



**PLENIPOTENTIARY
CONFERENCE (PP-02)**

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MARRAKESH, 23 SEPTEMBER - 18 OCTOBER 2002

PLENARY MEETING

Note by the Secretary-General

CANDIDACY FOR THE POST OF SECRETARY-GENERAL

Further to the information contained in Document 3, I have pleasure in transmitting to the Conference, in annex, the candidacy of:

Mr Yoshio UTSUMI (Japan)

for the post of Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union.

Yoshio UTSUMI
Secretary-General

Annex: 1

*Minister for Public Management, Home Affairs,
Posts and Telecommunications
1-2 Kasumigaseki 2-chome
Chiyoda-ku Tokyo
100-8926 JAPAN*

November 28, 2001

Mr. Yoshio Utsumi
Secretary-General
International Telecommunication Union
Geneva

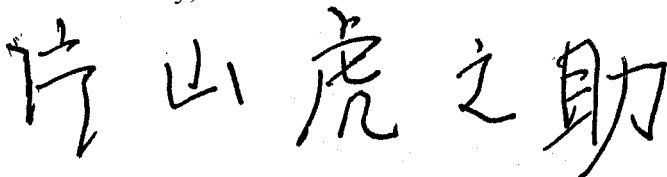
Dear Sir,

I have the honour to refer to your circular letter (ref: DM-1218) of 9 October 2001, requesting notification of candidates in the election for posts at the ITU to be held at the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in Marrakech, from 23 September to 18 October 2002.

This letter is to inform you that, in that election, the Government of Japan herewith nominates Mr. Yoshio Utsumi for re-election to the post of Secretary-General of the ITU. I enclose the curriculum vitae of Mr. Utsumi, which we request to be circulated to the Member States of the ITU in due course.

Please accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,



Toranosuke Katayama
Minister for Public Management, Home Affairs, Posts and Telecommunications

Yoshio Utsumi



Mr Yoshio Utsumi was elected to the post of Secretary-General by the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in Minneapolis in October 1998.

Dedicated leadership

For the ITU to be successful in sustaining an enhanced role as an essential focus for the advance of telecommunications, it will require energy and focused commitment, as well as the ability and willingness to embrace new ideas and necessary reform. These are all qualities that Yoshio Utsumi has displayed in abundance. While always welcoming the input of others and seeking to share their ideas, he has the decisive ability and the vision to lead the ITU forward to meet the challenges of the new century.

Key achievements as Secretary-General

Mr Utsumi is fully committed to continue strengthening the ITU, under the guidance of Member States, using his wide expertise in management and telecommunications at the highest levels. The following are key achievements reached during his first three years.

- **Refocusing the ITU as a policy-oriented organization**
Through such efforts as promoting the creation of the World Telecommunication Policy Forum, the New Initiatives Programme, global symposia for regulators and a regulator's hotline, as well as through producing timely publications such as the "World Telecommunication Development Report" series, Mr Utsumi has led the way in refocusing the ITU as a policy-oriented organization.
- **Enhancing the ITU's support for telecommunication development**
Supporting practical projects in the field in all regions of the world is a vital part of the ITU's mission, and the Union's involvement in such fieldwork is being strengthened via its enhanced network of regional and area offices.
- **Making the ITU a leading agency in the UN system in promoting ICT**
Spearheaded by Mr Utsumi, the ITU is now taking a leading role among United Nations agencies in promoting the information society through such initiatives as organizing the World Summit on the Information Society in 2003 and 2005 - key world policy events aimed at bridging the digital divide.

- **Developing global standards and fast-track procedures**

The development of an IMT-2000 global standard for third-generation (3G) mobile telephony has reached fruition and will greatly facilitate the global use of IMT-2000 terminals with full worldwide roaming capability. Also, a fast-track approval process has been instituted for ITU-T Recommendations.

- **Improving efficiency**

Mr Utsumi has introduced efficiency measures to cut costs, so that more diverse ITU services can be provided for Members under a nominally zero-growth budget. In the 2000-2001 budgetary period, a significant cost reduction was achieved, and this is also expected for the 2002-2003 period.

Background and experience in Japan

Mr Utsumi was one of the founding fathers of today's competitive telecommunications system in Japan. During his distinguished career at Japan's Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications (MPT), he implemented a number of very significant reforms in which, through balanced innovation, great progress was achieved, based on sensitivity to the needs of a system and its users as a whole.

