIS outcomes at the national level, for the areas listed in § 100 of the Tunis Agenda.
- Since actions at the regional and subregional level are a way of facilitating and optimizing the resources needed for implementation at the national level, ITU-D should help Member States and their partners and regional organizations in implementing the WSIS outcomes in the areas listed in § 101 of the Tunis Agenda and plans adopted at the regional level.
- Within its overall approach to ICT development, BDT should continue to develop and adapt thematic tools (such as the DAP programmes) that echo the action lines of the Geneva Plan of Action and the Tunis Agenda.
- Actions linked to the new cooperation process as referred to in §§ 69 to 71 of the Tunis Agenda.

23 WTDC-06 has adopted thematic instruments (programmes, activities and initiatives at the global level), and regional initiatives submitted by Member States.

Thus, ITU is sure to address the core domains identified by WSIS: the thematic approach (cf. the Annex to the Tunis Agenda) and the need to act through large-scale initiatives, either at the national or at the regional level (see Tunis Agenda, *inter alia*, §§ 20, 97, 98).

24 This strengthens the decision of ITU Plenipotentiary Conference (Marrakesh, 2002) (No. 223A of the ITU Convention) to set up a rolling four-year operational plan for ITU-D and facilitate its implementation. However, regional initiatives require a high level of coordination and impose more constraints on the parties involved. Regional initiatives are handled "upon request from governments" (Tunis Agenda, § 101 a)) and generally involve commitments from them; the country commitments should be discussed and evaluated from one WTDC to the next, with full respect of sovereignty in each case.

25 Consequently, it is proposed that:

- a) ITU-D efforts be focused on implementation of all relevant WSIS action lines, with special emphasis on those action lines listed in the Annex to the Tunis Agenda, in which ITU may have a leading role. Furthermore, ITU should contribute to the identification of other stakeholders involved for the joint implementation of these action lines;
- b) the cooperation frameworks be strengthened in the implementation of WSIS outcomes;
- c) ITU-D functions may be reviewed taking into account WSIS outcomes. In this regard, concrete proposals may be presented to Council-06 and the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006);

- d) given ITU-D's deep involvement in the implementation of WSIS outcomes, a more detailed reflection of ICT applications in ITU-D's name may be required. However, it was noted that this issue was within the mandate of the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference;
- e) as stated in § 98 of the Tunis Agenda, in order to encourage multistakeholder partnerships such as the ITU initiative "Connect the World", given the vital supportive role of ITU-D in "Connect the World", this platform should continue to be made available for BDT projects and partnerships;
- f) in accordance with No. 220 of the ITU Convention, BDT, as a founding member and representative of ITU in the "Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development", will continue to participate in realizing the mission assigned by § 114 of the Tunis Agenda. ITU-D will continue to publish the global ICT Opportunity Index (ICT-OI) as mentioned by name in § 115 of the Tunis Agenda.

ANNEX 1

Table of correspondence between the action lines of the Geneva Plan of Action and the Doha Action Plan (DAP)

Action lines in the Geneva Plan of Action	DAP Prog. 1	DAP Prog. 2	DAP Prog. 3	DAP Prog. 4	DAP Prog. 5	DAP Prog. 6	DAP Activity 1	DA Activity
C1. The role of governments authorities and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development	8g	8g	8a; 8g; 8h	8a; 8g; 8i;	8a; 8g	8g;	8g; 8h	8b; 8g;
C2. Information and communication infrastructure	9a	9d; 9f; 9g; 9h; 9i; 9j; 9l	9c; 9j	9b; 9k		9i	9b	
C3. Access to information and knowledge		10g	10d; 10f; 10h	10i	10f			
C4. Capacity building		11f	11k; 11n	11h;	11b; 11c; 11e; 11h; 11j; 11k; 11l; 11p	11j; 11l		11j;
C5. Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs		12h	12a; 12d; 12e; 12f; 12g; 12j					
C6. Enabling environment	13k; 13l	13p; 3q; 13r	13d; 13i; 13j; 13n; 13o	13m	13i			
C7. ICT applications: benefits in all areas	16b		15a; 15b; 15c; 16a; 18; 19; 20; 21	15b; 16b; 16c		18f; 19c; 20c		15c; 18a;
C8. Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content					23i			
C9. Media								
C10. Ethical dimensions of the information society								
C11. International and regional cooperation	26c	26c	26c	26c	26c	26c	26c	26a; 26b;

Prog. 1: Regulatory reform

Prog. 6:

Special programme for least developed countries

Prog. 2: Technologies and telecommunication network development

Activity 1:

Statistics and information on telecommunication

Prog. 3:	E-strategies and e-services/applications	Activity 2:	Partnerships and promotion
Prog. 4:	Economics and finance, including cost and tariffs	Special initiatives:	Special initiatives
Prog. 5:	Human capacity building	Regional initiatives:	Regional initiatives

ANNEX 2

Table of correspondence between the elements of the Tunis Agenda and those of the Doha Action Plan (DAP)

Tunis Agenda chapters	DAP Prog. 1	DAP Prog. 2	DAP Prog. 3	DAP Prog. 4	DAP Prog. 5	DAP Prog. 6	DAP Activity 1	DAP Activity 2
Financial mechanisms for meeting the challenges of ICT for development	9, 13, 14, 16, 20, 23j, 26a	9, 14, 18, 23d	13, 14, 18, 20, 23f, 23k, 23l, 26a, 26b, 26f	10, 13, 14, 18, 20, 23d, 23h, 23k, 26a, 26c, 27a, 27c, 27d, 27e, 27f, 27j, 27l, 28	9, 23a, 26g	12, 14, 18, 21, 23b, 23e		18, 22, 26, 27
Internet governance	54, 72	50e, 54, 72	39, 40, 41, 45, 47, 48, 50b, 51, 52, 70, 72	49, 50a, 50c, 50d, 50f, 54, 58, 72	49, 51, 72	50g, 72		50, 55
Implementation and follow-up	90b, 95, 96	89, 96	85, 90a, 90b, 90g, 90i, 90j, 100a	85, 89, 90a, 90b, 90f, 95, 100b	87, 95	90a, 90c, 91, 98	87, 107, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120	85, 98, 100

Prog. 1: Regulatory reform

Prog. 2: Technologies and telecommunication network development

Prog. 3: E-strategies and e-services/applications

Prog. 4: Economics and finance, including cost and tariffs

Prog. 5: Human capacity building

Prog. 6:

Activity 1:

Activity 2:

Special initiatives:

Regional initiatives:

3.3 SECTION I

ITU-D COOPERATION, STUDY GROUPS AND TDAG

a) Cooperation among ITU-D members

World telecommunication development conferences

In accordance with the ITU Convention, the Council will convene a world telecommunication development conference in 2010.

Regional telecommunication development conferences

WTDC-06, through Resolution 31 (Rev.Doha, 2006), instructs the Director of BDT to organize, within the financial limitations established by the Plenipotentiary Conference, one regional development conference or preparatory meeting per region, the closest in time possible to the next WTDC, making full use of the regional offices to facilitate such conferences or meetings.

The Director of BDT is equally requested to prepare, in close consultation with the chairmen and vice-chairmen of the regional development conferences or preparatory meetings, a report consolidating the results of such meetings, to be submitted to the TDAG meeting immediately preceding WTDC.

Finally, the Director of BDT will convene the last TDAG meeting not less than four months before WTDC, to study, discuss and adopt the report presenting the outputs of the regional conferences and preparatory meetings, in addition to accomplishing whatever else is desirable prior to WTDC, including a review and revision of all resolutions, recommendations and programmes with the aim of proposing the necessary updates thereto.

b) Study groups

In accordance with Resolution 2 (Doha, 2006), WTDC-06 maintained two study groups and determined the Questions to be studied by them. The working procedures to be followed by the study groups are defined in Resolution 1 (Doha, 2006) adopted by WTDC-06. The following Questions were adopted by the conference for study by Study Groups 1 and 2:

Study Group 1

- Question 6-2/1:** Regulatory impact of next-generation networks on interconnection
- Question 7-2/1:** Regulatory policies on universal access to broadband services
- Question 10-2/1:** Regulation for licensing and authorization of converging services
- Question 12-2/1:** Tariff policies, tariff models and methods of determining the costs of services on national telecommunication networks, including next-generation networks
- Question 18-1/1:** Domestic enforcement of telecommunication laws, rules, and regulations by national telecommunication regulatory authorities
- Question 19-1/1:** Implementation of IP telephony in developing countries
- Question 20/1:** Access to telecommunication services for people with disabilities
- Question 21/1:** Impact of telecommunication development on the creation of employment
- Question 22/1:** Securing information and communication networks: Best practices for developing a culture of cybersecurity

Study Group 2

- Question 9-2/2:** Identification of study topics in the ITU-T and ITU-R study groups which are of particular interest to developing countries
- Question 10-2/2:** Telecommunications for rural and remote areas
- Question 11-2/2:** Examination of terrestrial digital sound and television broadcasting technologies and systems, including cost/benefit analyses, interoperability of digital terrestrial systems with existing analogue networks, and methods of migration from analogue terrestrial techniques to digital techniques
- Question 14-2/2:** Telecommunications for e-health
- Question 17-2/2:** Progress on activities for e-services/applications in the world
- Question 18-1/2:** Implementation aspects of IMT-2000 and information-sharing on systems beyond IMT-2000 for developing countries
- Question 19-1/2:** Strategy for migration from existing networks to next-generation networks for developing countries
- Question 20-2/2:** Examination of access technologies for broadband telecommunications
- Question 22/2:** Utilization of ICT for disaster management, resources, and active and passive space-based sensing systems as they apply to disaster and emergency relief situations

The definition of the Questions can be found in WTDC-06 Document 202 on the ITU-D website at the following address: http://web.itu.int/ITU-D/study_groups/.

WTDC-06 elected the following chairmen and vice-chairmen for Study Groups 1 and 2:

Study Group 1

Chairman: Ms Audrey Baudrier (France)

Vice-Chairmen

Mr Aboubakar Haman (Cameroon)

Ms Naashiah Al-Kharusi (Oman)

Mr Atieno Ochola (Kenya)

Ms Layla Macc Adan (Venezuela)

Mr Maurice Ghazal (Lebanon)

Study Group 2

Chairman: Mr Nabil Kisrawi (Syrian Arab Republic)

Vice-Chairmen

Mr Taufik Hasan (Indonesia)

Mr Dinh Van Zung (Viet Nam)

Mr Ali Merouane (Algeria)

Mr Charles Banga (Central African Republic)

Mr Abdoulaye Kébé (Guinea)

Mr Semen Lopato (Russian Federation)

Mr Julian Sanz Cabrera (Cuba)

Mr Jean Pierre Huynh (France)

c) Telecommunication Development Advisory Group

WTDC-06, in adopting Resolution 24 (Rev.Doha, 2006), maintained the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) and resolved to assign the following specific matters to TDAG:

- a) maintain up-to-date, efficient and flexible working guidelines;
- b) evaluate the efficiency of the ITU-D study groups and to approve changes which are appropriate in their working methods;
- c) restructure and establish ITU-D study groups, if required, and appoint chairmen and vice-chairmen to act until the next WTDC in response to the needs and concerns of the membership, within the agreed budgetary limits;
- d) issue advice on study group schedules to meet development priorities;
- e) advise the Director of BDT on financial matters, on the basis of results-based budgeting, and other matters;
- f) approve the programme of work arising from the review of existing and new Questions and determine the priority, urgency, estimated financial implications and time-scale for the completion of their study;
- g) while recognizing the primacy of the study groups in covering study activities, create, terminate or maintain other groups, appoint their chairmen and vice-chairmen, and establish their terms of reference with a defined duration, in accordance with Nos 209A and 209B of the Convention, in order to promote flexibility in responding rapidly to high-priority issues; such groups shall not adopt Questions or Recommendations.

Resolution 1 (Doha, 2006) adopted by WTDC-06 also established the working methods to be used by TDAG.

Finally, WTDC-06 elected the following officers to the TDAG bureau:

Chairman	Vladimir Minkin (Russian Federation)
Vice-Chairman	Doreen McGirr (United States)
Vice-Chairman	José Leite Pereira Filho (Brazil)
Vice-Chairman	Alberto Zetina (Mexico)
Vice-Chairman	J.J. Massima Landji (Gabon)
Vice-Chairman	Ernerst Ndukwe (Nigeria)
Vice-Chairman	Elizabeth Nzagi (Tanzania)
Vice-Chairman	Kavouss Arasteh (Islamic Republic of Iran)
Vice-Chairman	Cheungmoon Cho (Korea)
Vice-Chairman	Dominique Würges (France Télécom)
Vice-Chairman	Petko Kantchev (Bulgaria)
Vice-Chairman	Ahmed El Sherbini (Egypt)
Vice-Chairman	Ahmed Khaouja (Morocco)
Chairman of Study Group 1	Audrey Baudrier (France)
Chairman of Study Group 2	Nabil Kisrawi (Syrian Arab Republic)
Chairman of WG – Private Sector	Walda Roseman (CompassRose International, United States)

3.4 SECTION II

PROGRAMMES, ACTIVITIES AND SPECIAL INITIATIVES

a) Programmes

PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION DIRECTIVES

1 In adopting programmes as the key elements of the Doha Action Plan, the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-06) recognizes the need for congruence between the conclusions of WTDC-06 and the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) within the core competence of ITU-D. Programmes are components of the toolkit BDT uses when solicited by Member States and Sector Members to support their efforts to build the information society for all.

2 These programmes, during their implementation, should take into consideration the relevant conclusions of WTDC-06, namely, pursuant to No. 142 of the ITU Constitution, resolutions, recommendations, decisions and reports.

3 When undertaking the programmes, BDT should endeavour to work in close cooperation with Member States and Sector Members. Moreover, close coordination should be ensured among all programmes, and with the study groups, in order to avoid duplication of resources and activities.

4 Upon formal request, direct assistance shall be provided to developing countries, including least developed countries (LDCs), countries with economies in transition, and small island developing states (SIDS), subject to available budgetary resources.

Coordination within ITU

5 For each of BDT programmes identified in the Action Plan, the Director of BDT should liaise with ITU-T, ITU-R and other ITU units, as appropriate.

6 Information from programmes should be exchanged throughout ITU in order to utilize all available technical resources, and provide relevant expertise and resources as needed.

7 ITU-D regional offices should place increased priority on attracting new Sector Members, identifying their needs and consider providing capacity building and information on partnership opportunities.

8 Regional offices should solicit priorities and information from Member States and Sector Members on ways to fulfil the programmes.

Coordination with study groups

9 Actions under programmes and initiatives shall, whenever possible, seek close interaction and systematic cooperation with the study group Questions adopted in accordance with Resolution 2 (Doha, 2006). In particular, the organization of workshops, meetings and seminars on specific topics of common interest at global and regional level by BDT shall take into due consideration the established work plan, the meeting timetable and the results achieved by study groups and their subordinate groups.

Coordination with the membership

10 An e-mail reflector group should be created for each of the BDT programmes for the purpose of providing input and advice on specific projects that are being considered, developed, implemented and evaluated. Interested Member States, Sector Members and other ITU-D partners may subscribe.

11 Webpages for the BDT programmes should facilitate easy access to information describing the status of current programmes and lessons learned from past efforts. They should also describe planned future projects. Successful information dissemination programmes such as ITU-Ds "E-Flash" should continue and be enhanced.

Handling of underserved groups and other situations

12 BDT should continue to support training and human capacity building that supports expansion of communications infrastructure and access to communications services in the developing world. In all activities undertaken by the programmes, it should promote greater participation of:

- women;
- youth and children;
- indigenous peoples and communities;
- persons with disabilities;
- those living in underserved areas.

13 BDT should allocate resources for activities that promote gender equality and the needs of youth and children, indigenous peoples and communities, persons with disabilities and those living in underserved areas.

Partnerships and promotion

14 The Director of BDT should issue, via the ITU-D website, on a periodic basis, a message updating the ITU membership on ITU-D activities.

15 Information on partnership activities, including those in which BDT plays a catalytic role, should be reported to the members via a dedicated page on the website, to include summaries of projects that BDT has assisted parties in elaborating, and of resources generated and expended. This webpage should also include information on upcoming projects and how interested parties may obtain additional information. The Director of BDT should provide to the Council, on an annual basis, a summary report of these partnership activities.

16 To facilitate the implementation of activities and strengthen the impact of actions undertaken, especially in the creation of tools and training materials, all programmes shall endeavour to enter into formal partnerships, including mobilizing resources from funding agencies, international financial institutions, the Digital Solidarity Fund (DSF), ITU Member States and ITU-D Sector Members and other relevant partners. In executing the projects, available local and regional expertise should be taken into account.

Programme 1: Regulatory reform³

1 Purpose

The focus of ITU-D's work in the area of policy, regulation and strategy will be on assisting Member States and national regulatory authorities in developing and implementing an enabling environment that fosters a supportive, transparent, pro-competitive and predictable policy, legal and regulatory framework. Such a framework would provide the appropriate incentives for investment and promote universal, ubiquitous and affordable access to information and communication technologies (ICT). The programme will take into account accelerated convergence between technologies and services and the development of next-generation networks.

2 Tasks

2.1 Creation of tools for effective regulation

Prepare tools in the area of policy, legislation and regulation for use by telecommunication/ICT decision-makers, regulators, policy-makers, operators and service providers, including publications, studies, guidelines and models on the following issues identified as priorities by the membership:

- a) Publish the report *Trends in Telecommunication Reform* on an annual basis, highlighting key regulatory trends, and using information gathered from any relevant case studies and the annual regulatory survey.
- b) Prepare and disseminate tools such as special studies, case studies, benchmarks, best practices, manuals and guidelines on topics such as:
 - models or approaches followed in the reform process, including the scope, authority and enforcement powers of the regulator;
 - regulatory frameworks in a converged environment, including regulatory scope and principles, institutional models, legislative frameworks, technological and service impact and regulatory aspects of migration towards next-generation networks and services;
 - universal access/service policies;
 - regulatory aspects of spectrum management;
 - regulatory aspects of broadband access technologies for developing countries;
 - model interconnection agreements;
 - regulatory aspects of infrastructure sharing (site sharing, co-location, and unbundling);
 - authorization and licensing procedures for telecommunication/ICT service providers;
 - regulatory aspects of network performance and quality of service (QoS) standards for telecommunication/ICTs;
 - regulatory aspects of numbering plans;
 - regulatory aspects of open and competitive access to ICT infrastructure;

³ Relevant WSIS references: Action Lines C1, C2, C5, C6, C11 of the Geneva Plan of Action and §§ 13, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 27, 37, 48, 50, 54, 80, 89, 90, 91, 97, 101, 102, 108 of the Tunis Agenda.

- effective dispute-settlement systems, notably alternative dispute resolution (ADR);
- consumer protection and the education of end users on the benefits of telecommunication/ICT;
- promotion of small, medium and micro enterprises;
- regional and subregional harmonization efforts (e.g. African regional initiative on market harmonization).

2.2 Creation of training materials

Develop training material related to the topics above with a view to relevant skill building for regulators and policy-makers. This training would be provided using both traditional and electronic means.

Further develop the training mechanism for enhanced cooperation among telecommunication regulators, including opportunities covering training for chief executives, and staff exchanges between regulators (Tandem Programme for Regulators), as requested by GSR. All training will be closely coordinated with Programme 5.

2.3 Assistance to members

2.3.1 Regulatory symposia, forums, seminars and workshops

Provide platforms at which national policy-makers, regulatory authorities and regional regulatory organizations can discuss key issues and obtain relevant input from the relevant partners:

- a) organize the annual Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR), and provide any relevant inputs, as requested, as well as joint activities with regional/subregional telecommunication organizations/associations;
- b) support policy, legal and regulatory workshops to develop regional model regulatory instruments.

2.3.2 Targeted regulatory assistance and support

- a) Assist and advise Member States, national regulatory authorities and/or regional regulatory organizations, in formulating and implementing policies, legislation and regulations, preferably by electronic means (i.e. GREX).
- b) The above-mentioned assistance or advice may be provided in the following areas:
 - 1) creating, analysing, enhancing, implementing and enforcing policy, legal and regulatory frameworks aimed at sustained telecommunication/ICT development, access and use;
 - 2) creating and establishing national regulatory authorities and regional regulatory organizations (e.g. on issues of independence, transparency, fairness, enforcement, accountability, etc.) taking into account the organizational situation and different phases of telecommunication/ICT development within countries;
 - 3) establishing, reviewing, updating and harmonizing legal frameworks to address the transition from sector-specific to converged telecommunication/ICT legislation, in close collaboration with Programme 3;
 - 4) fostering the exchange of valuable expertise among regulatory agencies and between regional and subregional regulatory organizations;

- 5) establishing policy and regulatory conditions that attract investment in advanced information and communication infrastructure;
- 6) studying and implementing the means necessary to support the ICT-related projects under the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and other regional initiatives/associations;
- 7) supporting regional and subregional harmonization efforts (e.g. African regional initiative on market harmonization).

2.4 Information sharing

- a) Collect and collate national telecommunication policies and regulations through the dissemination of the ITU/BDT annual regulatory survey, tailored each year to the most pressing issues, and leading to a stocktaking of regulatory practices.
- b) Maintain and enhance the ITU/BDT world regulatory database to include data from the annual regulatory survey and benchmarking of national experiences.
- c) Exchange data and resources with relevant regional and international organizations for publication on the Telecommunication Regulation (TREG) website, a pre-eminent telecommunication/ICT regulatory resource library.
- d) Maintain, develop and enhance the Global Regulators' Exchange (GREX) as a convenient online interactive forum for regulators to exchange views and experiences on key regulatory issues, at no cost to regulatory authorities.
- e) Gather and exchange appropriate information with regional/subregional regulatory associations and with pertinent international regulatory initiatives.
- f) Enhance linkages with relevant international organizations in view of the interlinkages of their work with telecommunication regulatory reform.

2.5 Resolutions and recommendations relevant to this programme

Reference	Title
Resolution 8 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Collection and dissemination of information and statistics
Resolution 11 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Telecommunication/information and communication technology services in rural, isolated and poorly served areas, and indigenous communities
Resolution 17 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Implementation of regionally approved initiatives at the national, regional, interregional and global levels
Resolution 29 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	ITU Telecommunication Development Sector initiatives on Sector Member issues
Resolution 30 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Role of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society
Resolution 32 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	International and regional cooperation
Resolution 35 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Support for the African information and communication technology sector in the framework of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)
Resolution 37 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Bridging the digital divide
Resolution 48 (Doha, 2006)	Strengthening cooperation among telecommunication regulators
Resolution 55 (Doha, 2006)	Promoting gender equality towards all-inclusive information societies

Programme 2: Information and communication infrastructure and technology development⁴

1 Purpose

The Tunis Agenda for the Information Society assigned the responsibility to ITU to facilitate/moderate Action Line C2 "Information and communication infrastructure" and Action Line C5 "Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs". This programme should assist Member States and ITU-D Sector Members to maximize the utilization of appropriate new technologies in the development of their information and communication infrastructure, by taking due account of the accelerated convergence of the telecommunication⁵ networks⁶ and services. Infrastructure is central in achieving the goal of digital inclusion, enabling universal, sustainable, ubiquitous and affordable access to ICTs by all, taking into account relevant solutions already in place in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in order to provide sustainable connectivity and access to remote and marginalized areas at national and regional levels. The activities associated with the planning of information and communication infrastructure within this programme will incorporate traffic and demand forecasting, network management, spectrum management and radio monitoring, interconnectivity, interoperability, network security and quality of service standards for wireline and wireless networks, terrestrial mobile communications and broadcasting.

It is proposed to give priority to the following technology-related domains:

1.1 Spectrum management and radio monitoring

Taking into account the different needs of the ITU membership, it is proposed that efforts be continued to strengthen administrations' national regulatory bodies in the fields of frequency planning and assignment, spectrum management and radio monitoring. Two different levels of automated spectrum management system (SMS) have been identified: enhanced basic system, and advanced system.

The basic SMS and extended SMS were developed under the brand name "Spectrum Management System for Developing Countries" (SMS4DC) within Programme 2 of the Istanbul Action Plan by ITU-D. The concept and specifications of SMS4DC were elaborated and gradually agreed by voluntary groups of experts from the ITU membership, ITU-R and ITU-D, resulting from an exemplary teamwork. This system is intended to assist administrations from developing countries to better plan and manage the use of their radio spectrum as well as to establish their national frequency management system. In addition, the SMS4DC facilitates the exchange of information with the ITU Radiocommunication Bureau.

BDT will continue to be entirely responsible for maintaining, updating and expanding the SMS4DC software and shall retain all intellectual property rights for all source codes and developed materials. Additionally, BDT shall provide technical assistance and appropriate training activities at regional and subregional levels for the deployment and continued use of SMS4DC, taking into account the six official and working languages of the Union.

⁴ Relevant WSIS references: Action Lines C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, C6, C7, C11 of the Geneva Plan of Action and §§ 9, 14, 18, 23, 50, 54, 89, 96 of the Tunis Agenda.

⁵ In ITU the term "telecommunication" includes sound and television broadcasting.

⁶ "Telecommunication networks" are widely known as information and communication infrastructure.

Additionally, this programme shall contribute to the optimization and cost-effective use of spectrum monitoring systems and networks.

1.2 Broadcasting

Digitization has led to accelerated convergence of broadcasting, mass media, telecommunications and information and communication technology. Furthermore, digitization is completely transforming the sound and television broadcasting sector, whereby competition has become a norm. Radio and TV programming are now available via a multitude of telecommunication networks and interface and display devices allowing for the transmission and display of high-definition TV at reasonable cost to end users.

This programme will impart information to broadcasters and service providers related to the digital conversion aspects of migration and transition to and use of digital technology. Furthermore, this programme will offer assistance in frequency and coverage planning, with focus on RRC-06 follow-up, and will provide for expert advice on the development of business network models, organizational restructuring and digital broadcasting technology deployment, including interactive multimedia services.

In order to enable broadcasters to overcome the challenges resulting from digitization, this programme will assist in the following domains:

- Impart information to broadcasters on all aspects of digital conversion.
- Provide advice in the areas of implementation of digital technology and development of relevant human resources.

Although digital broadcasting is growing in importance, analogue sound broadcasting, particularly community radio broadcasting, will continue to be of importance to isolated rural areas in developing countries.

For the reasons above, it is proposed to give high priority to such analogue sound and television broadcasting within this programme.

1.3 Network planning

The selection of new technology hinges on projected needs and consequent network development planning. In developing countries, the needs may be substantially different in urban and rural areas, and infrastructure and technology requirements will differ. In choosing technologies for a new or existing telecommunication network, a very wide range of factors needs to be considered.

The most difficult component of the network to build, and the least cost-effective to maintain, has proved to be the local access network. One of the main problems facing the developing countries is precisely the lack of access to broadband services, and low teledensity. Adaptation of power-line communications and cable-television networks to provide telephony and internet services has converted them into broadband networks. The technology shall be of low cost, easy to maintain and adapted to the local environment.

The rural population will need to be connected to the information society. Choosing efficient and cost-effective and fast-deployment technologies such as wired and wireless networks will improve accessibility.

The architecture of the information and communication infrastructure is changing to accommodate the requirements of a growing number of ICT-enabled services/applications (broadband, IP, mobile, multimedia, streaming, multicasting, etc.) and evolving to next-generation networks (NGN). New-generation technology is being introduced in the networks, speeding up the convergence process, and obliging planners to apply different specialized up-to-date planning tools.

Network planning is a critical issue for network operators and network service providers in a time of globalization and intense competition. The current telecommunication market requires flexible and adaptive network planning methodologies for evolving network architectures to NGN. Practical guidelines, readily and easily applicable, should continue to be provided to be of use to operators and decision-makers. Moreover, there will be a need for powerful software tools to assist operators in developing their networks. ITU should continue entering into formal partnership agreements with outside partners, positioned to provide the Union with appropriate planning tools suitable for specific network planning requests. Taking into account the above considerations, and in order to contribute to bridging the digital divide, this programme should apply the following measures:

- a) providing advice on the design, deployment and maximization of digital networks at an increased pace, including the roll-out of wireline broadband technologies such as, but not limited to, optical-fibre, xDSL, CATV, power-line and wireless broadband technologies, and the establishment of satellite earth stations;
- b) facilitating the introduction of digital technology;
- c) facilitating the design, production and availability of digital terminal equipment;
- d) enhancing technical skills and management know-how;
- e) promoting digitization of analogue networks and applying affordable wireline and wireless technologies to facilitate people's access to ICT, thereby also improving quality of service;
- f) encouraging research on the information society, extensive networking, interoperability of ICT infrastructure, tools and services/applications to facilitate accessibility of ICTs for all;
- g) optimizing connectivity among major information networks via regional ICT backbones in order to reduce interconnection costs and optimize the routing of traffic.

1.4 Mobile terrestrial communications

The explosive growth of mobile communications, coupled with the evolution from second-generation to third-generation networks (IMT-2000) and beyond means that it is desirable for operators in developing countries to upgrade their networks and integrate new technologies that must coexist and interoperate with existing ones. Therefore high priority will be accorded to mobile communications within this programme to do the following:

- assist countries in planning IMT-2000 systems and applications and subsequent implementation of such systems;
- assist administrations in the interpretation of related standards and recommendations;
- provide information on mobile systems operating below 600 MHz, which are of particular interest to some developing countries, pending the results of WRC-07.

1.5 Innovative services/applications networks

This programme shall contribute to the goal of digital inclusion by providing assistance for the development of rural, national and international broadband telecommunication networks (known as information and communication infrastructure), including all wireline and wireless technologies. In this regard, this programme shall contribute to meeting the needs of countries and their citizens for the delivery of new ICT-enabled e-services/applications to be dealt with in Programme 3.

1.6 Network security

Security concerns have been identified as a barrier to the use of current and next-generation networks and the related e-services/applications. It is critical to ensure the confidentiality, integrity and availability of telecommunication networks. While these security concerns will be dealt with in Programme 3, it is necessary for this programme to develop a common understanding of the requirements associated with the threats, needs for countermeasures and responses to ensure network confidentiality, integrity and availability for ICT networks.

2 Tasks

2.1 Creation of tools

In close cooperation with the ITU-D Sector Members and ITU Member States, within the framework of study groups, develop professional contributions, reports and manuals, and create or recommend the use of appropriate planning tools for both frequency-spectrum planning and telecommunication network planning and operation.

2.2 Creation of training material

From guidelines, reports and tools developed or recommended, develop long-term professional technology-oriented training material and guidelines of a high level targeting those planning, deploying, operating and managing the frequency spectrum and broadcasting and telecommunication networks.

2.3 Assistance to members

- a) Contribute to the development of information and communications infrastructure through technical projects aiming at augmenting ICT networks and access.
- b) Provide assistance in project definition, its concept and requirements, management and implementation.
- c) Provide expert advice on establishing project requirements and propose appropriate technology solutions to meet the objectives.
- d) Advise on the design of secure telecommunication network aspects of ICT-enabling e-services/applications projects.
- e) Provide expert advice and consultation on network engineering and dimensioning, on numbering, and on spectrum monitoring and frequency management.
- f) Provide technical assistance in facilitating the upgrade of telecommunication networks and in the transition from circuit-switched to next-generation networks (NGN), as well as on the transition to wireline, wireless and power-line broadband technologies, with particular attention to rural communication infrastructures.
- g) Provide expert advice and consultation on digital conversion, digital technology deployment and frequency/coverage planning in the broadcasting domain, with priority on planning of the digital terrestrial broadcasting service.
- h) Assist in setting customer access principles (numbering plan, number portability, carrier prefixes, roaming, etc.) and network operation aspects such as optimal traffic routing at national as well as at regional levels.
- i) Provide advice on quality of service targets.
- j) Provide expert advice on mobile network development, with particular emphasis on the transition from second-generation to third-generation mobile systems and beyond.

- k) Assist in implementing the necessary means to support the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).
- l) Provide training on network management, interconnectivity, interoperability and quality of service standards and alternative routing systems for wireline and wireless networks.
- m) Provide advice on establishing national institutions for the development of telecommunication and information technologies.
- n) Provide advice on the development of new network architectures evolving to NGN, by strengthening standard-making capabilities or human resources building.
- o) Provide professional training opportunities with regard to § 2.2 above.

2.4 Information sharing

This programme will:

- a) Continue to hold symposia, seminars or workshops in the domains of broadcasting and telecommunications in order to raise the technology know-how level in developing countries.
- b) Provide information of a technical nature about telecommunication networks.
- c) Disseminate, wherever possible, case-study information related to new technologies, such as NGN, suitable to be applied for the needs of developing countries.

2.5 Resolutions and recommendations relevant to this programme

Reference	Title
Resolution 9 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Participation of countries, particularly developing countries, in spectrum management
Resolution 10 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Financial support for national spectrum management programmes
Resolution 11 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Telecommunication/information and communication technology services in rural, isolated and poorly served areas, and indigenous communities
Resolution 13 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Resource mobilization and partnership for accelerating telecommunication and information and communication technology development
Resolution 15 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Applied research and transfer of technology
Resolution 17 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Implementation of regionally approved initiatives at the national, regional, interregional and global levels
Resolution 18 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Special technical assistance to the Palestinian Authority
Resolution 20 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Non-discriminatory access to modern telecommunication and information technology facilities and services
Resolution 30 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Role of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society
Resolution 33 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Assistance and support to Serbia and Montenegro for rebuilding its destroyed public broadcasting system in Serbia
Resolution 34 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	The role of telecommunications/information and communication technology in early warning and mitigation of disasters and humanitarian assistance
Resolution 35 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Support for the African information and communication technology sector in the framework of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)
Resolution 37 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Bridging the digital divide
Resolution 39 (Istanbul, 2002)	Agenda for connectivity in the Americas and Quito Action Plan
Resolution 43 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Assistance for implementing IMT-2000
Resolution 47 (Doha, 2006)	Enhancement of knowledge and effective application of ITU Recommendations in developing countries
Resolution 50 (Doha, 2006)	Optimal integration of information and communication technologies
Resolution 51 (Doha, 2006)	Provision of assistance and support to the Republic of Iraq to rebuild and re-equip its public telecommunication systems
Resolution 55 (Doha, 2006)	Promoting gender equality towards all-inclusive information societies
Resolution 57 (Doha, 2006)	Assistance to Somalia

Programme 3: E-strategies and ICT applications⁷

1 Purpose

To assist developing countries, through the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) and telecommunication networks, to advance the achievement of national, regional and the internationally agreed development goals, by promoting the use of ICT-based products, networks, services and applications, and to help countries overcome the digital divide.

To undertake joint actions with relevant partners in the UN system aimed at enhancing access to and use of secure, cost-effective and socio-economically beneficial ICT applications, so as to contribute to reducing the social divide and improving quality of life, good governance, access to health services, business opportunities, sustainable development, distance learning, employment, and other benefits of ICTs, by taking into account the requirements and conditions in rural, isolated and poorly served areas.

Access to the information society should be a high-priority goal of this programme through close collaboration with all relevant entities concerned.

Priorities

a) Cybersecurity: Enhance security and build confidence in the use of ICT applications

Security concerns have been identified as a barrier to the use of current and next-generation networks for certain mission-critical services (e.g. e-commerce, e-governance, e-payment and e-health), where it is important to ensure confidentiality, integrity and availability of information systems. While the telecommunication network security concerns will be dealt with in Programme 2, it is necessary to address cybersecurity concerns in this programme in order to realize the potential of networks for providing secure and accessible e-service applications. This programme should also develop a common understanding of the issues of spam and cyberthreats, including countermeasures. To minimize, prevent and detect cyberthreats, it is also necessary to facilitate further outreach and cooperation in order to support the collection and dissemination of cybersecurity-related information, and to exchange good practices to support effective mutual assistance, response and recovery among members and between government, business and civil society.

BDT should also act as a facilitator for regional and interregional cooperation, and support appropriate capacity-building activities at the regional level.

This could include, *inter alia*, the development of MoUs among interested Member States to enhance cybersecurity.

b) Internet protocol: Integrate IP-based applications and value-added services in the development of all kinds of telecommunication networks

The development of telecommunication infrastructure needs to be integrated in the deployment of IP-based applications and value-added ICT applications, by taking into account advances in technologies, the importance of internet multilingualization, the integration of data and voice, user requirements and socio-economic conditions.

⁷ Relevant WSIS references: Lines C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, C6, C7, C8, C10, C11 of the Geneva Plan of Action and several references to the Tunis Agenda.

- c) *ICT applications: Promote ICT applications (e.g. e-government, e-business, e-learning, e-health, e-employment, e-environment, e-agriculture, e-science, etc.) in developing countries*

To assist developing countries in the implementation of relevant ICT applications for government services, business, education, health, employment, environment, sustainable development, agriculture and science.

