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Message from the Secretary-General of ITU on the occasion of the 10th World Telecommunication Day

On 17 May 1978, the 154 Member countries of the International Telecommunication Union will celebrate the 10th World Telecommunication Day, the theme of which is "Radiocommunications". Ten years have therefore passed since the first World Telecommunication Day was held. This is a short period compared with the 113 years' existence of the ITU, but we should remember that in this decade alone the number of the world's sound and television sets, for example, has trebled.

This 10th World Telecommunication Day highlights two memorable events: first, the 50th anniversary of the International Radio Consultative Committee (CCIR) and, secondly, the World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC-79).

The CCIR, one of the four permanent organs of the ITU, deals with technical radio problems through its numerous study groups in which specialists from

governments in all continents and from industry work together. The CCIR also is playing a cardinal role in the preparation of the technical parameters required for the World Administrative Radio Conference which will be held in Geneva in the autumn of next year and which will doubtless be one of the most important meetings on telecommunications in the last part of this century.

This Conference will be competent to negotiate an agreement governing all radiocommunication services for terrestrial and space communications, as well as to redraft the entire body of the Radio Regulations with its co-ordination and operating procedures which have been significantly developed, expanded and modified since the Geneva Conference in 1959. The results of this Conference concern us all, you and me, since its conclusions will have direct impact on the socio-economic development of the whole of mankind.

M. MILI