



Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT)

**Fifth Meeting of the Telecommunication
Development Advisory Group (TDAG)
Geneva, 22-23 February 2001**

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Note by the Director

In the framework of the activities of the ITU-D Study Groups, three Regional meetings were organized on the participation of countries, in particular developing countries, in the work of the ITU-D Study Groups:

These three meetings took place respectively:

- In Bamako (Mali), 22 and 23 May 2000 for the Africa region (Doc 1/123-2/156);
- In Cairo (Egypt) from 3 to 5 July 2000 for the Arab region (Doc 1/137-2/181), and
- In Dakar (Senegal) from 6 to 8 December 2000, again for the Africa region (Doc AFR/029-Rev. 1).

The main results of these meetings, aiming at enhancing the participation of the developing countries in the work of the ITU-D Study Groups, are the following:

For the Africa region,

At Bamako, the meeting:

- Grouped Questions into four topics per Study Group;
- Assigned each topic to a group of experts
- Appointed a Rapporteur and a co-Rapporteur for each group of expert.

The Terms of Reference for the groups of experts are the following: "Each expert shall prepare at least one contribution per year. The group will work by post, electronic mail and fax or by any other means, including meetings. The contributions of each expert group shall be sent to each vice-chairman concerned".

At Dakar, the meeting:

- adopted the subjects for new contributions to be prepared for the next ITU-D Study Group meetings (September 2001);
- Decided to hold the next meeting of the Group in Maputo in May 2001. The contributions that will be adopted at the Maputo meeting will be submitted to the meetings of the Study Groups in September 2001 as **contributions from Africa**.

For the Arab region,

The meeting **in Cairo** set up Arab working groups per Question. Participants registered for the Questions they were interested in. Rapporteurs were designated.

All the three meetings adopted Recommendations aiming at enhancing the participation of Member States and Sector Members of the two regions in the activities of the ITU-D Study Groups.

The ITU-D Study Groups met in September 2000 and considered the Bamako and the Cairo meetings very successful, endorsed the Recommendations, invited the Vice-Chairmen to consider the reports for further possible action and recommended to inform the TDAG on these activities.

In order to reduce the cost and the volume of the documentation and considering that the three documents are voluminous, the concerned three reports are not distributed but are available at the BDT Secretariat for the interested participants.