**SOURCE:**     Regional Office for Africa (February 2010)

**TITLE:**     Complementary Information to reference document RPM-AFR09/03-E referred to in the Report on Implementation of Doha Action Plan (DAP) Progammes, Study Groups, Activities and Initiatives in the African Region

## I  Background

The main objective of this document is to complement the information of reference Document RPM-AFR09/03-E, considering that several activities were implemented in the African Region after the preparation of the said document (23 June 2009) and after the realization of the African Regional Preparatory Meeting that was carried out in Kampala, Uganda, from 13 to 15 July 2009.

This document refers to reference document RPM-AFR09/03-E, respecting its numbering and only provides information on those activities which status differ from the information provided in the reference document.

## I  Introduction

"The African region is one of five regions in which the BDT implements telecommunications/ICT-related projects and activities. This work is undertaken within the context of the ITU's dual responsibility as a United Nations specialised and executing agency for implementing projects under the United Nations development system and/or other funding arrangements to facilitate and enhance telecommunications development by offering, organizing, and coordinating technical cooperation and assistance activities."

The following projects were carried out during 2009 to assist Member States.

**II. DAP Programmes and Study Groups** (page 02 of Document RPM-AFR09/03-E)

**2 Programme 2: Technologies and telecommunication network development** (page 6 of Document RPM-AFR09/03-E)

**2.7.1.   Spectrum management and radio monitoring:** (page 9 of Document RPM-AFR09/03-E)

**Year 2009:**
- Adhoc assistance was provided to Burundi in December 2009 in spectrum management on the request of the country; the expert report is under discussion and finalization.
- Train for trainers was provided to two Francophone trainers for SMS4DC in November 2009, in order to be able to organize workshops in French speaking countries in Africa for the upcoming years.

**2.7.3 Direct assistance to countries**

- Assistance to Burkina faso and Benin for a detailed feasibility study to implement a missing inter-state transmission link and to secure Benin, Burkina and Niger broadband network;

- Assistance to Niger for on site survey for implementation of the national broadband backbone network (2'000 kms) with interconnection to borders countries (Chad, Nigeria, Benin, Burkina, Mali and Algeria);

- "Assistance to Guinea for elaboration of a master plan covering the national broadband network with interconnection scenarios to the border countries (Mali, Cote d'Ivoire, Senegal, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea Bissau)".

- Survey steps taken in the process of providing technical assistance  to Member States in the development of a strategy for collection, analysis, harmonization, management and dissemination of network technical data.

**Programme 3: E-Strategies and ICT Applications** (Page 7 of Document RPM-AMS09/03-E)

**3.6.2   ICT Applications** (page 16 of Document RPM-AFR09/03-E)
**Year 2009:**
- Implementation of e-employment training centers in Congo (Brazzaville and Pointe Noire) was completed in December 2009

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- The e-Post prefeasibility study for Africa was completed and the report shared among all the stakeholders (ITU, ATU, PAPU, RASCOM) in November 2009
- Development of training materials on ICT Applications for indigenous people in Africa and Americas was completed in September 2009
- The projects in African region are part of the Global MCTs project for Special Initiatives (7GLO07060) aimed to assist beneficiary countries to provide equal ICT access and services to women, children and youth, persons with disabilities, indigenous communities, rural and underserved communities as well as other disadvantaged and vulnerable groups through establishment of Multipurpose Community Telecentres and ICT training centres. A total of five countries including Malawi, Burkina Faso, Mali, Zambia and Sierra Leone are benefitting from this project.   Project no. 7GLO07062 for Malawi is more advanced as all the equipment is already delivered and installation will be completed by June 2010. Procurement of equipment is currently in progress for the Burkina Faso project no. 7GLO07063 while project documents are being finalized for the remaining three projects before implementation starts by June 2010. In additional to this, ITU supported the ATCB centre in Ethiopia by providing ICT equipment including adaptive technologies (AT) such as speech synthesizers, magnifying hardware/software and Brail displays/printers to enable ICT training and Braille transcribing services for visually impaired persons under project no. 7ETH/08/002**.**

### 3.6.3    Other direct assistance to countries for the development of national ICT e-strategies (Page 16 of Document RPM-AFR09/03-E)

- Steps taken in the process of providing assistance to EAC and SADC in the Harmonization and development of e-strategies
- Feasibility study on Establishment of a Regional Internet exchange Point in Africa conducted.
- Project 9RAF08076 dealing with e-commerce for Ethiopia, sectoral strategies for African countries and e-employment for Congo was implemented under the cooperation framework ITU/UNECA.

