ITU-BDT SEMINAR ON IMT-2000 FOR CEE & BALTIC STATES (LJUBLJANA, SLOVENIA 1-3 DECEMBER 2003)

TITLE OF THE PRESENTATION :

IMT-2000 related activities in the Africa region : results of the Douala seminar

ABSTRACT

A seminar on the mobile market and the ITU studies regarding IMT-2000 was held in Douala (Cameroon) on the 22nd and 23rd September 2003. The seminar was organised under the auspices of the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications of Cameroon. It brought together participants from several African countries, France and ITU.

The objectives of this seminar were to facilitate the reflection on the introduction and migration towards the third generation mobile telecommunications systems, the future of mobile telecommunications services as well as Africa's regional contributions to the ITU-R working party 8F which is responsible for third generation mobile telecommunications systems (IMT-2000).

The presentations addressed amongst other issues, the mobile telecommunication market in the world and in Africa, , the needs of African countries and the evolution of studies on IMT-2000 at ITU.

They were made by speakers from the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications (Cameroon), Agence Nationale des Fréquences (France), Agence des Télécommunications de Côte d'Ivoire, France Telecom (Orange), Alcatel and UMTS Forum.

During this seminar, a declaration from administrations was established. This declaration, prior to the Geneva phase of WSIS, highlights some priorities related to mobile communications systems, in particular coverage extension and harmonisation issues , that would facilitate access to information and communication services for all peoples of the world.

It should be stressed that all African countries involved in this seminar insisted on the need for harmonised solutions within the appropriate frequency ranges allowing economies of scale and a faster development of the market.

The aim of the presentation is to give an insight of the activities related to IMT-2000 in Africa, mainly based on the discussions during the Douala seminar. Detailed information would be provided on the main conclusions of this seminar which is part of IMT-2000 related activities in Africa. The issues raised during the seminar and its conclusions are of major interest for most developing countries and should be taken into account in the overall development of IMT-2000.