Management excellence

- **Initiating reforms in telecommunications**

Among the most important of those reforms, the introduction of the policy of competition and liberalization in telecommunications was advocated by Mr Utsumi at a time when such ideas were not widely accepted. This initiative led directly to Japan's first reform of its telecommunications markets.

- **Promoting multimedia development**

Mr Utsumi was also a major driving force in many of Japan's most important projects to develop ICT industries. These projects include the ongoing construction of a nationwide optical-fibre network for advanced communications and the creation of the Advanced Telecommunications Research Institute International (ATRI) for the development of automatic translation telephone.

- **Restructuring for postal services**

Within a year of becoming Director-General of Posts, Mr Utsumi established and largely implemented a plan for the major restructuring of Japan's postal services by enlisting the full cooperation of staff at every level among the 200 000 personnel for whom he was responsible. The plan not only strengthened the financial basis of postal operations, but also gave users better services at lower costs.

International experience

Mr Utsumi served as First Secretary of the Permanent Mission of Japan in Geneva, and as Director-General of International Affairs in MPT. He also played an important role in many negotiations, such as the historic WTO Negotiations on Basic Telecommunications. In addition, Mr Utsumi chaired the successful ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in Kyoto in 1994, when he was able to witness the initial implementation of the Japanese proposal which he had long encouraged - the creation of the World Telecommunication Policy Forum.

Education

1965: Bachelor of Law (B.L.), University of Tokyo

1972: Master of Arts in Political Science (M.A.), University of Chicago, United States

Career Highlights

- **Chief Executive Officer**

1996-1997: Director-General of Posts, MPT

- **Senior Policy Maker**

1997-1999: Deputy Minister, MPT

1990-1991: Assistant Vice-Minister, MPT

- **International affairs**

1993-1995: Director-General of the International Affairs Department, MPT

1978-1981: First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Japan to International Organizations in Geneva

- **Telecommunications**

1991-1993: Deputy Director-General, Communications Policy Bureau, MPT:

1982-1987: Communication Policy Bureau, MPT

Director of Policy Division

Director of Computer Communications Division

- **Broadcasting**

1988-1989: Director of General Affairs Division, Broadcasting Regulation Bureau, MPT

- **Fund Management**

1986-1988: Director of Fund Management Division, Postal Life Insurance Bureau, MPT

- **Academia**

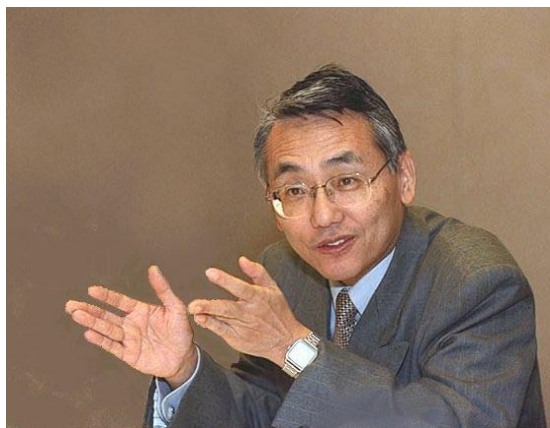
1972-1973: Professor of Public Administration, Postal College, MPT

Mr Yoshio Utsumi was born in Japan on 14 August 1942. He and his wife, Masako, have a son and a daughter.

AN AGENDA FOR ITU'S FUTURE

Yoshio Utsumi
Secretary-General

Over the last decade, the world of telecommunications has changed almost beyond recognition. The explosive growth in the power of information technology and its uneven spread has resulted in the emergence of a digital divide. A bold response is urgently needed to ensure that the benefits of telecommunications are extended and shared in a fair and effective manner to create a global information society for all humanity. This is the digital opportunity. It was one of the major concerns and challenges for the Heads of States who attended the Millennium Summit of the United Nations and became a part of the Millennium Declaration. The missions now mandated to ITU are much bigger and more profound than the founders of the Union could have imagined. They cannot be achieved over a short time.