- d) *Multipurpose community telecentres (MCTs) and multipurpose platforms (MPPs): Continue to expand the implementation of multipurpose platforms (MPP) and multipurpose community telecentres (MCT) and to introduce ICT applications*

MCT and MPP projects should be continued and expanded, but with quantifiable, measurable and time-bound objectives based on user needs. To increase the number of services and the benefits of MCTs, especially in rural, isolated and poorly serviced areas, ICT applications should be introduced in current and planned MPP and MCT projects to extend the notion of universal access beyond basic voice telephony.

- e) *E-strategies: Developing national e-strategies and enhancement of ICT literacy, building public awareness*

Development of national e-strategies, including the necessary human capacity-building to ensure long-term sustainability and widespread use of ICTs taking into account different national circumstances. Basic skills are necessary for citizens to enjoy the benefits and the opportunities of ICTs. Priority should be given to increasing basic knowledge on the potential and possibilities of ICTs and to stimulating increased use of ICT applications.

- f) *Internet multilingualization: Contribute the ITU's expertise to the development of multilingualization of the internet and support the process of introduction of various tools for multilingualization*

2 Tasks

2.1 Creation of tools

- a) Develop guidelines, planning tools and manuals on the technology and policy aspects of cybersecurity, internet protocol and ICT applications.
- b) Develop cybersecurity, internet protocol and ICT applications toolkits for policy-makers and other relevant sectors.

2.2 Creation of training material

Develop training materials on technology strategies and technology evolution for the implementation of cybersecurity, internet protocol and ICT applications.

2.3 Assistance to members

- a) Organize workshops, meetings and seminars to address technical, policy, legal and strategy issues for cybersecurity, ICT applications and internet protocol, promote public awareness on ICTs and foster use of the internet.
- b) Develop strategies for the implementation of internet protocol and ICT applications in current and future MCTs and telecommunication networks in order to strengthen their viability and expand their use.
- c) Provide assistance to Member States in developing laws and model legislation for the prevention of cybercrime.

- d) Provide expert assistance in project definition, management and implementation, including the identification of project requirements and feasibility studies for MPPs and MCTs aimed at providing a wide range of ICT applications, taking into account the needs of rural, isolated and poorly served areas and groups with special needs.
- e) Assist in the implementation of ICT applications and internet protocol projects and formulate plans for the integration of voice and data services and the migration to IP-based networks.
- f) Advise Member States in formulating relevant national and regional e-strategies and policies for the development and use of internet protocol and multilingual ICT applications.
- g) Identify cybersecurity requirements and propose solutions for the development of secure ICT applications. Assist in raising awareness and identify key issues to support a culture of cybersecurity, and recommend models of good practice to support ICT applications and minimize cyberthreats.
- h) Conduct studies aimed at promoting the use of IP-based networks.
- i) Study and implement the necessary means to support the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).

2.4 Information sharing

Develop tools to facilitate information sharing on technology and policy issues, and on best practices relating to cybersecurity, internet protocol and ICT services, taking into account the importance of multilingualism.

2.5 Partnerships

- a) Explore opportunities for collaboration and work with identified potential partners, based on project requirements and recognized sources of expertise, and facilitating the creation of mutually beneficial and multistakeholder partnerships.
- b) Work in close collaboration with appropriate organizations (e.g. UNDP, WTO, UNCTAD, UPU, UNESCO, UNIDO, WHO, ILO, WMO, UNEP, UN-Habitat, ICAO, FAO, ECOSOC, IADB, World Bank, etc.) for ICT applications in their relevant domains.
- c) Explore opportunities to create a forum for a viable and sustainable business model.
- d) Take account, as appropriate, of the relevant work of other stakeholders: OECD and signatories to key agreements on cybersecurity and spam such as the *London Action Plan* and the *Seoul-Melbourne Anti-Spam Memorandum of Understanding*.

2.6 Resolutions and recommendations relevant to this programme

Reference	Title
Resolution 5 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Enhanced participation by developing countries in the activities of the Union
Resolution 11 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Telecommunication/information and communication technology services in rural, isolated and poorly served areas and indigenous communities
Resolution 13 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Resource mobilization and partnership for accelerating telecommunication and information technology development
Resolution 15 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Applied research and transfer of technology
Resolution 17 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Implementation of regionally approved initiatives at the national, regional, interregional and global levels
Resolution 20 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Non-discriminatory access to modern telecommunication and information technology facilities and services
Resolution 29 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	ITU Telecommunication Development Sector initiatives on Sector Member issues
Resolution 30 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Role of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society
Resolution 35 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Support for the African information and communication technology sector in the framework of the New Partnership for Africa's Development
Resolution 37 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Bridging the digital divide
Resolution 39 (Istanbul, 2002)	Agenda for connectivity in the Americas and Quito Action Plan
Resolution 45 (Doha, 2006)	Mechanisms for enhancing cooperation on cybersecurity, including combating spam
Resolution 50 (Doha, 2006)	Optimal integration of information and communication technologies
Resolution 53 (Doha, 2006)	Strategic and financial framework for the elaboration of the Doha Action Plan
Resolution 54 (Doha, 2006)	Information and communication technology applications
Resolution 55 (Doha, 2006)	Promoting gender equality towards all-inclusive information societies

Programme 4: Economics and financing, including cost and tariffs⁸

1 Purpose

As the market environment has changed to intense competition in a large majority of ITU Member States, it is essential to foster different mechanisms that promote public or public-private partnership and private investment funding/contribution. Given that private investment occurs where profits are at least commensurate with the risks incurred, it is up to ITU-D to respond to requests for assistance to members in this regard, by helping them identify success factors and facilitate the implementation of these factors in order to provide service at equitable, affordable and cost-oriented prices.

In addition, as technologies and general conditions of trade in telecommunication networks and ICT services/applications are rapidly evolving, members have expressed the need to have access to information on their economic impact, and guidelines that will allow them to benefit from the opportunities they offer while minimizing drawbacks.

As a number of issues being discussed in ITU-T and ITU-R have far-reaching implications for members from the development perspective, there is an increasing need for ITU-D to play an active role in raising awareness on these economic and financial issues by developing and implementing appropriate activities that complement the efforts of these Sectors.

Priorities

To assist ITU-D members to develop and implement financing policies and strategies that are appropriate to their economic situations, among which are those related to the internet and cost-oriented pricing, with a view to fostering equitable and affordable access to innovative and sustainable services, emphasizing the following areas of activity:

- a) introduction of new financing schemes/mechanisms for the development of telecommunication networks (e.g. NGN), including broadcasting, ICT services/applications and national ICT strategies;
- b) development of universal access programmes through the identification of economically viable projects;
- c) integration of changes in the evolving environment of trade in telecommunication networks and in ICT services/applications into their policies and strategies;
- d) determination of the cost of retail services and of cost-based rates for interconnection and transit, international internet connectivity, site-sharing facilities and leasing.

2 Tasks

2.1 Creation of tools

- a) Develop, make available and publish costing and pricing methodologies and tools.
- b) Provide guidance on the pricing of scarce resources with a view to maximizing access to telecommunication/ICT networks and services, in coordination with ITU-T.
- c) Create financing policies and funding mechanisms aimed at universal access and the attracting private-sector investment, to support user access to and use of ICTs and ICT services/applications in suburban and rural areas.

⁸ Relevant WSIS references: Action Lines C1, C2, C3, C4, C11 of the Geneva Plan of Action; §§ 10, 13, 14, 18, 20, 23, 26, 27, 28, 49, 50, 54, 85, 89, 90, 100, 101 of the Tunis Agenda.

- d) Develop and/or provide case studies, tools and models to help decision-makers conduct economic forecasts, simulations and risk and sensitivity analyses, with a view to fostering an enabling environment at national and international levels to support foreign direct investment and trade.
- e) Foster the development of funding mechanisms, including debt relief, and economic analysis that help mainstream ICT into strategies for official development assistance (ODA).
- f) Develop mechanisms aimed at mobilizing domestic resources in the countries.

2.2 Creation of training material

Develop economic and financial training material to promote extensive use of the tools developed for training by ITU professionals, ITU experts, centres of excellence, universities, institutes, colleges and schools.

2.3 Assistance to members

- a) Promote understanding of how and when to best use the tools developed.
- b) Provide, as appropriate, support during settlement-rate negotiation processes.
- c) Assist in setting viable financial goals and objectives for telecommunication/ICT network and service development, including those internationally agreed.
- d) Assist in identifying telecommunication/ICT market and investment opportunities, including those that meet national universal access goals, with special attention to local private and/or institutional investors.
- e) Assist national regulatory authorities (NRA), where appropriate, in developing relevant cost-oriented pricing mechanisms (e.g. price-cap regulation, tariff rebalancing, access-deficit compensation, interconnection, site-sharing facilities and leasing).
- f) Assist members in the preparation of WTO negotiation processes, in close cooperation with other relevant organizations.
- g) Study and assist in the implementation of the necessary strategies to support the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).

2.4 Information sharing

- a) Facilitate activities that promote information sharing among members on the relationship between international and domestic internet charging arrangements.
- b) Maintain updated databases containing information of interest to investors as part of the BDT unified database.
- c) Conduct studies and collect and provide benchmark information on tariff and interconnection rates.
- d) Conduct studies and produce reports on the economic impact of new technologies or procedures on developing countries.
- e) Establish links with universities, institutes, colleges, schools and scientific institutions in identifying trends in finance and economics of telecommunication networks and ICT services/applications.

2.5 Resolutions and recommendations relevant to this programme

Reference	Title
Resolution 8 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Collection and dissemination of information and statistics
Resolution 11 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Telecommunication/information and communication technology services in rural, isolated and poorly served areas, and indigenous communities
Resolution 13 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Resource mobilization and partnership for accelerating telecommunication and information and communication technology development
Resolution 17 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Implementation of regionally approved initiatives at the national, regional, interregional and global levels
Resolution 22 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Alternative calling procedures on international telecommunication networks, identification of origin and apportionment of revenues in providing international telecommunication services
Resolution 23 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Internet access and availability for developing countries and charging principles for international internet connection
Resolution 29 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	ITU Telecommunication Development Sector initiatives on Sector Member issues
Resolution 30 (Rev.Doha, 2006, 2002)	Role of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society
Resolution 35 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Support for the African information and communication technology sector in the framework of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)
Resolution 37 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Bridging the digital divide

Programme 5: Human capacity building⁹

An effective human capacity-building programme continues to be a key factor to ensure that organizations keep evolving according to the demands of the converged and competitive ICT/telecommunication sector. ICT-based education and training is essential for developing countries, to enable them to establish and develop their national e-strategies for sustainable development. A key role of BDT, therefore, is to continue partnering with developing countries and countries with economies in transition in order to ensure availability of the trained human capital required by all stakeholders. The programme not only provides core human resource development services and deliverables, but also focuses on assisting management to design and implement change in all parts of the organization, responding to the evolving demands of the sector.

1 Purpose

To assist developing countries in strengthening their human, institutional and organizational capacity through human resource management and development activities, so as to facilitate effective adaptation to the current telecommunication and ICT environment. This programme will particularly address capacity-development needs of policy-makers and regulators at the government level, as well as senior executives and managers at the operator and telecommunication/ICT-service provider level, by using an appropriate mix of e-learning, information technologies and traditional training methodologies. Emphasis will be given to training programmes aimed at enhancing the capacity of leaders and operational staff in developing countries to apply ICTs effectively in training and educational activities.

2 Tasks

2.1 Transfer of knowledge

Foster provision of high-level training in key domains of information and communication infrastructure and ICT-enabled services and applications, taking due account of policies, regulation, corporate management and new technologies and services, ensuring an equitable regional spread and responding to the needs of countries:

- a) Provide guidance and assistance in organizational change and human resource management and development to strengthen the required institutional and organizational capacity.
- b) Enhance workforce capacity building for those deploying and operating telecommunication/ICT networks, services and applications, particularly in the areas of technology and management of telecommunication networks, ICT-enabled e-services/applications.
- c) Assist in providing regulatory training to regulators, policy-makers and service providers. In particular, support capacity building in the use of ICTs intended for local authorities, training professionals and teachers.
- d) Provide pertinent training to support decision-makers in facing new managerial challenges such as: managing sector reform, managerial skills in a competitive environment of accelerated convergence, introduction of new services, marketing and customer orientation, etc.

⁹ Relevant WSIS references: Lines C1, C3, C4, C6, C8, C11 of the Geneva Plan of Action and §§ 9, 23, 26, 49, 51, 59, 87, 95 of the Tunis Agenda.

- e) Advise on methodological training aspects for improving the quality and efficiency of any training-related output of other activities and programmes adopted by WTDC-06 (tools, guidelines, publications, etc.), including training of trainers.
- f) Promote linkages between educational institutions and private-sector companies in order to help graduates receive the most appropriate skills to allow them to enter the workforce.

2.2 Sharing of experiences and know-how

Facilitate the exchange of best-practice experiences, knowledge and know-how through regional and global meetings, electronic discussions, exchange of experts and joint activities with ITU-R and ITU-T as well as with relevant regional organizations and other relevant UN agencies, as follows:

- a) Promote periodic organization of regional and global meetings, electronic discussions, exchange of experts, etc.
- b) Develop competition/convergence-related human resource development case studies, tools and models to help decision-makers conduct forecasts, simulations and sensitivity analyses.
- c) Further promote and upgrade the ITU e-learning centre concept to produce and deliver online courses and programmes through an appropriate e-learning platform and suitable knowledge-management mechanisms.
- d) Develop evaluation modules to identify the training impact within the working environment.

2.3 Assistance to strengthen the human resource and training functions

Assist the human resource (HR) function to become a true agent of change in the organization and strengthen national and regional training providers to enable them to utilize modern training techniques using the "train the trainers approach":

- a) Provide practical assistance to the national and regional training providers as well as to educational institutions in using modern training techniques such as e-learning, coaching, tutoring and action learning.
- b) Provide direct assistance to the membership in the fields of human resource management (HRM) and human resource development (HRD).
- c) Foster the general use of ICTs to work, interact and learn at a distance.
- d) Promote the evolution of dedicated training resources towards integrated training and capacity-building scenarios.
- e) Study and implement the means necessary to support the New Partnership for Africa's Development initiative (NEPAD).

2.4 Dissemination of information

Disseminate pertinent HRM/HRD information for managers and decision-makers, including training materials, case studies, best practices and directories of centres of excellence and training centres, as well as recommended training opportunities, conferences, symposia, seminars and other technical and economic forums on telecommunication issues:

- a) Develop appropriate HRM/HRD dissemination mechanisms on website-based applications.
- b) Disseminate, preferably in electronic form, pertinent HRM/HRD information regarding HRM/HRD trends, case studies, best practices, benchmarks, etc.

2.5 Human capacity building special initiatives

Initiate and promote further innovative projects to enhance capacity-building mechanisms and networks in order to provide a wider range of advanced training products, together with the competent resource persons, as required:

- a) Promote capacity-building initiatives such as internet training centres and e-schools, aimed at establishing regional and local ICT training centres to eradicate e-illiteracy using ICTs, as well as to create a critical mass of qualified and skilled ICT professionals.
- b) Promote and strengthen the centres of excellence initiative, aimed at consolidating a network of institutions capable of providing training solutions using an appropriate mix of face-to-face and distance-learning approaches. In particular, explore the possibility of using a multilingual portal to promote centre of excellence products and services responding to the WSIS outcomes; seek the possibility of continued funding for the centre of excellence network, taking into account a move towards sustainability based on full-cost recovery; and further promote the expansion of the network and the partnerships available for the various nodes of the centre of excellence network.
- c) Support training initiatives and e-applications using a variety of software modules, including proprietary, open source and free software.
- d) Identify relevant outputs of the HRD-related projects and adapt them for dissemination and utilization by countries.
- e) Ensure sustainability of the HRD-related projects by promoting cross-utilization of their outputs/results.
- f) Collaborate with ITU-TELECOM in the organization of Telecommunication Development Symposia and Youth Forums during regional and global TELECOM events.

2.6 Resolutions and recommendations relevant to this programme

Reference	Title
Resolution 17 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Implementation of regionally approved initiatives at the national, regional, interregional and global levels
Resolution 30 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Role of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society
Resolution 35 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Support for the African information and communication technology sector in the framework of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)
Resolution 37 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Bridging the digital divide
Resolution 40 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Human resource development in future study periods
Resolution 55 (Doha, 2006)	Promoting gender equality towards all-inclusive information societies

Programme 6: Least developed countries and small island developing states, and emergency telecommunications¹⁰

1 Vision

The Programme for the least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS) and emergency telecommunications will be valued for its quality and timely service aimed at integrating LDCs and SIDS into the world economy through information and communication technologies (ICT) and through the implementation of disaster-risk reduction measures in developing countries, and for its ability to exert a positive impact on the delivery of assistance to these countries.

2 Background

2.1 Ever since ITU started giving assistance to LDCs under Resolution 19 (Malaga-Torremolinos, 1973) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, such assistance was provided on an ad hoc basis to meet certain gaps at the request of administrations. From 1998, delivery of assistance was based on special programming, resulting in ITU providing concentrated assistance to a selected group of LDCs for a period of one year, after which such assistance was directed to another group of countries. In 2002, the period of provision of such concentrated assistance was increased from one year to two years. Although this assistance has produced a positive impact, most of the LDCs continue to require increased assistance, due to extreme poverty, structural weakness of their economies and lack of growth and development capacities, often compounded by geographical handicaps and vulnerability to disasters that tend to hamper their efforts to effectively improve the quality of life of their people. For some of the LDCs, there have been noteworthy successes, resulting in Maldives and Cape Verde requesting the United Nations to promote them from the LDC category. The two countries are currently in a transitional period, and will soon graduate. For others, the situation remains almost the same, for various reasons that include political instability and economic vulnerability to external shocks.

2.2 Small island developing states have not been treated by ITU-D as a special group of countries with special needs. Many of them face the same challenges as LDCs, that have tended to increase their vulnerability, arising primarily from their isolation, small size, small population, limited local capital for productive investment and topography.

2.3 In the past, assistance for disaster risk reduction through emergency telecommunications has been provided on an ad hoc basis, in response to various ITU resolutions and recommendations, e.g. Resolution 34 (Istanbul, 2002) and Recommendation 12 (Istanbul, 2002) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, and Resolution 36 (Rev.Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference. In January 2005, the United Nations held the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in Hyogo, Kobe and adopted the Hyogo Declaration for the decade 2005-2015. The Hyogo Declaration recognizes that disasters remain a major threat to the survival, dignity, livelihood and security of peoples and communities, in particular the poor such as those in LDCs and SIDS.

¹⁰ Relevant WSIS references: Action Lines C2, C6, C.7, C19, C20, D2 of the Geneva Plan of Action, §§ A.16, B7, B11 of the Geneva Declaration of Principles, §§ 21, 23 of the Tunis Agenda and §§ 21, 30, 91 of the Tunis Commitment.

3 Objectives

- a) The programme seeks to increase the average telephone density in LDCs and SIDS to five main lines (ML) per 100 inhabitants and the number of internet connections to 10 users per 100 inhabitants by 2010.
- b) The programme promotes universal access to ICT in LDCs and SIDS, and provides assistance in disaster risk reduction to developing countries, with the aim of helping these countries attain internationally agreed development goals, such as the Millennium Development Goals, by the year 2015¹¹.
- c) The programme seeks to provide assistance in disaster prevention, preparedness and relief/response and telecommunication infrastructure reconstruction/rehabilitation in countries affected by disasters.

4 Strategy

A biennial approach in providing concentrated assistance to an average of 12 countries under this programme was adopted during the cycle 2003-2006. This same strategy will also be adopted for the next cycle 2007-2010, with an increased number of countries to include SIDS. Projects and operational plan activities are generally launched in the first year and completed either during that same year or during the second year. Activities that are funded by the regular budget are completed and evaluated during the second year in line with the ITU Financial Regulations, while projects that are funded by extrabudgetary funds may run beyond two years, depending on the set implementation period. The rest of the LDCs and SIDS not receiving concentrated assistance during a particular period benefit from funds set aside for ad hoc activities.

5 Priority areas

The following are the three priority areas for this programme during the cycle 2007-2010:

- a) **Universal access**¹²: To promote universal, ubiquitous, equitable and affordable access to ICTs for all people in both underserved rural and urban areas, in order to bridge the digital divide and thereby create digital opportunities for all to benefit from the potential offered by ICTs for social and economic development. Assistance will be provided to countries in establishing national mechanisms to achieve universal access in both underserved rural and urban areas.¹³ It is also important to promote teleworking so as to allow citizens in LDCs and SIDS to live in their societies and work anywhere. The basic pillars of universal access in LDCs and SIDS should include:
 - rural telecommunication development;
 - development of appropriate infrastructure and introduction of new technologies and services;
 - ICT policies and strategies;

¹¹ Relevant WSIS references: §§ 10, 11, 12, 80, 88, 90, 97, 100, 101, 106, 113, 119 of the Tunis Agenda, and §§ 2, 6, 10, 16, 26 of the Tunis Commitment.

¹² Action Lines B2, B3, C2, C11, D2, E of the Geneva Declaration of Principles, and §§ 26, 90, 107 of the Tunis Agenda.

¹³ Relevant WSIS references: §18, D2 of the Tunis Commitment.

- human resource development and training to increase the capacity of LDCs and SIDS to innovate and to participate fully in, and contribute to, the information society¹⁴;
- b) **Rehabilitation and reconstruction of telecommunication infrastructure for countries in special need**¹⁵: Various world telecommunication development conferences and ITU plenipotentiary conferences have adopted a number of resolutions requiring that special assistance be given to countries that are emerging from war, civil strife and disasters, for purposes of reconstructing their telecommunication infrastructure. Without concentrated assistance from BDT and other partners, it would take decades to restore them to the level of development they enjoyed prior to the disasters. Direct assistance and bilateral and multilateral sources of financing will be used for this purpose.
- c) **Emergency telecommunications**: This is a critical area for all countries, especially those with fragile economies. Article 40 of the ITU Constitution addresses the "priority of telecommunications concerning safety of life". The focus will be on:
- promoting technical cooperation and enhancing the capacity of countries, particularly LDCs and SIDS, in utilizing ICT tools for disaster early warning, preparedness, response and relief, including the dissemination of understandable warnings to those at risk;
 - identifying the activities in relevant organizations related to the use of active and passive sensing space-based systems for the purpose of disaster prediction, detection and mitigation;
 - promoting regional and international cooperation for easy access to, and sharing of, information for disaster management, and exploring modalities to facilitate participation of LDCs, SIDS and countries with economies in transition;
 - participating in integrating ICT in standards-based monitoring and worldwide early-warning systems linked to national and regional networks and facilitating emergency disaster response all over the world, particularly in high-risk regions;
 - ensuring that disaster-resilient features are incorporated in telecommunication networks and infrastructure;
 - making available to members ICT-based solutions, including wireless and satellite-based technologies, to facilitate the provision of medical and humanitarian assistance in disasters and emergencies;
 - carrying out infrastructure damage assessments after disasters strike, and assisting countries to reconstruct and rehabilitate telecommunication infrastructure.

6 Actions

Specific actions (within the ambit of BDT activities) will be prepared annually for the operational plan in accordance with the requests made by the countries concerned.

¹⁴ Relevant WSIS references: §§ 9, 23, 26, 49, 59, 87, 95 of the Tunis Agenda.

¹⁵ Relevant WSIS references: Tunis Commitment, § 36.

7 Tasks

Creation of training material

- a) Develop training materials on appropriate technologies, strategies and policies related to universal access, emergency telecommunications and overall telecommunication development. The materials include handbooks, guidelines, and web-based platforms.
- b) Collect and collate best practices from those LDCs and SIDS that have made progress in ICT development.

8 Resolutions and recommendations relevant to this programme

Reference	Title
Resolution 16 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Special actions for the least developed countries
Resolution 25 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Assistance to countries in special need: Afghanistan, Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Timor Leste, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia
Resolution 26 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	Assistance to countries in special need: Afghanistan
Resolution 34 (Rev.Doha, 2006)	The role of telecommunications/information and communication technology in early warning and mitigation of disasters and humanitarian assistance
Resolution 49 (Doha, 2006)	Special actions for the least developed countries and small island developing states
Resolution 57 (Doha, 2006)	Assistance to Somalia

b) Activities

Activity 1: Statistics and information on telecommunication/ICT

In accordance with Resolution 8, WTDC-06 noted that the collection and dissemination of information and statistics is a key role of ITU-D. Activity 1 of ITU-D responds to ITU's obligation to identify, define and produce statistics covering its sector so as to assist Member States and national telecommunication/ICT agencies in making informed policy choices. In addition to the collection and dissemination of information and statistics through the World Telecommunication Indicators Database, ITU-D will also respond towards the objectives stated by the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) in §§ 113-120 of the Tunis Agenda on the Information Society. This includes the publication of global and regional reports such as the World Telecommunication/ICT Development Report (WTDR), to clarify the magnitude of the digital divide and to track global progress in the use of ICTs to achieve internationally-agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals. WTDC-06 called upon ITU-D to further develop and improve benchmarking efforts, including the *ICT Opportunity Index*, and to strengthen the ITU-D's role in the *Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development*, including through active participation in discussions and activities geared toward achieving its main objectives, such as the development of a core list of ICT indicators. ITU-D is also requested to provide guidelines and tools, including training material, and conduct specialized training courses on information society statistics for developing countries. These activities are to be carried out in cooperation with relevant international and regional organizations involved in the collection and dissemination of ICT-related information and statistics.

Activity 2: Partnerships and promotion

In adopting activities as one of the key elements of the Doha Action Plan, WTDC-06 recognized the need for congruence between the conclusions of WTDC-06 and the outcome of WSIS within the core competence of ITU-D. The purpose of the partnership and promotion activity is to provide the cross-cutting components complementing the tasks undertaken within the framework of ITU-D programmes and initiatives. Specifically, this activity aims to assist ITU-D members in developing countries through the development and conduct of strategies and campaigns that promote public-private sector partnerships with ITU/BDT, to mobilize additional resources in support of the implementation of development projects and initiatives, as well as to facilitate and strengthen the role of the private sector.

c) Special initiatives

WTDC-06 endorsed six special initiatives to be included in the Doha Action Plan.

Initiative 1: Private sector

In accordance with Resolution 29 (Rev.Doha, 2006), WTDC-06 resolved that the Director of BDT should promote increased Sector membership and active participation of Sector Members in ITU-D activities, and develop regional tasks that will improve mechanisms for increased Sector Member participation in their activities.

Initiative 2: Gender

In keeping with Resolution 55 (Doha, 2006), WTDC-06 called on BDT to facilitate, develop and engage in activities aimed at ensuring that the benefits of telecommunications and the emerging information society are made available to all women and men on a fair and equitable basis.

Initiative 3: Youth and children

In accordance with Resolution 38 (Rev.Doha, 2006), WTDC-06 instructed the Director of BDT to seek appropriate means of integrating youth issues into the activities of BDT, including through programmes with emphasis on capacity building, and to establish a mechanism for coordination with the Youth Forum, and follow-up support for the development of ICT capabilities of youth.

Initiative 4: Indigenous peoples and communities

WTDC-06, through Resolution 46 (Doha, 2006), decided to include relevant provisions in the work programmes of the Doha Action Plan, with a view to supporting Member States in addressing special needs of indigenous peoples as regards equitable access to telecommunication/ICT services.

Initiative 5: People with disabilities

WTDC-06 agreed that BDT should support Member States in implementing ICT initiatives and activities for people with disabilities.

Initiative 6: Communities living in underserved areas

WTDC-06, through Resolution 11 (Rev.Doha, 2006), also agreed that ITU-D should promote further the use of all appropriate means of telecommunication/ICT to facilitate effective development and implementation of telecommunication/ICT services in rural, isolated and poorly served areas and indigenous communities of the world.

3.5 SECTION III

REGIONAL INITIATIVES

WTDC-06, through adoption of Resolution 17 (Rev.Doha, 2006), called upon BDT to implement regionally approved initiatives at the national, regional, interregional and global levels, making the utmost use of available BDT resources, by means of equitable budget allotments for each region. The priority regional initiatives to be implemented by BDT during the upcoming four-year period are listed below.

3.5.1 AMERICAS REGIONAL INITIATIVES

1 Connectivity in rural areas, marginal urban areas and isolated areas in the Americas region

Objectives

To develop a manual on initiatives, policies, strategies, standards, projects and best practices as applied to rural areas, marginal urban areas and isolated areas; to share experiences in regard to best practices and development indicators among the administrations of member countries with a view to improving the policies, strategies and standards implemented in each country. Also, to increase society's awareness of the need to support the inclusion of groups that are marginalized or excluded from the information and knowledge society; and to contribute to the human development of marginalized or excluded groups through the use of ICTs.

Expected results

The gradual inclusion of groups that have been marginalized or excluded from the information and knowledge society; an increase in ICT penetration in rural areas, marginal urban areas and isolated areas; and the creation of new socio-economic development opportunities in these areas.

2 Interconnection of information networks for disaster prevention

Objectives

To facilitate rapid recovery of public systems and services through mechanisms which include: identification of critical resources and points of interconnection of regional and subregional ICT networks; identification of administrative frameworks to manage the sovereignty of such resources and points of interconnection where national borders are bridged; development of relevant, redundant information databases; coordination of governmental and NGO rescue and response agencies to manage regional and subregional response; and identification of regulatory implications for sovereign States and development of a proposed framework for collaboration and harmonization with regard to disaster preparedness and response.

Expected results

Current-state assessment of existing infrastructural resources; risk analysis and needs assessments; strategy formulation; recommendations for alternative ICT architecture and points of interconnection to facilitate subregional redundancies in ICT infrastructure; proposed minimal technical standards for points of interconnection; proposed implementation strategy and proposed human capital development plan and communications strategy.

3 Support to administrations in the design and implementation of policies and programmes for large-scale development of broadband access, with a view to meeting national universal service objectives

Objectives

To support national administrations in the design and implementation of policies and programmes to support broadband access and use on a large scale, as a way to help meet national universal service objectives. The initiative recognizes that, to meet these objectives, telecommunication infrastructure must be expanded and modernized, and hence policies are needed that will promote investment by telecommunication companies. Likewise, the initiative recognizes that capacity building in broadband technologies is required within telecommunication authorities at the national level, including in regard to political, economic, technical and regulatory issues, and that coordination is needed between ITU-D, ITU-R and ITU-T study groups as well as with regional telecommunication organizations.

Expected results

Primarily, the achievement of large-scale broadband access and use, strengthened capacity and know-how in regard to broadband technologies within national telecommunication authorities and the promotion and attraction of investment in infrastructure.

4 Establishment of a Caribbean Task Force on spectrum management

Objectives

To develop regional expertise and strengthen institutional mechanisms for spectrum management in the Caribbean. Other objectives include the coordination of appropriate harmonized policies and best practices, the establishment of a database of regional spectrum allocations, the provision of technology updates and guidance to regional stakeholders, and assistance in the mitigation and resolution of interference problems.

Expected results

To rationalize the formulation of objectives, goals and proposed tasks in regard to spectrum management, strengthen and streamline the activities of national regulatory bodies responsible for use of the radio spectrum in Member States, facilitate the adoption and acquisition by the administrations of the Caribbean States of facilitating technologies and best practices for modern spectrum management, and foster international cooperation in the Caribbean subregion in regard to spectrum management in accordance with the interests of and means available to the participating States.

5 Caribbean centre of excellence project

Objectives

To provide a virtual web-based facility which is dedicated to providing training, technical assistance, expert advice and information on all aspects of the development of information and communication technologies (ICTs) and to facilitate sharing of experiences, collaboration and consensus-building on regional issues in the Caribbean.

Expected results

To satisfy regional requirements for ICT training, increase levels of ICT expertise, access to technical assistance for improving decision-making processes, greater opportunities for regional collaboration and partnership and the establishment of a highly interactive website for the delivery of the centre of excellence services, training and collaboration between ICT stakeholders.

3.5.2 CIS REGIONAL INITIATIVES

1 Strengthening the effective use of spectrum by providing interactive multimedia digital broadcasting networks in countries with mountainous terrain, and optimization of radio-monitoring networks

Objectives

To ensure the effective use of radio spectrum monitoring (establishment of an interactive multimedia digital broadcasting network in countries with mountainous terrain), to save resources in the area of monitoring network development through the optimization of existing and planned new networks.

Expected results

Provision to the populations of developing countries and countries with economies in transition with mountainous terrain of modern infocommunication services (including digital television, internet and other information society services), based on modern interactive multimedia broadcasting systems; proposals for the establishment in various countries of new state-of-the-art radio-monitoring networks or optimization of existing networks, with the possibility of subsequent development, and improvement, to ensure maximized functional and operational capabilities of the radio-monitoring networks, with minimal expenditure on setup, development and maintenance.

2 Creation of international centres for the implementation and testing of new technologies

Objectives

To test telecommunication equipment and services; harmonize methods for the provision of new services within a region; harmonize the introduction in one or more regions of telecommunication standards issued by different international organizations; resolve system/network issues associated with the modernization of communication networks, taking account of previous communication network development experience within a given region.

Expected results

Standard alternatives for the transition to multiservice networks for networks at different levels of development at the time of elaboration of the recommendations; creation of model networks and a knowledge base on the testing of modern equipment and services; provision of access to the knowledge base and model networks to interested telecommunication administrations and operators; uniform (harmonized) provision of new services within the region; future harmonized functioning of multimode terminals throughout the region's telecommunication landscape; creation of a knowledge base on the standards issued by different international organizations and of recommendations for their application, with a view to achieving the uniform (harmonized) introduction of standards within the region; prevention of packet disruption between a region's communication networks through optimized network planning and construction, taking account of previous communication network development experience within the region.

3 Implementation of e-applications based on broadband technologies

Objectives

To establish community telecentres using broadband access to telecommunication networks in rural localities; establish systems for online access to government information services for organizations and inhabitants, especially in rural areas; create centres for the registration of digital e-signature keys for the implementation of e-applications in government regulation, economic activities and the social sphere.

Expected results

Provision of access to information and communication services for people living in rural, remote and poorly accessible locations; provision, on the basis of a scalable platform, of services for electronic interaction between citizens, business and government bodies, based on secure and reliable applications; a broader range of services on offer to the population, irrespective of location, using information-communication technologies; improvement in the quality of social services; enabling the rural population to be more active economically and politically; elimination of the differences between urban and rural lifestyles, and enhanced attractiveness of rural life; support for building the information society.

4 Introduction of integrated, ubiquitous telemedicine technologies and systems for bridging the digital divide (in rural regions; for combating epidemics of infectious illnesses; in emergency situations; creation of a single medical information space)

Objectives

To determine the economic effectiveness of creating a single medical information space by linking regional and national stationary and mobile telemedicine consultation and diagnosis systems; study the specific features of national legislations in the telemedicine field for compatibility; research issues associated with the need for standardization and unification of telemedicine equipment and of the formats for the preparation and exchange of medical files and data; study the telemedicine service needs of populations in rural and remote regions; study how telemedicine systems may help resolve gender issues and problems of medical support for children; study the use of telemedicine systems for combating epidemics and pandemics of infectious illnesses.

Expected results

Evaluation of the economic effectiveness of using telemedicine technologies on a regional and national scale; proposals for harmonizing national telemedicine legislations with a view to the creation of regional telemedicine systems; recommendations to standardize and unify telemedicine equipment and the formats for the preparation and exchange of medical files and data; recommendations for determining the parameters for the creation of a telemedicine network for the population in rural and remote regions; recommendations for a project for telemedicine networks to resolve gender issues and problems of medical support for children; recommendations for using telemedicine systems to combat epidemics and pandemics.

5 Future development and establishment of "centres of excellence" and creation of a learning space

Objectives

To create a single network of centres of excellence based on the principle of appurtenance to one of the official and working languages of the Union, including a Russian-language centre of excellence; establish an updated list of key centre of excellence activities, including NGN, renewable (wind and solar) energy sources and wireless access technology.

Expected results

Sustainable operation and financing of an interconnected network of centres of excellence coordinating country activities relating to the retraining and further training of staff and the creation of educational programmes for government bodies, high-level supervisors, operators and service providers, and supporting telecommunication development activities within the region; creation of a unified information and educational base in all of ITU's official and working languages; dissemination of best practices in the area of human resource development, including by means of distance learning.

