



Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT)

**Fourth Meeting of the Telecommunication
Development Advisory Group (TDAG)
Geneva, 12-13 October 2000**

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Note from the BDT Director

SUMMARY STATUS OF THE ITU-D STUDY GROUP ACTIVITIES

This contribution gives an overview of the results achieved so far by ITU-D Study Groups. The attached tables are provided for information and show the status of the ITU-D Study Group activities after the third meetings held in September 2000 (Study Group 1: 11-15 September/Study Group 2: 18-22 September).

Study Group 1

The report on Question 7/1 (*Universal access/service*) was approved for publication before WTDC-2002.

For Question 13/1 (*Promotion of infrastructure and use of the Internet in developing countries*) it was decided to separate and prepare for publication in the form of reports, Part IV (Use of Internet) and Part V (Local content and empowerment) of the report. The Study Group decided to terminate the work of the Focus Group. The remaining parts of the Questions (with the exception of Internet traffic) were given back to the regular Study Group activities.

Study Group 2

A new recommendation on *Effective utilization of amateur services in disaster mitigation and relief operations* was approved for publication.

The report of Focus Group 7 (*Study various mechanisms by which to promote the development of new telecommunication technologies for rural applications*), which includes 6 recommendations, was endorsed for publication by BDT and is submitted to TDAG for approval. The recommendations are addressed to BDT and to ITU-D Study Groups. Among them, Recommendation 5 requests that BDT maintain the Focus Group 7 website, and Recommendation 6 requests that BDT organize a symposium on new technologies for rural applications.

The report on Question 14/2 (*Fostering the application of telecommunication in healthcare. Identifying and documenting success factors for implementing telemedicine*) was also approved for publication and dissemination before WTDC-2002.

Two handbooks were approved for Question 16/2 (*Preparation of handbooks for developing countries*) for publication before WTDC-2002:

1. Handbook on disaster communication
2. Handbook on new technologies and new services, which contains 4 fascicules:
Fasc. 1: New technologies supporting new networks

Fasc. 2: Digital networks/services

Fasc. 3: IP-based networks/services

Fasc. 4: Digital radio and TV networks/services

Fascicules 1, 2 and 4 will be published after introducing some amendments. Fascicule 3 will be considered at the Study Group 2 meeting in September 2001.

For Question 12/2 (*Examine broadband communications over traditional copper wires on aspects of technologies, systems and applications*) a reference book on digital subscriber line technologies (xDSL) was prepared, and will be submitted to the Study Group 2 meeting in September 2001.

Study Groups 1 and 2

All the other reports and recommendations will also be submitted to the meeting of the concerned Study Group in September 2001. The Rapporteur's Groups were invited to prepare their proposals for revisions or new Questions in time for the meetings in September 2001.

Regional meetings were organized in Africa (Mali, 22-23 May 2000) and in the Arab Region (Egypt, 3-7 July 2000) with the aim to improve participation of these regions in the activities of the ITU-D Study Groups. The Asia-Pacific Region worked this year by means of e-mail rather than through a regional meeting. As a result, contributions from these regions to the Study Group meetings in September increased significantly. For example, for both Study Groups, Africa provided 20 contributions as opposed to 4 in 1999. The Americas Region and the Asia-Pacific Region will organize their first regional meetings in 2001.

The Group on the structure and working methods of the ITU-D Study Groups will meet in November to prepare documents, among others, to revise WTDC-98 Resolutions 3 and 4 concerning the functioning of the Study Groups. The Group will take into account the results of the World Radio Assembly (Istanbul, 1-5 May 2000) and of the World Standardization Assembly (Montreal, 27 September – 6 October 2000).

Finally, the administration of Venezuela invited Study Groups 1 and 2 to hold their next meetings in Caracas. This invitation is under consideration in the light of the provisions of the ITU Convention and WTDC-98 Resolution 4.

