

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

SUB-COMMITTEE A/1

Vice-Chairmen of Committee A

MINUTES OF THE INFORMAL WORKING GROUP MEETING OF SUB-COMMITTEE A/1

As decided in the first meeting of Committee A/1 an informal working group was created under the chairmanship of **Mr. Emangholi Behdad**.

The terms of reference for this group were to review and harmonize the contributions of:

- BEN/5;
- APT/35;
- CAN/58.

The group met on 26 March 1998. Participants were:

- Mr. Pape Gorgui Toure
- Mr. Brahim Sanou
- Mr. Masayuki Takahashi
- Mr. Testu Maeshiba
- Mr. Auraphan Sudanrat
- Mr. Mulyono Djoyowisvko
- Mr. C. Thomas
- Mr. Pichai Vongsm
- Mr. Tony Zeitoun
- Mrs. Doreen Bogdan-Martin
- Mrs. Géraldine Anglès

The contribution of Benin BEN/5 was discussed. The group decided that the comments made on Programme 1 could be accommodated within the new programme on Sector Reform.

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The contribution included 6 suggestions. The group decided:

- Suggestion No. 1 had already be taken care of.
- Suggestion No. 2 should be handled by Committee B and by the Working Group on LDCs.
- Suggestion No. 3: The comments on "regulatory bodies" are covered in the proposed Study Group questions as well as the new proposed Sector Reform Programme. The comments on network development should be addressed to Committee B.
- Suggestion No. 4 to be covered by Committee A/2.
- Suggestion No. 5 should be handled by Committee B.
- Suggestion No. 6 should be sent to the Working Group on LDCs.

The contribution of Asia Pacific Telecommunity APT/35 was presented. The Group decided:

- Draft Resolution APT/35/1 would be merged with APT/35/3. The Group also recommended that "resolves 2" and "resolves 4" should be considered by Committee A/2. The comments found in "resolves 2 Telecommunication projects" should be considered by Committee B.
- Draft Resolution APT/35/2 should be sent to Committee B.
- Draft Resolution APT/35/4 should be handled by Committee A/2.
- Draft Resolution APT/35/5 should be discussed in the Plenary.
- APT/35/6, 7, 8 are included for information and should be sent to Committee B.

The contribution of Canada "CAN/58" was presented. It was decided to add "we are therefore inviting the ITU and other donor agencies to cooperate in undertaking the regular collection and publication of information on donor activities in telecommunication development. This idea will be embodied in a more general resolution on information exchange.

DRAFT RESOLUTION

LIBERALIZATION AND COMPETITIVE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Valletta, 1998),

considering

- a) that the telecommunication sector is characterized by rapid globalization and marketoriented developments;
- b) that these developments have opened up the possibility of offering a wide range of services to customers for meeting their demands;
- c) that appropriate policies have to be developed for promoting reform with a view to enhancing market competition, facilitating network interconnection, technological development, network application and cost reduction in the interest of the customers and the public,

recognizing

- a) that many developing countries have not yet started preparing themselves for increased competition in the telecommunications environment;
- b) that several policy initiatives are needed to facilitate market competition;
- c) that the policy initiatives must lead to major participation of the private sector in the development of telecommunications,

resolves

- that appropriate action plans should be prepared and implemented for achieving market reform in a phased manner at national, intraregional and interregional levels;
- that all countries are urged to create and upgrade a competitive business environment for promoting the growth and utilization of telecommunication facilities in their countries;
- 3 that frequent consultations should be encouraged among various players involved at national, regional and global levels.