

1. SUMMARY

1.1 Background

The third ITU World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-02) was held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 18 to 27 March 2002. It was attended by 1 152 delegates representing 152 Member States.

The keynote address at the conference was delivered by H.E. Mr Ahmet Necdet Sezer, President of the Republic of Turkey, and the opening address by Dr Oktay Vural, Minister of Transport and Communications of the Republic of Turkey. Opening remarks were delivered by Mr Yoshio Utsumi, Secretary-General of ITU. The conference was chaired by Mr Fatih Mehmet Yurdal, President of the Telecommunications Authority of the Republic of Turkey.

The purposes of the conference were to:

- review the results of global telecommunications since the last world telecommunication development conference;
- review the current major policy issues;
- discuss and determine actions to narrow the digital divide, including with a view to the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS);
- set goals and objectives up to the year 2007 and define and establish a common vision and strategies for achieving balanced telecommunication development;
- adopt a strategic plan for the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) and propose an action plan for 2003-2007 including, *inter alia*, a special programme for least developed countries (LDCs) and the execution of technical cooperation projects;
- consider financing and innovative forms of cooperation;
- increase the efficiency and effectiveness of ITU-D' s structure and working methods.

The first plenipotentiary session was addressed by Mr Hamadoun Touré, Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), in the form of a report on the implementation of the VAP.

List of speeches

- Appendix 1: Speech by H.E. Mr Ahmet Necdet Sezer, President of the Republic of Turkey
- Appendix 2: Speech by Dr Oktay Vural, Minister of Transport and Communications of the Republic of Turkey
- Appendix 3: Speech by Mr Yoshio Utsumi, Secretary-General of ITU
- Appendix 4: Speech by Mr Hamadoun Touré, Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT)