



# INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT BUREAU

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

Valletta, Malta, 23 March - 1 April 1998

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*For action*

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## PLENARY MEETING

### Note by the Chairman of Committee B

#### PARTICIPATION OF COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, IN FREQUENCY SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Valletta, 1998),

*considering*

- a) that the continuing growth in demand for spectrum, from both existing and new radio-based services, places ever greater requirements on a scarce resource;
- b) that, due to the investment in equipment and infrastructures, major changes in the existing use of the spectrum are often difficult to achieve, except in the longer term;
- c) that the marketplace drives the development of new technologies to find new solutions to address development problems;
- d) that national strategies should take into account international commitments;
- e) that it is recommended that national strategies also take into account global changes in telecommunications and developments in technology;
- f) that increased spectrum access may be facilitated through technical innovation (e.g. digitalization) and greater sharing capabilities;
- g) that, based on its ongoing work, ITU-R is well placed to provide a global understanding of radiocommunication technology and spectrum utilization trends and how they relate to the needs of all countries;
- h) that ITU-D is well placed to facilitate the participation of developing countries in ITU-R activities, and, for those developing countries that so request, to distribute to them results of particular ITU-R activities;
- i) that such information would assist spectrum managers in developing countries to develop their own national long-term strategies;
- j) that such information would enable developing countries to benefit from sharing and other technical studies in ITU-R,

*recognizing*

- a) that it is the sovereign right of every nation to manage spectrum use within its territories;
- b) that there is a strong need for the active participation of developing countries, individually and through regional groups, in ITU-R;
- c) that this process is a voluntary one, which each administration has the right to join in, or withdraw from, at any time;
- d) that ITU-D has a Question which deals with the "Special Concerns of Developing Countries in Relation to the Work of the Radiocommunications and Telecommunication Standardization Sectors";
- e) that Programme 2 of the Valletta Action Plan includes activities on spectrum management and the elaboration of technology oriented guides and planning manuals;
- f) that it is important to take into consideration the ongoing work in ITU-R and ITU-D, and the need to avoid duplication of effort;
- g) that the development of new technologies has been rapid, thus difficult to predict,

*resolves to instruct the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*

in close collaboration with the Director of the Radiocommunications Bureau, to consider and implement an effective means to encourage and facilitate the active participation and contribution of developing countries, particularly the LDCs in the work of ITU-R as it relates to the production of an ITU-R report on the current and foreseen uses of the radio spectrum, based upon the ongoing work in the ITU-R Study Groups, including inputs from Administrations, particularly developing countries, and Sector Members and Programme 2 of the Valletta Action Plan. This report should be prepared in stages, where the scope of each stage will be determined by the participants, focusing on, in particular, the needs of the developing countries,

*further instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau to invite the Director of Radiocommunications Bureau*

to make the necessary arrangements for ITU-R to undertake the activity necessary to prepare the report as described above to complete one stage of the report within the current study period of ITU-R.

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