



INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

**TELECOMMUNICATION
DEVELOPMENT BUREAU**
ITU-D STUDY GROUPS

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SECOND MEETING OF STUDY GROUP 1: GENEVA, 30 AUGUST - 3 SEPTEMBER 1999
SECOND MEETING OF STUDY GROUP 2: GENEVA, 6 - 10 SEPTEMBER 1999

FOR INFORMATION

Question 10/2: Communications for rural and remote areas

STUDY GROUP 2

SOURCE: RAPPORTEUR FOR FOCUS GROUP 7

TITLE: REPORT ON THE FIRST MEETING OF FOCUS GROUP (TOPIC 7), GENEVA,
16 JUNE 1999

Abstract:

The report contains the conclusion of the meeting relating to the terms of reference of the Focus Group 7, the work plan and work method of the Group, as well as the database design.

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1. Introduction

The first meeting of Focus Group on Topic 7 (FG7), "Study various mechanisms by which to promote the development of new telecommunication technologies for rural applications" was held in Geneva on 16 June 1999. Chairman Mr. Kawasumi (Japan Telecom) welcomed the participants.

The objective of the meeting was to review the attributes and implementation of the FG7 Web site together with on line Rural Applications Case Library (See the List of Temporary Documents). The Japanese Administration had created a draft schema of the FG7 Web site and the associated online case library to be incorporated in the ITU Web site. This has been sent out to Members of the FG7 and Telecommunications Development Advisory Group (TDAG) for their comments. 17 comments had been received and these had been taken into consideration in the final draft design.

Mr. Kawasumi reminded the group that the FG7 aims to present its results in one year at the Study Group 2 meeting of September, 2000 with an interim report to the Study Group 2 meeting of September, 1999 and the TDAG in April, 2000. The terms of reference of FG7 which was approved by the last TDAG (April, 1999) and is clearly described in TD-2 also calls for the organization of a Rural Telecom Symposium which may be organized at the end of the work of the FG7 with the support of BDT Secretariat.

2. Summary of discussion

2.1 Membership

- FG7 membership would be reserved for ITU Member States, Sector Members and FG7 members.
- Decisions of accession to the FG7 would be made by Mr. Kawasumi in consultation with other members (Application forms are available from the BDT secretariat and should be returned to the secretariat).

2.2 Submission of contributions

- The FG7 would welcome the contribution of non Sector Members, as it was felt that participation in the work of this group would be an important way to encourage ITU Membership.
- In any case, contributors are requested to identify themselves to the BDT secretariat.

2.3 Case Library

- The rural applications case library which is the collection of rural application reports classified by the different categories in general would be made available on the FG7 Web site (<http://ww7.itu.int/itudfg7/>) and would be unrestricted.
- Some reports (contributions) of a commercially sensitive nature might be restricted.
- The following members will be invited to contribute reports on case studies for the case library: Focus Group Members, TDAG Members, ITU Sector Members. Other interested companies or organisations may participate by special arrangements (See attachment)

2.4 Summary Information Required for Submission of Reports

- Each report for Case library would be accompanied by a completed questionnaire form that gives a structured overview of types of applications, equipment and of the benefits of that case.
- The BDT secretariat would be responsible for entering this data into a relational database in Case Library. This would provide users of the Case Library with the ability to query the Case Library on a number of criteria (Retrieve all case studies on Tele-centres in Africa, for example).
- In addition to summary elements defined in page 4 of TD-3, the following elements would be added:
 - Short one line description field
 - POTS (Plain Ordinary Telephone System)
 - Radio + TV Broadcasting
 - Frequency spectrum requirements
 - Standards used
 - Satellite expanded to : Fixed, GMPCS, LEOs, MEOs, etc.

2.5 Languages

- Original Reports for Case Library would be accepted in English, French and Spanish.
- The summary information for each Original Report would be made available in three official language; English, French and Spanish.

2.6 Telecom Forum Papers

- Papers to be presented at the Telecom Development Symposium of TELECOM99 may be a rich source of material for Case Library. Mr. Kawasumi will approach the TELECOM secretariat to see if these may be contributed to the case library.

