



INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION
TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT BUREAU

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

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For action

Agenda item: 4.3

**WORKING GROUP
OF THE PLENARY
ON THE ROLE OF
THE PRIVATE
SECTOR**

NOTE BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE WORKING GROUP
ON THE ROLE OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR

DRAFT RESOLUTION

WORKING GROUP OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Valletta, 1998),

considering

- a) Resolution 4 of the Final Acts of the Additional Plenipotentiary Conference (Geneva, 1992) highlighting the need to broaden participation in the activities of the Union;
- b) the Strategic Plan for the Union 1995-1999, as reflected in Resolution 1 of the Kyoto Plenipotentiary Conference which reinforced the need for the ITU to strengthen the foundations of the Union through enhanced private sector participation;
- c) Resolutions 14 and 15 of the Kyoto Plenipotentiary Conference which noted in particular the need to review and update the terms and conditions under which members participate in Union activities in light of their changing needs and the ITU's changing requirements;
- d) the report of ITU-2000 which produced a series of recommendations which address, *inter alia*, mechanisms to enhance the rights and obligations of Sector Members as well as to broaden their participation in Union activities,

recognizing

- a) the rapidly changing telecommunication environment;
- b) the important role played by the private sector in the former Centre for Telecommunication Development, one of the two predecessor organs of the BDT;

c) the progress achieved through the BDT initiatives such as partnership meetings and colloquia, etc. in strengthening cooperation with the private sector,

noting

a) that the role of the private sector in telecommunications is increasing in developing countries as well as in the industrialized countries;

b) the desire of the Director of the BDT to integrate the private sector more fully into the planning and execution of BDT programmes;

c) that the private sector through its membership and participation at various ITU-D meetings has demonstrated its willingness to cooperate and work closely with the BDT;

d) that the Valletta Action Plan includes a separate programme on development partnerships with the private sector;

e) that the Telecommunication Development Advisory Board (TDAB) highlighted in its report to WTDC-98 the importance of enhancing the role of the private sector in the work of ITU-D,

welcomes

the establishment of the Working Group of the Plenary on the role of the private sector of WTDC-98, and the decision of the Conference to open the membership of TDAB,

resolves

1 that in view of the evolving and increasingly important role of the private sector in the activities of ITU-D, to establish a subgroup of the expanded TDAB to ensure that issues of particular interest and concern to the private sector which include those as attached in the annex, are addressed;

2 to invite the BDT to work closely with the private sector to assure the successful implementation of the Valletta Action Plan;

3 that the subgroup of the expanded TDAB study the possibility that the financial contributions from Sector Members of ITU-D should be identified for the Telecommunication Development Sector for which they were made, taking into account that a share of those contributions will be used in support of General Secretariat costs which are both directly and indirectly attributable;

4 that every possible effort should be made to stimulate the private sector to take a more active part through partnering with telecommunication entities in developing countries and especially with those in the least developed countries to help close the gap in universal and information access.

ANNEX 1

Scope tasks of the subgroup of the private sector of the expanded TDAB

Note by the Chairman

The scope of work of the subgroup of the private sector of the TDAB should include, *inter alia*:

- To recommend mechanisms by which the private sector, through ITU-D, can better participate and influence BDT strategy development, program design and project delivery, with the overall goal of increasing mutual responsiveness to the requirements of telecommunication development.
- To identify mechanisms to enhance cooperation and arrangements between the private and public sectors as well as between private sector entities in developing countries and in developed countries by building upon the recommendations of ITU-2000.
- To advise on the means by which partnership with the private sector can be enhanced and to seek means to reach out to the private sector of developing countries and the many small companies in industrialized countries that are not knowledgeable of BDT activities, including the means to make ITU-D so attractive that it increases the private sector's activities, involvement and interest in the Development Sector.
- To advise on integrating the contributions of the private sector more fully into the activities of the BDT while ensuring requisite financial transparency to provide understanding of functions and priorities.
- To determine what modifications to ITU-D processes, practices and projects would facilitate and encourage private sector support and cooperation.
- To review the essential products of ITU-D which should be developed by Sector Members and the BDT secretariat.
- To discuss means to ensure that increased private sector participation is built into the Valletta Action Plan and the next study group cycle.

The scope of work should include the goals as set forth in the appendix to Resolution 2 of the report of the TDAB. Means to increase private sector involvement in ITU-D activities:

- 1) greater information dissemination of the activities of the Sector;
- 2) explanation of the benefits, and added value, to the private sector of their involvement in the activities of the Sector;
- 3) increased partnership between public and private sectors including the promotion of specific projects, and the national private sector;
- 4) establishment of national committees or associations to encourage greater involvement and ease participation in the activities of the ITU Development Sector;
- 5) greater emphasis on project team activities;
- 6) improved study group working procedures;
- 7) business-like working methods in the Sector activities;
- 8) encourage private sector Rapporteurs by providing more closely coordinated BDT support;

- 9) participation of TDAB in budget preparation;
- 10) special meetings/events aimed at "recruiting" private sector members, in particular small entities.

Organization

1) Composition

Participants: Any Sector Member of ITU-D who identifies itself as a representative of the private sector.

Observers: Any other Member or Sector Member of the ITU-D.

2) Work procedures

The subgroup conducts the preparatory part of its work through the use of e-mail and other telecom-based services. The ITU Web is used for publishing of draft proposals, etc. to involve comments from the ITU-D.

All information is open to any ITU Member.

3) Draft proposals and other issues will be handled in meetings convened in connection with and immediately prior to regular TDAB meetings or other meetings and conferences where the private sector would normally be in attendance.
