



# INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT BUREAU

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

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**PLENARY MEETING**

## **Kenya (Republic of)**

### ACHIEVEMENTS TELECOMS WISE AND INITIATIVES BY KPTC WITHIN THE PERIOD 1994-1998

#### **1 Introduction**

Telecommunications is a tool for development and Kenya has taken this thought into consideration in its telecommunications plans. Kenya made a deliberate policy to improve telecommunication services in the country and especially in rural areas.

Below are some achievements and initiatives by Kenya in the telecommunications field.

#### **2 Achievements**

<b>Penetration levels</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998 (Projected)</b>
Total direct exchange lines connections (DELS)	228 522	269 773	332 681
DELS per 100 population	0.89	0.99	1.1
Automation levels %	93.8	95.4	96.3

#### **Rural areas (where 80% of the population live)**

DELS .....

DELS .....

Technology and  
digitalization .....

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KPTC has implemented digital systems in both the transmission and switching portions of the network as follows:

		<b>1994</b>		<b>1998</b>
Exchange	Approx.	48%	Approx.	60%
Transmission	Approx	85%	Approx.	50%

### **3 International telecommunications**

During the period, Kenya implemented a second international gateway exchange and earth station at Kericho in Western Kenya, as a diversity site and routing to the Indian Ocean region 63 satellite. This site also houses a VSAT communication hub for data and voice communications implemented in 1997. This is set to improve data communications in and outside Kenya.

### **4 Preparation for a competitive environment**

KPTC, the government owned body that is authorized to operate and provide telecommunications services in Kenya, has undertaken action to prepare for the competitive environment which is set to be approved by the Government. The following specific initiatives have been undertaken in the period.

Reorganization and restructuring for customer-oriented setup, i.e. creation of commercial departments in addition to business units to handle special businesses.

Revision of the KPTC Act to allow the separation of the postal and telecommunication entity into four distinct sectors:

- Telekom Kenya;
- Posta Kenya;
- National Communications of Kenya;
- Telecommunications Policy Secretariat to be based in the Ministry of Transport and Communications.

The enactment process for the new Act is currently underway.

### **5 Conclusion**

In the period 1994-1998, Kenya has undergone structural adjustments as also faced by other countries. The structural policy changes are expected to lead to even faster growth in telecommunications.