3.5.3 ASIA-PACIFIC REGIONAL INITIATIVES

1 Telecommunication/ICT policy and regulatory cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region

Objectives

To assist members in the Asia-Pacific region to develop various regulatory skills and frameworks relating to next-generation networks and services, licensing, spectrum management, convergence, cybersecurity, internet multilingualism, universal service obligation (USO), etc., through enhanced cooperation and strengthened regional presence; enhance interconnectivity and interoperability within and among Asia-Pacific member countries, including those from APT and ASEAN; and establish mechanisms to link ITU and telecommunication/ICT policy-makers from Asia-Pacific region for sharing and exchanging information, experiences, etc.

Expected results

Further to Resolution 48 (Doha, 2006), a comprehensive proposal and implementation plan to enhance regulatory cooperation and step up activities globally, organize a series of trainings/study visits, and establish a comprehensive, cooperative and coordinated (recognizing Resolution 25 (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference) telecommunication/ICT development action plan and programme located in the Asia-Pacific region; and enhance the capabilities of policy-makers and regulators from Asia-Pacific member countries, including those from ASEAN, in the determination and implementation of programmes and strategies in telecommunications/ICTs through close collaboration between ITU and regional organizations in the Asia-Pacific region (e.g. APT, ASEAN, etc.).

2 Rural communications – Infrastructure development

Objectives

To develop infrastructure in rural areas, in order especially to ensure universal service, through two different mechanisms (e.g. competition vs. subsidization) subject to different phases of development of telecommunications/ICT in Asia and the Pacific region, taking into account the relevant Questions of study groups: a) *Competition mechanism*: To promote competition in rural areas for providing telecommunication/ICT services, promote infrastructure sharing among various service providers to bring down the costs, reduce the regulatory costs and government levies as an incentive, identify and develop suitable applications for the local rural populations (e.g. youth and women), and identify the mechanisms for support from universal service funds in a time-bound manner for the initial state of deployment of telecommunication/ICT services in rural areas; b) *Subsidized and universal service funding mechanism*: To identify the models for accelerating telecommunication/ICT development in rural communities and implement pilot projects in areas with various demographic and geographic characteristics.

Expected results

a) *Competition mechanism*: Entry of multiple service providers to provide telecommunication/ICT services in rural areas using the appropriate and cost-effective technologies; guidelines for sharing of infrastructure; guidelines to identify incentives for reducing regulatory costs and government levies to increase the growth of telecommunication/ICT services in rural areas; identification and development of a database for various applications offered by different service providers in rural areas in different countries, and development of a mechanism for encouraging the participation of local youth and women in the development of suitable applications for rural populations; and guidelines for limited and time-bound universal service mechanisms for rural areas for telecommunication/ICT services; b) *Subsidized and universal service funding mechanism*: A handbook of best practices for accelerating telecommunication/ICT development in rural communities; recommendations/guidelines on best practices for rural telecommunications/ICTs; implementation of pilot projects to demonstrate best practices for installing and maintaining the latest information and communication equipments suitable for an environment of unserved and underserved areas lacking in basic infrastructure such as electricity power and other amenities.

3 NGN planning

Objectives

To study new Questions on planning, technologies and migration strategies for next-generation networks (NGN), identifying requirements in terms of NGN software tools and evaluation criteria for NGN planning software packages, and to launch global network planning initiatives assisting Member States and Sector Members in Asia and the Pacific with smooth migration from existing telecommunication infrastructures to NGN.

Expected results

A handbook with a number of parts on NGN network planning methodologies: e.g. multi-dimension NGN network planning process, advanced NGN service demand forecasting methods, advanced NGN traffic forecasting models, advanced NGN business models, and NGN network structure and dimensioning optimization methodologies; options on appropriate and cost-effective NGN technologies and migration strategies; a guideline for selecting NGN network planning software tools; and global network planning initiative.

4 The unique telecommunication/ICT needs of Pacific islands and small island developing states (SIDS) in the Asia-Pacific region

Objectives

To identify cost-effective telecommunication/ICT technologies that can bridge the digital divide and bring digital opportunities for all, particularly small island developing states (SIDS) facing unique challenges such as isolation, distance, and lack of resources; provide a variety of solutions and best practices for the development and use of telecommunications/ICTs, including multipurpose community telecentres (MCT), that minimize the risk and uncertainty inhibiting investment in SIDS – especially in the Asia-Pacific region, since no other region has as many SIDS with remote island communities; and assist SIDS in their ongoing needs for development and maintenance of skills in the enabling telecommunication/ICT policy, regulatory, legal and operational environment to migrate to and manage new telecommunication/ICT technologies, networks and services through subregional, regional and international cooperation.

Expected results

Establishment of Question(s) in ITU study groups for identifying communication technologies which are available and will work for SIDS in a cost-effective manner; guidance for SIDS through best practices for installing and maintaining the communication equipment recommended for their unique circumstances, where basic infrastructure such as electrical power is either lacking or absent; practical advice and assistance for SIDS in utilizing communication equipment and programmes for e-health, e-education, disaster and emergency communications, etc. in their unique environment, which is different from those in remote land-based or landlocked states; and ongoing tailor-made capacity building and exchange programmes for SIDS on various aspects of telecommunications/ICTs ranging from policies, regulations and operations to technologies in a dynamically evolving digital era in order to optimize digital opportunities.

5 Strengthening the collaboration between ITU-T and ITU-D

Objectives

To assist, through ITU-D, the developing countries, especially in the Asia-Pacific region, that lack the necessary human resources to understand ITU-T Recommendations, and to enhance the application of ITU-T Recommendations for telecommunication/ICT services and equipments in the developing countries, especially in the Asia-Pacific region.

Expected results

Close coordination mechanism(s) between ITU-T and ITU-D at the regional level through the ITU Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific; guidelines for the developing countries, especially in the Asia-Pacific region, on how to understand and apply ITU-T Recommendations, particularly those having policy and regulatory implications; creation of an e-mail reflector (e.g. "ITU-T Recommendation Guide") with a pool of experts on telecommunication/ICT standards from both the developed and developing countries, through which the developing countries, especially in the Asia-Pacific region, can share their understanding and seek advice; online and/or face-to-face capacity building by experts to improve understanding of ITU-T Recommendations by the developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region; assistance to the developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region in determining whether their national standards are consistent and comply with ITU-T Recommendations; and improved participation of the developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region both in ITU-T and ITU-D, which will lead to better use of international standards by those countries.

3.5.4 ARAB REGIONAL INITIATIVES

1 ICT indicators and capacity building for measuring them

Objectives

To establish information-society indicators and capacity building to facilitate measuring those indicators in the Arab region.

Expected results

- Description of the major information-society indicators in the Arab world, to enable comparison with other countries and regions.
- Enable the concerned parties to use the database in the process of decision-making and planning the development of the information society.
- Increase studies and research on information society in terms of facilitating the work of researchers by providing a large quantity of information on the information society in the Arab world.

2 Development of an Arab regulatory framework/guidelines for ICT

Objectives

To develop a system for the Arab countries containing guidelines on telecommunication and information technology, to be used as a reference by the Arab countries, so as to enable them to achieve their national strategic objectives.

This will involve:

- implementing a system for the Arab countries containing guidelines on telecommunication and information technology, taking into account the changes that have occurred in this sector;
- improving ICT sector regulations in the Arab countries and simplifying the related procedures;
- setting guidelines for e-business and e-transactions in the Arab countries.

Expected results

- Reduction of the digital divide.
- Provision of advanced ICT services at reasonable rates and with high quality.
- Support the spread of e-applications such as e-government, e-commerce and the spread in the use of the internet.
- Transfer of ICT to the region.
- Harmonization of specifications and standards.
- Supporting the usage of e-applications in the Arab region (e-commerce, e-government, etc.).
- Enhancing user confidence in the security of e-transactions.
- Encourage ICT industry.

3 Arab centre for digital documentation (Memory of the Arab world)

Objectives

To establish an electronic gateway on the internet "Portal for Arab Heritage" in both Arabic and English, digitizing the Arab and the Islamic heritage and publishing packages of cultural products in different languages, including books, tapes, CDs.

To establish a museum for specimens of the scientific tools that have been used by the Arabs and set up a digital documentation centre.

Expected results

- Document the Arab heritage and publish it, in its different aspects, material and moral, such as the scientific Islamic heritage, the documentation heritage, the popular heritage, the architectural heritage, etc.
- Transfer information and traditional material and publish it using the internet and electronic media.
- Invest in the existing executive cooperation base established by UNESCO, through its grouping and its centre nodes in the region.
- Inform the new generation of the Arab world of their cultural identity by establishing a website on the internet designed to show the wonders of the treasures of the Arab and Islamic heritage, using the latest technology in the Arabic, English and French languages.
- Inform the world about the Arab civilization.
- Collect and disseminate specialized digital information on ICTs in the Arab region.

4 Connection of Arab internet networks (National access points)

Objectives

To develop nodes connecting the Arab internet networks, in order to allow traffic flow between the Arab countries through these nodes, and in order that information traffic to countries other than the Arab nations be routed through these nodes.

This will involve:

- Designing internet traffic of the Arab countries in such a way to prevent current negative aspects and building it on economic feasibility, using available tools and equipment to establish universal access nodes in addition to the existing nodes.
- Create the nodes and connect the Arab countries through these nodes.

Expected results

- Reduction in the cost of using the internet and reduction in the cost of interconnectivity to the international backbone.
- Increase in the use of the internet.
- Increase in Arabic digital content.
- Guarantee the continuity and availability of interconnection between the Arab countries in case of international network disruption.
- Improvement of quality of service, reduction of congestion and quicker applications download.
- Efficient use of infrastructure and available capacities.

5 Translation and arabization of ICT terminology

Objectives

To unify the efforts being deployed to translate and arabize ICT terminology, by developing an Arabic glossary for ICT terminology, and to facilitate use of the internet by Arab users by increasing the penetration of domain names in Arabic.

This will involve:

- Approving the terminology in Arabic in the field of ICT by all Arab countries, to facilitate interaction and exchange of information among staff working in the ICT field.
- Availability of an e-glossary for ICT terminology on the internet and on CD in three languages: Arabic, English and French.

Expected results

- Support the building of the information society in the Arab region.
- Create an entity working in the field of arabization of ICT terminology.
- Overcome the digital divide.
- Support the teaching of ICT in the Arabic language in schools and universities.

3.5.5 AFRICAN REGIONAL INITIATIVES

1 Human and institutional capacity building

Objectives

To provide Africa with human resources and skills needed for the harmonious development of the information and communication technology (ICT) sector, taking into account gender issues and emphasizing youth training.

Expected results

- Improve information systems to allow policy-makers to better conduct ICT development in Africa.
- Design and implementation of a joint human resource development strategy for the ICT sector in Africa.
- Support for the implementation of reform programmes and proposed strategies for the ICT sector in Africa.
- Increased use of African expertise through genuine cooperation between countries.
- Increased access to ICT training resources for all African stakeholders in the sector, with an emphasis on digital broadcasting needs.
- Priority use of national, subregional and regional training institutions.
- Promotion of technical cooperation between ICT training institutions to bolster capacity and resources.
- Networking between research and training institutions with a view to developing joint programmes.
- Increased availability of public access to knowledge in Africa, in particular by facilitating the creation of end-user training programmes.
- Development of Africa's knowledge economy by fostering young leaders and well-trained professionals.

- Establishment of information exchange and sharing forums between the various groups having a stake in the ICT sector in Africa, in particular young people, women and disadvantaged people.
- Strengthening legal institutions to cope with the ICT challenges, including cybercriminality.

2 Strengthening and harmonizing policy and regulatory frameworks for integration of African ICT markets

Objectives

To facilitate and enhance the reform of Africa's ICT sectors in order to achieve subregional and regional integration of ICT infrastructure, services and markets.

Expected results

Establishment of a conducive environment in Africa through subregional and regional harmonization and coordination of ICT policy and regulatory frameworks in order to facilitate:

- development of competitive African ICT markets;
- development of freely accessible pan-African services;
- harmonization of technical standards to provide increased connectivity of networks and services;
- reduction of the level of intra-continental traffic forwarded by extra-continental transit centres;
- development of universal access to networks and services, taking on board the special needs of young people, women, disadvantaged people and indigenous populations;
- tangible increase in investments, and support to existing industries;
- reduction in cost of equipments and services and harmonization of service cost and tariff structures;
- industrialization of the sector through the establishment of regional equipment manufacturers;
- migration of existing infrastructure to next-generation networks, taking into consideration convergence;
- strengthening of information security and combating spamming and cybercriminality;
- optimal use of the continent's scarce resources, including the frequency spectrum and the numbering plan;
- integration of markets and economies.

3 Development of a broadband infrastructure and achievement of regional interconnectivity

Objectives

- To provide the African countries with a broadband infrastructure to be used for subregional and continental interconnection.
- To digitize the existing switching and transmission infrastructure in countries.
- To achieve interconnection of internet nodes among countries.
- To implement regional roaming among mobile operators.
- To provide populations with better access to and quality of ICT services and improve performance indicators.

- To reduce extra-continental transit and reduce costs related to the used bandwidths charged to the continent.

Expected results

- An operational pan-African telecommunication network.
- National telecommunication equipment and transmission routes upgraded, by using modern technologies including wireless local loop for rural areas.
- Countries interconnected by means of high-capacity links.
- Transit traffic carried outside the continent reduced to less than five per cent of intra-regional traffic.
- Resources optimized through the acquisition of common bandwidth and bulk purchase of equipment.
- Service costs significantly reduced and harmonized within each subregional economic area.
- Increased participation in the building of an inclusive information society.

4 ICT applications

Objectives

- To provide African countries with coherent applications, drawn from their national e-strategies, making it possible to use modern data transmission and internet networks to provide electronic services for administration, health, education, trade and the economy as a whole.
- To share identified medical expertise by saving factor-related costs and skilful human resource deployment-related costs in e-health projects.
- To make reliable teaching facilities universally accessible as part of NEPAD's e-school projects and other e-learning initiatives.
- To use the postal network to reach out to rural areas as part of the implementation of the e-post project for Africa.
- To improve and optimize administration management through introduction of simplified, fast and reliable procedures (government, customs, revenue authority, local governments, etc.).
- To improve food self-sufficiency by making optimum use of climatic data for agriculture and animal husbandry, to better match production to market needs (e-agriculture), and to facilitate heritage conservation (wildlife, forests), within the framework of e-environment projects.

Expected results

- Publication of reliable, up-to-date administrative information for the population.
- Gains in terms of time and productivity, improved operations and optimized income and tax collection in the public service.
- Government websites with online services established in each country.

- Qualified medical assistance and appropriate quality care provided to the population; timely response in situations of major public-health crisis, with the establishment of early-warning systems and confirmation of diagnosis in the event of communicable diseases (e.g. Ebola virus, other epizootics requiring quarantine); improved prevention of chronic diseases such as malaria and tuberculosis; and support to HIV/AIDS initiatives.
- Consolidation of conventional education by improving needy populations' access to knowledge; higher literacy rate and education level, especially in rural areas.
- Improved management of natural resources and enhanced cost-effectiveness of agricultural and livestock products, while adding value to tourist business.
- Public availability of modern information and messaging portals, with access to communication facilities that are useful in the family context or for work, so as to improve living conditions.

5 Introduction of new digital broadcasting technologies

Objectives

- To provide African countries with an upgraded television broadcasting infrastructure that is compatible with the new digital broadcasting plans (RRC-06, Geneva) and assist them with smooth transition from analogue-to-digital systems.
- To plan the broadcasting infrastructure (DVB-DAB) and make the transition to digital; plan for the establishment of digital terrestrial television (DTT) by standardizing the applicable codes as well as possible.
- To facilitate the emergence and use of new services through the use of broadband technologies.
- To improve and optimize spectrum management in order to ensure that the resources available for the introduction of new services are adequate, and produce a wave-propagation map for a tropical environment.
- To give the population a broader choice for reception of programmes and information from other continents and facilitate the visibility of local and regional productions (films, news, etc.).

Expected results

- Modernized radio and TV broadcasting with inclusion of new multimedia services.
- Improved programme-sharing and enhanced added-value for local and regional production.
- Publication of a new wave-propagation map for Africa and contribution to the elimination of harmful interference.
- Optimized storage capabilities through the creation of digital multimedia and video libraries.
- Significant reduction in the cost of subscriptions and video-on-demand services and programmes, launch of remote shopping and teaching services, etc.
- Effective participation in the building of an all-inclusive information society.
- Smooth simultaneous operation of existing analogue services and new digital broadcasting systems.

3.6 SECTION IV

RESOLUTIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS OF WTDC-06

RESOLUTION 1 (Doha, 2006)

Working procedures to be applied by study groups, other groups and the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

considering

- a) that, pursuant to the provisions of Article 21 of the ITU Constitution, the specific functions of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) include offering advice, carrying out or sponsoring studies, as necessary, on technical, economic, financial, managerial, regulatory and policy issues, including studies of specific projects in the field of telecommunications;
- b) that ITU-D shall work, among others, through telecommunication development study groups and the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG);
- c) that the general working arrangements of ITU-D are defined in the ITU Convention;
- d) that, in accordance with No. 207A of the Convention, the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) is authorized to adopt the working methods and procedures for the management of the Sector's activities in accordance with No. 145A of the Constitution,

resolves

that, for ITU-D, the general provisions of the Convention referred to in *considering* c) and d) above should be supplemented by the provisions of this resolution and its annexes.

SECTION 1 – Study groups

1 Structure of study groups

- 1.1** Study groups shall observe strictly Nos 214, 215, 215A and 215B of the Convention.
- 1.2** To facilitate their work, the study groups may set up working parties, rapporteur's groups and joint rapporteur's groups to deal with specific Questions or parts of thereof.
- 1.3** Where appropriate, regional groups may be set up to study Questions or problems, the specific nature of which makes it desirable that they be studied within the framework of one or more regions of the Union.

The establishment of regional groups should not give rise to duplication of work being carried out at the global level by the corresponding study group, its subordinate groups or any other groups established pursuant to No. 209A of the Convention.

1.4 Joint rapporteur's groups (JRG) may be established for the study of those Questions requiring the participation of experts from more than one study group. JRGs between study groups in ITU-D may be governed by these procedures. It is preferable to identify such procedures when creating such joint groups, with their terms of reference, with clear identification to whom they should report and where the final decisions will be taken.

2 Chairmen

2.1 Appointment of chairmen and vice-chairmen by WTDC shall be primarily based upon proven competence both in technical content of the study group concerned and the management skills required. Candidates should represent a broad range of Member States and Sector Members.

2.2 The mandate of the vice-chairman shall be to assist the chairman in matters relating to the management of the study group, including substitution for the chairman at official ITU-D meetings or replacement of the chairman should he or she be unable to continue with study group duties.

2.3 Vice-chairmen may be selected as chairmen of working parties or as rapporteurs.

3 Rapporteurs

3.1 Rapporteurs are appointed by a study group in order to progress the study of a Question and to develop new and revised reports, opinions and Recommendations. Rapporteurs may have responsibility for only one Question or topic.

3.2 Because of the nature of the studies, rapporteur appointments should be based both on expertise in the subject to be studied, and the ability to coordinate the work. Elements of the expected work done by the rapporteurs are described in Annex 5 to this resolution.

3.3 Clear terms of reference for the work of the rapporteur should be added to the corresponding Question, by the study group, if so needed.

3.4 One rapporteur and one or more vice-rapporteurs are appointed as appropriate by a study group for each Question. The vice-rapporteur automatically takes over chairmanship when the rapporteur is not available. Vice-rapporteurs may be representatives from Member States, Sector Members and Associates, the latter except for liaison activities.

4 Powers of the study groups

4.1 Each study group may develop draft Recommendations for approval either by WTDC or pursuant to section 5 below. Recommendations approved in accordance with either procedure shall have the same status.

4.2 Each study group may also adopt draft Questions for approval by WTDC or in accordance with the procedure described in § 15.2 of section 3 below.

4.3 In addition to the above, each study group shall be competent to adopt guidelines and reports.

4.4 In cases where the implementation of the results obtained is through activities of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), these activities should be reflected in the annual operational plan.

5 Meetings

5.1 The study groups and their subordinate groups shall normally meet at ITU headquarters.

5.2 The meetings of the study groups and their subordinate groups studying Questions should take place, to the extent possible, in the ITU-D regions, when invited by Member States or Sector Members, in order to facilitate the attendance of developing countries. Such invitations shall normally be considered only if they are submitted to WTDC, to TDAG or to an ITU-D study group meeting. They shall be finally accepted after consultation with the Director of BDT if they are compatible with the resources allocated to ITU-D by the Council.

Regional and subregional meetings offer a valuable opportunity for information exchange and for the development of management and technical experience and expertise. Every opportunity should be taken to provide additional opportunities for experts from developing countries to gain experience by participating in regional and subregional meetings which deal with study group work.

5.3 The invitations referred to in § 5.2 above shall be issued and accepted, and the corresponding meetings outside Geneva organized, only if the conditions laid down in Resolution 5 (Kyoto, 1994) of the Plenipotentiary Conference and ITU Council Decision 304 are met.

5.4 Subordinate groups may benefit from meetings held via teleconference or other alternative arrangements rather than at ITU headquarters or in a region. A request by a rapporteur for such a meeting should be submitted to and approved by the parent study group.

5.5 The dates, place and agenda for meetings of subordinate groups shall be agreed by the parent study group.

6 Participation in meetings

6.1 Member States, Sector Members, Associates and other entities duly authorized to participate in ITU-D activities shall be represented in the study groups and other groups in whose work they wish to take part by participants registered by name and chosen by them as representatives to make an effective contribution to the study of the Questions entrusted to those study groups. Chairmen of meetings may invite individual experts, as appropriate, to present their specific point of view, without taking part in the decision-making process.

6.2 The Director of BDT shall keep up to date a list of the Member States, Sector Members, Associates and other entities participating in each study group.

7 Frequency of meetings

7.1 The study groups shall in principle meet at least once a year during the interval between two WTDCs. However, additional meetings may take place with the approval of the Director of BDT, having regard to the priorities laid down by the preceding WTDC and the resources of ITU-D.

7.2 To ensure the best possible use of the resources of ITU-D and of those participating in its work, the Director, in collaboration with the study group chairmen, shall establish and publish a timetable of meetings well in advance. The timetable shall take account of such factors as the capacity of the ITU common services, document requirements for meetings and the need for close coordination with the activities of the other Sectors and other international or regional organizations.

7.3 In the establishment of the work plan, the timetable of meetings must take into account the time required for participating bodies to prepare contributions and documentation.

7.4 All study groups shall meet sufficiently in advance of WTDC in order to enable the final reports and draft Recommendations to be disseminated within the required deadlines.

8 Establishment of work plans and preparation of meetings

8.1 After each WTDC, a work plan shall be proposed by each study group chairman, with the assistance of BDT. The work programme shall take account of the programme of activities and priorities adopted by WTDC.

The implementation of the work plan will, however, depend to a large extent on the contributions received from Member States, Sector Members and Associates, duly authorized entities or organizations, and BDT, as well as on the opinions expressed by participants in the meetings.

8.2 An administrative circular with an agenda of the meeting, a draft work plan and a list of the Questions to be studied shall be prepared by BDT with the help of the chairman of the study group concerned.

The administrative circular must reach the bodies participating in the work of the study group concerned at least three months before the opening of the meeting.

A registration form shall be appended to the administrative circular so that the bodies concerned can announce their intention to participate in the meeting. The form must then be returned to BDT as soon as possible. It shall contain the names and addresses of intended participants, or at least the number of participants expected if their names cannot be provided. This information will facilitate the registration process and the timely preparation of registration materials.

9 Study group management teams

9.1 Each ITU-D study group has a management team composed of the chairman, the vice-chairmen of the study group, the chairmen and vice-chairmen of working parties, the rapporteurs and vice-rapporteurs.

9.2 Study group management teams should maintain contact among themselves and with BDT by electronic means to the extent practicable. Appropriate liaison meetings should be arranged, as necessary, with study group chairmen from the other Sectors.

9.3 The ITU-D study group management team should meet prior to the meeting of the study group, in order to properly organize the coming meeting, including the establishment of a time-management plan.

9.4 A joint management team will be established, chaired by the Director of BDT, composed of the ITU-D study group management teams.

9.5 The role of the joint management team of the ITU-D study groups is to:

- advise BDT management on the estimation of the budget requirements of the study groups;
- coordinate issues common to study groups;
- prepare joint proposals to TDAG or other relevant bodies in ITU-D if the need arises;
- finalize the dates of the study group meetings;
- deal with any other issue that may arise.

10 Preparation of reports

10.1 Reports of the study group's work can be of four major types:

- a) Progress reports
- b) Meeting reports

- c) Output reports
- d) Study group reports to WTDC.

10.2 Progress reports

The following list of items is suggested for inclusion in progress reports:

- a) brief summary of the status and expected contents of the output report;
- b) conclusions or titles of reports or Recommendations sought to be endorsed;
- c) status of work with reference to the work plan, including baseline document, if available;
- d) draft new or revised reports, guidelines or Recommendations, or reference to source documents containing the Recommendations;
- e) draft liaison statements in response to or requesting action by other study groups or organizations;
- f) reference to normal or delayed contributions considered part of assigned study and a summary of contributions considered;
- g) reference to submissions attributed to collaborators of other organizations;
- h) major issues remaining for resolution and draft agenda of future approved meetings, if any;
- i) list of attendees at meetings held since the last progress report;
- j) list of normal contributions or temporary documents containing the reports of all rapporteur's group meetings since the last progress report.

The progress report may make reference to the meeting reports in order to avoid duplication of information.

Progress reports by rapporteurs shall be submitted to the study group for approval.

10.3 Meeting reports

Prepared by the study group chairman, the working party chairman or the rapporteur, assisted by BDT, meeting reports shall contain a synopsis of the outcome of the work and emerging trends. They must also indicate items which require further study at the next meeting. The reports should also refer to contributions and/or documents issued during a meeting, main results (including Recommendations and guidelines), directives for future work (including referral of output reports to BDT for incorporation into relevant BDT programme activities as appropriate), planned meetings of working parties, if any, rapporteur's groups and other groups, and liaison statements endorsed at the study group level. A template for liaison statements is set out in Annex 3 to this resolution.

The report of a study group's first meeting in the study period shall include a list of the chairmen and vice-chairmen of working parties, if any, and of any other groups that may have been created, and of the rapporteur and vice-rapporteurs appointed. This list shall be updated, as required, in subsequent reports.

10.4 Output reports

Such reports represent the expected deliverable, i.e. the principal results of a study. The items to be covered are indicated in the expected output of the Question concerned. Such reports shall be limited to a maximum of 50 pages, with relevant electronic references as needed.

10.5 Study group reports to WTDC

10.5.1 The final report of each study group to WTDC shall be the responsibility of the chairman of the study group concerned, and shall be limited to:

- a summary of the results achieved by the study group during the study period in question, describing the work of the study group and the outcome which resulted;
- reference to any new or revised Recommendations approved by correspondence by Member States during the study period;
- the text of Recommendations submitted to WTDC for approval;
- a list of any new or revised Questions proposed for study during the next study period;
- a list of Questions proposed for deletion.

10.5.2 The preparation of Recommendations should follow the general practice of the Union. Examples include the recommendations and resolutions of WTDCs, and of the regional telecommunication development conferences. A Recommendation should stand alone. Information may be annexed to the Recommendations, in order to accomplish this. A model Recommendation is set out in Annex 1 to this resolution.

SECTION 2 – Submission, processing and presentation of contributions

11 Submission of contributions

11.1 Member States, Sector Members, Associates, duly authorized entities and organizations, and the chairmen and vice-chairmen of study groups or other groups should submit their contributions to current studies to the Director of BDT.

11.2 Such contributions should, *inter alia*, deal with the results of experience gained in telecommunication development, describe case studies and/or contain proposals for promoting balanced worldwide and regional telecommunication development. To the extent possible, contributions should be submitted in a convenient electronic form.

11.3 In order to facilitate the study of certain Questions, BDT may submit consolidated documents or the results of case studies. Such documents will be treated as contributions.

11.4 In principle, documents submitted to the study groups as contributions should not exceed five pages. For existing texts, cross-references should henceforth be used instead of repeating material *in extenso*. Information material can be placed in annexes or supplied on request as background documentation. A form for submission of documents is set out in Annex 2 to this resolution.

11.5 Contributions should, as far as possible, be submitted to BDT in electronic format and the collaboration between study group members should be, as far as possible, by electronic means. BDT should provide all study group members with appropriate access to electronic documentation for their work, and promote the provision of appropriate systems and facilities to support the conduct of study group work by electronic means in all the official and working languages of ITU.

12 Processing of contributions

a) Documents for action

12.1 Contributions requiring action from the meeting under the terms of its agenda received at least two months before a meeting shall be published and distributed in time for the said meeting.

The Director of BDT shall assemble the documentation and, for those contributions received before the deadline, arrange any translation needed as well as disseminate this documentation to participants in the requested working languages before the date set for the meeting of a study group or other group.

When a document for action is large, and after consultation with the chairman of the study group or other group involved, it may be agreed that the Director shall send out the document without having it translated.

12.2 Documents originating from rapporteur meetings, excluding their output reports, which go to the study group meetings, and which are received not later than one month before the meeting, will be treated according to § 12.1 above.

12.3 Contributions requiring action from the meeting under the terms of its agenda received by the Director less than two months, but at least seven calendar days, before the opening of a meeting, will not be processed in accordance with the procedure outlined in § 12.1 above, and shall be published as "delayed contributions" in the original language only (and in any other working language into which they may have been translated by the originator). In addition, contributions which are not available to participants at the opening of the meeting shall not be considered.

12.4 Contributions requiring action from the meeting under the terms of its agenda received by the Director less than seven days before the opening of a meeting shall be considered as delayed contributions and shall not be entered on the agenda. They shall not be distributed but will be held for the next meeting. Contributions judged to be of extreme importance and urgency might be admitted by the Director in consultation with the chairman at shorter notice, provided that these contributions are available to participants at the opening of the meeting.

12.5 BDT shall not reissue delayed contributions as normal contributions unless the relevant group concerned decides otherwise in cases of special interest and importance. Delayed contributions shall not be incorporated in reports as annexes.

b) Documents for information

12.6 Documents submitted to the meeting for information only and not requiring any specific action under the agenda (e.g. descriptive documents submitted by Member States, Sector Members, Associates or duly authorized entities and organizations, general policy statements, etc.), as well as other contributions considered by the study group chairman, in consultation with the author, as being for information should be published, in the original language only, in a limited number of copies, for consultation. Delegates may ask BDT to provide them with a copy.

Information documents judged to be of extreme importance might be translated if requested by the meeting concerned.

12.7 A list of information documents, with summaries, should be translated to the extent possible.

c) Background documents

12.8 Reference documents containing only background information relating to issues addressed at the meeting (data, statistics, detailed reports of other organizations, etc.) should be available upon request in the original language only and, if available, also in electronic format.

d) Temporary documents

12.9 Temporary documents are documents produced during the meeting to assist in the development of the work.

13 Electronic access

BDT will electronically post all input and output documents (e.g. contributions, draft Recommendations, liaison statements and reports) as soon as electronic versions of these documents are available.

Paper versions are to be dispatched as soon as printed to countries that have requested a paper copy; and a dedicated, constantly updated webpage shall be established as far as practicable for the meeting concerned.

14 Presentation of contributions

14.1 Contributions for action shall be relevant, clear, concise and comprehensive.

14.2 A cover page shall be prepared indicating the relevant Question(s), agenda item, date, source (originating country and/or organization, address, telephone number, fax number, and possible e-mail address of the author or contact person), as well as the title of the contribution. Indication should also be made as to whether the document is for action or for information and the action required, if any, and an abstract should be provided. A model of a sheet for submission of a document is set out in Annex 2 to this resolution.

14.3 If existing text needs to be revised, adequate indications should be given to identify the changes proposed.

14.4 Contributions submitted to the meeting for information only (see § 12.6 above) should include a summary prepared by the contributor.

SECTION 3 – Proposal and adoption of new and revised Questions

15 Proposal of new and revised Questions

15.1 Proposed new Questions for ITU-D shall be submitted at least three months prior to a WTDC by Member States and Sector Members authorized to participate in the activities of the Sector.

15.2 However, an ITU-D study group may also propose new or revised Questions at the initiative of a member of that study group if there is sufficient consensus on the subject. These proposals shall be submitted to TDAG for consideration.

15.3 Each proposed Question should state the reasons for the proposal, the precise objective of the tasks to be performed, the urgency of the study and any contacts to be established with the other two Sectors and/or other international or regional bodies. Originators of Questions should use the template/outline provided in Annex 3 to this resolution, in order to ensure that all relevant information is included.

16 Adoption of new and revised Questions by WTDC

16.1 At least two months before a WTDC, TDAG shall meet to examine proposed new Questions and, if necessary, recommend amendments to take account of BDT's general development policy objectives and associated priorities.

16.2 At least one month before a WTDC, the Director of BDT shall communicate to Member States and Sector Members a list of the Questions proposed, together with any changes recommended by TDAG, and make these available on the ITU website.

17 Adoption of proposed new and revised Questions between two WTDCs

17.1 Between two WTDCs, Member States, Sector Members, and duly authorized entities and organizations participating in ITU-D activities may submit proposed new and revised Questions to the study group concerned.

17.2 Each proposed new and revised Question should be based on the template/outline set out in § 15.3 above.

17.3 If the study group concerned agrees by consensus to study the proposed new and revised Question and some Member States, Sector Members or other duly authorized entities and organizations (normally at least four) have committed themselves to support the work (e.g. by contributions, provision of rapporteurs or editors and/or hosting of meetings), it shall address the draft text thereof to the Director of BDT with all the necessary information.

17.4 The Director, after endorsement by TDAG, shall inform Member States, Sector Members and other duly authorized entities of the new and revised Questions by circular letter.

SECTION 4 – Deletion of Questions

18 Introduction

Study groups may decide to delete Questions. In each individual case, it has to decide which of the following alternative procedures is the most appropriate one.

18.1 Deletion of a Question by WTDC

Upon the decision of the study group, the chairman shall include in the report to WTDC the request to delete a Question. WTDC may approve this request.

18.2 Deletion of a Question between WTDCs

At a study group meeting, it may be agreed, by consensus among those present, to delete a Question, e.g. because work has been terminated or because no contributions have been received at that meeting and at the previous study group meetings. Notification of this agreement, including an explanatory summary about the reasons for the deletion, shall be provided by administrative circular. If a simple majority of the Member States has no objection to the deletion within two months, the deletion will come into force. Otherwise the issue will be referred back to the study group.

18.3 Those Member States that indicate disapproval are invited to provide their reasons and to indicate the possible changes that would facilitate further study of the Question.

18.4 Notification of the result will be given in an administrative circular, and TDAG will be informed by a report from the Director of BDT. In addition, the Director shall publish a list of deleted Questions whenever appropriate, but at least once by the middle of a study period.

SECTION 5 – Approval of new or revised Recommendations

19 Introduction

After adoption at a study group meeting, Member States can approve Recommendations, either by correspondence or at a WTDC.

19.1 When the study of a Question has reached a mature state resulting in a draft new or revised Recommendation, the approval process to be followed is in two stages:

- adoption by the study group concerned (see § 19.3);
- approval by the Member States (see § 19.4).

This process shall also be used for the deletion of existing Recommendations.

19.2 In the interest of stability, revision of a Recommendation should not normally be considered for approval within two years, unless the proposed revision complements rather than changes the agreement reached in the previous version.

19.3 Adoption of a new or revised Recommendation by a study group

19.3.1 A study group may consider and adopt draft new or revised Recommendations, when the draft texts have been prepared sufficiently in advance of the study group meeting so that it is anticipated that the draft texts in the working languages will have been distributed, in either paper and/or electronic form, at least four weeks prior to the start of the study group meeting.

19.3.2 A rapporteur's group or any other group which feels that its draft new or revised Recommendation(s) is (are) sufficiently mature, can send the text to the study group chairman to start the adoption procedure according to § 19.3.3 below.

19.3.3 Upon request of the study group chairman, the Director of BDT shall explicitly indicate the intention to seek approval of new or revised Recommendations under this procedure for adoption at a study group meeting when announcing the convening of the relevant study group meeting. The announcement shall include the specific intent of the proposal in summarized form. Reference shall be provided to the document where the text of the draft new or revised Recommendation may be found.

This information shall be distributed to all Member States and Sector Members and should be sent by the Director so that it shall be received, so far as practicable, at least two months before the meeting.

19.3.4 Adoption of a draft new or revised Recommendation must be unopposed by any Member State.

19.4 Approval of new or revised Recommendations by Member States

19.4.1 When a draft new or revised Recommendation has been adopted by a study group, the text shall be submitted for approval by Member States.

19.4.2 Approval of new or revised Recommendations may be sought:

- at a WTDC;
- by consultation of the Member States as soon as the relevant study group has adopted the text.

