



INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION
TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT BUREAU

**WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT
CONFERENCE (WTDC-98)**

Valletta, Malta, 23 March - 1 April 1998

**Addendum 1 to
Document 202-E
28 March 1998
Original: English**

COMMITTEE B

**DRAFT REPORT OF COMMITTEE B
TO THE PLENARY**

Following the third session of Committee B on 28 March 1998, and based on the discussions held and decisions taken during those meetings, please find attached the relevant documents for consideration and approval by Committee B.

COMMITTEE B

Results of the work of the secretariat following the third meeting of Committee B

- 1 Attribution of the following issues in Programme VAP 3 of the Valletta Action Plan:
 - 1.1 **Community telecentres:** This programme will be included to VAP 3. In particular:
 - ITU will assist in the implementation of pilot projects in the rural, isolated and poorly served areas, using the telecentres concept. The experience gained by the countries implementing rural projects, will be shared by means of workshops, meetings, fora, databases and seminars.
 - 2 Attribution of the following issues in **Programme VAP 6** of the Valletta Action Plan:
 - 2.1 **Regional training centres:** This programme will be included to VAP 6. In particular:
 - ITU will assist in the preparation of project documents and descriptive papers. It will also assist in the implementation of training centres projects and/or research and development ones by providing expertise, consultancy services and promoting inter-country cooperation.
 - 2.2 **Centres of excellence:** This programme will be also included to VAP 6. In particular:
 - ITU will assist in the implementation of the centre of excellence concept, using the networking principle involving all partners, be it from the private or the public sector. The centres will use traditional means as well as modern technology and communication facilities and media to facilitate the provision of services adapted to the needs of each user.
 - 2.3 **GTU/GTTI:** This programme will be also included to VAP 6. In particular:
 - ITU will continue the implementation of the Global Telecommunication University/Global Telecommunication Training Institute.
- 3 Draft resolution in English on: Implementation of national, regional, inter-regional and global projects (Annex 1).
- 4 Draft resolution in English on: Applied research and transfer of technology (Annex 2).
- 5 Draft recommendation in English on: Information infrastructure (Annex 3).

ANNEX 1

DRAFT RESOLUTION

**IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL, REGIONAL, INTER-REGIONAL
AND GLOBAL PROJECTS**

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Valletta, 1998),

considering

- a) that telecommunications is one of the most vital elements for the positive growth of national economies;
- b) that the existence, at the national, regional, inter-regional and global levels, of coherent telecommunication networks and services for the development of the countries' economies is a very important element in the upgrading of the social, economic and financial situation of the Member States;
- c) the need to coordinate and harmonize efforts to develop telecommunication infrastructure at national, regional, inter-regional and global levels;
- d) the vital importance of the telecommunication development projects, at all levels, endorsed by all regional development conferences, as well as the preparatory meetings preceding WTDC-98;
- e) that there is a lack of funding from UNDP and other international financial institutions, impeding the implementation of such projects;
- f) the satisfactory and encouraging results achieved by the MODARABTEL and EUROTELDEV projects which helped in the creation of cooperation and telecommunication networks,

resolves

- 1 that ITU/BDT should identify possible ways and means of implementing national, regional, inter-regional and global projects making the utmost use of available BDT resources;
- 2 that ITU/BDT would assist the countries in the establishment of national projects in both the preparatory as well as the implementation phases;
- 3 that Member States should contribute in kind and/or in cash to the budget foreseen for the national, regional, inter-regional and global projects and to the implementation of other foreseen activities in the framework of those projects;
- 4 that ITU/BDT should explore possible partnerships with Member States, Development Sector Members, financial institutions and other international organizations in order to sponsor project activities;

5 that efforts should be undertaken to reactivate the terminated MODARABTEL and EUROTELDEV projects (to include CIS countries as well);

6 to assist in the implementation of new projects such as telemedicine, training and research centres, telecentres, rural development projects, restructuring, frequency management projects, GTU/GTTI and centres of excellence, as well as national telecommunication development projects on different subjects,

appeals

1 to UNDP and other financial international organizations/agencies to investigate the possibility of fully, or partially, financing the national, regional, inter-regional and global projects.

