



INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION  
TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT BUREAU

WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT  
CONFERENCE (WTDC-98)

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Valletta, Malta, 23 March - 1 April 1998

*For action*

**Agenda item: 2.3**

**PLENARY MEETING**

**Senegal (Republic of)**

DRAFT RESOLUTION

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Valletta, 1998),

*recalling*

- a) that the Union's purpose is to encourage cooperation among its Members with a view to ensuring the harmonious development of telecommunications and making services available at the lowest possible prices;
- b) that the functions of BDT are, among other things, to:
  - promote the development, expansion and operation of telecommunication networks and services, particularly in developing countries;
  - offer advice, carry out or sponsor studies, as necessary, on technical, economic, financial, managerial, regulatory and policy issues, including studies of specific projects in the field of telecommunications,

*considering*

- a) that accounting rates affect operators' revenues, and that this can hold up investment and development efforts for the successful development of their telecommunication networks and services;
- b) the threat that is posed to the revenues of operators in developing countries by the impending changes in the determination of accounting rates, technological development and competition;
- c) the developing countries' high degree of dependence on international traffic balances, which represent a substantial share of overall revenue,

*noting*

- a) that the study of accounting rates and of most economic aspects of telecommunication services requires human and financial resources which are not always available to developing countries;

- b) that ITU-D Study Group 1 has been given the task of studying, among other things, the question of tariff rebalancing in developing countries;
- c) the need to carry out thorough studies in all the countries concerned,  
*requests the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau*
  - 1 to give developing countries assistance with their tariff rebalancing policies;
  - 2 to undertake the necessary studies, including the more in-depth pursuit of case studies, to identify the conditions and procedures necessary for successful tariff rebalancing;
  - 3 to provide assistance to developing countries that wish to introduce a cost accounting and tariff system.

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