19.4.3 At the study group meeting during which a draft is adopted, the study group shall decide to submit the draft new or revised Recommendation for approval, either at the next WTDC or by consultation of the Member States.

19.4.4 When it is decided to submit a draft to WTDC, the study group chairman shall inform the Director and request that he take the necessary action to ensure that it is included in the agenda of the conference.

19.4.5 When it is decided to submit a draft for approval by consultation, the conditions and procedures hereafter will apply.

19.4.6 At the study group meeting the decision of the delegations to apply this approval procedure must also be unopposed. A delegation may advise at the study group meeting that it is abstaining from the decision to apply the procedure. This delegation's presence shall then be ignored for the purposes of this decision. Such an abstention may subsequently be revoked, but only during the course of the study group meeting.

Exceptionally, but only during the study group meeting, delegations may request more time to consider their positions. Unless advised of formal opposition from any of these delegations within a period of one month after the last day of the meeting, the approval process by consultation shall continue. If formal objection is received, the draft shall be submitted to the next WTDC for consideration.

19.4.7 For the application of the approval procedure by consultation, within one month of the adoption of a draft new or revised Recommendation by a study group, the Director shall request Member States to indicate within three months whether they approve or do not approve the proposal. This request shall be accompanied by the complete final text, in the working languages, of the proposed new or revised Recommendation.

19.4.8 The Director shall also advise Sector Members participating in the work of the relevant study group under the provisions of Article 19 of the Convention that Member States are being asked to respond to a consultation on a proposed new or revised Recommendation, but only Member States are entitled to respond. This advice should be accompanied by the complete final texts, for information only.

19.4.9 If 70 per cent or more of the replies from Member States indicate approval, the proposal shall be accepted. If the proposal is not accepted, it shall be referred back to the study group.

Any comments received along with responses to the consultation shall be collected by the Director and submitted to the study group for consideration.

19.4.10 Those Member States which indicate that they do not approve are encouraged to state their reasons and to participate in the future consideration by the study group and its subordinate groups.

19.4.11 The Director shall promptly notify, by circular letter, the results of the above consultation approval procedure. The Director shall arrange that this information also be included in the next possible ITU Notification.

19.4.12 Should minor, purely editorial amendments or correction of evident oversights or inconsistencies in the text as presented for approval be necessary, the Director may correct these with the approval of the chairman of the relevant study group.

19.4.13 ITU shall publish the approved new or revised Recommendations in the official and working languages as soon as practicable.

20 Reservations

If a delegation elects not to oppose the approval of a Recommendation but wishes to enter reservations on one or more aspects, such reservations shall be mentioned in a concise note appended to the text of the Recommendation concerned.

SECTION 6 – Support to the study groups and their subordinate groups

21 The Director of BDT should ensure that, within the limits of existing budgetary resources, the study groups and their subordinate groups have appropriate support to conduct their work programmes as outlined in the terms of reference and as envisioned by the WTDC's work plan for the Sector. In particular, support may be provided in the following forms:

- a) appropriate administrative and professional staff support;
- b) contracting of outside expertise, as necessary;
- c) coordination with regional and subregional telecommunication organizations.

SECTION 7 – Other groups

22 As far as applicable, the same rules of procedure for study groups in this resolution should also apply to other groups referred to in No. 209A of the Convention and their meetings, for example in respect of the for submission of contributions. However, these groups shall not adopt Questions nor deal with Recommendations.

SECTION 8 – Telecommunication Development Advisory Group

23 In accordance with No. 215C of the Convention, TDAG shall be open to representatives of administrations of Member States and representatives of Sector Members and to chairmen and vice-chairmen of the study groups and other groups. Its principal duties are to review priorities, programmes, operations, financial matters and strategies in ITU-D; to review the implementation of the operational plan of the preceding period in order to identify areas in which BDT has not achieved or was not able to achieve the objectives laid down in that plan, and advise the Director of BDT on the necessary corrective measures; to review progress in the implementation of its work programme; to provide guidelines for the work of the study groups; and to recommend measures, *inter alia*, to foster cooperation and coordination with the Radiocommunication Sector, the Telecommunication Standardization Sector and the General Secretariat, as well as with other relevant development and financial institutions.

24 A world telecommunication development conference shall appoint the TDAG bureau, comprising the chairman and the vice-chairmen of TDAG. The chairmen of ITU-D study groups are members of the TDAG bureau.

In appointing the chairman and the vice-chairmen, particular consideration shall be given to the requirements of competence and equitable geographical distribution, and to the need to promote more efficient participation by developing countries.

25 WTDC may assign temporary authority to TDAG to consider and act on matters specified by WTDC. TDAG may consult with the Director on these matters, if necessary. WTDC should assure itself that the special functions entrusted to TDAG do not require financial expenses exceeding the ITU-D budget. The report on TDAG activity on the fulfilment of specific functions shall be submitted to the next WTDC. Such authority shall terminate when the following WTDC meets, although WTDC may decide to extend it for a designated period.

26 TDAG holds regular scheduled meetings, included in the ITU-D timetable of meetings. The meetings should take place as necessary, but at least once a year. The timing of meetings should be such as to allow TDAG to effectively review the draft operational plan before its adoption and implementation. TDAG meetings should not take place in conjunction with the study group meetings.

27 In the interest of minimizing the length and costs of the meetings, the chairman of TDAG should collaborate with the Director in making appropriate advance preparation, for example by identifying the major issues for discussion.

28 In general, the same rules of procedure as for study groups in this resolution should also apply to TDAG and its meetings, for example in respect of the submission of contributions. However, at the discretion of the chairman, written proposals may be submitted during the TDAG meeting, provided they are based on ongoing discussions taking place during the meeting and are intended to assist in resolving conflicting views which exist during the meeting.

29 In order to facilitate its task, TDAG may complement these working procedures with additional procedures.

30 After each meeting, a concise summary of conclusions shall be drawn up by the secretariat to be distributed in accordance with normal ITU-D procedures. It should contain only TDAG proposals, recommendations and conclusions in respect to the above items.

In accordance with No. 215JA of the Convention, at its last meeting prior to WTDC, TDAG shall prepare a report for WTDC. This report should summarize TDAG's activities on the matters assigned to it by WTDC and offer advice on allocation of work, proposals on ITU-D working methods, strategies and relations with other relevant bodies inside and outside ITU, as appropriate. This report shall be transmitted to the Director for submission to the conference.

ANNEX 1 TO RESOLUTION 1 (Doha, 2006)

Model for drafting Recommendations

ITU-D (general terminology applicable to all Recommendations),

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (terminology only applicable to Recommendations approved at a WTDC),

considering

This section should contain various general background references giving the reasons for the study. The references should normally refer to ITU documents and/or resolutions.

recognizing

This section should contain specific factual background statements such as "the sovereign right of each Member State" or studies which have formed a basis for the work.

taking into account

This section should detail other factors that have to be considered, such as national laws and regulations, regional policy decisions and other applicable global issues.

noting

This section should indicate generally accepted items or information that support the recommendation.

convinced

This section should contain details of factors that form the basis of the Recommendation. These could include objectives of government regulatory policy, choice of financing sources, ensuring fair competition, etc.

recommends

This section should contain a general sentence, leading into detailed action points:

specific action point

specific action point

specific action point

etc.

Note that the above list of *action verbs* is not exhaustive. Other *action verbs* may be used when appropriate. Existing Recommendations provide examples.

ANNEX 2 TO RESOLUTION 1 (Doha, 2006)

Document for submission of contributions for action/for information

CONTRIBUTION

Electronic version (Winword or RTF only) to be sent to:	<i>devsg1@itu.int</i> for SG 1 Questions <i>devsg2@itu.int</i> for SG 2 Questions
Paper version to be sent to:	ITU/BDT, STG Secretariat, Fax +41 22 7305484

Date: **For action** **For information** [Please indicate which is appropriate]

ITU-D Study Group:

Question:

Title of contribution:

Revision to previous contribution (Yes/No)

If yes, please indicate document number:

[Any changes in a previous text should be indicated by revision marks]

Name of contact point:

Administration/organization/company:

Tel.:

Fax:

E-mail:

Action required

[Please indicate what is expected from the meeting (contributions **for action** only)]

Abstract

[Please provide a resumé of a few lines]

[Insert text of contribution here or attach file]

ANNEX 3 TO RESOLUTION 1 (Doha, 2006)

Template/outline for proposed Questions and issues for study and consideration by ITU-D

* *Information in italics describes the information which should be provided by the originator under each heading.*

Title of Question or issue (the title replaces this heading)

1 Statement of the situation or problem (*the notes follow these headings*)

* *Provide an overall general description of the situation or problem which is proposed for study, with specific focus on:*

- the implications for developing countries and LDCs;
- gender perspective; and
- how a solution will benefit these countries. Indicate why the problem or situation warrants study at this time.

2 Question or issue for study

* *State the Question or issue that is proposed for study, expressed as clearly as possible. The tasks should be tightly focused.*

3 Expected output

* *Provide a detailed description of the expected output of the study. This should include a general indication of the organizational level or status of those who are expected to use and to benefit from the output.*

4 Timing

* *Indicate the required timing, noting that the urgency of the output will influence both the method used to carry out the study, and the depth and breadth of the study.*

5 Proposers/sponsors

* *Identify by organization and contact point those proposing and supporting the study.*

6 Sources of input

* *Indicate what types of organizations are expected to provide contributions to further the work, e.g. Member States, Sector Members, Associates, other UN agencies, regional groups, BDT focal points as appropriate, etc.*

* *Also include any other information, including potentially useful resources, that will be helpful to those responsible for carrying out the study.*

7 Target audience

* *Indicate expected types of target audience, by noting all relevant points on the matrix which follows:*

	Developed countries	Developing countries	LDCs
Telecom policy-makers	*	*	*
Telecom regulators	*	*	*
Service providers/operators	*	*	*
Manufacturers	*	*	*

Where appropriate, please provide explanatory notes as to why certain matrix points were included or excluded.

a) Target audience – Who specifically will use the output

* *Indicate as precisely as possible which individuals/groups/regions within the target organizations will use the output.*

b) Proposed methods for the implementation of the results

* *In the originator's opinion, how should the results of this work best be distributed to and used by the target audience.*

8 Proposed methods of handling the Question or issue

a) How?

* *Indicate the suggested handling of the proposed Question or issue*

- 1) Within a study group:
 - Question (over a multi-year study period)
- 2) Within regular BDT activity:
 - Programmes
 - Projects
 - Expert consultants
- 3) In other ways – describe (e.g. regional, within other organizations, jointly with other organizations, etc.)

b) Why?

* *Explain why you selected the alternative under a) above*

9 Coordination

* *Include, inter alia, the requirements for coordination of the study with all of:*

- regular ITU-D activities;
- other study group Questions or issues;
- regional organizations, as appropriate;
- work in progress in the other ITU Sectors.

10 BDT programme link

* *Note the BDT programme that would best contribute to, help facilitate, and make use of the outputs and results of this Question.*

11 Other relevant information

* *Include any other information that will be helpful in establishing how this Question or issue should best be studied, and on what schedule.*

ANNEX 4 TO RESOLUTION 1 (Doha, 2006)

Template for liaison statements

Information to be included in the liaison statement:

- 1) List the appropriate Question numbers of the originating and destination study groups.
- 2) Identify the study group or rapporteur's group meeting at which the liaison was prepared.
- 3) Include a concise and clear subject. If this is in reply to a liaison statement, make this clear, e.g. "Reply to the liaison statement from (*source and date*) concerning ...".
- 4) Identify the study group(s), if known, or other organizations to which sent.

NOTE – Can be sent to more than one organization.

- 5) Indicate the level of approval of such liaison statement, e.g. study group, or state that the liaison statement has been agreed at a rapporteur's group meeting.
- 6) Indicate if the liaison statement is sent for action or comments, or for information only.

NOTE – If sent to more than one organization, indicate this for each one.

- 7) If action is requested, indicate the date by which a reply is required.
- 8) Include the name and address of the contact person.

NOTE – The text of the liaison statement should be concise and clear using a minimum of jargon.

NOTE – Among ITU-D groups liaison statements should be discouraged, and problems solved through informal contacts.

Example of a liaison statement:

QUESTIONS : 11/1 of ITU-D Study Group 1 and 11/2 of ITU-D Study Group 2
SOURCE : ITU-D, Rapporteur's Group for Question 11/2
MEETING : Geneva, September 2006
SUBJECT : Request for information/comments – Reply to liaison statement from ITU-R/ITU-T WP 1/4

LIAISON STATEMENT

TO : ITU-T, ITU-R, WP 1/4, etc.
APPROVAL : Agreed to at the rapporteur's group meeting ...
FOR : ITU-R WP 1/4 for action; others for information
DEADLINE : Reply by mid-May 2007
CONTACT : [Name], rapporteur for Question [number]
[Administration/organization/company]
[Full address]
[Tel./Fax/e-mail]

ANNEX 5 TO RESOLUTION 1 (Doha, 2006)

Rapporteur's checklist

- 1 Establish a group of collaborators, often referred to as a *rapporteur's group*, to participate in the progress of the study. An updated list of collaborators should be kept by BDT.
 - 2 Establish a work plan in consultation with the group of collaborators. The work plan should be reviewed periodically by the study group and contain the following:
 - list of tasks to be completed;
 - target dates for milestones;
 - results anticipated, including titles of output documents;
 - liaison required with other groups, and schedules for liaisons, if known;
 - proposed meeting(s) of rapporteur's group and estimated dates, with request for interpretation, if any.
 - 3 Adopt work methods appropriate to the group. Use of electronic document handling (EDH), electronic and facsimile mail to exchange views is strongly encouraged.
 - 4 Act as chairman at all meetings of the group of collaborators. If special meetings of the group of collaborators are necessary, give appropriate advance notice.
 - 5 Delegate portions of the work to vice-rapporteurs or other collaborators, depending on the workload.
 - 6 Keep the study group management team regularly informed of the work progress. In case no progress can be reported on a given Question between two study group meetings, the rapporteur should nevertheless submit a report indicating the possible reasons for the lack of progress. To allow the chairman and BDT to take the necessary steps for the work to be done on the Question, reports should be submitted at least two months before the study group meeting.
 - 7 Keep the study group informed of the progress of work through reports to study group meetings. The reports should be in the form of white contributions (when substantial progress has been made such as completion of draft recommendations or a report) or temporary documents.
 - 8 The progress report mentioned in §§ 6 and 7 above should, as far as applicable, comply with the format given in § 10.2 of section 1 of this resolution.
 - 9 Ensure that liaison statements are submitted as soon as possible after all meetings, with copies to the study group chairmen and BDT. Liaison statements must contain the information described on the *Template for liaison statements* described in Annex 4 to this resolution. BDT may provide assistance in distributing the liaison statements.
 - 10 Oversee the quality of texts up to and including the final text submitted for approval.
-

RESOLUTION 2 (Doha, 2006)

Establishment of study groups

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

considering

- a) that, for carrying out the studies entrusted to the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D), it is appropriate to set up study groups, as provided for in Article 17 of the ITU Convention, to deal with specific telecommunication questions of general interest to developing countries, taking into consideration the ITU strategic plan and goals for 2008-2011, and prepare relevant outputs in the form of reports, guidelines and/or Recommendations for the development of telecommunications;
- b) that the mandate for each study group needs to be clearly defined, in order to avoid duplication of effort between study groups and other groups (established pursuant to No. 209A of the Convention) and to ensure the coherence of the overall work programme of ITU-D;
- c) the need to avoid duplication between studies undertaken by ITU-D and those carried out by other Sectors of the Union;
- d) the successful results of the studies, under the Questions adopted by the World Telecommunication Development Conference (Istanbul, 2002) and assigned to the two study groups,

resolves

- 1 to create within the Sector two study groups, with a clear responsibility and mandates as set out in Annex 1 to this resolution;
- 2 that each study group will study the Questions adopted by this conference and assigned to it as shown in Annex 2 to this resolution, and those adopted between two world telecommunication development conferences in accordance with the provisions of Resolution 1 (Doha, 2006) of this conference;
- 3 that the study group Questions and BDT programmes should be directly linked in order to enhance awareness and use of the BDT programmes and the study group output documents, so that the study groups and the BDT programmes benefit from each other's activities, resources and expertise;
- 4 that the study groups should make use of the relevant outputs of the other two Sectors;
- 5 that the study groups may also consider materials available from other ITU sources relevant to their mandates, as appropriate;
- 6 that the study groups will be managed by the chairmen and vice-chairmen as shown in Annex 3 to this resolution.

ANNEX 1 TO RESOLUTION 2 (Doha, 2006)

Mandate of ITU-D study groups

1 Study Group 1

Telecommunication development strategies and policies

- National telecommunication policies and regulatory strategies which best enable countries to benefit from the impetus of telecommunications as an engine of economic, social and cultural development.
- Finance and economics, including World Trade Organization (WTO) issues, tariff policies, case studies, application of accounting principles as developed by ITU-T Study Group 3, private-sector development and partnership.

2 Study Group 2

Development and management of telecommunication services and networks and ICT applications

- Methods, techniques and approaches that are the most suitable and successful for service provision in planning, developing, implementing, operating, maintaining and sustaining telecommunication services which optimize their value to users. This work will include specific emphasis on telecommunication network security, mobile communication and communications for rural and remote areas, with particular focus and emphasis on applications supported by telecommunications.
- The implementation and technical application of information and communication technology, using studies by the others Sectors, taking into account the special requirements of the developing countries.

ANNEX 2 TO RESOLUTION 2 (Doha, 2006)

Questions assigned by the World Telecommunication Development Conference to ITU-D study groups

Study Group 1

- **Question 6-2/1:** Regulatory impact of next-generation networks on interconnection
- **Question 7-2/1:** Regulatory policies on universal access to broadband services
- **Question 10-2/1:** Regulation for licensing and authorization of converging services
- **Question 12-2/1:** Tariff policies, tariff models and methods of determining the costs of services on national telecommunication networks, including next-generation networks
- **Question 18-1/1:** Domestic enforcement of telecommunication laws, rules, and regulations by national telecommunication regulatory authorities
- **Question 19-1/1:** Implementation of IP telephony in developing countries
- **Question 20/1:** Access to telecommunication services for people with disabilities
- **Question 21/1:** Impact of telecommunication development on the creation of employment
- **Question 22/1:** Securing information and communication networks: Best practices for developing a culture of cybersecurity

Study Group 2

- **Question: 9-2/2:** Identification of study topics in the ITU-T and ITU-R study groups which are of particular interest to developing countries
- **Question 10-2/2:** Telecommunications for rural and remote areas
- **Question 11-2/2:** Examination of terrestrial digital sound and television broadcasting technologies and systems, including cost/benefit analyses, interoperability of digital terrestrial systems with existing analogue networks, and methods of migration from analogue terrestrial techniques to digital techniques
- **Question 14-2/2:** Telecommunications for e-health
- **Question 17-2/2:** Progress on activities for e-services/applications in the world
- **Question 18-1/2:** Implementation aspects of IMT-2000 and information-sharing on systems beyond IMT-2000 for developing countries
- **Question 19-1/2:** Strategy for migration from existing networks to next-generation networks for developing countries
- **Question 20-2/2:** Examination of access technologies for broadband telecommunications
- **Question 22/2:** Utilization of ICT for disaster management, resources, and active and passive space-based sensing systems as they apply to disaster and emergency relief situations

ANNEX 3 TO RESOLUTION 2 (Doha, 2006)

List of chairmen and vice-chairmen

Study Group 1

Chairman: Ms Audrey Baudrier (France)

Vice-Chairmen

Mr Aboubakar Haman (Cameroon)

Ms Naashiah Al-Kharusi (Oman)

Mr Atieno Ochola (Kenya)

Ms Layla Macc Adan (Venezuela)

Mr Maurice Ghazal (Lebanon)

Study Group 2

Chairman: Mr Nabil Kisrawi (Syrian Arab Republic)

Vice-Chairmen

Mr Taufik Hasan (Indonesia)

Mr Dinh Van Zung (Viet Nam)

Mr Ali Merouane (Algeria)

Mr Charles Banga (Central African Republic)

Mr Abdoulaye Kébé (Guinea)

Mr Semen Lopato (Russian Federation)

Mr Julian Sanz Cabrera (Cuba)

Mr Jean Pierre Huynh (France)

RESOLUTION 5 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

Enhanced participation by developing countries in the activities of the Union¹⁶

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

recalling

Resolution 5 (Rev.Istanbul, 2002) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference,

considering

- a) Articles 11 and 14 of the ITU Convention concerning study groups, and in particular Nos 159 and 196;
- b) the desirability of broad-based participation and attendance of administrations, duly authorized entities and organizations in the activities and the work of ITU;
- c) the need to improve participation of developing countries in the work of ITU as expressed in Resolution ITU-R 7 of the Radiocommunication Assembly (Geneva, 2003) and Resolutions 17, 44 and 54 of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Florianópolis, 2004);
- d) Resolution 25 (Rev.Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference on strengthening the regional presence,

recognizing

- a) the multifarious difficulties encountered by the developing countries, in particular least developed countries (LDC), in ensuring their effective and efficient participation in the work of the Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) and the study groups;
- b) that the harmonious and balanced development of the worldwide telecommunication network is of mutual advantage to the developed and the developing countries;
- c) the need to identify a mechanism for developing countries to participate in and contribute to the work of the ITU-D study groups,

convinced

of the need to enhance the participation and attendance of developing countries in the work of ITU,

resolves to instruct the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to ensure that ITU-D study group meetings and forums/seminars/workshops be held, to the extent practicable, and within the financial limits established by the Plenipotentiary Conference, outside Geneva, limiting their deliberations to subjects stipulated in their agendas and reflecting the actual needs and priorities of the developing countries;

2 to ensure that ITU-D, including the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG), at both the headquarters and regional level, participates in the preparation and implementation of world telecommunication policy forums, and invites the study groups to participate therein,

¹⁶ The term "developing countries" includes also least developed countries, small island developing states and countries with economies in transition.

further instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 in close collaboration with the Directors of the Radiocommunication and Telecommunication Standardization Bureaux, to consider and implement the best ways and means to assist developing countries, and in particular least developed countries, in preparing for and participating actively in the work of the three Sectors, and notably in the Sector advisory groups, assemblies, conferences and in the study groups of relevance to developing countries, particularly in relation to the work of the ITU-T study groups in putting the aforementioned Resolutions 44 and 54 into effect;

2 to extend, within the financial limitations and taking into account other possible sources of financing, the granting of fellowships to participants from developing countries attending study group meetings, the advisory groups of all three Sectors and other important meetings, including conference preparatory meetings, combining, wherever applicable, attendance to more than one successive event,

invites the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau and the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

to encourage meetings to be held outside Geneva where it will facilitate greater participation of local experts from countries and regions distant from Geneva,

invites the Member States

to strengthen their cooperation with the ITU regional offices in relation to implementation of this resolution,

requests the Secretary-General

to report to the Plenipotentiary Conference on the expected financial implications of the implementation of this resolution, proposing also other possible sources of financing,

invites the Plenipotentiary Conference

1 to give the necessary attention to implementation of this resolution when establishing the basis for the budget and related financial limits;

2 when adopting the financial plan of the Union, to provide the necessary funds to BDT in order to facilitate the wider participation and attendance of developing countries in the activities of TDAG.

RESOLUTION 6 (Doha, 2006)

Telecommunication Development Advisory Group working group on private-sector issues

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

considering

- a) No. 126 of the ITU Constitution, which encourages participation by industry in telecommunication development in developing countries;
- b) the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) provisions of the strategic plan for the Union relating to the promotion of partnership arrangements between the public and private-sectors in developed countries, countries with economies in transition, developing countries and least developed countries (LDCs) and collaboration with the private sector;
- c) the report of the working group of the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) dealing with private-sector issues, noting its work and achievements over the past four years, including the achievements of its regional groups, transmitted to this conference;
- d) the importance placed, in the final documents of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), including the Geneva Plan of Action and the Tunis Agenda, on private-sector participation in meeting the objectives of WSIS, including public-private partnerships, involvement in the policy development process, creation of an enabling environment, and capacity building, including for small, medium and micro enterprises (SMMEs);
- e) that it is in the interest of ITU to promote the participation of Sector Members in its activities;
- f) that Sector Members, in addition to their financial contributions to the three Sectors of ITU, also provide professional expertise and support to the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) and, conversely, can benefit from participation in ITU-D activities,

recognizing

- a) the rapidly changing telecommunication environment;
- b) the important contribution that Sector Members make toward the increased provision of telecommunications/ICT in developed countries, countries with economies in transition, and developing countries, including LDCs;
- c) the progress achieved through BDT special initiatives such as partnership meetings and colloquiums in strengthening cooperation with the private sector and increased support at the regional level;
- d) that the working group of TDAG dealing with private-sector issues has facilitated public-private partnerships, the incorporation of private-sector considerations into the programmes and activities of ITU-D, and a strengthening relationship between the private sector and governments;
- e) the need to ensure increased senior-level participation of Sector Members,

noting

- a) that the role of the private sector in a very competitive environment is increasing in developed countries, countries with economies in transition, and developing countries;

b) that ITU-D Sector Members from the private sector are engaged in the work accomplished within ITU-D and can provide ongoing support and expertise to facilitate the work of BDT and the ITU regional offices,

resolves

1 that this working group shall work, consistent with its terms of reference as defined in Annex 1 to this resolution, to ensure that private-sector issues in telecommunication development of interest to Member States and Sector Members are addressed;

2 that ITU-D, and the ITU regional offices in particular, should employ the necessary means to encourage the private sector to become Sector Members and to take a more active part through partnerships with telecommunication entities in developing countries, and especially with those in the least developed countries, in order to help close the gap in universal and information access;

3 that ITU-D should take the interests and requirements of Sector Members into account in its programmes to enable Sector Members to participate effectively in achieving the objectives of the Doha Action Plan and the objectives set forth in the Geneva Plan of Action and the Tunis Agenda,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to continue working closely with Sector Members to participate in the successful implementation of the Doha Action Plan,

urges Member States and Telecommunication Development Sector Members

to participate together more actively in the work of the TDAG working group on private-sector issues.

ANNEX 1 TO RESOLUTION 6 (Doha, 2006)

Terms of reference of the TDAG working group on private-sector issues

To enhance the ability of the private sector to assist ITU-D and to contribute to the successful implementation of the Doha Action Plan, the terms of reference of the TDAG working group on private-sector issues are as follows:

- 1) To recommend ways by which private-sector issues relevant to Sector Members can be incorporated into ITU-D strategy development, programme design and project delivery, with the overall goal of increasing mutual responsiveness to the requirements of telecommunication/ICT development.
 - 2) To identify means to enhance cooperation and arrangements between the private and public sectors, as well as between private-sector entities in developed countries, countries with economies in transition, developing countries, including least developed countries (LDCs), and countries in special need, working closely with BDT.
 - 3) To advise on the means by which partnerships with the private sector can be enhanced; to seek means to reach out to the private sector of developing countries and the many companies that are not knowledgeable of ITU-D activities.
 - 4) To propose approaches and modifications to ITU-D processes, practices and projects that would facilitate and encourage private-sector support, cooperation and participation.
 - 5) To discuss means to ensure that increased private-sector participation is built into the ITU-D operational plan and the next study group cycle.
 - 6) To ensure the efficient participation of the private sector in the work of ITU-D Study Groups 1 and 2.
 - 7) To assist TDAG in reviewing how to encourage proactive Sector Member participation in ITU-D, as well as, *inter alia*, to propose to TDAG observers representing Sector Members on the ITU Council.
 - 8) To report directly to TDAG and to keep it fully informed of all its activities.
 - 9) To make information available to TDAG to advise the Director of BDT on how to enhance effectively private-sector consideration in the implementation of the Doha Action Plan.
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RESOLUTION 8 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

Collection and dissemination of information and statistics

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

recalling

Resolution 8 (Rev.Istanbul, 2002) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference,

considering

- a) that the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) performs a key role in the exchange and dissemination of information and statistics;
- b) the importance of the existing Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) databases, in particular the indicators database and the regulatory database;
- c) the usefulness of reports published by ITU-D, such as the World Telecommunication Development Report and the reports on Trends in Telecommunication Reform;
- d) the dissemination of the Blue Book for the Americas, the African Green Paper and the Arab White Book concerning the development of telecommunications in these regions,

considering further

- a) that the telecommunication sector at the national level is reforming at an incredible pace;
- b) that policy approaches vary and countries can benefit from the experiences of others,

recognizing

- a) that, by acting as a clearing house for the exchange of information and statistics, BDT will be able to assist Member States in making informed national policy choices;
- b) that the countries must participate actively in this endeavour in order to make it successful,

recognizing further

- a) that this kind of information and these statistics are extremely useful for the work of the study groups and in assisting ITU to assess the information and communication technology (ICT) landscape, including telecommunications;
- b) the new responsibilities to be held by ITU-D in relation to this subject, pursuant to the Tunis Agenda, in particular § 115 thereof,

resolves to instruct the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

- 1 to support this activity by providing adequate resources and according it the necessary priority;
- 2 to continue to survey countries and produce world and regional reports which highlight country lessons and experiences, in particular on:
 - trends in telecommunication sector reform;
 - world telecommunication developments;
 - trends on tariff policies, in collaboration with the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T);
 - implementation of the General Agreement on Trade in Services;

- 3 to establish and collect community connectivity indicators and to participate in the establishment of core indicators to measure efforts to build the information society and, by doing so, to illustrate the scale of the digital divide;
- 4 to encourage countries to collect information illustrating national digital divides;
- 5 to further develop and improve benchmarking efforts, including the ICT Opportunity Index;
- 6 to strengthen ITU-D's role in the *Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development* by acting as a member of the steering committee and through active participation in discussions and activities geared toward achieving its main objectives;
- 7 to provide indicator and regulatory information on the ITU-D website and to establish appropriate mechanisms and modalities for countries which do not have electronic access to obtain this information;
- 8 to provide technical assistance to regulatory authorities for the development of national telecommunication databases containing statistical and policy and regulatory information, including support for making information available electronically and training of personnel in skills related to the process;
- 9 to provide information on specialized expertise of ITU-D Sector Members in different fields of telecommunication/ICT with the purpose of assisting those who might wish to request their services and to develop training material and conduct specialized training courses on information society statistics for developing countries;
- 10 to unify all BDT information and statistical databases on the BDT website so as to respond to the objectives as stated in §§ 113, 114, 115, 116, 117 and 118 of the Tunis Agenda, and to play a primary role in relation to §§ 119 and 120;
- 11 to assist countries with indigenous populations in developing indicators to evaluate the impact of ICTs on indigenous peoples that enable the achievement of the objectives set forth in C8 of the Geneva Plan of Action;
- 12 to continue to cooperate with the relevant international bodies, in particular the United Nations Statistics Division, and other international and regional organizations, such as the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), involved in the collection and dissemination of ICT-related information and statistics,

invites Member States and Sector Members

to participate actively in this endeavour by providing the information solicited,

encourages

donor agencies and relevant United Nations agencies, as well as ITU non-members, to cooperate in providing relevant information on their activities.

RESOLUTION 9 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

Participation of countries, particularly developing countries, in spectrum management

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

considering

- a) that the continuing growth in demand for spectrum, from both existing and new radiocommunication applications, places ever greater requirements on a scarce resource;
- b) that, because of the investment in equipment and infrastructures, major changes in the existing use of the spectrum are often difficult to achieve, except in the long term;
- c) that the marketplace drives the development of new technologies to find new solutions to address development problems;
- d) that national strategies should take into account international commitments;
- e) that it is recommended that national strategies should also take into account global changes in telecommunications and developments in technology;
- f) that increased spectrum access may be facilitated through technical innovation and greater sharing capabilities;
- g) that, based on its ongoing work, the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) is well placed to provide worldwide information on radiocommunication technology and spectrum utilization trends;
- h) that the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) is well placed to facilitate the participation of developing countries in ITU-R activities, and, for those developing countries that so request, to distribute to them the results of particular ITU-R activities;
- i) that such information would assist spectrum managers in developing countries to develop their own national long-term strategies;
- j) that such information would enable developing countries to benefit from sharing studies and other technical studies in ITU-R;
- k) that, within spectrum management, one of the most pressing concerns of many developing countries, particularly least developed countries (LDCs), is the difficulty of elaborating methods for the calculation of fees for use of the radio-frequency spectrum;
- l) that the World Telecommunication Development Conference (Istanbul, 2002) adopted Question 21/2 "Calculation of frequency fees" with the objective of developing a database of models for calculating such fees,

recognizing

- a) that it is the sovereign right of every State to manage spectrum use within its territories;
- b) that there is a strong need for the active participation of developing countries in ITU activities, as expressed in Resolution 5 (Rev.Doha, 2006) of this conference, Resolution ITU-R 7 of the Radiocommunication Assembly (Geneva, 2003) and Resolution 17 (Florianópolis, 2004) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, which may be individually and through regional groups;

- c) that it is important to take into consideration the ongoing work in ITU-R and ITU-D, and the need to avoid duplication of effort;
- d) the successful cooperation between ITU-R and ITU-D to produce the reports entitled "WTDC-98 Resolution 9: Review of national spectrum management and use of the spectrum. Stage 1: 29.7-960 MHz" and "WTDC Resolution 9 (Rev.Istanbul 2002): Review of national spectrum management and use of the spectrum. Stage 2: 960-3 000 MHz";
- e) the considerable support given by the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) in the production of these reports, especially by encouraging and facilitating the active participation of developing countries, in particular LDCs;
- f) the successful development of the "Spectrum Fees Database" (SF Database) in response to Question 21/2 and the availability of guidelines and case studies to assist administrations in extracting information from the SF Database for use in the preparation of fee-calculation models that suit their national requirements,

resolves

- 1 to prepare the next in the series of the reports described in *recognizing* d) above within the next study period, for the frequency band 3-30 GHz;
- 2 to continue the development of the SF Database and provide additional guidelines and case studies, based on practical experiences of administrations,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

- 1 to continue to provide the support described in *recognizing* e) above;
- 2 to encourage Member States from developing countries to provide ITU-R and ITU-D with a list of their needs with respect to national spectrum management, to which the Director should endeavour to respond, and an example of which is given in Annex 1 to this resolution;
- 3 to encourage Member States to continue to provide ITU-R and ITU-D with practical examples of their experiences of using the SF Database;
- 4 to take appropriate measures so that work in accordance with this resolution is carried out in the six official and working languages of the Union,

invites the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau

to ensure that ITU-R continues the collaboration with ITU-D in the implementation of this resolution.

ANNEX 1 TO RESOLUTION 9 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

Specific needs in spectrum management

The main types of technical assistance which developing countries expect from ITU are as follows:

1 Assistance in raising the awareness of national policy-makers as to the importance of effective spectrum management for a country's economic and social development

With the restructuring of the telecommunication sector, the emergence of competition and the high demand for frequencies from operators, effective spectrum management has become indispensable for States. ITU should play a key role in raising the awareness of policy-makers by organizing special seminars designed specifically for them. To this end:

- in view of how important the regulators have become, ITU might include them in its regular distribution list for circulars providing information about the different education programmes and modules organized by the Union;
- ITU should include dedicated spectrum-management modules in the programmes of meetings (colloquiums, seminars) bringing together regulators and ministries responsible for spectrum management, with private-sector involvement;
- within the limits of available resources, ITU should make fellowships available for LDC participation at those meetings.

2 Training and dissemination of available ITU documentation

Spectrum management must be in accordance with the provisions of the Radio Regulations, of regional agreements to which administrations are parties, and of national regulations. Spectrum managers must be able to provide frequency users with relevant information.

Developing countries would like to have access to ITU documentation, which must be translated into the six official and working languages of the Union.

Developing countries would also like to see suitable training provided in the form of specialized ITU seminars, in order to help frequency managers gain a thorough knowledge of ITU-R Recommendations, which are constantly changing.

Through its regional offices, ITU could set up an effective system to provide frequency managers with real-time information on existing and future publications.

3 Assistance in developing methodologies for establishing national tables of frequency allocations

These tables form the mainstay of spectrum management; they identify the services provided and their category of use. ITU could facilitate administrations' access to information available in other countries, in particular by developing links between its website and the websites of administrations which have produced national tables of frequency allocations, allowing developing countries to obtain information on national allocations in a rapid and timely fashion.

In certain circumstances, ITU could make available the assistance of its experts for the development of national tables of frequency allocations, at the request of the countries concerned.

4 Assistance in setting up computerized frequency management and monitoring systems

These systems facilitate routine spectrum-management tasks. They must be capable of taking local features into account. The establishment of operational structures also enables the smooth execution of administrative tasks, frequency allocation, spectrum analysis and monitoring. According to the specific features of individual countries, ITU can provide expert help in identifying the technical means, operational procedures and human resources needed for effective spectrum management.

