

## **THE MONTEGO BAY ACTION PLAN**

ITU/BDT in collaboration with the Government of Jamaica hosted a Caribbean Seminar on Regulatory and Costing Issues from 4-7 July 2000 for regulators, operators and regional telecom organizations.

Having regard to the issues discussed:

1. Cost models for adoption of cost based and cost oriented prices for telecommunication services with particular reference to interconnection pricing, international settlement rates, rate re-balancing and universal service obligations.
2. The efforts of national governments to liberalize the telecommunication sector in pursuit of their development objectives
3. The establishment of Independent Regulatory Agencies in a liberalized environment.

### **AND:**

Recognizing the importance and relevance of the issues for the realization of regional goals and objectives of the separate Caribbean States

Recognizing that the issues are of common concern to all Caribbean States that are at different stages of liberalization

Recognizing that in the process of liberalization Caribbean States, operators and regulators can benefit from mutual cooperation and collaboration.

The Participants recommended that Operators, Regulators and Policy makers be proactive in collaborating and exchanging experiences in the following areas:

1. Approaches to costing methodologies
2. The exchange of information
3. Approaches to the establishment of Regulatory agencies
4. The effort to achieve acceptable levels of consultations with the stakeholders: regulators, operators policy makers, regional telecom organizations and customers.

It was further recommended that the ITU takes urgent action in providing the following support:

1. Training in regulatory matters for regulators and operators' personnel responsible for regulatory matters
  2. Provision of appropriate tools for the implementation of costing systems for regulators
  3. Facilitation of collaborative efforts in the region by intensifying the similar workshops on telecommunication technical and policy issues.
  4. Facilitation of visits and exchanges to extra regional Regulatory Bodies.
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