Study Group 1 – Summary status

C HAIRMAN: Mr. Alberto GABRIELLI (Argentina)

Question	Rapporteur/ Co-Rapporteur	Status	Future work programme			Comments
			Report	Recommendation	Rapporteur's Group meeting scheduled	
Question 6/1: <i>Interconnection</i>	<i>No Rapporteur/</i> H. Landgraf (Germany) R. Kustra (Telecom Argentina) M. Ouedraogo (Burkina Faso)	Doc. 1/122 Outline of the final report	To be approved at SG1 meeting in September 2001	Not foreseen	In 2001	
Question 7/1: <i>Universal access/service</i>	R. Perez (Movicom Argentina)/ J. Silva Gomes (Portugal)*	Doc. 1/115+Add. Approved in SG1 meeting in September 2000. Three topics require further study: Income from economic externalities, Alternative contributions to financing, Analysis of application of a trigger clause for tripping of subsidy mechanisms.	To be published in hard copy and on Web in E/F/S. Before end 2000, to work on the three topics identified as well as draft Recommendation	Draft possibly available for SG1 meeting in September 2001 and WTDC-2002	In 2001	

Question	Rapporteur/ Co-Rapporteur	Status	Future work programme			Comments
			Report	Recommendation	Rapporteur's Group meeting scheduled	
Question 8/1: <i>Establishment of an independent regulatory body</i>	E. Lie (Singapore)/ F. Pinedo (Argentina) B. Gnon Lesan (Côte d'Ivoire) H. Landgraf (Germany) H. Makki (Switzerland)* A. Ado (Nigeria)	Final report to be prepared.	More input expected from BDT. Final report to be adopted during SG1 meeting in September 2001.	May be prepared in 2001, and adopted during SG1 meeting in September 2001	In 2001	Many changes in Rapporteurs
Question 9/1: <i>Impact of the introduction and utilization of new technologies on the regulatory environment of telecommunications</i>	M. Seck (Senegal)/ -	Final report to be prepared. Difficulty to get contributions.	Inputs should be prepared during a Rapporteur's Group meeting in 2000. The report should be confined to the theme of the Question (study the effects of introducing and utilizing new technologies on the regulation of telecom services).	May be prepared in 2000, and adopted during SG1 meeting in September 2001	In December 2000	

* to be confirmed

Question	Rapporteur/ Co-Rapporteur	Status	Future work programme			Comments
			Report	Recommendation	Rapporteur's Group meeting scheduled	
Question 10/1: <i>Regulatory impact of the phenomenon of convergence within the telecommunications, broadcasting, information technology and content sectors</i>	F. Savi (Telecom Italia)/ Ph. Mège (France) J. Mpapalike (Tanzania)	Final report to be prepared	Replies to the questionnaire on impact of convergence will be input to the report. Report to be approved during SG1 meeting in September 2001.	May be prepared, and adopted during SG1 meeting in September 2001	No meeting planned	
Question 11/1: <i>Factors to create a climate favourable to investment</i>	D. Norrby (Telia Sweden)*/ E. Becher (Thunderbird USA) M. Damkor (Nigeria)	Final report to be prepared. Lack of contributions.	The report will be prepared with assistance from BDT, and submitted to SG1 meeting in September 2001.	May be prepared, and adopted during SG1 meeting in September 2001.	No meeting planned	- Difficulty to appoint Rapporteurs since WTDC-98 - Note to be sent to TDAG to draw attention to lack of contributions

* to be confirmed

Question	Rapporteur/ Co-Rapporteur	Status	Future work programme			Comments
			Report	Recommendation	Rapporteur's Group meeting scheduled	
Question 12/1: <i>Tariff policies, tariff models and methods of determining the cost of national telecommunication services</i>	R. Fontaine (France)/ Ms M. Kostova (BTC Bulgaria) A. Kawamara (PATU) T. Jeacock (UK)	Draft Report (Doc. 1/146) submitted to SG1 meeting in September 2000. Recommendation adopted during same meeting.	Doc. 1/146 will be finalized taking into account comments of meeting. Further contributions on costs and tariffs, incl. aspects relating to frequency spectrum are expected.	Will be sent for comments to Members States and ITU-D Sector Members according to Res. 4 WTDC-98, then submitted to SG1 meeting in September 2001 for approval and publication	Before end 2000	

