

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT BUREAU

WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE (WTDC-98)

Valletta, Malta, 23 March - 1 April 1998

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For information

Agenda item: 4.2 PLENARY MEETING

INTELSAT

INTELSAT PROPOSED COOPERATION WITH THE CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE IN AFRICA, ASIA AND THE AMERICAS - INTELSAT SUPPORT TO TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT

Background

The Buenos Aires Action Programme (BAAP) No. 2 was established with a goal of providing human resources in developing countries with the competencies required to regulate and operate in the changing telecommunications environment.

The ITU Centers of Excellence for Telecommunications has been conceived by ITU with the aim of developing the telecommunications marketplace in Africa, Asia and the Americas through capacity building in human resources management and development. The Centers will play an important role in strengthening competencies in the field of telecommunications by the different levels of management in the areas of policy, regulatory, management, and technology. This will enable countries in these regions to implement the necessary reforms to address the needs of the telecommunications sector in their respective countries in the light of the changing telecommunications environment.

The ITU has conducted consultations with various administrations, institutions, etc. on the framework of cooperation necessary to commence the undertaking and has made significant progress in defining the concept of the Centers of Excellence. However, more work needs to be done in the area of technical cooperation to fully incorporate the training nodes in various regions into a regional network and connecting the regional networks into an open and flexible system in order to accomplish the goals set in BAAP Programme No. 2.

INTELSAT proposed cooperation

Considering its vast experience in satellite communications and the supportive role INTELSAT has played in telecommunications development through its various assistance programmes and considering the important role of the Centers of Excellence in the advancement of telecommunications in the future, INTELSAT proposes to cooperate with ITU and other partners to further develop the Centers' concept, implement the initial projects and participate in its long-term activities. INTELSAT proposes cooperation in the following areas:

- Provision of space capacity to link different training nodes within the region and between regions. The INTELSAT policy governing the free-use of space segment capacity will apply. The policy allows free use of the space segment capacity under certain conditions and for limited periods of time. In the early stages of the implementation of the concept, the free use of space segment capacity may be used to start various applications, and gain valuable experience leading to the successful implementation of the Centers.
- 2) Expert assistance and planning for and developing the network concepts and architecture of an electronic platform which will link the various training nodes of the Centers of Excellence network.
- 3) Provision of INTELSAT training expertise in telecommunication policies, regulatory matters, network development, etc.
- 4) Participation in the work of advisory and/or expert bodies of ITU which could be tasked with the implementation of the Centers of Excellence network.

Recommendation

INTELSAT urges ITU to continue the efforts started in the establishment of the Centers of Excellence in Telecommunications in Africa, Asia and the Americas and encourages ITU to invite other partners to join in this endeavour.