ANNEX 2

DRAFT RESOLUTION

APPLIED RESEARCH AND TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Valletta, 1998),

recognizing

- a) that many countries would benefit from technology transfers in a wide range of fields, from basic telecommunication technology to new technology, such as the maintenance and operation of telecommunication networks, network management, ISDN satellite technology and optical fibre technology;
- b) that technology transfer in order to be effective must first be carefully assessed for its suitability with the existing telecommunication infrastructure;
- c) that joint ventures can be an effective means of transfer of technology;
- d) that the transfer of management know-how and tools is an essential part of the transfer of technology;
- e) that seminars and training conducted by various countries as well as by international and regional organizations have contributed to the transfer of technology, and hence to the development of telecommunication networks in the region;
- f) that purchasing new equipment offers opportunities to include the transfer of the manufacturer's know-how in equipment procurement contracts;
- g) that the providers of telecommunication equipment and services are important partners in ensuring the flow of technology to developing countries and countries in transition to the market economy and that they are available to enter freely into such arrangements,

resolves

- 1 that developed countries consider transferring to developing countries and countries in transition to the market economy, on a voluntary and/or a sound commercial basis, the necessary technology in the field of telecommunications, not only conventional technology but also new technologies and services;
- 2 that developing countries and countries in transition to the market economy, should cooperate with other developing countries by exchanging experts, organizing seminars and meetings, networking of telecommunication research institutions by means of e-mail, teleconferencing and computer conferencing facilities, etc.;
- 3 that recipient countries should systematically and fully utilize technology transfers in their countries,

requests BDT,

in cooperation with other concerned international, regional and subregional organizations

- 1 to continue to hold seminars, workshops or training in the field of telecommunications to raise the technological level in developing countries and countries in transition to the market economy;

2 to promote the exchange of information among international organizations, donor countries and recipient countries on the transfer of technology, *inter alia*, by assisting them to set up cooperative networks between telecommunication research institutes in developing countries and countries in transition to the market economy, as well as developed countries;

3 to coordinate the submission of regional and subregional project proposals in this field and the mobilization of resources for these projects;

4 to continue to develop handbooks in the area of transfer of technology;

5 to ensure that these handbooks are disseminated to developing countries, countries in transition to the market economy and that users are properly initiated in their use,

invites

providers of telecommunication equipment and services to make available to their customers in developing countries and countries in transition to the market economy, the relevant new technologies and know-how on a voluntary basis and/or in accordance with sound commercial principles,

appeals to international organizations and donor countries

to assist the developing countries and countries in transition to the market economy in exploring ways and means of improving transfer of technology, including technical and financial assistance.

ANNEX 3

DRAFT RECOMMENDATION 3
INFORMATION INFRASTRUCTURE

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Valletta, 1998),

considering

- a) Kyoto Resolution 31, "Telecommunication Infrastructure and Socio-Economic and Cultural Development", and particularly the paragraph to the effect that "the recent spectacular progress, and particularly the convergence of telecommunication and computer technologies and services, has transformed telecommunications into an agent of change for the information age";
- b) the growing number of informatic initiatives and projects taking place in the developing countries,

recognizing

the growing strategic importance of information infrastructures and their potential for improving quality of life for every citizen of the developing countries promoting the economic integration for the developing countries and improving trade and other linkages with the global community,

urges administrations

to note the critical importance of telecommunication networks for the exchange of multimedia information and to facilitate and promote the development of electronic communications and networks such as the Internet by adopting the appropriate regulatory, tariff and service provision policies, and by making available appropriate infrastructure,

requests ITU/BDT

- 1 in collaboration with other development partners, to make the governments of the developing countries aware of the relevance of information infrastructures and to assist in the establishment of national policies for information infrastructures in the developing countries;
- 2 to establish an appropriate mechanism for coordination among the administrations and the various partners involved (ESCWA, UNESCO, etc.) which will draw up an inventory of service requirements and associated constraints and formulate an action plan for the development of information technology in the developing countries;
- 3 in collaboration with the parties concerned, to take the necessary steps in order to produce, as a thought-provoking document offering the developing countries possible approaches for the development of their information infrastructure;
- 4 to establish an environment that encourages the private sector to invest in the development of the information infrastructure;
- 5 to assist to construct the global information highway which includes, as an essential element, service to remote and rural areas;
- 6 to build an information infrastructure that will connect all ITU members;
- 7 to enter partnership arrangements between public and private organizations and institutions;
- 8 to address issues associated with electronic commerce.