Question	Rapporteur/ Co-Rapporteur	Status	Future work programme			Comments
			Report	Recommendation	Rapporteur's Group meeting scheduled	
Question 13/1: <i>Promotion of infrastructure and use of the Internet in developing countries</i>	D. Valdez (USA)*/ M. Lamas (Telefónica Argentina)	A draft report (Doc. 1/077) was prepared but not completed due to lack of contributions. As a result, SG1 decided to: 1. terminate Focus Group activities 2. disregard IP telephony 3. separate Part IV (Use of Internet) and Part V (Local content and empowerment) and prepare them for publication in the form of reports 4. continue studies on this Question within the normal Study Group activities, except for Internet Traffic (to be entrusted to ITU- T).	Parts IV and V to be published as reports. Future work: finalize the report and concentrate on 1. developing guidelines for government officials to use in creating a policy environment that fosters development of Internet infrastructures; 2. identifying technological options available to achieve Internet build-out, and prepare a technology-neutral guide to options for Internet build-out; 3. determining how best to build human capacity for technical expertise in the private sector and among developing-country officials. Details in 1/REP/016(Rev.1).	If appropriate, to be adopted during SG1 meeting in September 2001	In 2001, if needed.	

* to be confirmed

Question	Rapporteur/ Co-Rapporteur	Status	Future work programme			Comments
			Report	Recommendation	Rapporteur's Group meeting scheduled	
Question 14/1: <i>The role of telecommunications in social and cultural development, including the protection and promotion of indigenous culture and identity</i>	G. Everton (New Zealand)/ G. Dupont Henius (UNESCO)	The workplan, initially focused on the experiences of the Maori in New Zealand, is divided in five main sections: Administration/ Operation, Research, Promotion, Partnership, Funding.	Research will be based on up to eight studies (e.g. barriers to participation of indigenous people in IT and Telecom), five books (e.g. participation of indigenous people in IT and Telecom), one international conference, and the establishment of an international website	Not foreseen.	In New Zealand in 2001.	Instead of focusing only on the experiences of the Maori in New Zealand, it was suggested to focus in the next study period on more international research.
Question 15/1: <i>Technology transfer and informatization</i>	S. Trimech (Tunisia)/ L. Torres (Peru)	The first draft report (Doc. 1/118) was submitted to SG1 meeting in September 2000.	Additional work required to finalize the report, which will be submitted to SG1 meeting in September 2001.	Not foreseen.	In 2001	

Question	Rapporteur/ Co-Rapporteur	Status	Future work programme			Comments
			Report	Recommendation	Rapporteur's Group meeting scheduled	
Question 16/1: <i>Methods to enhance the viability of public service broadcasting, particularly focusing on developing countries</i>	G. Dupont-Henius (UNESCO)/ L. Pergel (Hungary)* M. Luamanuvae (Samoa)	No progress due to lack of contributions	Will be prepared for SG1 meeting in September 2001	Not foreseen	No meeting planned	

* to be confirmed

Study Group 2 – Summary status

CHAIRMAN: Mr. Nabil KISRAWI (Syria)

Question	Rapporteur/ Co-Rapporteur	Status	Future work programme			Comments
			Report	Recommendation	Rapporteur's Group meeting scheduled	
Question 9/2: <i>Identify study group Questions in the ITU-T and ITU-R Sectors which are of particular interest to developing countries</i>	N. Kisrawi (Syria)/ Ms N. Gospic T. Jeacock (UK) M. Lemaître (France) Ms V. Harris (USA)	- A new recommendation (Doc. 2/020R2) on Effective utilization of amateur services in disaster mitigation and relief operation was approved by SG2 in September. - Final report (Doc. 2/183) was also approved.	Finalize final report for publication before WTDC-2002.	To be published before WTDC-2002.	11-13 December 2000	
Question 10/2: <i>Communications for rural and remote areas</i>	Ms J. Coffin (USA)/ G. Zita (Mozambique)	Proposed revisions to Rec. 6-10 WTDC- 98 and proposed new recommendation on Sharing faculties have been drafted (Doc. 2/206).	Draft final report to be ready for meeting in September 2001.	Proposed recommendations to be sent to Rapporteur's Group for amendments before meeting in March 2001.	12-14 March 2001 (to be confirmed)	

