

## RECOMMENDATION 14 (Istanbul, 2002)

**Pilot integration project for information and communications technologies**

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Istanbul, 2002),

*considering*

- a) the role of ITU, in particular the specific functions of 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,

*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 at this conference by all participants from the Latin American region,

*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 set forth at this conference and 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 to recommend*

- 1 that Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) adopt all necessary measures to implement regional projects derived from non-exclusive integration models designed 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;
- 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 the Latin American region serve as the initial testing ground for this initiative.