



Federal Ministry
of Economics
and Technology



Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology • D-53107 Bonn • Germany

Secretary-General of the
International Telecommunication Union
Dr Hamadoun I. Touré

Place des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 20

RECEIVED on

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SWITCHBOARD +49 228 99615 0
FAX +49 228 99615 4436
INTERNET www.bmwi.de
PREPARED BY Hubert Schöttner
TEL +49 228 99615 29 49
FAX +49 228 99615
E-MAIL hubert.schoettner@bmwi.bund.de
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SUBJECT Management and functioning of the Union
RE Circular-Letter 143 from 13 May 2009;

Dear Secretary-General,

In Circular Letter 143 of 13 May 2009 you asked the member states of the ITU to comment on various questions related to the "Management and Functioning of the Union". I am grateful for this opportunity to present Germany's position concerning the issues addressed in your letter.

1. Reporting Structure in the Union

For the time being Germany can accept the present reporting structure of the Union.

2. Role, Accountability, Number and Tenure/Term of Office of Elected Officials

Germany can accept for the time being the present rules for the election of the Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-General and the three Directors. Taking into account the existing structure of the ITU, we can accept the present number of elected officials and term of office as well as the terminology used to designate the Directors of the Bureaux.

STREET ADDRESS Villemombler Straße 76, 53123 Bonn
BUS LINES 605, 608, 609, 843

3. Terminology used to Designate the Directors of the Bureaux

The present terminology to designate the Directors of the Bureaux should not be changed.

4. Election Procedures

Germany proposes to retain the election procedures agreed at the Plenipotentiary Conference 2006.

5. Appointed Staff Standing for Election to an Elected Official Position

The existing rules regarding appointed staff standing for election to an elected official position should remain in place.

6. Responsibility, Accountability and Transparency of the Advisory Groups

Germany is in favour of retaining the existing provisions regarding the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG), taking into account the specificities of TSAG, and in particular Resolution 22 (WTSA-08).

7. Questions relating to Resolution 158 (Antalya, 2006):

a) System in Place for Setting the Contributory Unit and for the Membership to Announce its Choice of Class of Contribution at a Plenipotentiary Conference

Rather than fixing the value of the contributory unit, efforts to stabilize the budget of the Union should be maintained and further developed. The present provision for the “free choice of contributory classes” should be retained.

b) Consideration of more Detailed Criteria for Associates and of the Respective Amount of Sector Member and Associate Contributions

The present provision for the “free choice of contributory classes” should be retained.

c) New Categories of Membership for Academic or Educational Entities or even, more generally, for Intergovernmental Organizations

The existing provisions allow for the participation of entities dealing with telecommunication matters and there is therefore no need to change the existing rules for Sector Members and Associate Members. Germany would, however, support a study on possible new categories of membership (e.g. academia).

d) Services Provided by the Union: Cost Recovery, Invoicing for Services Supplied by ITU to its Membership, but also to Non-Members

Germany supports cost-recovery for standardised products and services supplied by ITU where appropriate. In the case of products and services provided for non-members, cost-recovery should imply the allocation of the full costs including an adequate share of overhead costs; in other cases, in particular when standardised products and services are provided for ITU members, other stages of cost-recovery – e.g. allocation only of the direct costs – may be considered. It should be ensured that in no case products and services are sold below direct costs. Further study on this issue should be undertaken.

8. Questions relating to the Basic Instruments of the Union:

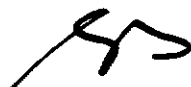
a) Amendments to the Constitution and Convention

Germany will favour stable basic instruments that require minimum changes at the future Plenipotentiary Conferences. Studies on the best way to achieve this could be undertaken. Until this is achieved Germany supports the existing procedure to develop consolidated basic texts of the Union.

b) Compilation of Final Acts

Germany will favour stable basic instruments that require minimum changes at the future Plenipotentiary Conferences. Studies on the best way to achieve this could be undertaken. Until this is achieved Germany supports the existing procedure to develop consolidated basic texts of the Union.

Best regards,



Peter Voß
Councillor