2.7 Copyright Issues

- Copyright should be discussed with the ITU legal department and an appropriate disclaimer should be made on the Web site.

2.8 Online Forum

- The discussion lists would be available to the general public and access would be unrestricted.
- Contributions to the online forum would be restricted to FG7 Members.
- Each report for Case Library would have an associated topic in the online forum to encourage in depth discussion. It would be linked on the Web page.
- More general discussions would also take place. These discussions would focus on a specific topic, would have a limited duration and would be moderated.

2.9 Research Assistant

- A question was raised in regard to the flow chart (in TD-3) and the meeting understood that Mr. Girardet would be responsible for hiring the research assistant. This post should be filled by 1st September 1999, when the FG7 Web site will be ready for service.

2.10 Terms of Reference

- It is defined by the TDAG that FG7 should gather information on projects to develop technology for rural applications, as well as identify and recommend priorities for new measures that need to be taken by ITU-D to help achieve such development.
- In this connection, there were comments from the floor and via e-mail, stating that FG7 should pay attention in collecting reports for the Case Library on rural telecommunication applications which are considered to be commercially not profitable but which contribute to the indirect benefit in the rural areas. This element will duly be taken into consideration.

2.11 Mailing list

- In order to share practical information about Focus Group 7 activities, a mailing list has been created to reach all Focus Group 7 members by electronic mail. The mailing list address is the following: **ITUDFocus7@ties.itu.int**

In closing, Mr. Kisrawi, Chairman of SG2 who attended the FG7 meeting thanked the Japanese Administration for its financial contribution and for providing the rapporteur for the work of the FG7.

Annexes:

1. List of participants
2. List of documents
3. Proposed Web site design
4. List of Members of FG7
5. Membership Application Form

ANNEX 1

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS / LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS / LISTA DE PARTICIPANTES

ADMINISTRATIONS - ADMINISTRATIONS - ADMINISTRACIONES

**République arabe syrienne
Syrian Arab Republic
República Arabe Siria**

**Viet Nam (Socialist Republic of)
Viet Nam (République socialiste du)
Viet Nam (República Socialista de)**

**M. N. KISRAWI
Syrian Telecommunications
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Chairman of Study Group 2**

**Mme DAO Nguyen Thi
Department General of Posts
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**RECOGNIZED OPERATING AGENCIES - EXPLOITATIONS RECONNUES -
EMPRESA DE EXPLOTACION RECONOCIDA**

**Allemagne (République fédérale d')
Germany (Federal Republic of)
Alemania (República Federal de)**

**Etats-Unis d'Amérique
United States of America
Estados Unidos de América**

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**Mme DUNNETTE R.
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**Danemark
Denmark
Dinamarca**

**Japon
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**M. MALMBERG P.
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**M. KAWASUMI Y.
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Rapporteur for Focus Group 7**

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INDUSTRIEL - ORGANISMO CIENTIFICO O INDUSTRIAL**

Etats-Unis d'Amérique
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Secrétariat BDT

Mme Sylvie PITT
Assistante

M. Guy GIRARDET
Administrateur de projet - VAP 3

Mme Sylvie Raposo
Assistante

ANNEX 2

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Number	Source	Title
1		Draft agenda of ITU-D Focus Group 7 meeting
2	BDT Secretariat	Terms of reference of ITU-D Focus Group 7
3	Mr. Y. Kawasumi, Rapporteur for FG 7	Proposal on the operational methods of the rural application Focus Group
4 +Rev.1	Mr. Y. Kawasumi, Rapporteur for FG 7	Draft database design
5	Mr. Y. Kawasumi, Rapporteur for FG 7	Responses to the Rapporteur's letter dated May 27

ANNEX 4

ITU-D Focus Group 7 - List of Members

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ANNEX 5

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

THE ITU-D FOCUS GROUP 7 (FG7) STUDIES THE VARIOUS MECHANISM BY WHICH TO PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW TELECOMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES FOR RURAL APPLICATIONS.

If you want to participate in the work of the FG7, please fill in this form and return it to:

Guy Girardet
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Please print in capitals

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Title	
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