REPORT ON THE 2ND COSITU WORKSHOP FOR ASIA-PACIFIC COUNTRIES

YOGYAKARTA, INDONESIA

21-25 NOVEMBER 2005

1. Introduction

The above-mentioned workshop took place at Yogyakarta, Indonesia following a request to the ITU by the Asia/Pacific countries for additional training and installation support of the COSITU model and software with emphasis on using real data. Consequently, participants were advised in advance to collect and bring their operational data to the workshop. This workshop was organized in collaboration with the Indonesian Telecommunication Regulatory Body (BRTI) and Directorate General of Posts and Telecommunications of Indonesia which arranged the excellent facilities and logistics.

2. Participation

The workshop was attended by 28 participants from telecom companies as well as regulatory authorities from the region as shown in the list of participants.

Due to the fact that only 5 of the participants had participated in the first workshop while the rest were being introduced to the model for the first time, a more explicative approach was applied during the workshop.

The first part of the workshop was, therefore, dedicated to the theoretical concepts used by the COSITU model in order for all the participants to have a good understanding of the basic principles and definitions. The second part of the workshop took a dual approach where real data was used by participants who had come with their data while the rest worked on a case study provided.

The success of the mission was made possible through the guidance of two ITU COSITU Experts; Mr. Christopher Kemei of Communications Commission of Kenya and Mr Dorian Postevca from JSC "Moldtelecom". During the presentation Mr. Kemei concentrated on the technical and engineering concepts while Mr. Postevca explained the financial and accounting issues.

3. Proceedings during the workshop

The first day of the workshop was dedicated to explanations on the theoretical principles and background of the COSITU concepts, and the rest for practical work. During the practical sessions, participants had to first do the practical work individually using either the case study or the real data, before consulting with the trainers as to whether they had performed the task correctly using the data provided by the trainers in the case of the case study. The case study, which all the participants went through very comprehensively, greatly consolidated their understanding of the model.

Further, there were extensive discussions regarding the formulas used for cost and tariff calculations, which facilitated greater understanding to the extent that the participants were able to use their data on their own and arrived at some preliminary results. Two of the participating operators were able to use real data, being the only ones who had brought some of the necessary input data. They were, however, concerned about confidentiality and appeared unwilling to share the information with the trainers.

4. Conclusion

Although just a few of the participants had brought their companies' input data, it is the trainers view that, with the exposure they had during the workshop and the case study which they undertook successfully, the participants would not have many problems using the software in their workplaces.

Participants expressed their interest in this model and suggested that it would be useful if a follow up third COSITU workshop could be organized in the region next year. They also requested that they be given more time to collect real data.