Question	Rapporteur/ Co-Rapporteur	Status	Future work programme			Comments
			Report	Recommendation	Rapporteur's Group meeting scheduled	
Topic 7: <i>Study various mechanisms by which to promote the development of new telecommunication technologies for rural applications</i>	Y. Kawasumi (Japan/ No Co-Rapporteur	Final report (2/179+Add.1, 2), incl. Recommendations to BDT endorsed by SG2 meeting in September 2000.	Final report will be submitted to TDAG in October 2000, for approval and publication.	Recommendations will be submitted to TDAG in October 2000 for approval.	No meeting	
Question 11/2: <i>Examine digital broadcasting technologies and systems, including cost/benefit analyses,</i>	T. Lemma (Worldspace USA)/ O. Khushu (ABU)	Outline of final report has been prepared (Doc. 2/146).	Report will be finalized in December 2000, translated and circulated	Not foreseen.	11-12 December 2000	

Question	Rapporteur/ Co-Rapporteur	Status	Future work programme			Comments
			Report	Recommendation	Rapporteur's Group meeting scheduled	
Question 12/2: <i>Examine broadband communications over traditional copper wires on aspects of technologies, systems and applications</i>	W. Widl (Ericsson Sweden)/ No Co-Rapporteur	Reference book on Digital Subscriber Line technologies (xDSL) prepared (Doc. 2/082R1+A1)	Reference book to be considered as final report and to be updated.	Not foreseen.	28-30 November 2000	
Question 14/2: <i>Fostering the application of telecommunication in health care. Identifying and documenting success factors for implementing telemedicine</i>	L. Androuchko (Ukraine)/ I. Nakajima (Japan) T. Guadalupe (Peru)	- Discussion site on Web was created and functions. - Doc. 2/116R1 on Telemedicine in developing countries (Lessons learned) was approved. - Doc. 2/195 Telemed Directory was prepared.	Document 2/116R1 (Lessons learned) considered as final report. To be finalized for publication and dissemination to member states.	Not foreseen.	24-26 Jan. 2001	

Question	Rapporteur/ Co-Rapporteur	Status	Future work programme			Comments
			Report	Recommendation	Rapporteur's Group meeting scheduled	
Question 15/2: <i>Human resource management and development</i>	P. Derome (TEMIC Canada)/ No Co-Rapporteur	- The case study on “Impact of telecom reform on human resources in Central America with emphasis on gender aspect” was approved (Doc. 2/136). - Similar study for Brazil is being developed by BDT/FOP/RDD/HRD.	- Continue working on development of case studies that will show impact of telecom reform on human resources. - Case study on Brazil available by October 2000. - BDT to identify and carry out further case studies for contribution to final result of Rapporteur's Group by September 2001.	Not foreseen	Not foreseen	Main work carried out by BDT/FOP/RDD/HRD

Question	Rapporteur/ Co-Rapporteur	Status	Future work programme			Comments
			Report	Recommendation	Rapporteur's Group meeting scheduled	
Question 16/2: <i>Preparation of Handbooks for developing countries</i>	M. Ghazal (Lebanon)/ A. Konate (Mali)	- Handbook on disaster communications approved for publication by SG2 meeting in September 2000 (Doc. 2/167+2/168) - 3 out of 4 fascicules of Handbook on new technologies and new services approved for publication by SG2 meeting in September 2000: * Fasc.1: New technologies supporting new networks * Fasc. 2: Digital networks/services * Fasc. 4: Digital radio and TV networks/services - Fasc. 3: IP-based networks/services is to be considered at SG2 meeting in September 2001.	- Handbooks to be considered as final reports. - Finalize and publish Fasc. 1+2 taking into account comments received. - Fasc. 4 to be revised by ITU-R and BDT before publication. - Fasc. 3 to be revised by ITU-T and BDT. Further decision to be taken after Forum on IP telephony (March 2001).	Not foreseen.	12-13 March or 14-15 June 2001.	

