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COOPERATION AND HARMONIZATION IN THE FUTURE ACTIVITIES OF THE RADIOCOMMUNICATION (ITU-R) AND TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION (ITU-T) SECTORS

(1997)

The ITU Radiocommunication Assembly,

considering

a) that there is an urgent requirement to identify mechanisms to assist the Union in adapting to the political/technical environment and to market needs for timely available, stable, worldwide and implementable information and communication technology standards/recommendations;

b) that examples of changes in the environment include a modification in the scopes and roles of those involved in the field of telecommunications due to the separation of regulatory and operational functions into separate bodies/enterprises, as well as the emergence of issues associated with the convergence of telecommunications, computer, broadcasting and information technology;

c) that a common, harmonized ITU approach, as applicable, is needed in response to such changes,

recognizing

a) that, pursuant to No. 158 of the Convention (Geneva, 1992), a mechanism exists to keep various tasks within the respective spheres of competence of ITU-T and ITU-R under continuing review with the objective of reaching common agreement on changes in the distribution of matters under study;

b) that, given the difference in perception within the framework of Resolution 16 of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Kyoto, 1994), there is no agreement on the principle of further transfer of Questions, or on the transfer of specific Questions under Resolution 2 of the Additional Plenipotentiary Conference (Geneva, 1992);

c) that, according to the provisions of No. 160 of the Convention (Geneva, 1992), measures should be taken to foster cooperation and coordination between ITU-R and ITU-T,

is of the opinion

1 that the Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG) and the Telecommunication Standard Advisory Group (TSAG), in their joint meeting in January 1998, should consider and implement specific measures, such as the establishment of joint ITU-R/ITU-T project teams, to respond to rapid changes in the telecommunication environment including convergence issues referred to in *considering* b);

2 that such joint efforts be reflected as appropriate in the draft Strategic Plan for the Union 1999-2003.