ITU should also provide encouragement and assistance to administrations in setting up regional spectrum monitoring systems, particularly in the HF band.

5 Economic and financial aspects of spectrum management

ITU could further develop the mechanism set up under *resolves 2* of this resolution in order to enable developing countries to:

- learn more about practices in other administrations, which could be useful for defining spectrum fee policies tailored to each country's specific situation;
- identify financial resources to be allocated to the operational and investment budgets for spectrum management.

6 Assistance with preparations for world radiocommunication conferences (WRC) and with follow-up on WRC decisions

The submission of joint proposals is a way of guaranteeing that regional characteristics are taken into account. Alongside regional organizations, ITU could give impetus to the establishment and running of regional and subregional preparatory structures for WRCs. Considerable resources are needed for the implementation of decisions taken by WRCs.

With support from regional and subregional organizations, ITU could communicate the broad outlines of decisions taken by the conferences, and thereby contribute to establishing a follow-up mechanism for such decisions at national and regional level.

7 Assistance with participation in the work of ITU-R study groups and their working parties

The study groups play a key role in the drafting of Recommendations which affect the entire radiocommunication community. It is essential that developing countries participate in study group work in order to ensure that their specific features are taken into account. For effective participation of those countries, ITU could – through its regional offices – assist in running a subregional network organized around coordinators responsible for the Questions under study within ITU-R, as well as by providing financial assistance in order for the coordinators to participate in meetings of the relevant ITU-R study groups.

RESOLUTION 10 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

Financial support for national spectrum management programmes

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

recalling

Resolution 10 (Rev.Istanbul, 2002) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference,

considering

- a) that we are currently witnessing the accelerated implementation and globalization of different radiocommunication services, and the emergence of new efficient radio applications;
- b) that successful development of radiocommunications and implementation of these new applications call for the availability of appropriate interference-free frequency bands, at the national, regional and international levels, in accordance with Recommendations and resolutions of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R);
- c) the outputs from the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), particularly § 96 of the Tunis Agenda pertaining to the role of ITU in taking steps to ensure the rational, efficient and economic use of, and equitable access to, the radio-frequency spectrum by all countries;
- d) that the provision of frequency bands and more efficient use of the spectrum, at the national, regional and international levels, depend on the establishment and implementation of relevant national spectrum management, including radio-monitoring, programmes;
- e) that efficient national spectrum management programmes are essential to the liberalization of radiocommunications and the privatization of some radiocommunication services and to promoting competition,

recognizing

- a) the importance of implementing spectrum management programmes in ensuring effective development of radiocommunications and the role played by radiocommunications in developing a country's economy, and that such programmes are sometimes not given the necessary priority;
- b) that national and international finance organizations frequently accord much more priority to supporting the implementation of telecommunication (including radiocommunication) systems than to the implementation of national spectrum management programmes;
- c) the success achieved in the implementation of Resolution 9 (Rev.Istanbul, 2002), "Participation of countries, particularly developing countries, in spectrum management",

resolves

1 to invite national and international finance organizations to pay more attention to giving substantial financial support, including through favourable credit arrangements, to national spectrum management – including radio-monitoring – programmes and training therein, as a prerequisite for efficient spectrum utilization, the successful development of radio services and the implementation of new and promising applications, including global ones, at both the national and the international levels;

2 to invite the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) to provide in its budget for the holding of an annual meeting to study the question of national spectrum management, in full coordination with the Radiocommunication Bureau (BR) within the activities of Programme 2;

3 to invite BDT to follow up development of the national spectrum management system, in cooperation with BR,

requests the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to bring this resolution to the attention of relevant international financing and development organizations,

invites the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau

to continue the cooperation of ITU-R, and specifically Study Group 1, with ITU-D in implementing aspects pertaining to establishment of the national spectrum management programme, and training therein.

RESOLUTION 11 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

Telecommunication/information and communication technology services in rural, isolated and poorly served areas and indigenous communities

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

recalling

Resolution 11 (Rev.Istanbul, 2002) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference,

considering

- a) that all world telecommunication development conferences have reaffirmed the important and urgent need to provide access to basic telecommunication and information and communication technology (ICT) services for everyone, as well as the special programmes for the least developed countries (LDCs);
- b) the outputs of the first and second phases of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) in relation to the importance of ensuring telecommunication/ICT services in those regions,

noting

that a clear correlation between the availability of universal telecommunication/ICT services and economic and social development has been firmly established,

recognizing

- a) that spectacular progress has been made in some developing countries through universal access to telecommunication/ICT services in rural, isolated and poorly served areas countrywide and in indigenous communities, thereby demonstrating the economic and technical feasibility of projects to provide this type of service;
- b) that, in some areas and some developing countries, there is convincing evidence of the overall profitability of telecommunication/ICT services in rural, isolated and poorly served areas, and in indigenous communities,

recognizing further

- a) that there are several state-of-the-art technologies which may help to facilitate the provision of telecommunication/ICT services, in particular those supported by broadband, to rural, isolated and poorly served areas and indigenous communities;
- b) that access to telecommunication/ICT services in rural, isolated and poorly served areas and indigenous communities can only be achieved through judicious choice of appropriate technological options (terrestrial and satellite) allowing access to and maintenance of good quality and economical services,

resolves

1 to support the principles recommended by Study Group 2 through previous and current studies of Question 10 (Telecommunications in remote and rural areas) on the best means for providing access to telecommunication/ICT services in rural, isolated and poorly served areas and indigenous communities, in terms of universal access, rural telecommunication programmes, regulatory framework, financial resources and commercial approach;

2 to instruct Study Group 2 to take into account the aims of this resolution when studying the updated Question 10,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

- 1 to promote further the use of all appropriate means of telecommunication/ICT to facilitate effective development and implementation of telecommunication/ICT services in rural, isolated and poorly served areas and indigenous communities of the world through Programmes 2, 3 and 6;
 - 2 to continue efforts to promote the optimum use by developing countries of all available new ICT services, including satellite.
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RESOLUTION 13 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

Resource mobilization and partnership for accelerating telecommunication and information and communication technology development

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

recalling

- a) Resolution 13 (Rev.Istanbul, 2002) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference;
- b) World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) outputs concerning the mobilization of financial resources and potential partnerships with those involved in information and communication technology (ICT) development,

considering

- a) that the development of ICT in many developing countries¹⁷, suffers from a shortage of financial resources;
- b) that traditional methods of funding have not reduced the digital divide between developing and developed countries,

noting

- a) that this conference reaffirmed, in its declaration and resolutions, a commitment to enhance expansion and development of ICT services in developing countries and to harness capacity for the application of new and innovative services;
- b) the adoption and implementation of the Doha Action Plan, incorporating key chapters on global ICT infrastructure development through diverse programmes, specifically Programme 6 "Least developed countries and small island developing states, and emergency telecommunications",

recognizing

- a) that in some countries the ICT sector is not accorded due priority in budget allocation;
- b) that the telecommunication sector offers a high rate of return on investment and these returns are obtained more rapidly than in other sectors, yet financing from financial institutions in the telecommunication sector is relatively low;
- c) that practical and quick approaches are required for mobilizing funds for the telecommunication sector;
- d) that partnerships should be mutually beneficial to narrow the digital divide,

recognizing further

- a) the success of the partnerships achieved by BDT in cooperation with government partners and partners from the ICT sector in developing countries;
- b) the Geneva Plan of Action and Tunis Agenda, which recognize the importance to countries of according the necessary priority to ICT development,

¹⁷ The term "developing countries" includes least developed countries, small island developing countries, and countries with economies in transition.

resolves

- 1 that the main players in the field of ICT should continue to act in a way that encourages investments and innovative partnership schemes, and joint ventures should be explored for financing ICT development;
- 2 that administrations should continue to take the necessary steps for making the ICT sector more attractive for investment;
- 3 that there should be continuous dialogue among telecommunication operators, service providers, funding agencies and other sources of finance for preparing projects where BDT can play a catalyst role;
- 4 that efforts should be made to reduce delays in the funding and implementation of project cycles,

welcomes

the Digital Solidarity Fund, established in Geneva, as an innovative financial mechanism of a voluntary nature open to interested stakeholders, with the objective of transforming the digital divide into digital opportunities for the developing countries by focusing mainly on specific and urgent needs at the local level and seeking new voluntary sources of "solidarity" finance,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

- 1 to act as a catalyst in the development of partnerships among all parties, since ITU-D's involvement should ensure that initiatives and projects attract investment;
- 2 to act also as a catalyst in the following functions, among others:
 - encouraging regional ICT initiatives and projects;
 - participating in the organization of training seminars;
 - signing agreements with national, regional and international partners involved in development;
 - collaborating on initiatives and projects with other relevant international, regional and intergovernmental organizations;
- 3 to promote human capacity building in developing countries relating to various aspects of the ICT sector, consistent with the mandate of ITU-D;
- 4 to promote, particularly with the ITU regional offices, the conditions required for a successful knowledge-based enterprise incubator process and other projects for small, medium and micro enterprises (SMMEs) in and among developing countries;
- 5 to continue to assist developing countries to respond to global telecommunication restructuring, especially regarding financial issues;
- 6 to urge the international financing agencies, Member States and Sector Members to address, as a priority issue, the building, reconstruction and upgrading of networks and infrastructure in developing countries;

7 to pursue coordination with international bodies involved in ICT development, with a view to mobilizing the financial resources needed in the implementation of projects;

8 to take initiatives necessary to encourage partnerships which have been given high priority in:

- the Geneva Plan of Action;
 - the Tunis Agenda.
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RESOLUTION 15 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

Applied research and transfer of technology

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

recalling

1 Resolution 15 (Rev.Istanbul, 2002) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference;

2 the Tunis Commitment, recognizing the principles of universal, non-discriminatory, equitable and affordable access to information and communication technology (ICT) for all nations and all persons everywhere (see §§ 15, 18 and 19),

recognizing

a) that many countries would benefit from technology transfer in a wide range of fields;

b) that joint ventures can be effective means of technology transfer;

c) that seminars and training conducted by various countries as well as by international and regional organizations have contributed to the transfer of technology, and hence to the development of ICT networks in the region;

d) that providers of ICT equipment and services are important partners in ensuring the flow of technology to developing countries and that they are ready to enter freely into such arrangements;

e) that applied research is a promising activity for developing countries;

f) that a great number of engineers originally from developing countries contribute to the applied research in developed countries;

g) that research institutes in developed countries have important human and material resources compared to developing countries;

h) that a relation of partnership and cooperation between applied research centres and laboratories improves the technology transfer,

resolves

1 that the transfer of technology in area of telecommunications, which is of benefit to developing and least developed countries, should be enhanced as much as possible, not only in respect of conventional technology but also for new technologies and services;

2 that developing and developed countries should cooperate by exchanging experts, organizing seminars, specialized workshops and meetings, networking of telecommunication applied research institutions by means of teleconferencing, etc.;

3 that recipient countries should systematically and fully utilize technology transfers in their countries,

instructs the Telecommunication Development Bureau

in cooperation with international, regional and subregional organizations concerned, taking into account the documents adopted by the first and second phases of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS):

1 to continue to hold specialized seminars, workshops or training in the field of telecommunications to raise the technological level in developing countries;

- 2 to continue to promote the exchange of information among international organizations, donor countries and recipient countries on the transfer of technology, by assisting them to set up cooperative networks between telecommunication research institutes in developing countries and developed countries;
- 3 to assist in the elaboration of terms of reference guaranteeing technology transfer;
- 4 to continue to develop handbooks in the area of technology transfer;
- 5 to ensure that these handbooks are disseminated to developing countries and that users are properly initiated in their use;
- 6 to encourage the organization of specialized workshops by research institutes from developed countries in developing countries;
- 7 to give financial support to research institutes in developing countries to enable them to attend well-known research meetings and workshops;
- 8 to establish a model contract for use by research institutes specifying partnership arrangements between them,

invites developing countries

to establish new ICT research projects and to submit them to existing applied research institutes in order to facilitate cooperation with other research institutes in developed countries,

invites telecommunication equipment and service providers

pursuant to the Geneva Declaration of the first phase of WSIS and the Tunis Commitment of the second phase, to make relevant new technologies and know-how available to their customers in developing countries on a voluntary basis and/or in accordance with sound commercial principles,

appeals to international organizations and donor countries

to assist the developing countries in exploring ways and means of improving technology transfer and developing ICT applied research centres and laboratories, including technical and financial assistance.

RESOLUTION 16 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

Special actions for the least developed countries

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

recalling

Resolution 30 (Kyoto, 1994) of the Plenipotentiary Conference and Resolution 16 (Rev.Istanbul, 2002) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference,

noting

the striking imbalance in telecommunication and information technology development between the least developed countries (LDCs) and other countries, the persistence of which exacerbates the digital divide,

appreciating

the special measures taken for the benefit of LDCs in the form of concentrated assistance provided under Chapter III of the Valletta Action Plan,

concerned

- a) that, despite all the measures taken so far, the telecommunication networks in many of the LDCs remain in a very poor state of development in urban, semi-urban and rural areas;
- b) that multilateral and bilateral flows of technical assistance and investment finance to LDCs are constantly declining;
- c) that to date there are 49 countries in this category,

resolves

to endorse the new priority areas for the next four years, the associated programme of action for LDCs and its implementation strategy,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

- 1 to implement fully a programme of assistance for LDCs as contained in the Doha Action Plan, significantly increasing the financial allocations of Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) funds for this activity;
- 2 to give priority to LDCs in implementing other BDT programmes of assistance to developing countries;
- 3 to pay special attention to suburban and rural telecommunication and information technology development, with a view to achieving universal access to telecommunication and information technology services;
- 4 to strengthen the unit for LDCs, within existing resources,

requests the Secretary-General

- 1 to request the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006) to increase the allocated budget for LDCs with a view to enabling BDT to undertake increased and programmed activities for the LDCs;

2 to continue enhancing the assistance provided to LDCs through other resources, and in particular through unconditional voluntary contributions and appropriate partnerships, as well as any surplus income from world and regional telecommunication exhibitions and forums;

3 to propose new and innovative measures capable of generating additional funds to be used for telecommunication and information and communication technology (ICT) development in the LDCs, to benefit from the possibilities afforded by financial mechanisms in facing the challenges of utilizing ICT for development purposes, as stated in the Tunis Agenda,

calls upon governments of least developed countries

1 to accord higher priority to ICT development and to adopt measures, policies and national strategies that are conducive to bringing about faster development of telecommunications in their countries, such as sector liberalization and the introduction of new technologies;

2 in selecting technical cooperation activities financed by bilateral and multilateral sources, to accord high priority to telecommunication/ICT activities and projects;

3 to accord priority to the development of ICTs in national development plans,

calls upon other Member States and Sector Members

to establish partnerships with LDCs, either directly or through BDT, in order to bring increased investment into the ICT sector and to stimulate the modernization and expansion of networks in those countries in a bold attempt to reduce the digital divide and to achieve the ultimate goal of universal access.

RESOLUTION 17 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

Implementation of regionally approved initiatives at the national, regional, interregional and global levels

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

recalling

Resolution 17 (Rev.Istanbul, 2002) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference,

considering

- a) that telecommunications is one of the most vital elements for the growth of national economies;
- b) that the existence, at the national, regional, interregional and global levels, of coherent telecommunication networks and services for the development of national economies is a very important element in the improvement of the social, economic and financial situation of Member States;
- c) the need to coordinate and harmonize efforts to develop telecommunication infrastructure at the national, regional, interregional and global levels;
- d) the vital importance of telecommunication development initiatives endorsed by all regional development conferences, and by the preparatory meetings preceding this conference;
- e) that there is a lack of funding from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and other international financial institutions, impeding the implementation of such initiatives;
- f) the satisfactory and encouraging results achieved by activities of this kind, which have helped in the creation of cooperation and telecommunication networks;
- g) that developing countries¹⁸, are increasingly experiencing the need for knowledge of fast-developing technologies and the associated policy and strategic issues;
- h) that, given the resources at their disposal, it is an important task to meet the requirements cited in *considering g)* above,

noting

that the ITU-D centres of excellence training schemes significantly assist the developing countries with knowledge-based requirements,

resolves

1 that the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) should identify possible ways and means of implementing regionally approved initiatives at the national, regional, interregional and global levels, making the utmost use of available BDT resources, its annual budget and surplus income from ITU-TELECOM exhibitions, in particular by means of equitable budget allotments for each region mentioned in the annexes to this resolution;

2 that BDT should actively assist the countries in elaborating and implementing the regionally approved initiatives that are attached in the annexes that form part of this resolution;

¹⁸ The term "developing countries" includes least developed countries, small island developing states and countries with economies in transition.

3 that Member States should consider contributing in kind and/or in cash to the budget foreseen for implementation of the aforesaid initiatives and the realization of other activities foreseen within the framework of those initiatives at the national, regional, interregional and global levels;

4 that BDT should explore possible partnerships with Member States, ITU-D Sector Members, financial institutions and international organizations in order to sponsor implementation activities for those initiatives;

5 that the operation and the establishment of centres of excellence should continue to be financed from TELECOM surplus income and any other additional resource, as the case may be;

6 that BDT should assist in the implementation of these initiatives at the national, regional, interregional and global levels, integrating as far as possible those initiatives that have the same content or objectives, taking into consideration the Doha Action Plan,

appeals

to international financial organizations/agencies, equipment suppliers and operators/service providers to contribute, fully or partially, to financing these regionally approved initiatives,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to take all necessary measures for the promotion and implementation of these regionally approved initiatives at the national, regional, interregional and global levels, ensuring satisfaction for the developing countries.

Annexes: 5

ANNEX 1

Americas regional initiatives

1 Connectivity in rural areas, marginal urban areas and isolated areas in the Americas region

Objectives

To develop a manual on initiatives, policies, strategies, standards, projects and best practices as applied to rural areas, marginal urban areas and isolated areas; to share experiences in regard to best practices and development indicators among the administrations of member countries with a view to improving the policies, strategies and standards implemented in each country. Also, to increase society's awareness of the need to support the inclusion of groups that are marginalized or excluded from the information and knowledge society; and to contribute to the human development of marginalized or excluded groups through the use of ICTs.

Expected results

The gradual inclusion of groups that have been marginalized or excluded from the information and knowledge society; an increase in ICT penetration in rural areas, marginal urban areas and isolated areas; and the creation of new socio-economic development opportunities in these areas.

2 Interconnection of information networks for disaster prevention

Objectives

To facilitate rapid recovery of public systems and services through mechanisms which include: identification of critical resources and points of interconnection of regional and subregional ICT networks; identification of administrative frameworks to manage the sovereignty of such resources and points of interconnection where national borders are bridged; development of relevant, redundant information databases; coordination of governmental and NGO rescue and response agencies to manage regional and subregional response; and identification of regulatory implications for sovereign States and development of a proposed framework for collaboration and harmonization with regard to disaster preparedness and response.

Expected results

Current-state assessment of existing infrastructural resources; risk analysis and needs assessments; strategy formulation; recommendations for alternative ICT architecture and points of interconnection to facilitate subregional redundancies in ICT infrastructure; proposed minimal technical standards for points of interconnection; proposed implementation strategy and proposed human capital development plan and communications strategy.

3 Support to administrations in the design and implementation of policies and programmes for large-scale development of broadband access, with a view to meeting national universal service objectives

Objectives

To support national administrations in the design and implementation of policies and programmes to support broadband access and use on a large scale, as a way to help meet national universal service objectives. The initiative recognizes that, to meet these objectives, telecommunication

infrastructure must be expanded and modernized, and hence policies are needed that will promote investment by telecommunication companies. Likewise, the initiative recognizes that capacity building in broadband technologies is required within telecommunication authorities at the national level, including in regard to political, economic, technical and regulatory issues, and that coordination is needed between ITU-D, ITU-R and ITU-T study groups as well as with regional telecommunication organizations.

Expected results

Primarily, the achievement of large-scale broadband access and use, strengthened capacity and know-how in regard to broadband technologies within national telecommunication authorities and the promotion and attraction of investment in infrastructure.

4 Establishment of a Caribbean Task Force on spectrum management

Objectives

To develop regional expertise and strengthen institutional mechanisms for spectrum management in the Caribbean. Other objectives include the coordination of appropriate harmonized policies and best practices, the establishment of a database of regional spectrum allocations, the provision of technology updates and guidance to regional stakeholders, and assistance in the mitigation and resolution of interference problems.

Expected results

To rationalize the formulation of objectives, goals and proposed tasks in regard to spectrum management, strengthen and streamline the activities of national regulatory bodies responsible for use of the radio spectrum in Member States, facilitate the adoption and acquisition by the administrations of the Caribbean States of facilitating technologies and best practices for modern spectrum management, and foster international cooperation in the Caribbean subregion in regard to spectrum management in accordance with the interests of and means available to the participating States.

5 Caribbean centre of excellence project

Objectives

To provide a virtual web-based facility which is dedicated to providing training, technical assistance, expert advice and information on all aspects of the development of information and communication technologies (ICTs) and to facilitate sharing of experiences, collaboration and consensus-building on regional issues in the Caribbean.

Expected results

To satisfy regional requirements for ICT training, increase levels of ICT expertise, access to technical assistance for improving decision-making processes, greater opportunities for regional collaboration and partnership and the establishment of a highly interactive website for the delivery of the centre of excellence services, training and collaboration between ICT stakeholders.

ANNEX 2

CIS regional initiatives

1 Strengthening the effective use of spectrum by providing interactive multimedia digital broadcasting networks in countries with mountainous terrain, and optimization of radio-monitoring networks

Objectives

To ensure the effective use of radio spectrum monitoring (establishment of an interactive multimedia digital broadcasting network in countries with mountainous terrain), to save resources in the area of monitoring network development through the optimization of existing and planned new networks.

Expected results

Provision to the populations of developing countries and countries with economies in transition with mountainous terrain of modern infocommunication services (including digital television, internet and other information society services), based on modern interactive multimedia broadcasting systems; proposals for the establishment in various countries of new state-of-the-art radio-monitoring networks or optimization of existing networks, with the possibility of subsequent development, and improvement, to ensure maximized functional and operational capabilities of the radio-monitoring networks, with minimal expenditure on setup, development and maintenance.

2 Creation of international centres for the implementation and testing of new technologies

Objectives

To test telecommunication equipment and services; harmonize methods for the provision of new services within a region; harmonize the introduction in one or more regions of telecommunication standards issued by different international organizations; resolve system/network issues associated with the modernization of communication networks, taking account of previous communication network development experience within a given region.

Expected results

Standard alternatives for the transition to multiservice networks for networks at different levels of development at the time of elaboration of the recommendations; creation of model networks and a knowledge base on the testing of modern equipment and services; provision of access to the knowledge base and model networks to interested telecommunication administrations and operators; uniform (harmonized) provision of new services within the region; future harmonized functioning of multimode terminals throughout the region's telecommunication landscape; creation of a knowledge base on the standards issued by different international organizations and of recommendations for their application, with a view to achieving the uniform (harmonized) introduction of standards within the region; prevention of packet disruption between a region's communication networks through optimized network planning and construction, taking account of previous communication network development experience within the region.

3 Implementation of e-applications based on broadband technologies

Objectives

To establish community telecentres using broadband access to telecommunication networks in rural localities; establish systems for online access to government information services for organizations and inhabitants, especially in rural areas; create centres for the registration of digital e-signature keys for the implementation of e-applications in government regulation, economic activities and the social sphere.

Expected results

Provision of access to information and communication services for people living in rural, remote and poorly accessible locations; provision, on the basis of a scalable platform, of services for electronic interaction between citizens, business and government bodies, based on secure and reliable applications; a broader range of services on offer to the population, irrespective of location, using information-communication technologies; improvement in the quality of social services; enabling the rural population to be more active economically and politically; elimination of the differences between urban and rural lifestyles, and enhanced attractiveness of rural life; support for building the information society.

4 Introduction of integrated, ubiquitous telemedicine technologies and systems for bridging the digital divide (in rural regions; for combating epidemics of infectious illnesses; in emergency situations; creation of a single medical information space)

Objectives

To determine the economic effectiveness of creating a single medical information space by linking regional and national stationary and mobile telemedicine consultation and diagnosis systems; study the specific features of national legislations in the telemedicine field for compatibility; research issues associated with the need for standardization and unification of telemedicine equipment and of the formats for the preparation and exchange of medical files and data; study the telemedicine service needs of populations in rural and remote regions; study how telemedicine systems may help resolve gender issues and problems of medical support for children; study the use of telemedicine systems for combating epidemics and pandemics of infectious illnesses.

Expected results

Evaluation of the economic effectiveness of using telemedicine technologies on a regional and national scale; proposals for harmonizing national telemedicine legislations with a view to the creation of regional telemedicine systems; recommendations to standardize and unify telemedicine equipment and the formats for the preparation and exchange of medical files and data; recommendations for determining the parameters for the creation of a telemedicine network for the population in rural and remote regions; recommendations for a project for telemedicine networks to resolve gender issues and problems of medical support for children; recommendations for using telemedicine systems to combat epidemics and pandemics.

5 Future development and establishment of "centres of excellence" and creation of a learning space

Objectives

To create a single network of centres of excellence based on the principle of appurtenance to one of the official and working languages of the Union, including a Russian-language centre of excellence; establish an updated list of key centre of excellence activities, including NGN, renewable (wind and solar) energy sources and wireless access technology.

Expected results

Sustainable operation and financing of an interconnected network of centres of excellence coordinating country activities relating to the retraining and further training of staff and the creation of educational programmes for government bodies, high-level supervisors, operators and service providers, and supporting telecommunication development activities within the region; creation of a unified information and educational base in all of ITU's official and working languages; dissemination of best practices in the area of human resource development, including by means of distance learning.

ANNEX 3

Asia-Pacific regional initiatives

1 Telecommunication/ICT policy and regulatory cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region

Objectives

To assist members in the Asia-Pacific region to develop various regulatory skills and frameworks relating to next-generation networks and services, licensing, spectrum management, convergence, cybersecurity, internet multilingualism, universal service obligation (USO), etc., through enhanced cooperation and strengthened regional presence; enhance interconnectivity and interoperability within and among Asia-Pacific member countries, including those from APT and ASEAN; and establish mechanisms to link ITU and telecommunication/ICT policy-makers from Asia-Pacific region for sharing and exchanging information, experiences, etc.

Expected results

Further to Resolution 48 (Doha, 2006), a comprehensive proposal and implementation plan to enhance regulatory cooperation and step up activities globally, organize a series of trainings/study visits, and establish a comprehensive, cooperative and coordinated (recognizing Resolution 25 (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference) telecommunication/ICT development action plan and programme located in the Asia-Pacific region; and enhance the capabilities of policy-makers and regulators from Asia-Pacific member countries, including those from ASEAN, in the determination and implementation of programmes and strategies in telecommunications/ICTs through close collaboration between ITU and regional organizations in the Asia-Pacific region (e.g. APT, ASEAN, etc.).

2 Rural communications – Infrastructure development

Objectives

To develop infrastructure in rural areas, in order especially to ensure universal service, through two different mechanisms (e.g. competition vs. subsidization) subject to different phases of development of telecommunications/ICT in Asia and the Pacific region, taking into account the relevant Questions of study groups: a) *Competition mechanism*: To promote competition in rural areas for providing telecommunication/ICT services, promote infrastructure sharing among various service providers to bring down the costs, reduce the regulatory costs and government levies as an incentive, identify and develop suitable applications for the local rural populations (e.g. youth and women), and identify the mechanisms for support from universal service funds in a time-bound manner for the initial state of deployment of telecommunication/ICT services in rural areas; b) *Subsidized and universal service funding mechanism*: To identify the models for accelerating telecommunication/ICT development in rural communities and implement pilot projects in areas with various demographic and geographic characteristics.

Expected results

a) *Competition mechanism*: Entry of multiple service providers to provide telecommunication/ICT services in rural areas using the appropriate and cost-effective technologies; guidelines for sharing of infrastructure; guidelines to identify incentives for reducing regulatory costs and government levies to increase the growth of telecommunication/ICT services in rural areas; identification and development of a database for various applications offered by different service providers in rural areas in different countries, and development of a mechanism for encouraging the participation of local youth and women in the development of suitable applications for rural populations; and guidelines for limited and time-bound universal service mechanisms for rural areas for telecommunication/ICT services; b) *Subsidized and universal service funding mechanism*: A handbook of best practices for accelerating telecommunication/ICT development in rural communities; recommendations/guidelines on best practices for rural telecommunications/ICTs; implementation of pilot projects to demonstrate best practices for installing and maintaining the latest information and communication equipments suitable for an environment of unserved and underserved areas lacking in basic infrastructure such as electricity power and other amenities.

3 NGN planning

Objectives

To study new Questions on planning, technologies and migration strategies for next-generation networks (NGN), identifying requirements in terms of NGN software tools and evaluation criteria for NGN planning software packages, and to launch global network planning initiatives assisting Member States and Sector Members in Asia and the Pacific with smooth migration from existing telecommunication infrastructures to NGN.

Expected results

A handbook with a number of parts on NGN network planning methodologies: e.g. multi-dimension NGN network planning process, advanced NGN service demand forecasting methods, advanced NGN traffic forecasting models, advanced NGN business models, and NGN network structure and dimensioning optimization methodologies; options on appropriate and cost-effective NGN technologies and migration strategies; a guideline for selecting NGN network planning software tools; and global network planning initiative.

4 The unique telecommunication/ICT needs of Pacific islands and small island developing states (SIDS) in the Asia-Pacific region

Objectives

To identify cost-effective telecommunication/ICT technologies that can bridge the digital divide and bring digital opportunities for all, particularly small island developing states (SIDS) facing unique challenges such as isolation, distance, and lack of resources; provide a variety of solutions and best practices for the development and use of telecommunications/ICTs, including multipurpose community telecentres (MCT), that minimize the risk and uncertainty inhibiting investment in SIDS – especially in the Asia-Pacific region, since no other region has as many SIDS with remote island communities; and assist SIDS in their ongoing needs for development and maintenance of skills in the enabling telecommunication/ICT policy, regulatory, legal and operational environment to migrate to and manage new telecommunication/ICT technologies, networks and services through subregional, regional and international cooperation.

Expected results

Establishment of Question(s) in ITU study groups for identifying communication technologies which are available and will work for SIDS in a cost-effective manner; guidance for SIDS through best practices for installing and maintaining the communication equipment recommended for their unique circumstances, where basic infrastructure such as electrical power is either lacking or absent; practical advice and assistance for SIDS in utilizing communication equipment and programmes for e-health, e-education, disaster and emergency communications, etc. in their unique environment, which is different from those in remote land-based or landlocked states; and ongoing tailor-made capacity building and exchange programmes for SIDS on various aspects of telecommunications/ICTs ranging from policies, regulations and operations to technologies in a dynamically evolving digital era in order to optimize digital opportunities.

5 Strengthening the collaboration between ITU-T and ITU-D

Objectives

To assist, through ITU-D, the developing countries, especially in the Asia-Pacific region, that lack the necessary human resources to understand ITU-T Recommendations, and to enhance the application of ITU-T Recommendations for telecommunication/ICT services and equipments in the developing countries, especially in the Asia-Pacific region.

Expected results

Close coordination mechanism(s) between ITU-T and ITU-D at the regional level through the ITU Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific; guidelines for the developing countries, especially in the Asia-Pacific region, on how to understand and apply ITU-T Recommendations, particularly those having policy and regulatory implications; creation of an e-mail reflector (e.g. "ITU-T Recommendation Guide") with a pool of experts on telecommunication/ICT standards from both the developed and developing countries, through which the developing countries, especially in the Asia-Pacific region, can share their understanding and seek advice; online and/or face-to-face capacity building by experts to improve understanding of ITU-T Recommendations by the developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region; assistance to the developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region in determining whether their national standards are consistent and comply with ITU-T Recommendations; and improved participation of the developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region both in ITU-T and ITU-D, which will lead to better use of international standards by those countries.

ANNEX 4

Arab regional initiatives

1 ICT indicators and capacity building for measuring them

Objectives

To establish information-society indicators and capacity building to facilitate measuring those indicators in the Arab region.

Expected results

- Description of the major information-society indicators in the Arab world, to enable comparison with other countries and regions.
- Enable the concerned parties to use the database in the process of decision-making and planning the development of the information society.
- Increase studies and research on information society in terms of facilitating the work of researchers by providing a large quantity of information on the information society in the Arab world.

2 Development of an Arab regulatory framework/guidelines for ICT

Objectives

To develop a system for the Arab countries containing guidelines on telecommunication and information technology, to be used as a reference by the Arab countries, so as to enable them to achieve their national strategic objectives.

This will involve:

- implementing a system for the Arab countries containing guidelines on telecommunication and information technology, taking into account the changes that have occurred in this sector;
- improving ICT sector regulations in the Arab countries and simplifying the related procedures;
- setting guidelines for e-business and e-transactions in the Arab countries.

Expected results

- Reduction of the digital divide.
- Provision of advanced ICT services at reasonable rates and with high quality.
- Support the spread of e-applications such as e-government, e-commerce and the spread in the use of the internet.
- Transfer of ICT to the region.
- Harmonization of specifications and standards.
- Supporting the usage of e-applications in the Arab region (e-commerce, e-government, etc.).
- Enhancing user confidence in the security of e-transactions.
- Encourage ICT industry.

3 Arab centre for digital documentation (Memory of the Arab world)

Objectives

To establish an electronic gateway on the internet "Portal for Arab Heritage" in both Arabic and English, digitizing the Arab and the Islamic heritage and publishing packages of cultural products in different languages, including books, tapes, CDs.

To establish a museum for specimens of the scientific tools that have been used by the Arabs and set up a digital documentation centre.

Expected results

- Document the Arab heritage and publish it, in its different aspects, material and moral, such as the scientific Islamic heritage, the documentation heritage, the popular heritage, the architectural heritage, etc.
- Transfer information and traditional material and publish it using the internet and electronic media.
- Invest in the existing executive cooperation base established by UNESCO, through its grouping and its centre nodes in the region.
- Inform the new generation of the Arab world of their cultural identity by establishing a website on the internet designed to show the wonders of the treasures of the Arab and Islamic heritage, using the latest technology in the Arabic, English and French languages.
- Inform the world about the Arab civilization.
- Collect and disseminate specialized digital information on ICTs in the Arab region.

4 Connection of Arab internet networks (National access points)

Objectives

To develop nodes connecting the Arab internet networks, in order to allow traffic flow between the Arab countries through these nodes, and in order that information traffic to countries other than the Arab nations be routed through these nodes.

This will involve:

- Designing internet traffic of the Arab countries in such a way to prevent current negative aspects and building it on economic feasibility, using available tools and equipment to establish universal access nodes in addition to the existing nodes.
- Create the nodes and connect the Arab countries through these nodes.

Expected results

- Reduction in the cost of using the internet and reduction in the cost of interconnectivity to the international backbone.
- Increase in the use of the internet.
- Increase in Arabic digital content.
- Guarantee the continuity and availability of interconnection between the Arab countries in case of international network disruption.
- Improvement of quality of service, reduction of congestion and quicker applications download.
- Efficient use of infrastructure and available capacities.

5 Translation and arabization of ICT terminology

Objectives

To unify the efforts being deployed to translate and arabize ICT terminology, by developing an Arabic glossary for ICT terminology, and to facilitate use of the internet by Arab users by increasing the penetration of domain names in Arabic.

This will involve:

- Approving the terminology in Arabic in the field of ICT by all Arab countries, to facilitate interaction and exchange of information among staff working in the ICT field.
- Availability of an e-glossary for ICT terminology on the internet and on CD in three languages: Arabic, English and French.

Expected results

- Support the building of the information society in the Arab region.
- Create an entity working in the field of arabization of ICT terminology.
- Overcome the digital divide.
- Support the teaching of ICT in the Arabic language in schools and universities.

ANNEX 5

African regional initiatives

1 Human and institutional capacity building

Objectives

To provide Africa with human resources and skills needed for the harmonious development of the information and communication technology (ICT) sector, taking into account gender issues and emphasizing youth training.

Expected results

- Improve information systems to allow policy-makers to better conduct ICT development in Africa.
- Design and implementation of a joint human resource development strategy for the ICT sector in Africa.
- Support for the implementation of reform programmes and proposed strategies for the ICT sector in Africa.
- Increased use of African expertise through genuine cooperation between countries.
- Increased access to ICT training resources for all African stakeholders in the sector, with an emphasis on digital broadcasting needs.
- Priority use of national, subregional and regional training institutions.
- Promotion of technical cooperation between ICT training institutions to bolster capacity and resources.
- Networking between research and training institutions with a view to developing joint programmes.
- Increased availability of public access to knowledge in Africa, in particular by facilitating the creation of end-user training programmes.
- Development of Africa's knowledge economy by fostering young leaders and well-trained professionals.
- Establishment of information exchange and sharing forums between the various groups having a stake in the ICT sector in Africa, in particular young people, women and disadvantaged people.
- Strengthening legal institutions to cope with the ICT challenges, including cybercriminality.

