

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

*Telecommunication
Development Bureau*



Administrative Circular CA/10

7 December 1999

Contact: Alessandra Pileri
Tel: +41 22 730 6698
Fax: +41 22 730 5484
E-Mail: Devsg1@itu.int

Subject: **Questionnaire on “Universal access/service” (Question 7/1)**

TO ADMINISTRATIONS OF MEMBER STATES OF THE ITU

Dear Sir/Madam,

During the last meeting of ITU-D Study Group 1 (Geneva, 30 august - 3 September 1999), the participants emphasized the need for the Rapporteur's Group for this Question to have information on the application of the universal access/service obligation in the different countries.

I would therefore be grateful if each recipient could reply to the attached questionnaire. The questionnaire is available on the Web at the following address:
<http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/Activities.html>.

I would also highly appreciate any possible input from your organization, even beyond the content of the questions themselves. Any piece of information would be of great use for the Rapporteur's Group in order to write the final report.

You are invited to send your replies preferably by e-mail, or by fax, no later than **14 January 2000** to the Telecommunication Development Bureau:

ITU-D Study Groups Secretariat
Fax: +41 22 730 54 84
e-mail: devsg1@itu.int

I thank you very much for your co-operation and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Hamadoun I. TOURÉ
Director, BDT

Annex: Questionnaire

Distribution:

- Administrations of Member States of the ITU;
- Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of ITU-D Study Groups 1 and 2;
- Rapporteurs and active participants on Question 7/1.
- ITU Distribution

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION



QUESTIONNAIRE ON UNIVERSAL ACCESS/SERVICE

Country: _____

Date of completion: _____

Person who completed the survey:

Name: _____

Position: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Tel.: _____

Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

*To be returned no later than **14 January 2000** to:*

ITU-D Study Groups Secretariat

Telecommunication Development Bureau

Fax: +41 22 730 54 84

E-Mail: devsg1@itu.int

Universal service definitions

1) Does your country have a definition of universal service and/or universal access in its legislation or regulation?

Yes No

If **Yes**, please specify where it is defined (i.e., in what piece of legislation or regulation?).

Please provide a brief description of the definition.

Universal service obligations

2) Does your country have a universal service obligation (USO)?

Yes No

If **Yes**, upon whom is the USO imposed:

- the dominant telecom operator? Yes No
- all telecom operators (if competition is permitted) Yes No
- cellular radio operators? Yes No
- satellite service providers? Yes No
- others? (please specify)

3) If a telecom operator does not have a universal service obligation, is the operator obliged to contribute to the cost borne by another operator (e.g., the dominant telecom operator) who does have a universal service obligation?

Yes No

4) Do telecom operators have a choice of extending service to unserved customers or contributing to the cost of doing so by the dominant operator?

Yes No

5) What does the universal service obligation include?

- extending service to rural areas
- providing service to disadvantaged citizens (e.g., the handicapped)
- provision of service to rural schools
- provision of service to rural hospitals or health care centres
- other (e.g. gender issues, please specify)

6) Is the universal service obligation imposed on telecom operators as one of the conditions of getting a licence to operate or provide a service in your country?

Yes No

Financing

7) How are USOs financed?

- from out of the telecom operator's revenues
 by subsidy from the government
 from interconnection charges
 other (please specify)
-

8) How do you calculate the amount of financing required to achieve universal service?

Please explain

9) Does your country have a universal service fund?

Yes No

If **Yes**, how are these funds collected and distributed?

Please explain

Enforcement

10) Does your Ministry of Communications or national regulatory authority conduct an annual audit or evaluation to determine to what extent the telecom operators are meeting their universal service obligations?

Yes No

11) Does your Ministry of Communications or national regulatory authority have a public consultation process from time to time to determine the appropriateness of or need for universal service obligations and/or other licensing conditions?

Yes No

If **Yes**, please explain

Documentation

The ITU/BDT is compiling national policy and regulatory documents in an effort to establish a comprehensive regulatory library. We would greatly appreciate any relevant documentation (hard copies or electronic) from your country relating to universal service.

Please list documentation provided.

Name	Year	Web site

We thank you for your participation in this survey.
