



SPU Flash

November 2006, Special Retrospective Edition 2002-2006



The mission of the **ITU Strategy and Policy Unit (SPU)**, with the collaboration of the Sectors, is to assist the ITU and its membership to anticipate and analyze the strategic implications and challenges of an evolving telecommunications environment. It does this through a multidisciplinary approach to telecommunication policy issues that cuts across the Sectors, involving research, analysis, publications and the organization of forums and workshops. The SPU shall not duplicate those activities that fall within the mandate assigned to one of the Sectors. The overall objective of the SPU is to adapt ITU's work programme to fast-emerging technology, policy and market trends.

This special retrospective edition of SPU Flash has been produced specially for the 17th ITU Plenipotentiary Conference, to be held in Antalya, Turkey, 6-24 November 2006. It highlights the work conducted since the last Plenipotentiary Conference, in Marrakesh, 2002.

World Summit on the Information Society

The proposal to hold a World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) was launched at the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in Minneapolis, 1998. The following PP in Marrakesh, 2002, set up a Council Working Group to oversee ITU's leading managerial role in the WSIS and its inputs to the outcome documents. The Antalya PP, in 2006, will decide upon ITU's role in implementation of the WSIS. This section highlights the critical role played by SPU at all stages of the WSIS, notably in leading the "content team".

WSIS Thematic Meetings



**world summit
on the information society**
Geneva 2003 - Tunis 2005

For the purposes of the WSIS process, SPU organized a series of thematic meetings and

simultaneously developed extensive background material for these events. These include the ITU WSIS Thematic Meeting on Internet Governance (Geneva, February 2004), on Countering Spam (Geneva, July 2004), on Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships for Bridging the Digital Divide (Seoul, 2005), and on Cybersecurity (Geneva, 2005).

For more information, please see www.itu.int/wsisp

WSIS Stocktaking



In line with the decisions of the WSIS process on follow-up and implementation of the Geneva Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action by stakeholders at national, regional and international levels, the SPU, in collaboration with the WSIS Executive Secretariat, undertook a stocktaking of the implementation by governments and all other WSIS stakeholders of the WSIS Plan of Action. The first

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WSIS Stocktaking Report 2005 was issued in November 2005 and the Summit invited ITU to continue to maintain the stocktaking database as part of the approved WSIS evaluation methodology (para 120 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society). In addition, SPU produced a "Golden Book" highlighting the new initiatives launched during the Tunis Phase of WSIS, which together amounted to a commitment of around US\$3 billion.

For more information, please see www.itu.int/wsisp/stocktaking or www.itu.int/wsisp/goldenbook

ICT Success Stories

In response to the request in Para 28 of the Geneva Plan of Action, SPU has designed an internet portal to highlight some of the ongoing and successful ICT development projects taking place around the world. It provides an overview of how ICTs and the internet, in particular, are being used to help bridge the global divide. As one of many initiatives that were started to prepare for the WSIS and in accordance with the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, this portal provides insights into some of the many ways in which ICTs can help traditional and marginalized societies transition into information societies.



For more information, please see www.itu.int/ict_stories

WSIS Content Team



During eight years of the WSIS Process the Head of the ITU Strategy and Policy Unit, Dr. Tim Kelly led the WSIS Content Team composed of staff seconded from the SPU and WSIS Executive Secretariat members. The main purpose of the Content Team was to develop and manage documentation for the WSIS process as well as ensure efficient communication between all stakeholders in their contributions to the elaboration of the WSIS outcome documents. The content team provided the secretariat for the PrepComs and the Group of Friends of the Chair, as well as for the Summit itself.

For more information, please see www.itu.int/wsisp



Facilitation of the WSIS Action Line C5: Building Confidence and Security in the Use of ICTs



**Partnerships for
Global Cybersecurity**
WSIS C5: Building Confidence
and Security in the Use of ICTs

In line with the WSIS outcome documents emphasizing that building confidence and security

in the use of ICTs is a necessary pillar for building a global information society, the ITU Strategy and Policy Unit took a leading role in the facilitation of the WSIS Action Line C5. A WSIS action line facilitation meeting on cybersecurity was held, 15–16 May 2006 and a similar meeting is planned during the WSIS cluster of events in May 2007. As part of the commitment to coordinating the multistakeholder implementation of WSIS outcomes on cybersecurity, SPU, in collaboration with ITU-T and ITU-D has established an internet portal dedicated to cybersecurity initiatives in ITU Member States. ITU is also participating in the StopSpam Alliance of international organizations.

