



INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION
TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT BUREAU

**WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT
CONFERENCE (WTDC-98)**

Valletta, Malta, 23 March - 1 April 1998

**Corrigendum 1 to
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For action

Agenda item: 1.7

PLENARY MEETING

Director of the BDT

SPECIAL ACTIONS FOR LDCs

1 Please replace paragraph 1.3 and Table 1.1 by the following text:

1.3 List of LDCs

The table overpage on Table 1.1 contains a list of 48 LDCs as currently defined by the UNGA. As from 1991, the list is updated only every three years. The updating in 1994 saw the "graduation" of Botswana and the inclusion of Angola and Eritrea. The revision of the list in December 1997 has brought about the surveillance of Cape Verde, Maldives and Western Samoa, and the continued surveillance of Vanuatu at the request of its government for graduation in the year 2000.

Glancing through the list one might think that some of the countries in it should never have been on the list because of their excellent endowment with natural resources, but external/internal factors such as civil strife, economic and/or natural disasters may have been principal factors at play to push them into the list of the LDCs. For the latest criteria for "inclusion" and "graduation" of countries into and from the list as devised by ECOSOC's Committee for Development Planning please refer to Annex 1 to this document.

TABLE 1.1

Countries	Africa	Americas	Asia & Pacific	Arab States	Year of Entry
Afghanistan			X		1971
Angola	X				1994
Bangladesh			X		1975
Benin	X				1971
Bhutan			X		1971
Burkina Faso	X				1971
Burundi	X				1971
Cambodia			X		1991
Cape Verde	X				1977
Central African Republic	X				1975
Chad	X				1971
Comoros	X				1977
Djibouti				X	1982
Equatorial Guinea	X				1982
Eritrea	X				1994
Ethiopia	X				1971
Gambia	X				1975
Guinea	X				1971
Guinea Bissau	X				1981
Haiti		X			1971
Kiribati			X		1986
Lao (PDR)			X		1971
Lesotho	X				1971
Liberia	X				1990
Madagascar	X				1991
Malawi	X				1971
Maldives			X		1971
Mali	X				1971
Mauritania				X	1986
Mozambique	X				1988
Myanmar			X		1987
Nepal			X		1971
Niger	X				1971
Rwanda	X				1971
Sao Tomé & Príncipe	X				1982
Sierra Leone	X				1982
Solomon Islands			X		1991
Somalia				X	1971
Sudan				X	1971
Tanzania	X				1971
Togo	X				1982
Tuvalu			X		1986
Uganda	X				1971
Vanuatu			X		1985
Western Samoa			X		1971
Yemen				X	1971
Congo (DR ex. Zaire)	X				1991
Zambia	X				1991
Total	48	1	13	5	

2 Please replace Table 2.2 by the following text:

TABLE 2.2

COUNTRY	TOTAL FELLOWSHIPS				COUNTRY	TOTAL FELLOWSHIPS			
	1994	1995	1996	1997		1994	1995	1996	1997
<u>Africa</u>					<u>Asia & Pacific</u>				
Angola	6	12	14	3	Afghanistan	0	6	4	0
Benin	16	21	20	19	Bangladesh	9	22	12	25
Botswana	4	0	0	0	Bhutan	15	24	11	23
Burkina Faso	17	19	24	19	Cambodia	16	24	53	22
Burundi	23	15	8	15	Kiribati	3	4	3	5
Cape Verde	27	12	11	14	Lao	27	36	41	20
Central African Rep	13	12	17	14	Maldives	8	20	11	24
Chad	14	12	18	18	Myanmar	3	10	7	12
Comoros	10	10	15	17	Nepal	11	27	22	24
Congo (DR ex. Zaire)	5	12	11	17	Solomon Islands	1	5	0	2
Equatorial Guinea	7	9	9	12	Tuvalu	4	5	2	5
Eritrea	2	9	10	8	Vanuatu	1	1	0	0
Ethiopia	12	17	22	21	Western Samoa	3	7	2	12
Gambia	8	14	12	12	Total ASP	101	191	168	174
Guinea	12	17	19	18	<u>Americas</u>				
Guinea-Bissau	10	8	11	8	Haiti	0	13	20	14
Lesotho	8	10	12	5	Total AM	0	13	20	14
Liberia	9	8	3	4	<u>Arab States</u>				
Madagascar	10	8	10	7	Djibouti	21	20	36	27
Malawi	10	7	14	14	Mauritania	19	15	22	31
Mali	31	24	50	30	Somalia	0	0	0	0
Mozambique	18	17	22	13	Sudan	15	11	21	12
Niger	16	11	13	17	Yemen	8	10	14	21
Rwanda	3	9	11	11	Total AR	63	56	93	91
Sao Tomé & Principe	12	8	11	11	TOTAL LDCs	528	630	727	648
Sierra Leone	8	12	18	3	<u>As if LDCs</u>				
Tanzania	14	15	20	13	Namibia	6	8	13	7
Togo	12	11	10	10	Senegal	11	19	19	22
Uganda	12	18	21	16	Nicaragua	4	0	7	7
Zambia	15	13	10	15	Total "As if LDCs"	21	27	39	36
Total AFR	364	370	446	369					

3 Please replace paragraph 2.6 by the following text:

2.6 Success stories

Any LDC whose average ML density has exceeded 1 in 100 countrywide and 5 in 100 population in cities may be considered as having attained reasonably good penetration of telecommunication services which permits easy access to these services. In fact any country aspiring to graduate from the list of LDCs must first closely approach the above ML density criteria.

Botswana which graduated from the list of LDCs in 1994 is a typical success story, with an ML density of 4 in 100 countrywide and 16/100 in Gaborone, its capital city. The network penetration in rural areas is remarkably good with virtually all towns and remote business concerns being linked to a modern and reliable network.

The Pacific Islands (Vanuatu, Kiribati, Solomon Islands, Western Samoa) have also developed remarkably good networks despite the onerous problem of extending services to hundreds of small, remote and sparsely populated islands/atolls strewn over large areas. The average ML density for these islands range from 1.73 to 5.04 although such densities are mitigated by the relatively small populations. **Vanuatu** which should have been removed from the LDC list in December 1997 has a ML density of 2.57 while Cape Verde, Maldives and Western Samoa which will "graduate" in 2000 have ML densities of 4.7, 6.47 and 4.62 respectively.

Resolution 1 of WTDC-94 expressed concern over the rapidly increasing number of LDCs. It is noted with satisfaction that the trend has been halted and is being reversed. The economic upturn in graduating LDCs is being led by rapid telecommunication network growth. The ML density is now widely regarded as a better economic indicator than the GDP per capita, giving wider acceptance to the assertion that **telecommunication is development**. It is expected that the number of LDCs should fall to around 40 by the year 2003 under the current criteria for listing of LDCs.

4 Please replace paragraph 5 of Annex 1 by the following text:

5 1997 Review

Under the 1997 review, the cut off points were: GDP per capita > \$US 865, APQLI wither > 52 or EDI > 29. Vanuatu having met these criteria in 1994 and remains well above the threshold for both GDP and APQLI, it had been recommended for immediate graduation in 1997, but at the request of its government it will be retained until 2000, while Cape Verde, Maldives and Western Samoa are recommended for graduation at the time of the next review in 2000 provided that they continue to meet the appropriate criteria at that time. Myanmar appeared to meet the criteria for graduation but the CDP considered that the GDP data did not accurately reflect the economic situation in that country and therefore recommended that it be retained in the list for a further review in 2000.

Cameroon met the criteria in part for inclusion in the list of LDCs but for reasons given in the CDP report, it was decided not to recommend it to the UNGA for inclusion.