Question	Rapporteur/ Co-Rapporteur	Status	Future work programme			Comments
			Report	Recommendation	Rapporteur's Group meeting scheduled	
Res. 9 WTDC-98	Co-Chairman for ITU-D of the Joint ITU-R/ITU-D Group on WTDC-98 Res. 9; T. Jeacock (UK)	Draft final report prepared (Doc. 2/205).	Final report to be presented to SG2 meeting in September 2001	Not foreseen	March 2001	

Study Groups 1 and 2 – Summary status

Item	Vice-Chairmen	Status	Future work programme	Meetings scheduled	Comments
Africa Region	Study Group 1: D. Touré (Mali) Study Group 2: G. Zita (Mozambique)	- Regional meeting organized in Mali (22-23 May 2000) - Recommendation adopted and endorsed by both Study Groups - Six groups of experts were created for each Study Group - One expert group on gender issue was created	- Meeting to be organized in Senegal in December 2000, jointly with the Rapporteur's Group meeting on Question 9/1, to prepare contributions for the Study Group meeting in September 2001 and decide on new Questions for WTDC-2002 - Regional meeting to be organized in Mozambique in 2001 to adopt the contributions	- Dakar, 6-8 December 2000 - Maputo, April/May 2001	
Arab Region	Study Group 1: A. Salim (Kuwait) Study Group 2: N. Kisrawi (Syria)	- Regional meeting organized in Egypt (3-5 July 2000) - Recommendation adopted and endorsed by both Study Groups - Expert groups were created for each Question	- To prepare contributions for the Study Group meetings in 2001	In 2001, if needed	

Item	Vice-Chairmen	Status	Future work programme	Meetings scheduled	Comments
Europe Region	Study Group 1: D. Plesse (Germany) Study Group 2: E. Borg (Malta) V. Nikolenko (Russia)	No meeting was held	No meeting foreseen	No meeting scheduled	
Americas Region	Study Group 1: D. de Freitas (St. Lucia) Study Group 2: Ms D. McGirr (USA)	No meeting held	A meeting is planned in order to find ways and means to improve participation of developing countries in the work of the ITU-D Study Groups	In 2001	Invitation received from Peru
Asia and Pacific Region	Study Group 1: Ms. René Amarasiri (Sri Lanka) Study Group 2: M. Yusoff (Malaysia)	- No meeting held - Work carried out through e-mail with the support of the ITU Regional Office in Bangkok	A meeting is planned in order to find ways and means to improve participation of developing countries in the work of the ITU-D Study Groups	In 2001	

Item	Chairman/Vice-Chairman	Status	Future work programme	Meetings scheduled	Comments
Group on the structure and working methods of the ITU-D Study Groups	Chairman: Ms E. Nzagi (Tanzania) Vice-Chairman: D. Plesse (Germany)	The Group prepared: - Revision to the guidelines for Rapporteurs - Contents for the reference book for ITU-D Study Groups - Modifications to Res. 3 and 4 WTDC-98 - Definition of the role of the ITU-D Management Team - Document on the reduction of the cost and volume of documentation - Proposals for the titles of SG1 and SG2 - Procedure for liaison statements - Comparison of the working methods of the Study Groups in the three Sectors, based on Resolution 3 and 4 of WTDC-98, and on the relevant resolutions and recommendations of ITU-R and ITU-T.	To continue preparation of texts in the light of the results of the World Radio Assembly (Turkey, 1-5 May 2000) and the World Standardization Assembly (Canada, 27 September – 6 October 2000)	14-16 November 2000	