### 4     Programme 4: Economics and finance including costs and tariffs (Page 16 of Document RPM-AFR09/03-E)

### 4.x.x    Year 2009: (Refence, please)

### 5  Programme 5: Human capacity building (Page 19 of Document RPM-AFR09/03-E)

- ### 5.x.x  Year 2009: (Refence, please)

### 6  Programme 6: Special programme for least developed countries, small island developing states, and emergency telecommunications (Page 24 of the Document RPM-AFR09/03-E)

### 6.4.  Activities specific to AFR Region: (Page 26 of the Document RPM-AFR09/03-E)

### 6.4.1    Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States(Page 26 of the Document RPM-AFR09/03-E)

- Technical Assistance provided to Eritrea in the Feasibility study for Eritrea's Fiber Optic Gateway and in the site survey for the Fibre Optic Landing Station/Gateway.

- In partnership with the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority, ITU assisted the Government of Tanzania to establish five MCTs in rural areas by providing ICT equipment.

- In collaboration with the Uganda Communications Authority, ITU provided ICT equipment to two rural based secondary schools in Uganda.

### 6.4.2    Emergency telecommunciations (Page 27 of the Document RPM-AFR09/03-E)
- A regional workshop was organized in September 2009 in Sao Tome and Principe for Central African States on emergency telecommunications and disaster management and mitigation.

- National workshops on use of ICTs in Disaster Management co-organized by the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority were held in Tanzania, which was held in Dar-es-salaam from 16 to 18 Sept. 2009 and in collaboration with Uganda Communications Commission a similar workshop was organized for Uganda in October 2009.

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## III – DAP Activities

## 2  Activity 2 – Partnership and Promotion

## 2.2. Resource Mobilization (Connect Africa Summit Follow up Meeting) (Page 33 of the Document RPM-AFR09/03-E)

The second Connect Africa Summit Follow Up Meeting was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 24 to 25 September 2009 where partners shared information on implementation of projects addressing the five Connect Africa Goals. More information on the meeting will be posted in the ITU web soon.

## IV.   Special Initiatives (page 35 of Document RPM-AFR09/03-E)

## 2 Special Initiatives on Gender, Children and Youth, Indigenous People, Persons with Disabilities and Rural, Isolated and Poorly Served Areas and Indigenous Communities (Page 35 of Document RPM-AFR09/03-E)

## 2.5   Initiative 3: Persons with disabilities (page 37 of Document RPM-AFR09/03-E)

- An exhibition was co-organized with ATCB (Adaptive Technologies Center for the Blinds) during the African Union Heads of State Summit on ICT, where some equipments previously donated by ITU to ATCB was demonstrated to the public.

## 2.7.2        Inititives for Persons with Disabilities (Page 38 of Document RPM-AFR09/03-E)

- A Regional Workshop on ICT Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities for Africa Region was organized in Lusaka, Zambia in July 2009.

  For more information (http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/sis/PwD/Seminars/Zambia/index.html)

- Another workshop was jointly implemented with the host country Mali, TSB and BDT in Bamako frpm 14 to 16 Octiber 2009 which brought together participants from African countries and international experts to share experiences and best practice on how to address accessibility issues for Persons with Disabilities including raising awareness on the Toolkit created to assist member states in addressing accessibility issues in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

  For more information http://www.itu.int/ITU-T/worksem/accessibility/200910/index.html

## 2.7.3        Youth and Children (additional chapter on Page 38 of Document RPM-AFR09/03-E)

- Assistance given the D.R.C. Government to establish an ICT Training centre to train former child soldiers. The government provided the building where the centre is housed as well as internet connection, trainers and other staff while the   ITU provided ICT equipment including computers and printers

- A project was jointly implemented by the ITU, UNHCR and the Liberia Opportunities Industrialization Centre (LOIC) to provide ICT training to refugees returning from asylum countries.  The centre will also provide ICT services to the local community at a minimal charge to offset running expenses and support on-going peace and reconstruction efforts in Liberia.