



STUDY GROUP 2

SOURCE: CHAIRMAN, STUDY GROUP 2

TITLE: ITU 2000 RELEVANT RECOMMENDATIONS

The ITU Council, in its 1997 Session, took note of the report of the Chairman of ITU-2000 and adopted in principle the recommendations of the ITU-2000 Working Group¹.

Council 1997 also decided to transmit to the Plenipotentiary Conference the following recommendations of ITU-2000 Working Group:

R.1, R.2, R.3, R.4, R.5, R.6, R.7, R.8, R.9/1, R.9/4, R.10, R.11 (second part), R.12, R.13, R.14/1, R.15, R.17, R.20, R.22, R.23, R.24, R.26.

The remaining recommendations were decided to be immediately applicable, with instructions to the Secretariat, the Sectors and the Member States to execute it.

In particular, the following recommendations are relevant to the ITU-D Study Groups activities:

R.7 Appropriate activities of the Sectors may benefit from enhanced cooperation with other groups having related interests. To this effect, it is recommended that:

R.7/1 cooperation with organizations having activities related to those of the Union be reinforced by inviting, following a procedure to be developed by the Sector concerned and applied by the Director of its Bureau, such organizations to send liaison representatives to take part in the Sectors' meetings. A Liaison Representative would be the representative of an organization which does not participate in the Sector but which had been invited to take part in the work of a specific Study Group or subordinate Groups.

R.7/2 It is recommended that further steps be taken to encourage cooperation with regional and other organizations, and similarly, that Member States encourage cooperation of national organizations, by inviting their participation at the Sector level. Possibilities for work sharing should be explored. Where mutual interest exists, relevant ITU information should be made available on a collaborative basis allowing, among other things, controlled access to text in electronic form via the ITU databases.

¹ The complete set of recommendation of the ITU-2000 Working Group is available in the Secretariat upon request.

- R.9** The budgetary system of the ITU should be improved in order to strengthen the financial base of the Union and to adequately meet the requirements of its membership. To this effect, it is recommended that:
- R.9/2** a system of full allocation of costs within the Union and a transparent accounting system to allow the tracking of expenditure should be implemented as soon as possible.
- R.9/3** The Sector budget and that of the General Secretariat to be used in building up the overall ITU budget should be established on the basis of a bottom-up approach including, for each Sector, its respective part of the full allocated costs of the General Secretariat.
- R.11** It is recommended that the Directors of the Bureaus implement as soon as possible the idea of involving the Advisory bodies of the Sectors, in giving advice on finance matters.
- R.14** ITU-2000 recommends that in relation to the dissemination of information covering the rights and obligations of Sector members the following actions should undertaken:
- R.14/2** A Sector Member's manual should be developed by the General Secretariat in conjunction with the Directors of the three Bureaus and the respective sector advisory bodies. The manual should give clear summaries of the rights and obligations of the sector members for all activities of the sectors and provide references to the appropriate parts of the basic instruments of the Union and any appropriate Sector documentation including resolutions and recommendations.
- R.14/3** A membership prospectus should be developed by the General Secretariat in conjunction with the Directors of the three Bureaus. The prospectus would be designed for potential sector members, and other interested parties, and would set out the aims and objectives of the Union and the opportunities sector membership brings. It should include an explanation of the rights and obligations associated with membership in relation to the participation in the work of the individual sectors and the free choice financial system
- R.16** It is recommended:
- 1) to provide a short-term tactical response to urgent issues, the Sectors consider the adoption of project-team working methods whenever possible;
 - 2) the project team approach may be supported by alternative methods of funding and that funding designated for a specific matter being studied may be carried out on the basis of the Financial Regulations applicable to the voluntary contributions or more flexible ones to cover the specific requirements of the Sector concerned.
- R.18** It is recommended that the Secretary General and the Directors should provide the Council, Member States and Sector Members with productivity indicators in particular with regard to developing and implementing ITU products and services. The scope and the nature of these indicators, e.g. financial or those related to the quality of service, should also be considered by the Advisory bodies. The Council should take appropriate decisions on proposals from the Secretary General and Directors to enhance productivity by , for instance, reducing costs, closing certain activities and re-allocating resources.

- R.19** It is recommended that ITU products and services should be outsourced where significant cost savings would result, consistent with the wishes of the membership on quality, flexibility and timeliness of service delivery, and that the staffing level should reflect the minimum requirements.
- R.21** It is recommended that Council be invited to give its views on the general direction to be taken with revenue producing activities.
- R.22** It is recommended that the announcement of the class of contribution for Member States should take place during the Plenipotentiary Conference.
- R.25** It is recommended that the Conference/Assembly of a Sector may delegate authority on specific matters, until the next Conference/Assembly, to the Sector Advisory body, where appropriate. This will include: the work programme priorities, working methods, cooperation and coordination with other entities, and the budget. The Advisory bodies in their new roles would obtain direction from their Sector Conference/Assembly on policy and strategy aspects.
- R.27** Aware of the need for effective participation of Member States and Sector Members with the view to fulfil the purposes of the Union in development matters, ITU-2000 recommends that the following should be considered by the competent bodies:
- 1) Taking account of the increased role of Sector Members, the extended privatization and competition in the telecommunication sector and the increased service availability and access, the Development Sector should give high priority to the goal of promoting partnership between telecommunications entities in the developed and developing countries.
 - 2) Measures be identified which can increase the synergy, strategic partnerships and cooperative arrangements between the ITU, particularly through its regional presence and regional telecommunication organizations (RTOs), bearing in mind the differences among the regions of the Union in terms of needs, interests and priorities.
Consideration should be given to:
 - a) the identification of activities in the interest of resource optimization, the avoidance of duplication and the opportunity for wider Sector Members and Member States and local entities participation in such projects.
 - b) the question of whether the ITU can provide direct technical assistance to a regional telecommunication entity, and
 - 3) The competent bodies of the ITU determine the feasibility of the Union's regional presence representing the entire range of its programmes and activities including those pertinent to the ITU's technical, development and policy domains.
 - 4) The role of the Development Sector should be examined.
 - 5) Considering the increased role of the Advisory bodies, and their importance in the activities of the Sectors, means should be identified for facilitating the participation from developing countries in their meetings.