

RESOLUTION 26 (Rev. Doha, 2006)

Assistance to countries in special need: Afghanistan

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006),

recalling

Resolution 34 (Rev. Minneapolis, 1998) of the Plenipotentiary Conference,

recalling further

the purposes of the Union, as enshrined in Article 1 of the ITU Constitution,

recognizing

- a)* that no budget was allocated by the Plenipotentiary Conference to accompany Resolution 34 (Rev. Minneapolis, 1998) for the benefit of countries in special need;
- b)* that the telecommunication infrastructure in Afghanistan has been completely destroyed by the two decades of war and that the existing equipment in use is over forty years old and thus obsolete;
- c)* that Afghanistan at present does not have a national telecommunication infrastructure, access to international telecommunication networks or access to the Internet;
- d)* that a telecommunication system is an essential input for the reconstruction, rehabilitation and relief operations in the country;
- e)* that, under the present conditions and in the foreseeable future, Afghanistan will not be able to rebuild its telecommunication systems without help from the international community, provided bilaterally or through international organizations,

noting

- a)* that Afghanistan has not benefited from the Union's assistance over a long period due to war in the country;
- b)* the efforts deployed by the Secretary-General and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) towards the provision of assistance to other countries emerging from war situations,

resolves

that the special action initiated by the Secretary-General and the Director of BDT, with specialized assistance from the ITU Radiocommunication Sector and the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector, should be continued in order to provide assistance and support to Afghanistan in rebuilding its telecommunication infrastructure, establishing institutions for the sector, developing telecommunication legislation and regulatory framework, including numbering plan, spectrum management, tariff and human resource development and all other forms of assistance,

calls upon Member States

to offer all possible assistance and support to the Government of Afghanistan, either bilaterally or through the special action of the Union referred to above,

invites the ITU Council

to allocate the necessary funds within available resources for the implementation of this resolution,

instructs the Director of the telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to implement fully a programme of assistance for the least developed countries from which Afghanistan can receive focused assistance in various areas determined to be of high priority by the country;

2 to take immediate measures to assist Afghanistan in the period up to the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006),

requests the Secretary-General

to coordinate the activities carried out by the three ITU Sectors in accordance with *resolves* above, to ensure that the Union's action in favour of Afghanistan is as effective as possible, and to report on the matter to the Council.