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| **Telecommunication Development Sector**  **Seventeenth meeting of the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG)** | |  |
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| **SOURCE:** | JP Emisiona Tehnika I Veze, Serbia (ITU-D Sector Member) | |
| **TITLE:** | Report on the activities relating to Resolution 126 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) | |

# 1 Introduction

Administration of the Serbia (then Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Society-MTIS) prepared draft revision of the ITU Resolution 126 and submitted to the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in Guadalajara (PP-10). It was approved.

In Resolution 126 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010), the PP-10 resolved to continue special action, within the framework and available budgetary resources of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D), with specialized assistance from the ITU Radiocommunication Sector and the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector and to provide appropriate assistance in order to support Serbia in rebuilding its public broadcasting systems.

Calling upon Member States to offer all possible assistance and to support the Government of Serbia, PP-10 instructed the Council to allocate the necessary funds, within available resources, in order to continue this action and instructed the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau to use those funds in order to continue appropriate action.

In addition, PP-10 instructed the Secretary-General to coordinate the activities carried out by the ITU Sectors and report on the matter to the Council.

# 2 Activities

**2.1 Authorization to the new public enterprise “Emisiona Tehnika i Veze“ (JP ETV)**

Public enterprise “Emisiona Tehnika i Veze“ (JP ETV), Belgrade, is established by Decision of Goverment (Official Gazette“-Republic of Serbia, No. 84, 9th October 2009), in accordance with three laws relating to :

Public Enterprise

Telecommunications

Broadcasting

Main activity of the JP ETV is broadcasting and one of the most important tasks is to enable digital switchover (DSO).

Taking into account that ITU Resolution 126 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) is mainly related to JP ETV, Administration of Serbia (now Ministry of Culture, Media and Information Society-MCMIS) sent letter to BDT Director informing him “...that JP ETV will from now on cooperate with relevant ITU bodies on behalf of our Administration, and in accordance with its mandate as a Sector Member.”

In addition, in the same letter Administration of Serbia asked BDT Director to consider that letter as call for action in accordance with Res. 126 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010).

**2.2 Coordinated activities BDT/ITU – JP ETV**

**2.2.1 Visit of ITU experts to Serbia and agreed list of the first priorities**

Immediately after BDT Director received letter, mentioned in item 2.1, BDT made plan of actions and decided, as the first step, to send ITU experts in Serbia to identify appropriate assistance and support to the Republic of Serbia for rebuilding its destroyed public broadcasting system in accordance with the Res. 126 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010). The mission was jointly carried out with one expert from BDT and one expert from BR.

Even it was short time visit, ITU experts working rather hard and efficiently, covered many activities, such as:

They visited and had meetings with:

Two Assistants Minister (MCMIS);

Director and Assistant Director of the Republic Agency for Electronic Communications (RATEL);

Europe Commission (EC) expert (from the EU financed project expert team);

Director, Assistants Director and experts of JP ETV

In addition, ITU experts visited and inspected five transmitter sites (some of them are in operation again with reduced power, some are still waiting for rebuilding).

After their visit, ITU experts prepared Mission Report.

In coordination with BDT, based on the Mission Report, list of the first priorities relating to DTT, was agreed. Planning tool required for doing the necessary calculations for the implementation of the digital TV network using DVB-T2 / MPEG-4, will be considered later. The main item is field survey vehicle (cheap car with antenna mast and relevant equipment for monitoring and measurement). JP ETV staff will install the equipment.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation and gratitude to ITU for its very efficient and professional approach.

**2.2.2 Realisation of providing of the equipment from agreed list of the first priorities**

In close mutual cooperation and coordination BDT and JP ETV prepared relevant documents in order to fulfil required procedure in accordance with national regulations in Serbia, as well as with ITU regulations.

In addition, BDT had some meetings with equipment producers/vendors in order to get optimal conditions for requested equipment as well as possible contributions.

The first part of equipment was delivered at the end of 2011, and next part was delivered in the first half of 2012. Rest of equipment, from agreed list, should be provided within the second half of 2012.

**2.3 BDT/ITU activities are in line with JP ETV efforts**

BDT/ITU made efficient and professional approach in the process of the realisation Res. 126 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010). This kind of approach made and still is making positive motivation within JP ETV. JP ETV is making significant effort to rebuild or partly rebuild transmitter sites which have been severely damaged. Some of those transmitter sites were visited by the ITU experts.

Our Administration made great effort and contributions, in cooperation with JP ETV, to the rebuilding process and to preparation for the final introduction of the selected system, DVB-T2.

Now is in the final phase the special project of the infrastructure rebuilding for main transmitter sites. The necessary funds are provided from the State budget (app. 10 million Euros).

**3. European Union assistance to the process of digitalization in Serbia**

Independently from the Res. 126 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010), in the late 2008, the former MTIS, applied, and was awarded with the project for financing the equipment for multiplexing and distribution of digital terrestrial TV signal, as well as some measurement equipment, from the pre-accession funds (IPA). As the result of a successfully implemented tendering procedure, the equipment was procured from the best tenders. The consulting services for the implementation of the digitalization process are financed from the same funds. The European Union dedicated 10,5 million Euros of grant funds in total, for financing of this project.

MCIIS submitted to IBU/BDT relevant information on the assistance provided by the European Union, in order to avoid duplication/overlapping of the assistance.

One part of the equipment, financed from the IPA funds, was used for the needs of the Initial network. The Initial network will be a constituent part of the final network, after the completion of transfer of television program to the digital terrestrial emission. Thanks to that EU Assistance, cooperation among MCIIS and JP ETV, emission of digital terrestrial TV signal in DVB-T2 standard in our country has begun on March 21, 2012. This date is one of the very important milestones in the history of the broadcasting in Serbia.

**4. Required action**

Taking into account relevant “resolves” of the Resolution 126 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010), agreed process of realisation and plan for future activities, it is clear that additional action is still required.

JP ETV revised the previous project proposal to update requirements and provide relevant cost estimation and it will be submitted to BDT for consideration and further actions. This revision is done taking into account:

Obligation from the Final Acts RRC-06;

All equipment donated by EU, financed from the pre-accession funds (IPA);

Investments and activities done by Republic of Serbia and JP ETV;

Reduction of requirements from other departments which are not any more within JP ETV.

This document should be submitted to the Council in order to allocate the necessary funds, within available resources, creating basis and possibilities for continuation of this action successfully.

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