For more information, please see www.itu.int/spu/cybersecurity/pgc

Policy research & analysis programmes

ITU's Strategy and Policy Unit has a number of initiatives, jointly-developed with Member States and run in conjunction with the Sectors, which are aimed at promoting policy and regulatory research and market analysis in the field of information and communication technologies (ICTs). Each of these programmes include organizing workshops, commissioning case studies and background papers, developing resources websites and producing publications. One of the main areas of focus is for issues that require a multi-disciplinary approach and which cut across the work of the Sectors. The main research programmes, which are conducted in line with Council Decision 496, are listed below.

New Initiatives Programme (NI)



Launched in 1999, on the initiative of the Secretary-General, the NI is intended to provide policy advice to the Secretary-General and a forum for the membership to discuss issues of high current policy interest for the membership, in particular on the socio-economic impact of current

trends. To date, some 17 workshops have been held and more than 50 studies completed. Recent topics include "Regulatory environment for future mobile multimedia services" and "What rules for IP-enabled Next-Generation Networks?" New Initiatives topics are chosen through a membership questionnaire. NIP sponsors include the governments of Japan, Germany, Republic of Korea and Thailand.

For more information, see www.itu.int/newinitiatives

Digital Opportunity Platform (DOP)

Launched in 2004 as the "Building Digital Bridges" initiative, this was converted in 2006 into a multi-stakeholder partnership. The DOP produces the annual "World Information Society Report" and has developed the Digital Opportunity Index (DOI) as



a composite index for tracking progress in bridging the digital divide and implementing the WSIS outcomes. An inaugural Digital Opportunity Forum was held August 31–September 1 2006 and a conference on Digital Transformations in the Information Society, June 1–2 2006, jointly with the London Business School. Other partners in the DOP include the MIC Korea, UNCTAD and the Korea Agency for Digital Opportunity and Promotion.

For more information, see www.itu.int/digitalopportunity

Shaping Tomorrow's Networks (STN)



Launched in 2005, this programme is concerned with network and service convergence, and is

aimed at the creation of integrated telecommunications infrastructures which will allow a faster and more efficient global information exchange, and the identification of potentially enabling technologies and suitable business models. One of the main aims of the programme is to assist the membership in preparing for, and benefiting from, the trend towards convergence, especially in terms of adaptation of regulation. The next workshop will be held January 22–23 2007 on the topic "Market mechanisms for spectrum management". Partners in STN include the Ugo Bordoni Foundation (Italy), UNEP and EBU.

For more information, see www.itu.int/STN

Internet Policy Issues

The ITU Strategy and Policy Unit actively contributes to the ITU activities related to internet protocol (IP)-based networks and the management of internet domain names and addresses; which includes activities related to Internet Governance. Recent SPU activities focused, inter alia, on policy and regulatory challenges related to telecom migration to the IP environment, countering spam, cybersecurity, Internet Governance, ENUM, and internationalized domain names.



For more information, please see www.itu.int/spu/ip

For **more detailed information** about these and other SPU activities, please visit www.itu.int/spu.

Publications

SPU is committed to bringing the policy research and market analysis carried out to the widest possible audience. To do this, SPU maintains an active programme of publications, case studies, background papers, resource websites and blogs.

For more information, please see www.itu.int/spu/publications or www.itu.int/spu/newslog

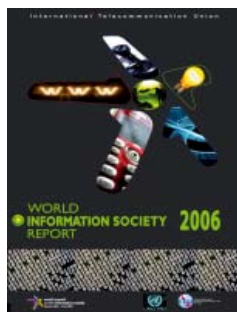
The Internet Reports

The ITU Internet Reports cover almost a decade of the evolution of the internet and the fixed and mobile telephone networks. The reports began under the title "Challenges to the network" in 1997 and eight have been published so far. All the reports contain a global overview, detailed case studies and a Statistical Annex containing the very latest market data on more than 200 world economies. "Digital.Life" is the eighth in the series of ITU Internet Reports, published in December 2006 and prepared specially for ITU TELECOM World in Hong Kong. It focuses on consumers and looks at how human lives are being continuously shaped and re-shaped by advances in digital technologies.



For more information, please see www.itu.int/internetreports

World Information Society Report



"The World Information Society Report" is a new series of reports, launched on World Information Society Day (May 17) in 2006. The report is produced by ITU in partnership with UNCTAD and the Korea Agency for Digital Opportunity. The WISR series is a response to call by the WSIS to develop an annual series of reports tracking progress in WSIS implementation and bridging the digital divide. The first report in

the series, published in July 2006, contained the first full publication of the Digital Opportunity Index, a composite index tracking ICT development worldwide which is part of the evaluation methodology approved by WSIS.

