INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

ITU-T

TELECOMMUNICATION
STANDARDIZATION SECTOR
OF ITU

WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION ASSEMBLY
Florianópolis, 5-14 October 2004

Resolution 17 – Telecommunication standardization in relation to the interests of developing countries

FOREWORD

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is the United Nations specialized agency in the field of telecommunications. The ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) is a permanent organ of ITU. ITU-T is responsible for studying technical, operating and tariff questions and issuing Recommendations on them with a view to standardizing telecommunications on a worldwide basis.

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), which meets every four years, establishes the topics for study by the ITU-T study groups which, in turn, produce Recommendations on these topics.

The approval of ITU-T Recommendations is covered by the procedure laid down in WTSA Resolution 1.

© ITU 2004

RESOLUTION 17

Telecommunication standardization in relation to the interests of developing countries[1]

(Geneva, 1996; Montreal, 2000; Florianópolis, 2004)

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Florianópolis, 2004),

considering

the broad range of studies performed by the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) in developing technical, operational and tariff Recommendations,

noting

the multifarious difficulties encountered by the developing countries in ensuring their effective and efficient participation in the work of ITU-T,

recognizing

a)   that the harmonious and balanced development of the worldwide telecommunication network is of mutual advantage to the developed and the developing countries, and the need to identify a mechanism for developing countries to participate in and contribute to the work of the ITU-T study groups, as well as the need to reduce the cost of equipment taking into account the needs and requirements of developing countries;

b)   that there is still large gap between developed and developing countries in the area of telecommunication standardization,

recalling

that one of the purposes of the Union is to promote international cooperation through the harmoniously integrated development of the worldwide telecommunication network for the benefit of humankind as a whole,

taking account of

Nos. 190 and 196 of the ITU Convention, Resolution 25 (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002), § 41 of Annex 1 to Resolution 71 (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002) and Resolution 123 (Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference,

resolves

1   to request the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB) to cooperate with the ITU regional offices, including the possibility of holding ITU-T meetings in the regions;

2   to request the Director of TSB to strengthen cooperation and coordination with the relevant regional organizations, in particular those of developing countries;

---

[1]   In this resolution, the term "developing countries" is used in the generic sense and includes also countries with economies in transition and least developed countries.

3   subject to approval by the Council, to provide administrations of developing countries with a free electronic copy of ITU handbooks, directives, etc. related to implementation of ITU-T Recommendations, particularly with respect to planning, operation and maintenance of telecommunication networks,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

to provide the Telecommunication Development Bureau with all the necessary support with a view to:

• encouraging and increasing the participation of developing countries in telecommunication standardization activities;

• assisting and advising in the organization and holding of information meetings concerning the work of the ITU-T study groups;

• assisting developing countries with studies in respect of priority questions, such as VoIP, mobile technology, multimedia, etc.;

• encouraging the establishment and operation of groups addressing the above questions;

• working with Sector Members, manufacturers and R&D organizations in particular, on exchanging information on new technologies and requirements of developing countries, with a view to improving effective participation of the developing countries in telecommunication standardization activities;

• assisting developing countries in formulating draft Questions and in making proposals;

• developing standardization activities in the regional offices;

• launching a campaign to promote standardization activities in order to attract new Sector Members from developing countries,

further instructs the study groups

1   to take appropriate steps to have studies carried out on questions connected with standardization which are identified by world telecommunication development conferences;

2   to take account of the specific characteristics of the telecommunication environment of the developing countries in the process of establishing standards in the fields of planning, services, systems, operation, tariffs and maintenance, and to provide solutions/options relevant to developing countries wherever possible;

3   to continue liaising with study groups of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector , where appropriate, when developing new or revised ITU-T Recommendations, on the specific needs and requirements of developing countries, in order to broaden the appeal and applicability of the Recommendations in those countries.