2 Strengthening and harmonizing policy and regulatory frameworks for integration of African ICT markets

Objectives

To facilitate and enhance the reform of Africa's ICT sectors in order to achieve subregional and regional integration of ICT infrastructure, services and markets.

Expected results

Establishment of a conducive environment in Africa through subregional and regional harmonization and coordination of ICT policy and regulatory frameworks in order to facilitate:

- development of competitive African ICT markets;
- development of freely accessible pan-African services;
- harmonization of technical standards to provide increased connectivity of networks and services;
- reduction of the level of intra-continental traffic forwarded by extra-continental transit centres;
- development of universal access to networks and services, taking on board the special needs of young people, women, disadvantaged people and indigenous populations;
- tangible increase in investments, and support to existing industries;
- reduction in cost of equipments and services and harmonization of service cost and tariff structures;
- industrialization of the sector through the establishment of regional equipment manufacturers;
- migration of existing infrastructure to next-generation networks, taking into consideration convergence;
- strengthening of information security and combating spamming and cybercriminality;
- optimal use of the continent's scarce resources, including the frequency spectrum and the numbering plan;
- integration of markets and economies.

3 Development of a broadband infrastructure and achievement of regional interconnectivity

Objectives

- To provide the African countries with a broadband infrastructure to be used for subregional and continental interconnection.
- To digitize the existing switching and transmission infrastructure in countries.
- To achieve interconnection of internet nodes among countries.
- To implement regional roaming among mobile operators.
- To provide populations with better access to and quality of ICT services and improve performance indicators.
- To reduce extra-continental transit and reduce costs related to the used bandwidths charged to the continent.

Expected results

- An operational pan-African telecommunication network.
- National telecommunication equipment and transmission routes upgraded, by using modern technologies including wireless local loop for rural areas.
- Countries interconnected by means of high-capacity links.
- Transit traffic carried outside the continent reduced to less than five per cent of intra-regional traffic.

- Resources optimized through the acquisition of common bandwidth and bulk purchase of equipment.
- Service costs significantly reduced and harmonized within each subregional economic area.
- Increased participation in the building of an inclusive information society.

4 ICT applications

Objectives

- To provide African countries with coherent applications, drawn from their national e-strategies, making it possible to use modern data transmission and internet networks to provide electronic services for administration, health, education, trade and the economy as a whole.
- To share identified medical expertise by saving factor-related costs and skilful human resource deployment-related costs in e-health projects.
- To make reliable teaching facilities universally accessible as part of NEPAD's e-school projects and other e-learning initiatives.
- To use the postal network to reach out to rural areas as part of the implementation of the e-post project for Africa.
- To improve and optimize administration management through introduction of simplified, fast and reliable procedures (government, customs, revenue authority, local governments, etc.).
- To improve food self-sufficiency by making optimum use of climatic data for agriculture and animal husbandry, to better match production to market needs (e-agriculture), and to facilitate heritage conservation (wildlife, forests), within the framework of e-environment projects.

Expected results

- Publication of reliable, up-to-date administrative information for the population.
- Gains in terms of time and productivity, improved operations and optimized income and tax collection in the public service.
- Government websites with online services established in each country.
- Qualified medical assistance and appropriate quality care provided to the population; timely response in situations of major public-health crisis, with the establishment of early-warning systems and confirmation of diagnosis in the event of communicable diseases (e.g. Ebola virus, other epizootics requiring quarantine); improved prevention of chronic diseases such as malaria and tuberculosis; and support to HIV/AIDS initiatives.
- Consolidation of conventional education by improving needy populations' access to knowledge; higher literacy rate and education level, especially in rural areas.
- Improved management of natural resources and enhanced cost-effectiveness of agricultural and livestock products, while adding value to tourist business.
- Public availability of modern information and messaging portals, with access to communication facilities that are useful in the family context or for work, so as to improve living conditions.

5 Introduction of new digital broadcasting technologies

Objectives

- To provide African countries with an upgraded television broadcasting infrastructure that is compatible with the new digital broadcasting plans (RRC-06, Geneva) and assist them with smooth transition from analogue-to-digital systems.
- To plan the broadcasting infrastructure (DVB-DAB) and make the transition to digital; plan for the establishment of digital terrestrial television (DTT) by standardizing the applicable codes as well as possible.
- To facilitate the emergence and use of new services through the use of broadband technologies.
- To improve and optimize spectrum management in order to ensure that the resources available for the introduction of new services are adequate, and produce a wave-propagation map for a tropical environment.
- To give the population a broader choice for reception of programmes and information from other continents and facilitate the visibility of local and regional productions (films, news, etc.).

Expected results

- Modernized radio and TV broadcasting with inclusion of new multimedia services.
 - Improved programme-sharing and enhanced added-value for local and regional production.
 - Publication of a new wave-propagation map for Africa and contribution to the elimination of harmful interference.
 - Optimized storage capabilities through the creation of digital multimedia and video libraries.
 - Significant reduction in the cost of subscriptions and video-on-demand services and programmes, launch of remote shopping and teaching services, etc.
 - Effective participation in the building of an all-inclusive information society.
 - Smooth simultaneous operation of existing analogue services and new digital broadcasting systems.
-

RESOLUTION 18 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

Special technical assistance to the Palestinian Authority

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

recalling

- a) Resolution 32 (Kyoto, 1994) of the Plenipotentiary Conference on technical assistance to the Palestinian Authority for the development of telecommunications and Resolution 125 (Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference on assistance and support to the Palestinian Authority for rebuilding its telecommunication networks;
- b) Resolution 99 (Minneapolis, 1998) of the Plenipotentiary Conference on the status of Palestine in ITU;
- c) the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- d) Resolution 18 (Rev.Istanbul, 2002) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference on special technical assistance to the Palestinian Authority;
- e) the provisions of § 18, Article A of the Geneva Declaration of Principles and § 21 of the Tunis Commitment,

considering

- a) that the ITU Constitution and Convention are designed to strengthen peace and security in the world for the development of international cooperation and better understanding among the peoples concerned;
- b) the ITU's policy of assistance to the Palestinian Authority for the development of its telecommunication and information technology sector,

considering further

- a) that establishment of a reliable and modern telecommunication network is an essential part of economic and social development and is of the utmost importance to the future of the Palestinian people;
- b) the importance of the international community in assisting the Palestinians to develop a modern and reliable telecommunication network,

mindful

of the fundamental principles contained in the ITU Constitution,

having regard to

the challenges faced by the Palestinian Authority in executing the five projects agreed with the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) under the implementation of Resolution 18 (Rev.Istanbul, 2002),

noting

the BDT long-term technical assistance to the Palestinian Authority for the development of its telecommunications pursuant to Resolution 32 (Kyoto, 1994) of the Plenipotentiary Conference and the urgent need for assistance to be provided in the various fields of information, informatics and communication, and the difficulties that have accompanied the provision of this assistance,

resolves to instruct the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

- 1 to continue and enhance the technical assistance provided to the Palestinian Authority for the development of its telecommunications, taking into consideration the need to overcome the difficulties encountered in the provision of this assistance during the previous cycle since 2002;
- 2 to provide a periodic report on various experiences in liberalization and privatization of telecommunications and to assess their impact on the development of the sector in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank;
- 3 to report to the ITU Council with an annual report on the progress made in implementing this resolution (and similar resolutions) and the mechanisms employed to deal with difficulties arising,

calls upon ITU members

- 1 to assist the Palestinian Authority in rebuilding and restoring the Palestinian telecommunication network;
- 2 to assist the Palestinian Authority in recovering their entitlements accruing from incoming and outgoing international traffic;
- 3 to provide to the Palestinian Authority assistance in support of the implementation of BDT projects, including human resources capacity building,

requests the Secretary-General

to report to the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006) on the progress achieved in implementing this resolution.

Note by the Secretariat:

The delegations of Australia, Israel and the United States cannot associate themselves with the consensus on this resolution. The statements of these delegations together with the statements of other delegations can be found in the report of the seventh plenary meeting (see WTDC-06 Document 219).

RESOLUTION 20 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

Non-discriminatory access to modern telecommunication and information technology facilities and services

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

recalling

Resolution 20 (Rev.Istanbul, 2002) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference,

recalling also

- a) Resolution 64 (Kyoto, 1994) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, and the importance of telecommunications for political, economic, social and cultural progress;
- b) the decisions of phases one and two of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) concerning non-discriminatory access,

taking into account

- a) that ITU plays an important role in the promotion of global telecommunication standardization and development;
- b) that, to this end, the Union coordinates efforts aimed at securing harmonious development of telecommunication facilities in all its Member States,

taking into account further

that this conference is required to formulate a viewpoint and draw up proposals on issues determining a worldwide information and communication technology (ICT) development strategy, and facilitate mobilization of the necessary resources to that end,

noting

- a) that modern ICT facilities and services are established, in the main, on the basis of ITU-R and ITU-T Recommendations;
- b) that ITU-R and ITU-T Recommendations are the result of the collective efforts of all those taking part in the standardization process within ITU and are adopted by consensus by the members of the Union;
- c) that limitations on the access to telecommunication facilities and services on which national telecommunication development depends and which are established on the basis of ITU-R and ITU-T Recommendations constitute an obstacle to the harmonious development and compatibility of telecommunications worldwide,

recognizing

that full harmonization of telecommunication networks is impossible unless all countries participating in the work of the Union without exception enjoy non-discriminatory access to new telecommunication technologies and modern telecommunication facilities and services, without prejudice to national regulations and international commitments within the competence of other international organizations,

resolves

that there should be non-discriminatory access to telecommunication technologies, facilities and services established on the basis of ITU-R and ITU-T Recommendations,

encourages the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to engage in partnerships or strategic cooperation with parties which respect access to ICT facilities and services without discrimination,

requests the Secretary-General

to transmit this resolution to the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006) for consideration,

invites the Plenipotentiary Conference

to consider this resolution with a view to taking measures to foster global access to modern telecommunication technologies, facilities and services,

invites administrations

to help telecommunication equipment manufacturers and service providers in ensuring that telecommunication technologies, facilities and services established on the basis of ITU-R and ITU-T Recommendations are made available to the use of the public without any discrimination, in accordance with the decisions of phases one and two of WSIS in this regard.

RESOLUTION 21 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

Coordination and collaboration with regional organizations

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

considering

- a) Resolution 21 (Valletta, 1998) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference;
- b) Resolution 123 (Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;
- c) Resolution 17 (Rev.Florianópolis, 2004) and Resolutions 44 and 54 (Florianópolis, 2004) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly;
- d) the provisions of §§ 26 and 27 of the Geneva Action Plan;
- e) the key principles of the Geneva Declaration of Principles in §§ 60, 61, 62, 63 and 64;
- f) the provisions of §§ 23 c), 27 c), 80, 87, 89, 96, 97 and 101 of the Tunis Agenda,

conscious

- a) that the role of regional organizations has grown with the changes that have taken place in the last four years;
- b) that regional organizations are important bodies, and coordination with them should be a requirement for study Questions;
- c) that it is necessary to adopt ways and means of enhancing the role of ITU in general, and the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) in particular, in implementing the goals of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) in relation to the development of information and communication technology (ICT) globally, regionally and nationally, in close cooperation with other international and regional organizations and relevant civil-society bodies;
- d) that it is necessary to seize every opportunity to give experts from developing countries additional opportunities to gain experience by participating in regional and subregional meetings relating to the work of Study Groups 1 and 2,

recognizing

- a) that developing countries are at different stages of development;
- b) the need, therefore, to exchange opinions on telecommunication development at a regional level;
- c) the difficulty for some countries in some regions to participate in ITU-D study group activities;
- d) that, pursuant to the aforementioned Resolutions 44 and 54 (Florianópolis, 2004), regional rapporteur groups might permit wider participation by some countries, at lower cost, to address certain questions;
- e) that many of these countries effectively use regional organizations;
- f) that regional and subregional meetings are a valuable opportunity for exchanging information and generating managerial and technical experience and knowledge;
- g) that it is necessary to collaborate closely with ITU-T in this respect in implementing the aforementioned Resolutions 44 and 54 (Florianópolis, 2004),

recalling

- a) the possibility of creating regional groups to study questions or problems which, because of their specific nature, it is desirable to study within the framework of one or more of ITU's regions;
- b) regional initiatives with a view to:
 - i) implementation of technical cooperation projects and direct assistance to other regions;
 - ii) cooperation in regional initiatives with regional and international organizations involved with telecommunication/ICT development;
- c) the need to create an appropriate mechanism to unify efforts with the bodies referred to in the aforementioned Resolutions 44 and 54 (Florianópolis, 2004),

resolves

- 1 to encourage the creation of regional groups to study questions or problems that concern a specific region;
- 2 that ITU-D should actively coordinate, collaborate and organize joint activities in areas of common interest with regional and subregional organizations and training institutions and take into consideration their activities,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

- 1 to take the necessary measures, within the limits of available budget resources, to coordinate with regional and subregional telecommunication organizations, as required;
 - 2 to establish the necessary procedures for liaison between regional rapporteur groups set up under Resolutions 44 and 54 (Florianópolis, 2004) in ITU-T and the ITU-D study groups, where the subject matter is similar.
-

RESOLUTION 22 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

Alternative calling procedures on international telecommunication networks, identification of origin and apportionment of revenues in providing international telecommunication services

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

recalling

Resolution 22 (Rev.Istanbul 2002) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference,

considering

- a) the sovereign right of each State to regulate its telecommunications;
- b) the purposes of the Union, which include, *inter alia*:
 - to maintain and extend international cooperation among all Member States of the Union for the improvement and rational use of telecommunications of all kinds;
 - to promote the development of technical facilities and their most efficient operation with a view to improving the efficiency of telecommunication services, increasing their usefulness, and making them, so far as possible, generally available to the public;
 - to foster collaboration among its Member States and Sector Members with a view to the establishment of rates at levels as low as possible consistent with efficient services and taking into account the necessity for maintaining independent financial administration of telecommunication on a sound basis;
- c) the necessity of identifying the origin of calls as one of the aims of national security,

recognizing

- a) that alternative calling procedures are not permitted in many countries, while being permitted in others;
- b) that the use of alternative calling procedures, including refilling, adversely affects the economies of developing countries and may seriously hamper the efforts of these countries for the sound development of their telecommunication networks and services;
- c) that some forms of alternative calling procedures may have an impact on traffic management and network planning, and degrade the quality and performance of the public switched telephone network,

recalling

- a) Resolution 21 (Rev.Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference concerning alternative calling procedures on telecommunication networks, which:
 - urged Member States to cooperate among themselves to resolve difficulties to ensure that national laws and regulations of ITU Member States are respected;
 - instructed the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) to accelerate its studies with a view to developing appropriate solutions and recommendations;
- b) Resolution 1099 of adopted by the 1996 session of the Council concerning alternative calling procedures on international telecommunication networks, which urged ITU-T to develop, as soon as possible, the appropriate recommendations concerning alternative calling procedures;

c) Resolution 29 (Rev.Florianópolis, 2004) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) which:

- noted that in order to minimize the effect of alternative calling procedures:
 - recognized operating agencies (ROAs) should, within their national law, make their best efforts to establish the level of collection charges on a cost-orientated basis, taking into account Article 6.1.1 of the International Telecommunication Regulations and ITU-T Recommendation D.5;
 - administrations and ROAs should vigorously pursue the implementation of Recommendation D.140 and the principle of cost-orientated accounting rates and accounting rate shares;
- resolved that:
 - administrations and ROAs should take all reasonable measures, within the constraints of their national law, to suspend alternative calling procedures which seriously degrade the quality and performance of the public switched telephone network (PSTN);
 - administrations and ROAs should take a cooperative and reasonable approach to respecting the national sovereignty of others;
 - further studies should be carried out by ITU-T Study Group 2 on other aspects of alternative calling, including refilling;
 - ITU-T Study Group 3 is requested to study the economic effects of call-back on the effort of developing countries and least developed countries for sound development of their local telecommunication networks and services,

further recalling

a) Resolution 22 (Rev.Minneapolis, 1998) of the Plenipotentiary Conference on the apportionment of revenues in providing international telecommunication services which:

- instructed ITU-T to accelerate studies relating to accounting rate reform, taking account of the cost of providing service;
- invited administrations to contribute to the work of ITU-T Study Group 3 and its focus group, with a view to reaching an early resolution of the issue of accounting rate reform, taking due account of the various interests involved;

b) Opinion C of the World Telecommunication Policy Forum (Geneva, 1998) which:

- recognized that each country's level of telecommunication development and cost structure is different;
- noted that the nine case studies carried out for the forum showed a range of indicative costs for terminating international calls, and revealed that further analysis and verification is needed;
- was aware that a cost-orientated accounting rate system may be asymmetric, with higher costs for terminating calls in some countries than others;
- invited all ITU Member States and Sector Members to work on a bilateral basis, or on a multilateral basis through ITU, to achieve cost-orientated accounting rates in accordance with ITU-T Recommendation D.140, and to facilitate the achievement of this objective within a multilaterally agreed framework, taking account of the specific needs of the developing countries and in particular the least developed countries,

noting

the decisions of this conference with respect to the programme on finance and economics, Questions to be studied by the study groups of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) and actions to be taken by the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau to support joint activities with ITU-T Study Group 3 and assist developing countries with accounting rate reform,

resolves

1 to encourage all administrations and international telecommunication operators to enhance the effectiveness of ITU's role and to give effect to its Recommendations, particularly those of ITU-T Study Group 3, in order to promote a new and more effective basis for the accounting regime which would help limit the negative effects of alternative calling procedures on developing countries;

2 to request ITU-D and ITU-T to collaborate so as to avoid overlap and duplication of effort in studying the issue of refile in order to achieve an outcome based on the spirit of Resolution 21 (Rev.Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

3 to request ITU-D to play an effective role in connection with the implementation of Resolution 22 (Rev.Minneapolis, 1998) of the Plenipotentiary Conference with respect to the apportionment of revenues in favour of developing countries, particularly the least developed among them, in situations where cost-orientated accounting rates reflect asymmetric costs for terminating international traffic;

4 to request administrations and international operators which permit the use of alternative calling procedures in their countries in accordance with their national regulations to respect the decisions of other administrations and international operators whose regulations do not permit such services;

5 that cooperation is required with ITU-T, and specifically ITU-T Study Group 2, in implementing WTSA Resolution 20 (Rev.Florianópolis, 2004) in relation to telecommunication origin identification and misuse of numbering, addressing and naming resources,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to invite the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau to collaborate in the implementation of this resolution.

RESOLUTION 23 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

Internet access and availability for developing countries and charging principles for international internet connection

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

recalling

- a) Resolution 23 (Istanbul, 2002) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference;
- b) the provisions of § 50 of the Tunis Agenda, recognizing the particular concerns amongst developing countries that charges for international internet connectivity should be better balanced to enhance access, and calling for the development of strategies for increasing affordable global connectivity, thereby facilitating improved and equitable access for all, by the means described in items a, b, c, d, e, f and g of the said paragraph,

noting

- a) that ITU-T Recommendation D.50 on international internet connection recommends that administrations* involved in the provision of international internet connections negotiate and agree to bilateral commercial arrangements enabling direct international internet connections that take into account the possible need for compensation between them for the value of elements such as, *inter alia*, traffic flow, number of routes, geographical coverage and cost of international transmission;
- b) the rapid growth of the internet and IP-based international services;
- c) that international internet connections remain subject to commercial agreements between the parties concerned;
- d) that access to information and sharing and creation of knowledge contributes significantly to strengthening economic, social and cultural development, thus helping countries to reach the internationally agreed development goals and objectives; this process can be enhanced by removing barriers to universal, ubiquitous, equitable and affordable access to information;
- e) that continuing technical and economic development require ongoing studies in this area;
- f) that a rise in the costs of international connectivity will result in delayed access to and benefit from the internet,

recognizing

that commercial initiatives by service providers have the potential to deliver cost savings for internet access, for example through the development of more local content and the optimization of internet traffic routing patterns in a manner that provides for a greater proportion of traffic to be routed locally,

* The expression "administrations" is used for conciseness to indicate both a telecommunication administration and a recognized operating agency.

resolves to invite Member States

- 1 to support the work of the Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) in monitoring the implementation and updating of ITU-T Recommendation D.50, bearing in mind the importance of this issue for international internet connectivity in the developing and least developed countries;
- 2 to create policy conditions for effective competition in the international internet backbone network access market as well as in the domestic internet access service market as an important aspect of lowering the cost of internet access for users and service providers;
- 3 to implement the Tunis Agenda in this respect, particularly § 50,

reaffirms

its resolution in the quest to ensure that everyone can benefit from the opportunities that ICTs can offer, by recalling that governments, as well as the private sector, civil society and the United Nations and other international organizations, should work together to: improve access to information and communication infrastructure and technologies as well as to information and knowledge; build capacity; increase confidence and security in the use of ICTs; create an enabling environment at all levels; develop and widen ICT applications; foster and respect cultural diversity; recognize the role of the media; address the ethical dimensions of the information society; and encourage international and regional cooperation,

urges regulators

to promote, within the context of national policy, competition among all service providers, including small and medium-sized internet service providers and incumbent network access service providers,

urges service providers

to negotiate and agree to bilateral commercial arrangements enabling direct international internet connections that take into account the possible need for compensation between them for the value of elements such as, *inter alia*, traffic flow, number of routes, geographical coverage and the cost of international transmission,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to organize and coordinate activities that promote information-sharing among regulators on the relationship between charging arrangements for international internet connection and the affordability of international internet infrastructure development in developing and least developed countries, through cooperation with ITU-T in this matter by giving the necessary priority to the relevant study questions through the activity of Programme 4.

RESOLUTION 24 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

**Authorization for the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group
to act between world telecommunication development conferences**

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

considering

- a) that, under the provisions of Article 17A of the ITU Convention, the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) is to provide guidelines for the work of study groups and recommend measures to foster coordination and cooperation with other relevant development and financial institutions;
- b) that the rapid pace of change in the telecommunication environment and in industry groups dealing with telecommunications demands that the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) make decisions on matters such as work priorities, study group structure and meeting schedules, in shorter periods of time, between world telecommunication development conferences (WTDCs);
- c) that TDAG is competent to make proposals for enhancing the operational efficiency of ITU-D, for improving the quality of ITU-D Recommendations and for methods of coordination and cooperation;
- d) that TDAG can help improve coordination of the study process and provide improved decision-making processes for the important areas of ITU-D activities;
- e) that flexible administrative procedures, including those related to budgetary considerations, are needed in order to adapt to rapid changes in the telecommunication environment;
- f) that it is desirable for TDAG to act in the four years between WTDCs in order to meet the needs of the members in a timely manner,

noting

- a) that the duties of WTDC are specified in the Convention;
- b) that the current four-year cycle for WTDCs effectively precludes the possibility of addressing unforeseen issues requiring urgent action in the interim period between conferences;
- c) that TDAG meets at least on a yearly basis;
- d) that TDAG has already exhibited the capability to act effectively on matters referred to it by WTDC;
- e) that, in accordance with No. 213A of the Convention, a WTDC may assign specific matters within its competence to TDAG, indicating the recommended action on those matters,

noting further

that there is a need to identify an appropriate mechanism or mechanisms to address new emerging problems for developing countries that ITU-D may not yet have been able to consider,

resolves

1 to assign to TDAG the following specific matters, between two consecutive WTDCs, acting in consultation with the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), as appropriate:

- a) maintain up-to-date, efficient and flexible working guidelines;
- b) evaluate the efficiency of the ITU-D study groups and approve changes which are appropriate in their working methods;
- c) restructure and establish ITU-D study groups, if required, and appoint chairmen and vice-chairmen to act until the next WTDC in response to the needs and concerns of the membership, within the agreed budgetary limits;
- d) issue advice on study group schedules to meet development priorities;
- e) advise the Director of BDT on financial matters, on the basis of results-based budgeting, and other matters;
- f) approve the programme of work arising from the review of existing and new Questions and determine the priority, urgency, estimated financial implications and time-scale for the completion of their study;
- g) while recognizing the primacy of the study groups in covering study activities, create, terminate or maintain other groups, appoint their chairmen and vice-chairmen, and establish their terms of reference with a defined duration, in accordance with Nos 209A and 209B of the Convention, in order to promote flexibility in responding rapidly to high-priority issues; such groups shall not adopt Questions or Recommendations;

2 that, when dealing with restructuring of the study groups and the creation of new study groups, the decisions taken in TDAG meetings shall be unopposed by any Member State;

3 that a report on the above TDAG activities shall be submitted to the next WTDC, in accordance with No. 215JA of the Convention.

RESOLUTION 25 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

Assistance to countries in special need: Afghanistan, Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Timor Leste, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

recalling

Resolution 34 (Rev. Minneapolis, 1998) of the Plenipotentiary Conference,

recalling further

the purposes of the Union, as enshrined in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution,

recognizing

- a) that no budget was allocated by the Plenipotentiary Conference to accompany Resolution 34 (Rev. Minneapolis, 1998) for the benefit of countries in special need;
- b) the ongoing ITU efforts of extending assistance through TELECOM surplus funds to countries in special need (Burundi, Liberia, Rwanda and Somalia) should be extended to other countries whose circumstances are similar to the aforementioned countries;
- c) that a reliable telecommunication network is indispensable for promoting the socio-economic development of countries, in particular those having suffered from natural disasters, domestic conflicts or war;
- d) that, under the present conditions and in the foreseeable future, these countries will not be able to bring their telecommunication systems up to an acceptable level without help from the international community, provided bilaterally or through international organizations,

noting

- a) the report of the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) on the implementation, *inter alia*, of Resolution 34 (Rev. Minneapolis, 1998);
- b) the efforts deployed by the Secretary-General and the Director of BDT towards the implementation of Resolution 34 (Rev. Minneapolis, 1998),

noting further

that the conditions of order and security sought by United Nations resolutions have been only partially achieved and that, due to non-allocation of resources for the implementation of Resolution 34 (Rev. Minneapolis, 1998), the resolution has been only partially implemented,

resolves

that the special action initiated by the Secretary-General and the Director of BDT, with specialized assistance from ITU-R and ITU-T, should be continued in order to provide appropriate assistance and support to countries that have suffered from natural disasters, domestic conflicts or wars, namely Afghanistan, Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Timor Leste, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone and Somalia, in rebuilding their telecommunication networks, as and when the conditions of order and security sought by United Nations resolutions are met,

calls upon Member States

to offer all possible assistance and support to the governments of the countries in special need, either bilaterally or through the special action of the Union referred to above,

invites the Council

to allocate the necessary funds within available resources for the implementation of this resolution,

requests the Secretary-General

1 to bring to the attention of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006) the need to allocate a specific budget for countries in special need;

2 to coordinate the activities carried out by the three ITU Sectors in accordance with *resolves* above, to ensure that the Union's action in favour of countries in special need is as effective as possible, and to report on the matter to the Council;

3 to update this list of countries from time to time, as needed and with the approval of the Council.

RESOLUTION 26 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

Assistance to countries in special need: Afghanistan

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

recalling

Resolution 34 (Rev. Minneapolis, 1998) of the Plenipotentiary Conference,

recalling further

the purposes of the Union, as enshrined in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution,

recognizing

- a) that no budget was allocated by the Plenipotentiary Conference to accompany Resolution 34 (Rev. Minneapolis, 1998) for the benefit of countries in special need;
- b) that the telecommunication infrastructure in Afghanistan has been completely destroyed by the two decades of war and that the existing equipment in use is over forty years old and thus obsolete;
- c) that Afghanistan at present does not have a national telecommunication infrastructure, access to international telecommunication networks or access to the internet;
- d) that a telecommunication system is an essential input for the reconstruction, rehabilitation and relief operations in the country;
- e) that, under the present conditions and in the foreseeable future, Afghanistan will not be able to rebuild its telecommunication systems without help from the international community, provided bilaterally or through international organizations,

noting

- a) that Afghanistan has not benefited from the Union's assistance over a long period due to war in the country;
- b) the efforts deployed by the Secretary-General and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) towards the provision of assistance to other countries emerging from war situations,

resolves

that the special action initiated by the Secretary-General and the Director of BDT, with specialized assistance from ITU-T and ITU-R, should be continued in order to provide assistance and support to Afghanistan, in rebuilding its telecommunication infrastructure, establishing institutions for the sector, developing telecommunication legislation and regulatory framework, including numbering plan, spectrum management, tariff and human resource development and all other forms of assistance,

calls upon Member States

to offer all possible assistance and support to the Government of Afghanistan, either bilaterally or through the special action of the Union referred to above,

invites the Council

to allocate the necessary funds within available resources for the implementation of this resolution,

instructs the Director of BDT

- 1 to implement fully a programme of assistance for the LDCs from which Afghanistan can receive focused assistance in various areas determined to be of high priority by the country;
- 2 to take immediate measures to assist Afghanistan in the period up to the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006),

requests the Secretary-General

to coordinate the activities carried out by the three ITU Sectors in accordance with *resolves* above, to ensure that the Union's action in favour of Afghanistan is as effective as possible, and to report on the matter to the Council.

RESOLUTION 27 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

Admission of entities or organizations to participate as Associates in the work of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

recalling

Resolution 27 (Rev.Istanbul, 2002) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference,

considering

- a) that the rapid pace of change in the telecommunication environment and in industry groups dealing with telecommunications demand the increased participation of interested entities and organizations in the development activities of ITU;
- b) that entities or organizations, in particular those with highly focused areas of activity, may be interested only in a small part of the development work of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) and, therefore, do not intend to apply for membership in the Sector, but would be willing to join in the activity of a given study group if simpler conditions existed;
- c) that No. 241A of the ITU Convention enables the Sectors to admit entities or organizations to participate as Associates in the work of a given study group, its working parties or rapporteur groups;
- d) that Nos 241A, 248B and 483A of the Convention describe the principles governing the participation of Associates,

resolves

- 1 that an interested entity or organization may join ITU-D as an Associate and be entitled to take part in the work of a selected single study group and its subordinate and rapporteur groups;
- 2 that Associates are limited to the study group roles described below and excluded from all others:
 - Associates may take part in the process of preparing Recommendations within a single study group, including the roles of participating in meetings, submitting contributions and providing comments before the adoption of a Recommendation;
 - Associates shall have access to documentation required for their work;
 - an Associate may serve as a vice-rapporteur, responsible for directing the studies for the relevant study Question within the selected study group, except for liaison activities with another study group;
- 3 that the amount of the financial contribution for Associates be based upon a proportion of the contributory unit for Sector Members as determined by the Council for any particular biennial budgetary period,

requests the Secretary-General

to admit entities or organizations to participate as Associates in the work of a given study group or subgroups or rapporteur group thereof, following the principles set in Nos 241B, 241C, 241D and 241E of the Convention,

requests the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group

to review on an ongoing basis the conditions governing the participation (including the financial impact on the Sector budget) of Associates based on the experience gained within ITU-D in this area,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to prepare the necessary logistics for the participation of Associates in the work of the ITU-D study groups, including possible impacts of study group reorganization.

RESOLUTION 29 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

ITU Telecommunication Development Sector initiatives on Sector Member issues

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

considering

- a) No. 126 of the ITU Constitution, which encourages participation by industry in telecommunication development in developing countries¹⁹;
- b) that the Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) may undertake, during the period 2008-2011, actions in order to be responsive to Sector Members' needs;
- c) that it is in the interest of ITU to achieve its development objectives, increase the number of Sector Members and promote their participation in the activities of ITU-D;
- d) that partnerships between and among the public and the private sectors, national, regional, international and intergovernmental organizations, including ITU and other entities, as appropriate, are key to promoting sustainable information and communication technology (ICT) development;
- e) that the Geneva Plan of Action and Tunis Agenda emphasize the importance of the public and private sectors to mobilize resources and form partnerships for sustainable development,

recognizing

- a) that telecommunication is of critical importance to overall economic, social and cultural development;
- b) that Sector Members may face challenges in the provision of ICT services;
- c) the important role played by Sector Members in suggesting and implementing ITU-D projects and programmes;
- d) that a large number of ITU-D programmes and activities involve Sector Member issues,

further recognizing

- a) the importance of the principles of transparency and non-exclusivity to partnership opportunities and projects;
- b) the need to promote increased Sector membership and active participation of Sector Members in ITU-D activities;
- c) the need to facilitate exchange of views and information between Member States and Sector Members on private-sector issues related to telecommunication policies and regulation, technologies and related services, market access and investment conditions;
- d) the need to promote and facilitate the creation of human resource development programmes and activities relevant to Sector Members' interests in developing countries, including opportunities for ITU-D Sector Members;
- e) that this initiative should facilitate the participation of Sector Members in all ITU-D programmes and activities,

¹⁹ The term "developing countries" also includes small island developing countries, least developed countries and countries with economies in transition.

noting

- a) that a growing number of ITU-D Sector Members from the private sector are engaged in the work accomplished within ITU-D;
- b) that there is an evolving and increasing role for and contribution of Sector Members in ITU-D activities;
- c) that economic development relies, among others, on the resources and capacity of ITU-D Sector Members,

resolves

- 1 that the ITU-D operational plans should respond to issues relevant to Sector Members by strengthening the communication channels between the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), Member States and ITU-D Sector Members;
- 2 that appropriate steps should continue to be taken for the creation of an enabling environment at the national, regional, and international levels to encourage development and investment in the ICT sector;
- 3 that the Director of BDT, when implementing the ITU-D operational plan, should consider the following actions:
 - i) to improve regional cooperation between Member States, Sector Members and other relevant entities;
 - ii) to facilitate the development of public and private sector partnerships for the implementation of regional initiatives;
 - iii) to promote through its various programmes an enabling environment for investment and ICT development,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

- 1 to address, as appropriate, in the programmes and activities, issues of interest to Sector Members;
- 2 to facilitate communications between Member States and Sector Members on issues which contribute to an enabling environment for investment, particularly in developing countries,

invites the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to consider organizing, contingent upon the ability to mobilize extrabudgetary resources, a Sector Members' meeting that would:

- focus on key challenges in achieving ICT development in developing countries and propose approaches for addressing those challenges;
- be open to the entire ITU membership.

RESOLUTION 30 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

Role of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

recalling

- a) Resolution 30 (Istanbul, 2002) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, which achieved its aims in relation to the preparatory work for both phases of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS);
- b) the documents adopted by both phases of WSIS:
 - the Geneva Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action;
 - the Tunis Commitment and Agenda,

recognizing

- a) that WSIS stated that the core competencies of ITU are of crucial importance for building the information society, and identified ITU as a moderator/facilitator for implementing Action Lines C2 and C5, and as a partner in Action Lines C1, C3, C4, C6, C7 and C11²⁰;
- b) that the Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D), in view of its purposes and objectives, the nature of the existing partnership among Member States and ITU-D Sector Members, its accumulated experience over many years in dealing with different development needs and implementing a range of projects, including infrastructure projects and telecommunication/ICT infrastructure projects specifically, financed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and various funds, the nature of its six existing programmes, adopted at this conference to meet the needs of the telecommunication/ICT infrastructure and achieve the WSIS goals, and the presence of its authorized regional offices, is a key partner in the implementation of WSIS outcomes,

resolves to invite the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector

- 1 to continue working in cooperation with the other ITU Sectors and with development partners (governments, specialized agencies of the United Nations, relevant international and regional organizations, etc.), through a clear plan and appropriate mechanisms for coordination among the different partners concerned at the national, regional, interregional and global levels, having particular regard to the needs of the developing countries, including in the field of building the telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, building confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs, and implementation of the other WSIS goals;
- 2 to continue to encourage the principle of non-exclusion from the information society and to devise appropriate mechanisms to this end (§§ 20-25 of the Tunis Commitment);
- 3 to continue to facilitate an enabling environment encouraging ITU-D Sector Members to give priority to investing in the development of the telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, encompassing rural, isolated and remote regions, through different technologies;

²⁰ The Syrian Arab Republic, on behalf of the Arab States, expressed a reservation regarding the exclusion of Action Line C8 in this resolution.