For more information, please see www.itu.int/wisr

New Initiatives Publication Series

The New Initiatives Series consists of publications and reports prepared for the purposes of the international expert workshops and research programmes carried out under the ITU New Initiatives Programmes. The main purpose of this



series is to draw the attention of the ITU membership and other ICT sector stakeholders to the most recent issues in ICTs – new innovations of interest to the telecommunication community, new developments in markets and emerging regulatory challenges. The latest title in the series is on the Future Regulatory Environment for Mobile Multimedia Services, published in November 2006.

For more information, please see www.itu.int/ni

Shaping Tomorrow's Networks Publication Series

The Shaping Tomorrow's Networks (STN) Series' main area of focus is ICT convergence. It aims to provide a detailed study of integrated telecommunication infrastructures that will allow for timely and more efficient global information exchange, including the identification of potential enabling technologies and suitable business models.



Furthermore, the STN series through case studies, thematic reports and publications will tackle key issues related to convergence, including the adaptation of policy and regulation to facilitate the creation of tomorrow's networks. The latest title in the series is on "Tomorrow's Network Today", published in July 2006.

For more information, please see www.itu.int/stn



For an exhaustive list of all SPU publications, please visit www.itu.int/spu/publications.



Support to ITU Council and ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2006



The ITU Strategy and Policy Unit provides secretariat support services to a number of different ITU committees, conferences, and groups including Plenipotentiary Conference, Council and Council Working Groups. SPU staff members are also involved in many

cross sectoral initiatives and projects leading to the improvement of the efficiency of the Union, such as the ITU Publications Policy Committee, the Consultancy Project task Force, the key performance indicators (KPI) project and the Information Inventory.

ITU Council Group on WSIS

The ITU Strategy and Policy Unit provided the Secretariat for the ITU Council Working Group on the WSIS. The purpose of the Group was to discuss the ITU's role in the WSIS process and to identify actions necessary for implementation of the WSIS outcomes. The Group, which was chaired by Dr Yuri Grin and Prof Vladimir Minkin (Russian Federation), held ten meetings between September 2002 and September 2006.

For more information, please see www.itu.int/council/wsis/wsis_WG.html

ITU Council Group on the elaboration of the draft strategic and financial plans, 2008-2011

The ITU Strategy and Policy Unit provided the Secretariat for the ITU Council Working Group on the elaboration of the draft strategic and financial plans, 2008-2011, which will guide the Union as it embarks upon the next period in its history. A key feature of the new plans is results-based management and the linking together of strategic goals with the biennial budget and the four-year rolling operational plans. The plans are expected to be approved at the Antalya Plenipotentiary.

For more information, please see www.itu.int/stratplan

To subscribe to the electronic version of SPU Flash, please see www.itu.int/spu/spunews

ITU Telecom World 2006



**ITU TELECOM
WORLD2006**
Hong Kong
4-8 December

The ITU TELECOM Forum team, within the ITU Strategy and Policy Unit, organizes the Forum at ITU TELECOM events. Those carried out since PP-02 include Telecom Asia 2002 (Hong Kong, China), TELECOM World 2003 (Geneva), TELECOM Africa 2004 (Cairo), TELECOM Asia 2004 (Busan) and TELECOM Americas 2005 (Salvador da Bahia). The next event will be ITU TELECOM WORLD 2006 to be held 4-8 December

2006 in Hong Kong, China, on the theme "living the digital world". The Forum brings together CEOs from operators and vendors, ministers, regulators, users and other leading decision-makers in ICT companies to discuss critical issues that require a dialogue among different stakeholders. On average, more than 2'500 people take part in Forums at the global level.

For more information see www.itu.int/WORLD2006/forum

ITU Young Minds programme

Since 2005, the Strategy and Policy Unit has run the Young Minds in Telecoms competition. The competition is open to graduate students and recent graduates in economics, political science, law, literature,



telecommunications, computer science, information systems and related fields. The objective of the ITU Young Minds Programme is to give young people valuable exposure to the international telecommunication environment and to the work of the ITU. One of the main criteria for evaluation is the submission of an essay. Young Minds scholarships have been awarded to students from Hong Kong, China, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation and United Kingdom. The 2007 competition is now open for submissions.

For more information, please see www.itu.int/spu/young-minds

Would you have any questions concerning SPU activities, please **contact us** at spumail@itu.int.