



**COOPERATION AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
THE ITU-TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT BUREAU  
AND  
THE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR THEORETICAL PHYSICS**

**Whereas:**

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is an international organization created with the objective of facilitating peaceful relations, international cooperation among peoples and economic and social development by means of efficient telecommunication services with the purpose, among others, of fostering international cooperation in the delivery of technical assistance to the developing countries to promote the development of their telecommunication networks and services.

According to the Istanbul Action Plan, the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) implements the following programmes:

- 1) the Regulatory Reform programme focuses on practical tools and resources for regulatory bodies to engage in reform the most effectively to meet their national ICT development, access and use goals, creating safe investment opportunities and ensuring universal access to ICTs;
- 2) the Technologies and Telecommunication Network Development programme assists developing countries in the migration to new-generation technologies, including mobile, broadcasting, spectrum management, Internet protocol and multimedia to maximize utilization of appropriate new technologies in the development of ICT networks;
- 3) the E-strategies and Applications programme fosters the implementation of value-added applications and Internet Protocol (networks and applications) in government, health, education, business, agriculture and other sectors, extending the social and economic benefits of ICTs to all segments of society;
- 4) the Economics and Finance including Cost and Tariff programme assists developing countries to ready themselves in a competitive environment where the focus has shifted from state funding of infrastructure and services to private sector investment, developing guidelines on economic analysis, financing policies and strategies that encourage lower costs for end users;
- 5) the Human Capacity Building programme assists developing countries to strengthen their human, institutional and organizational capacity through human resource management and development, expanding its reach to include the very policy-makers and regulators that are at the cutting edge of designing and implementing policies to increase access and use of ICTs;
- 6) The Special Programme for the least developed countries (LDCs) will be valued for its quality and timely service aimed at integrating LDCs into the world economy through telecommunication development and its ability to positively impact the delivery of assistance to LDCs.

**Whereas:**

The International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), an international organization operating under the aegis of two United Nations Agencies, the UNESCO and the IAEA, is devoted to the development of science and technology, particularly in developing countries, and, as such, is also interested in the advancement of knowledge in the field of Information and Communication Technologies and related topics. This interest has been demonstrated among other activities, by the following:

- 1) Carrying out, since 1989, extensive series of training activities for participants from developing countries in different telecommunications and ICT related topics;
- 2) Establishing a Program on Computer Networking and Radiocommunications for the training and technical assistance to institutions in developing countries with activities on the field;
- 3) Promoting the establishment of an initiative focused on the transfer of knowledge and Open Source technology using the state-of-the art on Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) to Universities, Research Centers, private Corporations and Governments from developing countries to help sustain economic competitiveness and scientific and social progress;
- 4) Promoting the access of the electronic scientific publications to individual scientists with access only to low bandwidths;
- 5) Arranging workshops on quantifying digital divide and bridging it.

**The ITU-BDT and the ICTP agree upon the following:**

A – The ITU-BDT and ICTP will collaborate for the advancement of human resources and research and development capabilities in the field of telecommunication science and technology in developing countries;

B - The cooperation will involve training activities, measurements campaigns, and research projects oriented toward the solution of telecommunication problems of developing countries;

C - Every year a Programme of potential joint activities will be explored on the basis of written proposals submitted in a good time by each of the signing institutions in the two areas stated above (A and B).

D - The contribution of each of the institutions that sign this cooperation agreement will be indicated at the moment of the approval of the proposed Cooperation Programme by each of these institutions. It is however understood that each party will be solely responsible for its commitments and financial contribution to the programme.

For the ITU-BDT



H.I. Touré  
Director

For the ICTP



K.R. Sreenivasan  
Director

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