4 to assist Member States in finding and/or improving innovative financial mechanisms to develop telecommunication/ICT infrastructure (such as the Digital Solidarity Fund and others mentioned in § 27 of the Tunis Agenda);

5 to continue to assist developing countries in advancing their legal and regulatory frameworks in order to further the goal of building the telecommunication/ICT infrastructure and achieve the other WSIS goals;

6 to pursue its activities in the field of statistical work for telecommunication development, using the indicators required to evaluate progress in this area with a view to bridging the digital divide, *inter alia*, within the framework of the partnership on measuring ICT for development and consistent with §§ 113-118 of the Tunis Agenda;

7 to develop and implement the ITU-D strategic plan, taking into account the need to give priority to building the telecommunication/ICT infrastructure at the national, regional, interregional and global levels and to achieve the other WSIS goals related to the activities of ITU-D;

8 to propose at the forthcoming plenipotentiary conference appropriate mechanisms within available resources for funding the activities flowing from WSIS that are relevant to the core competencies of ITU, specifically:

- i) Action Lines C2 and C5, in which ITU is identified as a moderator/facilitator;
- ii) Action Lines C1, C3, C4, C6, C7 and its eight sub-Action Lines and C11, in which ITU is identified as a partner,

calls upon Member States

to give priority to the development of the telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, including in rural, remote and underserved areas, in order to build the information society,

requests the Secretary-General

to transmit this resolution to the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006) for consideration.

RESOLUTION 31 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

**Regional preparations for world telecommunication
development conferences**

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

considering

- a) that many regional telecommunication organizations have coordinated their preparations for this conference;
- b) that many common proposals have been submitted to this conference from administrations participating in the preparations of regional telecommunication organizations;
- c) that this consolidation of views at regional level, together with the opportunity for interregional discussions prior to the conference, has eased the task of reaching a consensus during the conference;
- d) that the burden of preparation for future conferences is likely to increase;
- e) that there is consequently great benefit to the Member States of coordination of preparations at regional level;
- f) that the success of future conferences will depend on greater efficiency of regional coordination and interaction at interregional level prior to such conferences;
- g) that some regional organizations lack the necessary resources to adequately organize and to participate in such preparations;
- h) that there is a need for overall coordination of the interregional consultations,

recognizing

the benefits of regional coordination as already experienced in the preparation of world radiocommunication conferences,

taking into account

the benefits that a world telecommunication development conference (WTDC) could gain in efficiency from an increased amount and level of preparation of the Member States prior to the conference,

noting

- a) that many regional telecommunication organizations have expressed the need for the Union to cooperate more closely with regional telecommunication organizations;
- b) that, consequently, the Plenipotentiary Conference (Kyoto, 1994) resolved that the Union should develop stronger relations with regional telecommunication organizations,

further noting

that relations between ITU regional offices and regional telecommunication organizations have proved to be of great benefit and that regional offices should be used as much as possible to facilitate the preparation of WTDCs,

resolves to instruct the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to organize, within the financial limitations established by the Plenipotentiary Conference, one regional development conference or preparatory meeting per region, the closest in time possible to the next WTDC, making full use of the regional offices to facilitate such conferences or meetings;

2 to prepare, in close consultation with the chairmen and vice-chairmen of the regional development conferences or preparatory meetings, a report consolidating the results of such meetings, to be submitted to the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) meeting immediately preceding WTDC;

3 to convene the last TDAG meeting not less than four months before WTDC, to study, discuss and adopt the report presenting the outputs of the regional conferences and preparatory meetings, in addition to accomplishing whatever else is desirable prior to WTDC, including a review and revision of all resolutions, recommendations and programmes with the aim of proposing the necessary updates thereto,

requests the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to consult with Member States and regional and subregional telecommunication organizations on the means by which assistance can be provided in support of their preparations for future WTDCs;

2 to, on the basis of such consultations, assist Member States and regional and subregional telecommunication organizations in such areas as:

- i) organization of informal and formal regional and interregional preparatory meetings;
- ii) organization of information sessions;
- iii) development of coordination methods;
- iv) identification of major issues to be resolved by the future WTDC;

3 to submit to the next WTDC a report on the application of this resolution,

invites Member States

to participate actively in the implementation of this resolution.

RESOLUTION 32 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

International and regional cooperation

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

recalling

- a) Resolution 32 (Istanbul, 2002) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference;
- b) Resolutions 34 (Rev.Minneapolis, 1998), 64 (Kyoto, 1994) and 65 (Kyoto, 1994) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;
- c) the mechanism for cooperation at regional and international level to implement the outputs of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), as set out in §§ 101 a), b) and c), 102 a), b) and c), 103, 107 and 108 of the Tunis Agenda;
- d) Resolutions 16 (Rev.Istanbul, 2002) and 21 (Valletta, 1998) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference,

considering

- a) that, in the field of development, the challenges are never-ending and there are always new changes to anticipate;
- b) that, in order to achieve the objectives of the developing countries, new approaches must be adopted with a view to meeting the challenges of growth, in both qualitative and quantitative terms;
- c) that the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) is the appropriate framework for the exchange of experiences with a view to formulating the policies most likely to result in harmonious and complementary development which respects the aspirations of all countries to a thriving telecommunication sector in the service of economic development;
- d) that the continued lack of funding from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and other international financial institutions further impedes the implementation of international cooperation projects;
- e) that developing countries and least developed countries (LDCs) are increasingly experiencing the need for knowledge of fast-developing technologies and the associated policy and strategic issues;
- f) the vital importance of the cooperation among Member States, ITU-D Sector Members and Associates to address the needs of developing countries, especially LDCs;
- g) the satisfactory and encouraging results achieved by projects which have received international cooperation support under an initiative of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT),

recognizing

- a) that developing countries and LDCs are at different stages of development;
- b) the need, therefore, to exchange experiences on telecommunication development at a regional level;
- c) that ITU and regional organizations share common beliefs that close cooperation can promote regional telecommunications;
- d) that there is a continued need for ITU to cooperate more closely with regional organizations, including regional organizations of regulators,

noting

- a) the existence of regional and subregional organizations of regulators, examples of which are the regional telecommunication regulators networks in some regions;
- b) the development of cooperation and technical assistance activities among regional and subregional organizations of regulators,

resolves

- 1 that ITU-D should strengthen its relations with regional and subregional telecommunication organizations to stimulate new initiatives such as, but not limited to, the Agenda for the Connectivity of the Americas, the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), the Latin American Institute for Educational Communication (ILCE) and other similar initiatives in various regions;
- 2 that BDT should take all necessary steps to encourage exchanges of experience between developing countries and small island developing states (SIDS), especially in the area of information and communication technologies (ICT);
- 3 that BDT should strengthen its relations with regional and subregional regulatory organizations in different networks, through ongoing cooperation to stimulate the mutual exchange of experience,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

- 1 to ensure that ITU-D actively coordinates, collaborates and organizes joint activities in areas of common interest with regional and subregional organizations and training institutions, and takes into consideration their activities, as well as providing them with direct technical assistance;
- 2 to continue to organize the annual Global Symposium for Regulators meeting, with the aim of giving effect to WSIS outputs relevant to regulators,

requests the Secretary-General

- 1 to initiate urgently special measures and programmes to develop and promote activities and initiatives, in close cooperation with regional and subregional telecommunication organizations, including regulators, and other related institutions;
 - 2 to make every possible effort to encourage the private sector to take actions to facilitate cooperation with developing countries, especially LDCs, and also countries with special needs;
 - 3 to work closely with the new coordination mechanism established in the UN family and with UN regional commissions such as, but not limited to, the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA);
 - 4 to submit this resolution to the next plenipotentiary conference with a view to revision of Resolution 58 (Kyoto, 1994), in order to revise and update it in the light of WSIS outputs.
-

RESOLUTION 33 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

**Assistance and support to Serbia and Montenegro for rebuilding
its destroyed public broadcasting system in Serbia**

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

recalling

- a) the noble principles, purpose and objectives embodied in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- b) the purposes of the Union, as enshrined in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution,

noting

- a) Resolution 33 (Istanbul, 2002) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference;
- b) Resolution 126 (Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;
- c) with appreciation the efforts deployed by the Secretary-General of ITU and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) towards the implementation of the above-mentioned resolutions,

recognizing

- a) that a reliable public broadcasting system is indispensable for promoting the socio-economic development of countries, in particular those having suffered from natural disasters, domestic conflicts or war;
- b) that public broadcasting facilities in Serbia (Radio Television of Serbia (RTS)) have been severely damaged due to the events of 1999;
- c) that the damage to the public broadcasting system (RTS) in Serbia should concern the whole international community, in particular ITU;
- d) that, as a public broadcaster, RTS is a non-profit organization;
- e) that, under the present conditions and in the foreseeable future, Serbia and Montenegro will not be able to bring the public broadcasting system in Serbia up to an acceptable level without help from the international community, provided bilaterally or through international organizations,

resolves

- 1 to continue special action, within the framework and available budgetary resources of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector, with specialized assistance from the Radiocommunication Sector and the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector;
- 2 to provide appropriate assistance;
- 3 to support Serbia and Montenegro in rebuilding the public broadcasting system in Serbia,

calls upon Member States

- 1 to offer all possible assistance;
- 2 to support the Government of Serbia and Montenegro, either bilaterally or through, or at any rate in coordination with, the special action of ITU referred to above,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to use the necessary funds within available resources in order to continue the appropriate action,

requests the Secretary-General

- 1 to coordinate the activities carried out by the ITU Sectors in accordance with the above;
 - 2 to ensure that the ITU action in favour of Serbia and Montenegro is as effective as possible;
 - 3 to report on the matter to the Council;
 - 4 to transmit this resolution to the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006).
-

RESOLUTION 34 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

The role of telecommunications/information and communication technology in early warning and mitigation of disasters and humanitarian assistance

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

recalling

Resolution 34 (Istanbul, 2002) and Recommendation 12 (Istanbul, 2002) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC),

considering

- a) that the Intergovernmental Conference on Emergency Telecommunications (Tampere, 1998) (ICET-98) adopted the Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations (Tampere Convention) and that this convention came into force in January 2005;
- b) that the second Tampere Conference on Disaster Communications (Tampere, 2001) (CDC-01) invited ITU to study the use of public mobile networks for early warning and the dissemination of emergency information and the operational aspects of emergency telecommunications such as call prioritization;
- c) that the World Radiocommunication Conference (Geneva, 2003) in its Resolution 646 encouraged administrations to satisfy temporary needs for frequencies in emergency and disaster relief situations, to utilize both existing and new technologies for public protection and disaster relief and to facilitate cross-border circulation of radiocommunication equipment intended for use in emergency and disaster relief situations through mutual cooperation and consultation without hindering national legislation;
- d) the potential of modern telecommunication technology as a basic tool for disaster mitigation and relief;
- e) the terrible disasters from which many countries suffer, in particular the tsunami disaster that struck many developing countries;
- f) that the next international conference on emergency communications 2006 (ICEC-2006) will be held in Tampere, Finland, 19-20 June 2006,

noting

- a) that activities are being undertaken at the international, regional and national levels within ITU and other relevant organizations to establish internationally agreed means to operate systems for public protection and disaster relief on a harmonized and coordinated basis;
- b) that the capability and flexibility of all telecommunication facilities depend upon appropriate planning for the continuity of each phase of network development and implementation,

further noting

the latest version of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) Handbook on Disaster Communications and the adoption of Recommendation ITU-D 13 (Rev.2005) on "Effective utilization of the amateur services in disaster mitigation and relief operations",

recognizing

that the recent tragic events in the world clearly demonstrate the need for high-quality communications services to assist public safety and disaster relief agencies in minimizing risk to human life and to cover the necessary general public information and communication needs in such situations,

resolves

to invite ITU-D to continue to ensure that proper consideration be given to telecommunications for disaster warning and disaster situations as an element of telecommunication development, including, in close coordination and collaboration with the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) and the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) and other relevant international organizations, by facilitating and encouraging the use of decentralized means of communications that are appropriate and generally available, including those provided by the amateur radio service and satellite and terrestrial network services,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

- 1 to support administrations in their work towards the implementation of this resolution and of the Tampere Convention;
- 2 to report to the next world telecommunication development conference on the status of implementation of that Convention;
- 3 to support administrations and regulators in the recommended activities by incorporating appropriate measures during the implementation of the Doha Action Plan,

requests the Secretary-General

to continue to work closely with the office of the United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator and other relevant external organizations with a view to further increasing the Union's involvement in, and support to, emergency communications, and to report on the outcome of related international conferences and meetings so that the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006) may take any action that it deems necessary,

invites

- 1 the United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator and the Working Group on Emergency Telecommunications and the other relevant external organizations or bodies to collaborate closely with ITU in work towards implementing this resolution and the Tampere Convention, and supporting administrations and international and regional telecommunication organizations in the implementation of the convention;
 - 2 administrations to deploy all necessary efforts to persuade telecommunication service providers to make available their infrastructure in the event of disasters;
 - 3 regulators to ensure that disaster mitigation and relief operations include the provision of necessary telecommunications, through national regulatory rules;
 - 4 ITU-D to expedite the study of aspects of telecommunications related to flexibility and continuity in the event of disasters;
 - 5 administrations that have not yet ratified the Tampere Convention to take necessary action do so as appropriate.
-

RESOLUTION 35 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

**Support for the African information and communication technology sector
in the framework of the New Partnership for Africa's Development**

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

considering

that the provisions of the ITU Constitution, as contained in Chapter IV thereof on the Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D), particularly with regard, *inter alia*, to the functions of the Sector for building awareness of the impact of telecommunications on national economic and social development, its catalytic role in promoting the development, expansion and operation of telecommunication services and networks, especially in developing countries, and the need to maintain and enhance cooperation with regional and other telecommunication organizations,

considering further

Resolution 31 (Kyoto, 1994) of the Plenipotentiary Conference on telecommunication infrastructure and socio-economic and cultural development, highlighting:

- a) telecommunications as a prerequisite for development;
- b) its impact on agriculture, health, education, transport, human settlement, etc.;
- c) the continuing decline in development resources available to developing countries,

noting

- a) that, in its Declaration and resolutions, the World Telecommunication Development Conference (Istanbul, 2002) reaffirmed a commitment to enhancing expansion and development of telecommunication services in developing countries and harnessing capacity for the application of new and innovative services;
- b) the adoption of the Istanbul Action Plan, incorporating key chapters on global information infrastructure development and the special programme for least developed countries,

aware

that the ITU Council, in its Resolution 1184 on WTDC-02, urged the conference to place special emphasis on the problem of "bridging the digital divide",

taking note of

- a) the recognition by the United Nations General Assembly in its Resolution 56/37 of the adoption by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-seventh ordinary session (Lusaka, July 2001) of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD);
- b) the actions for NEPAD set out in annex hereto;
- c) the declaration by the Economic and Social Council on the role of the United Nations system in supporting the efforts of African countries to achieve sustainable development,

taking cognizance of

- a) the operative paragraphs of United Nations Resolution 56/218 on the final review and appraisal of the UN New Agenda for the Development of Africa, relating to consideration of plans and modalities during 2002 for future engagement with NEPAD and calling on the United Nations system and the international community to support the New African Initiative and to ensure effective representation;
- b) the conclusions of the Geneva and Tunis phases of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and the work under way to implement the African Regional Action Plan for the Knowledge Economy (ARAPKE);
- c) the call made on 23 November 2004 by the Summit of the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Implementing Committee (HSGIC) for an effective implementation of the NEPAD information and communication technology (ICT) programme;
- d) the request made by the Abuja Declaration of African ministers in charge of telecommunications and ICT on infrastructure development to provide appropriate financial resources to support NEPAD ICT activities,

recognizing

that, in spite of the impressive growth and expansion in infocommunication services recorded in the African region since WTDC-98, many areas of major concern still exist and considerable disparities persist in the region, and the digital divide continues to widen,

resolves to instruct the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to pay particular attention to implementation of the provisions of the ITU-D Action Plan relating to the recommendations of the report "Partnership framework for ICT infrastructure development in Africa", earmarking resources so that this can be permanently monitored,

requests the Secretary-General

to bring this resolution to the attention of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006) with a view to its releasing appropriate financial resources for activities to support NEPAD, in particular from the surplus on world telecommunication exhibitions and forums (ITU-TELECOM).

ANNEX TO RESOLUTION 35 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

Recommendations of the report "Partnership framework for ICT infrastructure development in Africa" (non-exhaustive)

1 Infrastructure

- i) Support to the Ministerial Committee of the African Union for the establishment of the Inter-Agency Coordinating Forum
- ii) Preparation of master plans for ICT infrastructure development
- iii) Facilitation of the introduction of digital technologies, especially for broadcasting
- iv) Support for all projects which promote ICT development and subregional and regional integration, for example, the East African Submarine Cable project (EASSy), the NEPAD e-school initiative, RASCOM, e-Post Africa, COMTEL, SRII, INTELCOM II, the ARAPKE projects, etc.
- v) Establishment and interconnection of national internet exchange points
- vi) Evaluation of the impact and adoption of measures for strengthening functional capacities and the new missions of subregional maintenance centres
- vii) Encourage the establishment of technological alliances in order to promote research and development at a regional level

2 Environment: development and implementation of

- i) an Africa-wide vision, strategy and action plan for ICT
- ii) a national vision and strategies for the development of ICT with maximum linkage to other national development strategies, notably the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)
- iii) elaboration of a national policy framework and strategy for universal access
- iv) provision of support for the harmonization of policy and regulatory frameworks at the subregional level

3 Capacity building, cooperation and partnerships

- i) Support for the elaboration of the planning and management of the frequency spectrum at national, subregional and regional levels
 - ii) Support the strengthening of ICT training institutions and the network of centres of excellence in the region
 - iii) Establishment of a cooperation mechanism amongst regional institutions that provide development assistance to African countries in the ICT sector
 - iv) Regional or multi-national approach to provision of support
 - v) Establishment of an ad hoc regional ICT think tank for Africa
 - vi) Strengthening of subregional telecommunication regulatory associations
 - vii) Strengthening of public-private partnership
 - viii) Establishment of an African ICT database
 - ix) Strengthening the capacities of Regional Economic Communities (RECs) for better implementation of the ICT projects and initiatives
-

RESOLUTION 36 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

Support for the African Telecommunication Union

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

recalling

Resolution 58 (Kyoto, 1994) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, particularly its *resolves*,

recalling further

Resolution 21 (Rev.Doha, 2006) of this conference,

considering

the urgent need of the African Telecommunication Union (ATU) for assistance and cooperation,

resolves to instruct the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to take all necessary steps to associate ATU in the implementation of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) Action Plan 2007-2010, in respect of support to the African ICT sector in the framework of NEPAD,

requests the Secretary-General and instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to take all necessary steps to provide ATU with administrative support and assistance in technical expertise, in particular by stepping up cooperation between ATU and the ITU Regional Office for Africa, including by making ITU experts available in the region.

RESOLUTION 37 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

Bridging the digital divide

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

recognizing

- a) that the telecommunication environment has undergone drastic changes since the World Telecommunication Development Conference (Istanbul, 2002);
- b) that there is still a need to show clearly what the digital divide is, where it occurs, and who suffers from it;
- c) that development in information and communication technology (ICT) has brought about reduction in the cost of relevant equipment;
- d) that in many ITU Member States, independent regulatory bodies have been established to deal with regulatory issues like interconnection, determination of tariffs, draft interconnection rules, etc., designed to bridge the digital divide at the national level;
- e) that the introduction of competition in the provision of telecommunication and information technology services has also reduced telecommunication costs to users;
- f) that the introduction of new applications and services has further contributed to bringing down telecommunication costs;
- g) that there is a need to create digital opportunities in developing countries, including the least developed countries, landlocked and small island developing states, and countries with economies in transition, taking advantage of the revolution that information and communication technologies have witnessed and are currently witnessing;
- h) that various activities are being executed towards bridging the digital divide by many organizations, such as, in addition to ITU, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the United Nations economic commissions, the World Bank, the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT), the regional development banks and many others, and that such activity is definitely increasing following the conclusion of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and the adoption of the Tunis Agenda, particularly in relation to implementation and follow-up,

considering

- a) that, even with all the developments mentioned above, in many developing countries telecommunications are still not affordable to the majority of the people, as is evident at present;
- b) that each region, country and area must tackle its own specific issues regarding the digital divide, with emphasis upon cooperation with others to benefit from experience gained;
- c) that many countries do not have the necessary basic infrastructure, long-term plans, laws, regulations and suchlike in place for ICT development,

further considering

- a) that developing countries do not enjoy equitable distribution of the benefits brought about by the ICT revolution in comparison with developed countries, and between social categories within countries, taking into account the commitments of both phases of WSIS to bridge the digital divide and transform it into a digital opportunity;
- b) that equitable access to information and transformation of the countries of the developing world into knowledge economies will enhance the economic, social and cultural development of those countries, in implementation of the aims of the Geneva Plan of Action and Tunis Agenda, taking into consideration that such access shall be affordable,

confirms

the importance of approaches to funding for bridging the digital divide in the Geneva Plan of Action and Tunis Agenda and their translation into equitable mechanisms for action, particularly in respect of issues related to internet management, taking into consideration the special initiatives for full gender equality, with regard for those with special needs, including the disabled and incapacitated, the youth initiative, issues related to indigenous peoples, and telecommunications for disaster relief and mitigation,

undertakes

to shorten the time-frames for implementation of the Digital Solidarity Agenda, beginning with the Geneva Plan of Action and Tunis Agenda, and to deploy parallel efforts from which all countries may benefit, in order to arrive at international methods and specific mechanisms for increasing international cooperation to bridge the digital divide,

resolves to request the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector

- 1 to follow up its work in creating appropriate benchmark indicators for the digital divide, in cooperation with the competent organizations in the relevant United Nations agencies, using available statistics so that charts can be compiled to illustrate the current situation of the digital divide in each country and region;
- 2 to continue to encourage the advantages of developing a low-cost high-quality ICT customer terminal that can be directly connected to the legacy networks supporting the internet and internet applications, so that economies of scale can be achieved on account of their acceptability at the global level, taking into consideration the possibility of satellite use of this terminal;
- 3 to follow up the study of new and workable universal access funding mechanisms, in addition to available mechanisms such as the Digital Solidarity Fund;
- 4 to assist in developing an awareness campaign among the ICT have-nots in order to build user trust and confidence in ICT applications;
- 5 to ensure that special programmes under the centres of excellence continue to address the specific issue of information technology training for poverty alleviation, and to give top priority to these centres;
- 6 to continue to replicate innovative models such as the Grameen Village Phone to reduce poverty in other developing countries successfully;
- 7 to continue to identify key ICT applications in rural areas and to cooperate with specialized organizations with a view to developing a standardized user-friendly content format that overcomes the barrier of literacy and language;

8 to continue to assist in reducing access costs by encouraging manufacturers to develop appropriate technology scaleable to broadband applications and having a low operating and maintenance cost;

9 to continue to promote the establishment of multipurpose community telecentres taking account of the local environment;

10 to encourage members to provide ITU with ICT rural experiences, which can then be put on the ITU-D website;

11 to continue to assist the Member States and Sector Members in developing a pro-competition policy and regulatory framework for information and communication technologies, including online services and electronic commerce, as well as capacity building in connectivity and accessibility, taking into account the special needs of women and disadvantaged groups;

12 to continue to encourage development of broadcast-mode methods for promoting ICT uses in rural areas;

13 to continue to help in promoting greater participation of women in ICT initiatives, particularly in rural areas.

RESOLUTION 38 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

Establishment of a youth programme in the Telecommunication Development Bureau and a coordination mechanism with the Youth Forum

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

considering

- a) the extraordinary success of the Youth Forums, and the role of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) in the success of such events;
- b) the need expressed by youth that ITU should continue to involve them in its major events;
- c) the demonstrated competences of youth in information and communication technology (ICT) to provide future impetus for social and economic development;
- d) the need to encourage the participation of youth in ICTs;
- e) the need to protect children and youth from abuse and exploitation through ICTs, and for child helplines, expressed in the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda of the World Summit on the Information Society;
- f) the Memorandum of Understanding between ITU and Child Helpline International;
- g) the need to link ITU to the future of ICT through children and youth,

recognizing

- a) the enthusiasm and the ideals that youth can bring to the sector, and their desire to help create and work for a fair and better world;
- b) the role of ICTs in protecting children and enhancing their development,

noting

the importance of portraying the enormous scope of talent required in the telecommunication sector, and the need for human resources from a wide variety of backgrounds to manage and utilize telecommunication technologies and services for bridging the digital divide,

resolves

- 1 that the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) continue to support the Youth Forums and promote the interests and capabilities of youth in ICT, as a means of linking ITU's development efforts with the leaders of tomorrow;
- 2 that ITU-D develop and strengthen actions to make ICTs accessible to children and youth, particularly the disadvantaged and marginalized, thereby bridging the digital divide,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

- 1 to seek appropriate means to integrate children's and youth issues into the activities of BDT, including through programmes with emphasis on capacity building;
- 2 to establish a mechanism for coordination with the Youth Forum, and follow-up support for the development of ICT capabilities of youth,

requests the Secretary-General

to bring this resolution to the attention of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006) with a view to releasing appropriate resources for the corresponding activities and functions from the surplus on world telecommunication exhibitions and forums (ITU-TELECOM),

invites Member States and Sector Members

to develop partnerships with BDT in order to further the interests of children and youth in ICT and in ITU.

RESOLUTION 39 (Istanbul, 2002)

Agenda for connectivity in the Americas and Quito Action Plan

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Istanbul, 2002),

recognizing

that the Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Americas, assembled in Quebec City in April 2001, recognized that an extraordinary technological revolution is taking place, one which will have profound social, cultural, political and economic repercussions, and one which has the potential to create the information society through greater ability to access knowledge and improved use of information, by means of information and communications technologies (ICT),

considering

- a) that, in accordance with the mandate handed down by the Heads of State and Government, CITELE has established an "Agenda for Connectivity in the Americas and Quito Action Plan";
- b) that the Agenda for Connectivity has been developed in accordance with the following principles:
 - 1) each country should develop a national vision and an agenda for connectivity appropriate to its circumstances, initiated by the highest levels of government, and, where appropriate, under direction from the Head of State;
 - 2) national connectivity agendas must be conceived and executed with the active and ongoing participation of society's fundamental players – government and civil society, including the private sector;
 - 3) national connectivity agendas should be developed around three fundamental components: infrastructure or access, applications for the use of the infrastructure, and high-quality content to be delivered via the infrastructure;
 - 4) recognition of the importance of promoting the development of national and regional content to promote countries' respective cultural identities, to encourage the use of each country's languages, including indigenous languages, without excluding or restricting access to international content;
 - 5) ongoing monitoring and performance measurement of elements of the connectivity agenda, adapted to national realities, to ensure the success and updating of the agenda for connectivity as it develops;
- c) that, based on those principles, "connectivity" may be defined as "a society's internal capacity for communication with its global environment through the use of telecommunications, information technologies, and through the products of its content industries. The purpose of connectivity is to enable each country of the hemisphere to evolve towards the information and knowledge-based society. Connectivity is the solution to the digital divide";
- d) that ITU has the capacity and the mandate to bring together all regional initiatives to achieve connectivity in a global context,

resolves

to include among the high priorities of ITU support for initiatives under the "Agenda for Connectivity in the Americas", recommending the use of mechanisms to help to achieve the necessary results for each country and region, and promote the exchange of information on the development of connectivity activities globally.

RESOLUTION 40 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

Human resource development in future study periods

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

recalling

- a) the key principles of the Geneva Declaration of Principles in §§ 29, 30, 31, 32, 33 and 34;
- b) the provisions of § 11 of the Geneva Action Plan;
- c) the provisions of §§ 14 and 32 of the Tunis Commitment;
- d) the provisions of §§ 22, 23a), 26g), 51 and 90c), d), k) and n) of the Tunis Agenda;
- e) the moderators/facilitators identified under Action Line C2 in the Annex to the Tunis Agenda,

considering

- a) that human resources are the most vital asset of any organization, and development and management skills continuously need to be reviewed;
- b) that critical to the development of these skills is ongoing training and exchange of ideas with other training professionals;
- c) that the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) plays a pivotal role in the development of such skills through its Human Resources Development Division (BDT/HRD) and relevant officers in the field;
- d) that the major capacity-building projects undertaken by BDT/HRD, including the Global Telecommunication University/Global Telecommunication Training Institute (GTU/GTTI) and the centres of excellence, have greatly contributed to addressing these issues and that their aims are in line with the goals of the two phases of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), in cooperation with all programmes and with the two study groups, each according to their respective field of competence;
- e) that the HRD professionals are the individuals best equipped:
 - to indicate to BDT where specific assistance is required;
 - to identify the activities of the projects referred to in d) above, and to oversee them in order to fulfil the goals of both phases of WSIS;
- f) that such programmes of assistance should continue to be included in the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) operational plan (these programmes must also address the capacity-building needs of policy-makers and regulators), through an appropriate set of methods, including e-learning, information technology and conventional training methodologies, in addition to the dissemination and circulation of information relating to HRD among the target public of the aforementioned assistance programmes, ensuring a smooth transition to the future telecommunication environment responsive to information technology demands,

recognizing

- a) that human resource management and development to successfully meet the challenges of sector reform and development, with special emphasis on employment, considering all activities and initiatives in the Doha Action Plan, including issues of gender equality, the youth initiative and issues relating to the disabled and indigenous peoples, should continue to be the basis for the ongoing development and enhancement of human resources;

b) the need to start from guiding principles, reports and established tools in selecting high-level, vocational training materials for long-term training by professionals and experts in ITU, institutes, schools and universities, etc., which must be carried out in close cooperation with the other programmes,

conscious

that this issue was not taken up in the expected manner during the last period and its implementation has been limited to the HRD Division, specialist staff working in the field and a few activities of the centres of excellence,

noting

that ITU is a moderator/facilitator for capacity building, as an important action line in the Tunis Agenda, alongside the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO),

resolves

1 to instruct the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) to establish a competent group to assist BDT staff regarding human resources development activities, in order to permit the acquisition of additional expertise from the membership that can enhance the scope of these activities, as well as to closely coordinate the actions specified in the annex to this resolution relating to the BDT programme on human resources development, taking into consideration everything related to this matter in the Geneva Plan of Action and Tunis Agenda;

2 that this group should submit an annual report to TDAG, including achievements and proposed recommendations on future actions that may need to be taken.

ANNEX TO RESOLUTION 40 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

1 Outputs of the group

The group shall issue an annual report identifying the current and future needs to be addressed by various HRD projects, including the GTU/GTTI, other projects and similar initiatives, and current and future centres of excellence, which should operate as a network of centres. These should contribute to a global portfolio of training programmes that addresses these requirements. It shall assist in continuing to post training materials, case studies, guidelines and models, where appropriate, on the website (<http://www.itu.int/itu-d/hrd>) for use by the ITU membership.

2 Timing of the annual report

The first report shall be issued in September each year and posted on the ITU-D website. It shall be sent to TDAG for processing.

3 Target audience

The human resource professionals of all ITU-D members.

4 Working methods

In addition to the BDT/HRD operational activities, this group, in conjunction with the Director of BDT and the HRD Division, is called upon to organize activities at the international, regional and national levels. These activities may take the form of symposia, study groups or workshops, or direct assistance (sharing of experience) and facilitation of HRD project implementation in specific areas.

This group shall also be called upon to assist in organizing a five-day symposium for all ITU-D members to discuss important current issues in HRD.

The symposium should take place biennially and simultaneous interpretation should be provided in the requisite languages.

RESOLUTION 43 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

Assistance for implementing IMT-2000

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

considering

- a) the continuous need to promote IMT-2000 throughout the world, and in particular in developing countries;
- b) the Guidelines on the smooth transition of existing mobile networks to IMT-2000 for the developing countries as adopted by Study Group 2 of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D),

noting

- a) the excellent work of Study Group 19 of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) and Study Group 8 of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) on IMT-2000 and beyond;
- b) the Handbook for deployment of IMT systems prepared jointly by the three Sectors and its newly adopted supplement by the other two Sectors;
- c) the adoption by this conference of a revised Question 18-1/2 "Implementation aspects of IMT-2000 and information-sharing on systems beyond IMT-2000 for developing countries",

resolves

to include support for implementation aspects of IMT-2000 as one priority in the action plan adopted by this conference for developing countries,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

in close collaboration with the Directors of the Radiocommunication Bureau (BR) and the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB), as well as the relevant regional telecommunication organizations:

- 1 to encourage and assist developing countries to implement IMT-2000 systems using the relevant ITU Recommendations, in particular those related to the radio technologies and the standards recommended by ITU, in order to meet their national requirements for the implementation of IMT-2000 in the short, medium and long term;
- 2 to disseminate as widely as possible the above-mentioned guidelines, which are recommended to be used for the evolution of first-generation and second-generation mobile systems (cellular/PCS) to IMT-2000;
- 3 to provide assistance to administrations on the use and interpretation of ITU Recommendations relating to IMT-2000 and beyond adopted by both ITU-T and ITU-R;
- 4 to promote training on strategic planning for the introduction of IMT-2000, taking into account specific national and regional requirements and characteristics and based on the above guidelines,

encourages Member States

to provide all support for the implementation of this resolution and for the future work on Question 18-1/2, in close cooperation with the work on Question 20-2/2.

RESOLUTION 45 (Doha, 2006)

Mechanisms for enhancing cooperation on cybersecurity, including combating spam

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

recalling

- a) the noble principles, aims and objectives embodied in the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- b) its fundamental support for Programme 3 (e-strategies and ICT applications), confirming that the latter shall have primary responsibility for Action Line C5 in the Tunis Agenda (Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs);
- c) the provisions of §§ 35, 36 and 37 of the Geneva Declaration of Principles;
- d) the provisions of § 15 of the Tunis Commitment,

considering

- a) the role of ICTs as effective tools to promote peace, security and stability and to enhance democracy, social cohesion, good governance and the rule of law, and the need to confront challenges and threats resulting from the abuse of this technology, including for criminal and terrorist purposes, while respecting human rights (§ 15 of the Tunis Commitment);
- b) the need to build confidence and security in the use of ICTs (§ 39 of the Tunis Agenda) and to prosecute cybercrime, at national and regional levels, noting existing frameworks, for example, Resolutions 55/63 and 56/121 of the General Assembly of the United Nations on "Combating the criminal misuse of information technologies" and regional initiatives including, but not limited to, the Council of Europe's Convention on Cybercrime;
- c) that the considerable losses which ICT systems have incurred from the growing problem of cybercrime worldwide should alarm the entire international community, and ITU in particular;
- d) the need, through a multi-pronged approach, including international cooperation, to counter the problem associated with cybersecurity, including spam, which has not been given the necessary priority as called for in the Tunis Agenda (§ 41);
- e) the reasons behind the adoption of Resolution 37 (Istanbul, 2002) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference on bridging the digital divide, having regard to the action lines referenced in § 108 of the Tunis Agenda, including "Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs",

recalling

- a) the desire and commitment of all concerned to build a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented information society, premised on the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and multilateralism, and respecting fully and upholding the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, so that people everywhere can create, access, utilize and share information and knowledge, to achieve their full potential and to attain the internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals;
- b) the provisions of §§ 4, 5 and 55 of the Geneva Declaration of Principles, and that freedom of expression and the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge are beneficial to development;

c) that the Tunis Summit represented a unique opportunity to raise awareness of the benefits that ICTs can bring to humanity and the manner in which they can transform people's activities, interaction and lives, and thus increase confidence in the future,

recognizing

- a) the provisions for privacy and freedom of expression as contained in the relevant parts of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (§ 42 of the Tunis Agenda);
- b) the need to safeguard the ethical dimensions of the information society in accordance with the Geneva Declaration of Principles and Action Plan (§ 43 of the Tunis Agenda), the need to counter terrorism (§ 44 of the Tunis Agenda) and the importance of continuity and stability of the internet (§ 45 of the Tunis Agenda), while ensuring respect for privacy and the protection of personal information and data (§ 46 of the Tunis Agenda);
- c) the need to effectively confront challenges and threats resulting from use of ICTs for purposes that are inconsistent with objectives of maintaining international stability and security and may adversely affect the integrity of the infrastructure within States to the detriment of their security, and that it is necessary to work to prevent the abuse of information resources and technologies for criminal and terrorist purposes, while respecting human rights;
- d) the role of ICTs in the protection of children and in enhancing their development and that action to protect children from abuse and defend their rights in the context of ICTs should be strengthened, emphasizing that the best interests of the child are a key consideration,

noting

- a) that Resolution 50 (Florianópolis, 2004) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly on cybersecurity is confined solely to the study of technical aspects for reducing the impact of this phenomenon;
- b) that spam is a significant and growing problem for users, networks and the internet as a whole, and spam and cybersecurity should be dealt with at appropriate national and international levels,

urges Member States

to provide the support necessary for implementation of this resolution,

resolves to instruct the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

- 1 to organize, in conjunction with Programme 3 and based on member contributions, meetings of Member States and Sector Members to discuss ways to enhance cybersecurity including, *inter alia*, a memorandum of understanding to enhance cybersecurity and combat spam amongst interested Member States;
- 2 to report the results of these meetings to the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006).