Since 1999, I have dedicated myself most seriously to fulfilling my responsibilities as the Secretary-General of the Union and, at the next Plenipotentiary Conference, I will be proud to report many tangible achievements. However, more time is needed to achieve the goals. At the same time the Union must itself be reformed into an effective force that can lead towards the achievement of the new goals and to realize the digital opportunity. I believe that ITU can achieve these aims by focusing on the following five priorities:

1 Promoting telecommunications development

ITU must strive to bridge the digital divide by:

- expanding its advisory role to help developing countries, in particular to attract investment and use their resources wisely;
- acting as a catalyst for private-sector investment to introduce the technology and services that are most appropriate to meet the diverse needs of ITU Member States;
- actively promoting technology transfer and, especially, development of human resources.



To achieve this, ITU must develop its resource base of expertise in ICT and play a leading role in the ICT activities of the United Nations system. In that sense, it is imperative that we succeed in the preparations for the World Summit on the Information Society, in which ITU is playing a leading organizational role.

Meanwhile, we must ensure effective implementation of the action plan to be decided at the 2002 World Telecommunication Development Conference in Istanbul, which must select as priorities only the most important

development programmes, in order to make the best use of limited resources. To gain the full support of the international community, these priorities should be endorsed by the World Summit, and effective methods for financing and monitoring should be created.

2 Promoting the policy role of ITU

ITU should facilitate the introduction of new global services, to the benefit of both users and providers, and should serve as an international focal point for the discussion of telecommunication policy and regulatory affairs. To do so, ITU needs to provide a forum where national regulatory authorities and policy-makers from around the world can discuss key issues and obtain inputs from the private sector.

Bringing together policy work within the Secretariat could create a centre for regulatory expertise, which would serve as a proactive "knowledge centre". It could collect and collate best practice regulatory policies from different countries and act as a repository for benchmarking statistics, in its area of expertise.



At the same time, ITU's partnerships with other regional and international organizations should be strengthened and widened, so that we can work in concert to develop the information infrastructure that is essential for the economic and social growth of every nation.



3 Making ITU more efficient and effective

As information and communications technologies advance in a competitive marketplace, there is an ever-growing need for ITU to provide a fair and neutral standpoint on issues such as standardization, frequency allocation and other technical matters, for the introduction of new services and to lead the way towards a global information society. The services requested by ITU's membership are becoming greater and greater without any significant increase in resources.

To meet this need, ITU must become more efficient. The structure of ITU meetings should be examined to improve their effectiveness. In addition, ITU's own communications technology should be used much more extensively to assist participation without the need for travel from distant countries, many of which have very limited budgets for that purpose.

To achieve this, management must focus on clear priorities, while eliminating the backlog in satellite coordination. The reform of ITU should continue even after the Plenipotentiary Conference in Marrakesh.

4 Encouraging private sector participation



The decision-making functions of ITU should reflect the modern, competitive telecommunications environment in which the private sector plays the leading role while regulatory agencies act as an arbiter for the wider public interest. There is now widespread acceptance of the principles of market liberalization and private investment in telecommunications, as well as an increasing reliance on private-sector development of new technologies. Against this background, there should be a clear

separation in all ITU activities between those intended to serve operators and those for regulators. Once this separation is achieved, ITU must give private Sector Members their proper rights and responsibilities that will encourage their greater participation in ITU activities.

At the same time, one of ITU's most important tasks is to foster an environment that facilitates channelling of private-sector resources into the establishment of the global information economy and society.

5 Strengthening the ITU's public presence

Improving the public's appreciation of ITU's mission and role is imperative in order to achieve its goals. We must make sure that the face of ITU becomes much better known, through publications, TELECOM events and other means, and that the importance of its work becomes widely appreciated. We must get the message across to both decision-makers and ordinary citizens. There are so many good activities that are unknown even to those people who are working in the ICT industry.

My firm commitment to ITU

ITU has been making great efforts to fortify and extend its central role in world telecommunications. But at the same time, the pace of change in the environment has been accelerating and it has become all the more important that continuous steps be taken to reform ITU so that it can deliver the invaluable services it provides more effectively. Bold initiatives must continue to ensure that ITU evolves in step with the shifting market environment and responds energetically to diverse and changing needs. Above all, ITU must be efficient, focused and fair.

These are my guiding principles as Secretary-General of ITU. I am committed to continue to take the leadership of the organization in the field of telecommunications, thus creating a sound basis for technological advancement to benefit all the world's citizens in the new century.



Yoshio Utsumi
Geneva, November 2001

