



## **BDT MEMBER COMMUNIQUÉ**

### **New agreement enhances disaster preparedness and response through satellite telecommunications**

**Geneva, 3 February 2025** - The ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) and Intelsat will work together to enhance disaster preparedness and response through satellite telecommunications.

A cooperation agreement was signed by Dr. Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava, director of ITU's Telecommunication Development Bureau, and Mr Rhys Morgan, vice president of EMEA Sales at Intelsat in October 2024.

"When a disaster strikes, and terrestrial infrastructure has been destroyed or damaged, satellite service becomes an essential tool for those in affected areas," said Dr. Zavazava. "I am grateful to Intelsat for supporting us in our mission to ensure that everyone everywhere is within reach of emergency telecommunications."

Intelsat will provide FlexMove equipment and services to help provide relief in case of disasters caused by natural hazards. Intelsat will also provide training on the use of the equipment.

"Natural hazards and human-made disruptions can quickly knock out ground networks, leaving communities and emergency teams without critical communication. At Intelsat, we close these gaps with our geostationary (GEO) satellite network, delivering fast and reliable connectivity when it's needed most," said Rhys Morgan, vice president of EMEA Sales at Intelsat. "Restoring communication quickly with technologies like FlexMove and using portable terminals that are easy to deploy, we are ensuring communities stay connected during even the toughest disasters."

The world faces different types of hazards, such as extreme weather events, earthquakes, and tsunamis that pose continued challenges to countries and communities.

Digital technologies are key for environmental monitoring, analysing information, delivering early warnings, and ensuring timely flow of vital information before, during and after a disaster. ITU plays a critical role in disaster risk reduction and management.

Intelsat's satellite technology and training will make a positive contribution to BDT's efforts to assist countries in disaster preparedness, response, and recovery.

## About the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies (ICTs), driving innovation in ICTs together with 194 Member States and a membership of over 1,000 companies, universities, and international and regional organizations. Established in 1865, it is the intergovernmental body responsible for coordinating the shared global use of the radio spectrum, promoting international cooperation in assigning satellite orbits, improving communication infrastructure in the developing world, and establishing the worldwide standards that foster seamless interconnection of a vast range of communications systems. From broadband networks to cutting-edge wireless technologies, aeronautical and maritime navigation, radio astronomy, oceanographic and satellite-based earth monitoring as well as converging fixed-mobile phone, Internet and broadcasting technologies, ITU is committed to connecting the world.

Learn more: [www.itu.int](http://www.itu.int).