RESOLUTION 46 (Doha, 2006)

Assistance and promotion to indigenous communities in the world: Information society through information and communication technology

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

recognizing

- a) the need to achieve the goal of digital inclusion, enabling universal, sustainable, ubiquitous and affordable access to information and communication technologies (ICTs) for all, including disadvantaged, marginalized and vulnerable groups and indigenous peoples, and to facilitate accessibility of ICTs for all, in the framework of access to information and knowledge;
- b) the need to ensure the inclusion of indigenous peoples in the information society, as outlined in the Geneva Declaration of Principles and the Tunis Commitment, and to contribute to the development of their communities using ICTs, based on tradition and self-sustainability,

considering

- a) that the World Telecommunication Development Conference (Istanbul, 2002) decided to include relevant provisions in the work programmes of the Istanbul Action Plan, with a view to supporting Member States in addressing the special needs of indigenous peoples, to create dedicated actions and projects with respect to equitable access, use and knowledge of ICT, based on the preservation of their heritage and cultural legacy;
- b) that, as proof of the special attention which ITU, in general and the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) in particular, give to assistance to indigenous peoples' initiatives, during the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) in November 2005, ITU signed with the Navajo Nation and the Observatory for Cultural and Audiovisual Communication (OCCAM) a memorandum of understanding (MoU) targeting the development of projects for indigenous peoples worldwide, as well as the provision of ICTs to their communities, while respecting their traditions and cultural patrimony,

taking into account

that the WSIS phase 1 and 2 statements, the Geneva Plan of Action, the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda have expressly reinforced several activities related to indigenous peoples,

recognizing

that the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) and the International Indigenous Steering Committee (IISC) delivered a multistakeholder report to the Tunis WSIS plenary in November 2005, highlighting, among other things, that:

- there are more than 370 million indigenous people around the world;
- the development of indigenous-specific needs through ICTs must be affirmed by all stakeholders if the digital divide is to be truly bridged;
- public-private partnerships and multistakeholder cooperation are essential to meet the needs of indigenous groups more effectively toward their integration in the information society;
- that the indigenous issue represents by itself a complex activity of BDT,

invites the World Telecommunication Development Conference and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

- 1 to ensure, within the available resources and partnerships to be implemented, that the necessary financial and human resources are allocated within BDT to respond to the existing global initiative for indigenous peoples;
- 2 to recognize the importance of issues of concern to indigenous peoples worldwide in the determination of priority activities for the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector;
- 3 to encourage Sector Members to promote the integration of indigenous peoples in the information society worldwide and to promote ICT projects that respond to their specific needs;
- 4 in line with the above, the ITU mandate, the WSIS outcomes and the Millennium Goals, to recognize the global initiative of the assistance to indigenous peoples worldwide as an integral part of the activities of BDT,

requests the Secretary-General

to bring the assistance provided by BDT through its activities to indigenous peoples to the attention of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006), with a view to providing appropriate financial and human resources for the relevant actions and projects to be implemented in the framework of the telecommunication sector.

RESOLUTION 47 (Doha, 2006)

**Enhancement of knowledge and effective application of
ITU Recommendations in developing countries**

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

considering

that Resolution 123 (Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference instructed the Secretary-General and the Directors of the three Bureaux to work closely with each other to bridge the standardization gap between developing and developed countries in such areas as conducting case studies on the application of Recommendations of the Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) and the Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) or organizing training courses and workshops,

recognizing

that Resolutions 44 and 54 (Florianópolis, 2004) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly resolved to implement the action plan aimed at bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries, which includes five programmes (Strengthening standard-making capabilities, Assisting the Telecommunication Development Bureau in enhancing efforts in respect of standards application, Human resource building, Flagship groups for bridging the standardization gap and Fundraising for bridging the standardization gap),

noting

- a) difficulties in understanding ITU Recommendations and related international standards to apply new technology to the network appropriately and effectively;
- b) the lack of practical information on the application of ITU Recommendations and related standards of other countries, and the lack of guidelines on applying these technical documents,

resolves to invite Member States and Sector Members

1 to engage in activities to enhance knowledge and effective application of ITU-T and ITU-R Recommendations in developing countries;

2 to introduce best-practice application of ITU-T and ITU-R Recommendations, in, for example, fibre-optic transmission technology, broadband network technology and information security, by organizing training courses and workshops especially for developing countries,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, in collaboration with the Directors of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau and the Radiocommunication Bureau

1 to promote participation in training courses and workshops on best-practice application of ITU-T and ITU-R Recommendations for developing countries;

2 to establish a database containing information on new technologies that are standardized and develop guidelines on applying ITU-T and ITU-R Recommendations.

RESOLUTION 48 (Doha, 2006)

Strengthening cooperation among telecommunication regulators

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

considering

- a) that telecommunication reform has globally been implemented in many developing and least developed countries;
- b) that the reform is characterized by new laws and policies and the establishment of regulatory agencies to implement reform in a new dynamic international market environment;
- c) that the success of telecommunication reform will mostly depend on the establishment and implementation of an effective regulatory framework;
- d) that the regulators are called upon to maintain an effective balance of interest among all stakeholders by promoting fair competition and ensuring an equal opportunity environment for all players,

recognizing

- a) that telecommunication regulators have been increasing;
- b) the importance of information sharing amongst regulators, particularly long-standing regulators and newly established ones,

recalling

- a) Istanbul Action Plan (Istanbul, 2002) Programme 1: Regulatory reform, especially regulatory symposiums, forums, seminars and workshops;
- b) the recommendations of the 2004 Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR) on the creation of a global exchange programme for regulators;
- c) the result of the questionnaire on the establishment of a global exchange programme for regulators (Tandem Programme for Regulators) undertaken by the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT),

noting

that BDT has continued the Global Regulatory Exchange,

resolves

- 1 that the telecommunication regulators shall continue to have a specific platform for sharing and exchanging matters concerning regulatory issues;
- 2 that ITU, and in particular the Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D), should continue to support regulatory reform by sharing information and experiences;
- 3 that BDT should continue to coordinate and facilitate, within the resources available, joint activities relating to telecommunication policy and regulatory issues with regional and subregional organizations and institutions;
- 4 that ITU-D should continue to further provide technical cooperation, regulatory exchange, capacity building, and expert advice, with the support of its regional offices, to the extent possible,

calls upon Member States

to offer to the governments of countries in special need all possible assistance and support for regulatory reform, either bilaterally, multilaterally or through the special action of the Union,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

- 1 to rotate the GSR in different regions, to the extent possible;
- 2 to continue to have a specific platform for regulators;
- 3 to organize, coordinate and facilitate activities that promote information sharing among regulators on key regulatory issues;
- 4 to organize seminars, regional workshops and training programmes and other activities to help strengthen newly established regulators,

requests the Secretary-General

to transmit this resolution to the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006) in order to ensure that appropriate attention is given to these activities, in particular within the framework of WSIS implementation.

RESOLUTION 49 (Doha, 2006)

**Special actions for the least developed countries
and small island developing states**

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

appreciating

the special measures taken for the benefit of the least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS), in the form of concentrated assistance provided under Programme 6 of the Istanbul Action Plan and resource mobilization measures that include the launch of the first global information and communication technology (ICT) forum for the least developed countries,

concerned

that the level of dedicated resources allocated to Programme 6 remains low, despite vigorous efforts that have been made through this programme and *ad hoc* assistance provided through the support of other BDT programmes, and that the telecommunication networks in many LDCs and SIDS remain in a very poor state of development in urban, semi-urban and rural areas,

cognizant

of the fact that improved telecommunication networks in these countries will be the major force behind their socio-economic recovery and development and the possible achievement of an information society in these countries,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to implement a dedicated and appropriately staffed programme for special actions for the LDCs and SIDS,

invites the Council

to allocate increased appropriations within available resources directly to Programme 6,

requests the Secretary-General

to invite the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006) to authorize the allocation of a specific and increased budget for the period 2008-2011 for the LDCs and SIDS in order for BDT to implement special actions to benefit these countries in a way that can easily be monitored and reported on,

calls upon the governments of the least developed countries and small island developing states

to accord higher priority to ICT development, and to adopt measures and policies that are conducive to bringing about faster development of telecommunications in their countries, such as sector liberalization and the introduction of new technologies,

calls upon the other Member States and Sector Members

to establish partnerships with LDCs and SIDS, through BDT, in order to bring increased investment into the telecommunication sector and to stimulate the modernization and expansion of networks in those countries, in a bold attempt to reduce the digital divide and to achieve the ultimate goal of universal access in line with the Geneva Declaration of Principles, Geneva Plan of Action, Tunis Commitment and Tunis Agenda.

RESOLUTION 50 (Doha, 2006)

Optimal integration of information and communication technologies

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

considering

- a) the role of ITU, in particular the specific functions of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D);
- b) the disparity between those who have and those who do not have access to information and communications technologies (ICT), referred to as the "digital divide";
- c) the many stakeholders in the public, private, academic, non-governmental organization and multilateral sectors who are seeking to bridge this divide;
- d) the outputs of Phases 1 and 2 of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS),

bearing in mind

- a) that this difference in access to ICTs leads to an extreme escalation of social disparities, with negative impacts on the social and economic environment in the various regions excluded from use of ICTs;
- b) the interest shown by WSIS in ICT integration,

recognizing

- a) ITU's role as a catalyst, and in particular that of ITU-D as coordinator and promoter of the rational use of resources in the context of the various projects intended to narrow the digital divide;
- b) that the integration models supported by the ITU Member States are an element that integrates, facilitates and does not exclude, one which takes into account the individual characteristics of all existing projects, respecting their autonomy and independence;
- c) that the integration models propose ways to increase the profitability of existing infrastructure, to lower the cost of developing and implementing ICT projects and platforms, to provide for the sharing of expertise and skills, and to foster intraregional and extraregional technology transfers,

resolves

- 1 that the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) adopt all necessary measures to implement regional projects derived from the non-exclusive integration models which it has acquired, to link all stakeholders, organizations and institutions of the various sectors in an ongoing relationship of cooperation in which information is disseminated over networks, so as to narrow the digital divide in line with the outputs of Phases 1 and 2 of WSIS;
 - 2 that BDT use the funds at its disposal to attain that objective;
 - 3 that BDT play a central role in this initiative;
 - 4 that relevant testing be conducted in each of the six regions.
-

RESOLUTION 51 (Doha, 2006)

Provision of assistance and support to the Republic of Iraq to rebuild and re-equip its public telecommunication systems

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

recalling

- a) the noble principles, intentions and goals embodied in the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- b) the purposes of the Union, as enshrined in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution,

conscious

- a) that the telecommunication infrastructure in the Republic of Iraq has been destroyed by two and a half decades of war and the systems currently in use have become antiquated through long years of use;
- b) that the substantial losses the public telecommunication systems in the Republic of Iraq have suffered should be a matter of concern to the entire international community, especially ITU;
- c) that telecommunication systems are fundamental for rebuilding and rehabilitation and for enhancing the social and economic development of nations, particularly those that have suffered the effects of war;
- d) that, under present circumstances, Iraq will be unable to rebuild or develop its telecommunication systems to an acceptable level without help from the international community, provided bilaterally or through international organizations;
- e) that Resolution 18 (Rev.Istanbul, 2002) and Resolutions 25, 26 and 33 (Istanbul, 2002) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference were adopted in relation to countries whose circumstances were similar to those which Iraq is experiencing,

noting

- a) that Iraq has received no assistance from ITU for a long time due to the conditions of war it has experienced;
- b) the efforts which have been and are being deployed by the Secretary-General and the Director of BDT to provide assistance to other countries that have recently emerged from the conditions of war they endured,

resolves

- 1 to take special measures, within the framework and available budgetary resources of ITU-D, to provide the appropriate assistance to the Republic of Iraq;
- 2 to support the Republic of Iraq in rebuilding and overhauling its telecommunication infrastructure, establishing institutions, developing human resources and establishing tariffs, and to provide other forms of assistance, including technical assistance,

calls upon Member States

to offer all possible assistance in this area, within the framework of the special measures provided by the Telecommunication Development Bureau for this purpose,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to take immediate measures to assist Iraq to the extent possible within available resources until the convening of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006);

2 to take all possible measures to mobilize additional resources to this aim,

requests the Secretary-General

to bring to the attention of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006) the need to allocate a specific budget for the Republic of Iraq.

RESOLUTION 52 (Doha, 2006)

Strengthening the executing agency role of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

considering

- a) that, in accordance with No. 118 of the ITU Constitution, one of the functions of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) is to discharge the Union's dual responsibility as a United Nations specialized agency and executing agency for implementing projects under the United Nations development system or other funding arrangements, so as to facilitate and enhance projects related to information and communication technology (ICT) by offering, organizing and coordinating technical cooperation and assistance activities;
- b) that the World Summit on the Information society (WSIS) recognizes the key role that ITU can play in executing some of the projects pursuant to the WSIS outcomes;
- c) that, through ITU/BDT initiatives, and some other efforts, there is significant local expertise that has developed over time;
- d) that partnerships between the public and private sectors are recognized as an efficient way of implementing sustainable ITU projects,

recognizing

- a) that the final outputs of the WSIS process have an impact on the definition of the future activities of ITU in general and ITU-D in particular;
- b) that the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006) may adopt resolutions on ITU's role in the implementation and follow-up to the Geneva Plan of Action, emphasizing that any follow-up actions should be undertaken within the context of the Union's core competencies and within the financial and human resources available,

noting

that the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), in presenting the draft ITU-D operational plan for 2005-2008 to the 2005 session of the ITU Council for approval, emphasized that, in order to maximize the limited amount of resources available for Istanbul Action Plan activities, the following principles should be applied during the operational planning process:

- focusing on development issues of a strategic nature;
- reducing the fragmentation of ITU-D activities, particularly at the country level, by integrating them into long-term projects and activities aimed at addressing issues that have the potential to exert significant impact on the development process;
- building partnerships around specific projects and long-term activities;
- using, to the greatest extent possible, the professional potential of BDT staff for project implementation;
- implementing a team-based project approach,

taking into account

- a) the adoption of Resolution 1250 by the 2005 session of the Council, outlining the ITU biennial budget for 2006-2007, which continues to place resource constraints on the execution of programmes and activities of the Union;

b) the continued implementation of results-based budgeting in ITU, the main feature of which is the identification of costs, expected results, performance indicators and priorities presented within the framework of well-defined outputs (defined as Sector or intersectoral products or services provided by ITU);

c) Decision 527 adopted by the Council at its 2005 session to establish a working group for the elaboration of the draft strategic plan and draft financial plan for 2008-2011, which will be developed on the basis of a clear linkage of strategic and operational planning with financial planning and budgeting, i.e. linking objectives, outputs, activities, expected results, performance indicators and priorities,

resolves to instruct the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to take into account the human and financial resource constraints prevailing for the biennial budget 2006-2007 and expected to prevail for the next financial planning cycle 2008-2011;

2 to recognize the various benefits of involving locally available expertise, in the region and the country, as the case may be, in executing ITU projects in their region or country;

3 to formulate and structure the activities and programmes of the Doha Action Plan in a manner that facilitates increased involvement of locally available experts in the various ITU projects as a preferred mode of operation;

4 to encourage the identification of locally available expertise with a view to increasing their participation in the implementation of the various ITU projects to be undertaken in the different regions.

RESOLUTION 53 (Doha, 2006)

Strategic and financial framework for the elaboration of the Doha Action Plan

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

considering

- a) that Resolution 1228, adopted by the 2004 session of the ITU Council, established the duration, the dates, the venue, the draft agenda and the draft structure of this conference;
- b) that, in accordance with No. 118 of the ITU Constitution and No. 209 of the ITU Convention, the duties of world telecommunication development conferences shall include:
 - i) establishing work programmes and guidelines for defining telecommunication development questions and priorities, and ii) providing direction and guidance for the work programme of the Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D);
- c) that, pursuant to Resolution 31 (Istanbul, 2002), the identification, analysis and consolidation of regional initiatives and projects, to be used as the basis for defining needs and priorities, formed a key input to this conference,

recognizing

- a) that the Istanbul Declaration and Istanbul Action Plan (IsAP) served as important inputs to the preparation of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS);
- b) that the final outputs of the Summit process will have an impact on the definition of future activities of ITU-D;
- c) that the 2005 session of the Council, in adopting Resolution 1244 on the ITU role in WSIS implementation and follow-up, emphasized that any follow-up actions be undertaken within the context of the Union's core competencies and within the financial and human resources available,

noting

that the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), in presenting the draft ITU-D operational plan for 2005-2008 to the 2005 session of the Council, emphasized that, in order to maximize the limited amount of resources available for IsAP activities, the following principles should be applied during the operational planning process:

- focusing on development issues of a strategic nature;
- reducing the fragmentation of ITU-D activities, particularly at the country level, by integrating them into long-term projects and activities aimed at addressing issues that have the potential to exert a significant impact on the development process;
- building partnerships around specific projects and long-term activities;
- using to the greatest extent possible the professional potential of BDT staff for project implementation;
- implementing a team-based project approach,

taking into account

- a) the adoption of Resolution 1250 by the 2005 session of the Council, outlining the ITU biennial budget for 2006-2007, which continues to place resource constraints on the execution of programmes and activities of the Union;

b) the continued implementation of results-based budgeting in ITU, the main feature of which is the identification of costs, expected results, performance indicators and priorities presented within the framework of well-defined outputs (defined as Sector or inter-sectoral products or services provided by ITU);

c) Decision 527, adopted by the Council at its 2005 session, to establish a working group for the elaboration of the draft strategic plan and draft financial plan for 2008-2011, which will be developed on the basis of a clear linkage of strategic and operational planning with financial planning and budgeting, i.e. linking objectives, outputs, activities, expected results, performance indicators and priorities,

resolves to instruct the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, in the implementation of the Doha Action Plan

1 to recognize that the strategy of ITU-D as set out in the outcomes and priorities of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), and within the competencies of ITU-D, reflects the need for symmetry with the results of WSIS and with the national development goals established by Member States;

2 to formulate and structure the activities and programmes of the Doha Action Plan in a manner that facilitates their evaluation, given the critical need to ensure that such activities are assessed on an ongoing basis;

3 to take into account the human and financial resource constraints prevailing for the biennial budget 2006-2007 and expected to prevail for the next financial planning cycle, 2008-2011;

4 to identify and implement multistakeholder partnership arrangements with, *inter alia*, international financial institutions (IFIs), regional development banks, regional commissions of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) and other agencies and departments of the United Nations, with international development agencies, regional telecommunication organizations and the private sector, in order to optimize the use of resources and avoid duplication of effort;

5 to continue efforts to identify additional sources of revenue and funding, pursuant to Resolution 13 (Rev.Doha, 2006) of this conference to ensure that the programmes and activities of ITU-D can be fully implemented;

6 to report on the results of implementation of this resolution to the 2010 WTDC,

invites Member States and Sector Members

to take into consideration the new strategic, financial and operational planning methodology in ITU, where programmes and activities will be increasingly evaluated on the basis of priority and the fulfillment of pre-defined objectives and goals, as well as the continuing financial constraints faced by ITU-D and the Union as a whole.

RESOLUTION 54 (Doha, 2006)

Information and communication technology applications

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

recalling

- a) Resolution 41 (Istanbul, 2002) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference on e-health (including telehealth/telemedicine);
- b) Resolution 42 (Istanbul, 2002) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference on the implementation of tele-education programmes;
- c) Recommendation 7 (Rev.Istanbul, 2002) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference on the role of telecommunications and information technologies in the protection of the environment and resolutions related to that recommendation;
- d) Action Line C7 of the Tunis Agenda on the Information Society, covering the following aspects:
 - e-government
 - e-business
 - e-learning
 - e-health
 - e-employment
 - e-environment
 - e-agriculture
 - e-science,

considering

- a) the lessons learned from the application of the aforementioned Resolutions 41 (Istanbul, 2002) and 42 (Istanbul, 2002) and Recommendation 7 (Rev.Istanbul, 2002) during the previous cycles of ITU-D activity, at the level of the study groups, programmes and direct support;
- b) that the goal of using and disseminating information and communication technology (ICT) is to bring benefits in all aspects of our daily life, and that ICTs are enormously important in facilitating citizens' access to these applications;
- c) that the sharing of infrastructure, when employed to support these applications, will lead to considerable savings in the cost of provision;
- d) that the dissemination of these applications must give due regard to local needs in terms of language, culture and sustainable development;
- e) that one of the principal advantages of satellite is access to remote, local communities without increased connection costs due to distance or the geographical features of the areas in which the societies are located;
- f) that the security and privacy of these applications require the building of confidence in the use of ICT for this purpose,

resolves to instruct the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

- 1 to conduct detailed studies on these various applications, relying upon previous experience in implementing the aforementioned Resolutions 41 (Istanbul, 2002) and 42 (Istanbul, 2002) and Recommendation 7 (Rev.Istanbul, 2002), taking into consideration the means available for implementation (whether wireline, wireless, terrestrial, satellite, fixed, mobile, narrowband or broadband), and giving priority to e-government, without however neglecting the other applications;
 - 2 to take into consideration the importance of the security and confidentiality of these applications and protection of privacy in some applications;
 - 3 to support projects relating to these applications through strategic partnerships;
 - 4 to increase technical support and training for these various applications;
 - 5 to give priority to international and regional initiatives in this field and encourage cooperation;
 - 6 to make these applications a major strand for the activities of Programme 3;
 - 7 to circulate the outputs of these applications on a regular basis to all Member States;
 - 8 to inform the next world telecommunication development conference of the lessons learned in relation to these applications and any recommendations the Director proposes.
-

RESOLUTION 55 (Doha, 2006)

Promoting gender equality towards all-inclusive information societies

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

noting

- a) the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, namely the Geneva Declaration of Principles, the Geneva Plan of Action, the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda;
- b) Resolution 70 (Rev.Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the inclusion of gender perspective in the work of the Union;
- c) Resolution 44 (Istanbul, 2002) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, which calls for mainstreaming gender in programmes of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D);
- d) Resolution 55 (Florianópolis, 2004) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, which encourages gender mainstreaming in ITU-T activities;
- e) the Memorandum of Understanding between ITU, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), signed in July 2000, which promotes cooperation to enable women to participate in, and benefit from, the current communications revolution,

recognizing

that information and communication technologies (ICTs) are tools through which gender equality can be advanced, and are integral to the creation of societies in which both women and men can substantively contribute and participate,

considering

- a) the progress made by the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) in the development and implementation of projects that target women and are gender sensitive, as well as in increasing the awareness of the links between gender issues and ICTs within the Union and among Member States and Sector Members;
- b) the results achieved by the Working Group on Gender Issues in promoting gender equality,

welcomes

the financial support by Norway contributing to ITU-D's effort to promote gender issues by establishing a gender unit in ITU, and that this contribution covered two years of gender expertise,

resolves

- 1 that the mission of the Working Group on Gender Issues is to work with ITU-D to promote gender equality in ICTs through recommending measures on policies and programmes at the international, regional and national levels, with continuous improvement of its working methods to this end;
- 2 that the established Gender Unit should support the work of the Working Group on Gender Issues and BDT activities in gender mainstreaming,

further resolves

to endorse the following action plan:

- 1 design, implement and support projects and programmes in developing countries and countries with economies in transition that are either specifically targeted to women or gender sensitive;
- 2 support the collection and analysis of sex-disaggregated data and the development of gender-sensitive indicators that will enable cross-country comparisons and reveal trends in the sector;
- 3 monitor and evaluate projects and programmes to assess gender implications;
- 4 provide gender mainstreaming capacity training to BDT staff responsible for the design and implementation of development projects and programmes and work with them to develop gender-sensitive projects as appropriate;
- 5 incorporate a gender perspective into study group Questions, where appropriate;
- 6 mobilize resources for gender-sensitive projects and projects specifically targeted to women;
- 7 develop partnerships with other United Nations agencies to promote the use of ICTs in projects aimed at women,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to ensure that the necessary resources within the budgetary limits are allocated to the action plan above,

invites the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to assist members:

- 1 to encourage the mainstreaming of a gender perspective through appropriate administrative mechanisms and processes within regulatory agencies and ministries and to promote inter-organizational cooperation on this issue within the telecommunication sector;
- 2 to provide concrete advice, in the form of guidelines for gender-sensitive project development and evaluation in the telecommunication sector;
- 3 to increase awareness of gender issues among members through the collection and dissemination of information related to gender issues and ICTs and through best practices on gender-sensitive programming;
- 4 to establish partnerships with Sector Members in order to develop and/or support specific ICT projects that target women in developing countries and in countries with economies in transition;
- 5 to encourage Sector Members to promote gender equality in the ICT sector through financial commitments to specific projects involving women;
- 6 to support active involvement of women experts in ITU-D study groups and other ITU-D activities,

invites the Plenipotentiary Conference

to build on and consolidate past accomplishments, by providing the necessary financial and human resources for the effective and sustained integration of a gender perspective into the development activities of ITU, and to instruct the Secretary-General to bring this resolution to the attention of the United Nations Secretary-General in an effort to promote increased coordination and cooperation for development policies, programmes and projects that link ICTs to the promotion of gender equality.

RESOLUTION 56 (Doha, 2006)

Creation of a new Question in Study Group 1 regarding access to telecommunication services for persons with disabilities

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

noting

- a) that access to telecommunication services for persons with disabilities is a recurring issue on the regulatory agenda of many Member States;
- b) that Resolution 20 (Rev.Istanbul, 2002) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference establishes that access to telecommunication technologies, facilities and services should be non-discriminatory,

considering

- a) that persons with disabilities face particular difficulties to access and use telecommunication services;
- b) that some countries have developed systems to allow persons with disabilities to have access to telecommunication services;
- c) that access to telecommunications for persons with disabilities should be equivalent to that of any other person with no disabilities;
- d) that technological developments can contribute to making telecommunication services viable and accessible for the community of persons with disabilities,

taking into account

- a) that enhanced access to telecommunication services by people with disabilities may contribute to their personal development and social integration, and improve their economic situation;
- b) that actions have been taken previously to make available information from countries where telecommunication services are provided to the community with disabilities;
- c) that the effort must be continued and strengthened so that access to telecommunications by people with disabilities becomes a reality in the mid-term in developing countries,

recognizing

- a) that the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector has the appropriate mechanisms within its respective study groups to carry out coordinated efforts on the subject of universal and non-discriminatory access to telecommunication services;
- b) that related work on user needs for persons with disabilities has been undertaken in the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector and in other organizations, which could be an important source of information,

recognizing further

that any action to be taken by the Telecommunication Development Bureau shall be consistent with the existing budgetary constraints established by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Marrakesh, 2002) and with subsequent decisions of the ITU Council,

resolves

to establish a new Question, to be developed by the appropriate study group, focused on analysis of strategies and policies for the promotion and development of systems that allow access to telecommunication services to persons with disabilities,

invites

Member States that participate in the study of this new Question to contribute with their own experiences regarding the implementation of solutions for affording persons with disabilities access to telecommunication services.

RESOLUTION 57 (Doha, 2006)

Assistance to Somalia

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

recalling

Resolution 34 (Istanbul, 2002) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference and Resolution 34 (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference,

recalling further

the purposes of the Union, as enshrined in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution,

recognizing

- a) that the telecommunication infrastructure in Somalia has been completely destroyed by civil conflict with limited recovery and that the Somali network requires rehabilitation and reconstruction;
- b) that Somalia at present does not have an adequate national telecommunication infrastructure, access to international telecommunication networks or access to the internet;
- c) that a telecommunication system is an essential input for the reconstruction, rehabilitation and relief operations in the country after Somalia was hit by the tsunami;
- d) that, under the present conditions and in the foreseeable future, Somalia will not be able to rebuild its telecommunication systems without assistance from the international community, provided bilaterally or through international organizations,

noting

that Somalia has not effectively benefited from the Union's assistance over a long period due to war in the country and the lack of a national government since 1991,

resolves

that special action be initiated by the Secretary-General and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, with specialized and increased assistance from the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector and the ITU Radiocommunication Sector, resulting in the launch of a special initiative with funds allocated, within available budgetary resources, aimed at providing assistance and support to Somalia in rebuilding and modernizing its telecommunication infrastructure,

calls upon Member States

to offer all possible assistance and support to the Government of Somalia, either bilaterally or through the special action of the Union,

invites the Council

to allocate the necessary funds within available resources for the implementation of this resolution,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to implement fully a programme of assistance for the least developed countries (LDCs) in which reconstruction and rehabilitation of infrastructure of telecommunications is an integral part of the programme, from which Somalia can receive focused assistance in various areas determined to be of high priority by the country;

2 to take immediate measures, to the extent possible within available resources, to assist in the period up to the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006),

requests the Secretary-General

to coordinate the activities carried out by the three ITU Sectors in accordance with *resolves* above, to ensure that the Union's action in favour of Somalia is as effective as possible, and to report on the matter to the Council.

RECOMMENDATION 8 (Rev.Istanbul, 2002)

Timely implementation of global mobile personal communications by satellite

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Istanbul, 2002),

having observed

a) the high level of interest among Member States, competent authorities, Sector Members, system operators, service providers and end users manifested in the work of the first World Telecommunication Policy Forum (WTPF-96) in October 1996, and the subsequent Report of the Secretary-General, including the principles and guidelines contained in the five Opinions, as well as the set of definitions contained therein;

b) that global mobile personal communications by satellite (GMPCS) includes voice, high-capacity and low-capacity data, video and a broad range of converged services from satellites, offering mobile, fixed, maritime and aeronautical satellite services,

having considered

a) that the Group of Experts set up under WTPF-96 Opinion 5 "Implementation of GMPCS in developing countries" prepared a checklist of factors for developing countries to take into account when introducing GMPCS services, held five regional seminars to provide advice and assistance to developing countries, studied the policy, regulatory, technical and socio-economic impacts of GMPCS services in developing countries, and prepared a report on its studies for the World Telecommunication Development Conference (Valletta, 1998);

b) that satellite-based services are particularly appropriate for developing countries with areas that are not served or underserved by terrestrial telecommunication infrastructures,

having considered further

a) that the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), taking into account Recommendation 8 (Valletta, 1998) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, organized regional workshops that addressed policy, regulatory, licensing and market access issues concerning the timely implementation of GMPCS services in developing countries;

b) the valuable information exchange and educational activities of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) workshops;

c) that the workshop participants expressed support for the Director's efforts and requested that action be taken to reaffirm and update, as necessary, the aforementioned Recommendation 8 (Valletta, 1998);

d) that the work of the GMPCS-MoU Group, especially on the GMPCS arrangements and the implementation procedures, including an agreement on a GMPCS-MoU registry mark comprising the text: "GMPCS-MoU ITU Registry", continue to be important elements in the timely and efficient implementation of GMPCS services,

recognizing

that a broad range of GMPCS systems and services are currently in operation and others are planned for operation in the near future,

recognizing further

that the specific provisions of the arrangements on type-approval and marking of terminals, licensing, access to traffic data, and recommendations on customs matters represent a broad international consensus on how to address these issues,

noting

- a) that governments are taking positive steps to restructure their telecommunication sectors with a view to facilitating the rapid growth/development and provision of telecommunication services;
- b) that the role of the regulatory body should be to facilitate the introduction and authorization of systems and services;
- c) that the GMPCS-MoU, its Arrangements, and the work done by ITU-D give broad guidelines that can assist regulators in facilitating the introduction of GMPCS services;
- d) that high entry barriers will restrict the introduction of innovative and new services;
- e) the need for global implementation of the Arrangements so that the benefits of GMPCS services can be extended to all countries in a timely fashion,

recommends

- 1 that the administrations sign the GMPCS-MoU and adopt licensing procedures or national regulations, where necessary, to introduce GMPCS services as early as possible, in accordance with the principles and guidelines of the five Opinions adopted by WTPF-96, and implement the GMPCS Arrangements;
- 2 that administrations create a regulatory environment that is transparent, progressive, competitive and fair so as to facilitate and ensure the successful introduction and provision of GMPCS services;
- 3 that regulators should encourage their customs authorities to allow the circulation of user terminals across their national borders;
- 4 that regulators, service providers and system operators work together to promote the use of GMPCS and other innovative strategies to help advance universal access to services at affordable prices;
- 5 that administrations continue to support existing satellite spectrum allocations used by GMPCS systems;
- 6 that system operators and BDT assist, as appropriate, developing countries having difficulty with implementation of GMPCS services,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to continue, as necessary, coordinating activities with regional organizations, as well as the two other Sectors and the General Secretariat, in order to foster awareness of GMPCS and to facilitate, as appropriate, the early implementation of GMPCS services in developing countries.

RECOMMENDATION 13 (Rev.Doha, 2006)

Requests for technical assistance for developing countries

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Istanbul, 2002),

considering

the challenges of a rapidly changing telecommunication environment, particularly in the developing and least developed countries,

recognizing

- a) the need for increasing assistance from developed countries to developing countries;
- b) the new role the internet can play in assisting information dissemination for both developed and developing countries,

recommends the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

- 1 to establish a mechanism for the creation and maintenance of a virtual platform to publish specific requests of developing countries for technical assistance from developed countries;
 - 2 to coordinate any response or manifested ability of assistance between the requesting developing country and the assisting entity;
 - 3 to allocate not less than 10 per cent of the yearly budget for direct technical assistance to the developing countries.
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ITU-D RECOMMENDATION 18
(REF: DOCUMENT 2/256(Rev.1))

Potential benefits for rural telecommunications

Question 10-1/2: Communications for rural and remote areas

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

considering

- a) that it is widely accepted that the promotion of ICT services can act as a catalyser for the improvement of quality of life for people in the rural and remote areas;
- b) that the provision of guidance concerning the appropriate choice of technologies taking into account differing local conditions will be very important;
- c) that the availability of a range of standards based technologies and solutions designed for long life and low maintenance as well as low capital and operating cost that can facilitate local loop voice and data access will be critical;
- d) that the solutions referred to in c) will also be essential to facilitate community or shared access which can serve as a platform for delivery of education, healthcare, commerce, agriculture etc, as well as an essential means of telecommunications in case of natural disasters;
- e) that experience already gained with the development of multipurpose community telecentres (MCT), public call offices (PCO) and community access centres (CAC) can serve as a model for the further development of such concepts incorporating new technological solutions,

noting

- a) that Recommendations 6-1, 7-1, 8-1, 9-1, and 10-1 resulting from the 1998-2002 ITU-D study period already contain important information and guidance on various rural telecommunication issues and that these Recommendations are expected to be regularly updated;
- b) results of the work done by ITU-D Study Group 2 during the study period 2002-2006 including analysis of the global surveys of rural telecommunication services and analysis of case studies collected from the ITU Member States and Sector Members;
- c) that, at the planning stage of projects for the telecommunications for rural and remote areas, it will be useful to take into account the successful practices provided in the analysis reports of ITU-D Study Group 2;
- d) that the prioritization of ICT projects and the coordinated involvement of both government and industry may encourage funding and so help to accelerate the development of telecommunications in rural communities;
- e) that the telecommunication infrastructure is critically dependant of the availability of ancillary services, including reliable electrical power supply,

recommends

- 1 that rural telecommunication infrastructure planners should take note of the potential benefits that can be derived from the liberalization of telecommunication markets whereby the participation of private entities can contribute to many aspects of the telecommunication infrastructure development including funding;
 - 2 that partnership among government, international agencies and industry organizations should be encouraged for the planning and initial deployment of rural telecommunication projects, even in cases where the intent is for them to be subsequently handed on to local administrations, local service operators or the communities themselves;
 - 3 that participation by concerned members of the community in all aspects of local telecommunication infrastructure development including definition of the required services and applications should be promoted, since this will ensure that maximum sustained benefit can be derived from the infrastructure;
 - 4 that ICT training for all members of the local community should be promoted regardless of age and gender as the best means to ensure equal access to and benefit and additional opportunity from the local telecommunication infrastructure resources.
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DECISION 1 (Doha, 2006)

Minimum budget for ITU-D study groups in 2006

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha 2006),

considering

- a) Resolution 1250 (biennial budget of the International Telecommunication Union for 2006-2007), Table 10, where no budgetary appropriation was made to Section 6 (study group meetings) for 2006;
- b) the recommendation of the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group at its eleventh meeting held in December 2005, to effect a transfer of CHF 260 950 to ensure that the study groups can meet in 2006,

decides

to instruct the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau to propose savings in order to permit the Secretary-General to authorize a transfer of appropriations in compliance with Article 11 of the Financial Regulations, and to inform the Council of the application of this decision at its 2006 session.
