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# Union Activities

## The ITU Plenipotentiary Conference has completed its work

**T**he Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union, the 12th to be held since the ITU was founded in 1865, has now, at the end of a 6-week session (28 September-6 November 1982) in Nairobi, Kenya, drawn to a close with the signature of the new International Telecommunication Convention.

Over 1000 delegates from 147 countries (out of the 157 Member States of the Union), attended the Conference together with observers from the following organizations: United Nations, International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), International Monetary Fund (IMF), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT), Arab Telecommunication Union (ATU), African Postal and Telecommunications Union (UAPT) and Pan-African Telecommunication Union (PATU).

The purpose of the Plenipotentiary Conference, the ITU's supreme organ, was to revise the International Telecommunication Convention, an inter-governmental agreement which binds the States Members of the Union and was last revised in 1973 in Malaga-Torreminas, Spain. Its agenda also included the election of the members of the Union's Administrative Council, the Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-General and the members of the International Frequency Registration Board (IFRB).

The Conference decided to increase the number of members of the Administrative Council from 36 to 41. The following countries were elected to serve on it:

### Region A—Americas (8 seats, 7 previously)

Argentine Republic  
Brazil (Federative Republic of)  
Canada  
Colombia (Republic of)  
United States of America  
Mexico  
Peru  
Venezuela (Republic of)

### Region B—Western Europe (7 seats)

Germany (Federal Republic of)  
Spain  
France  
Italy  
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland  
Sweden  
Switzerland (Confederation of)

### Region C—Eastern Europe and Northern Asia (4 seats)

German Democratic Republic  
Romania (Socialist Republic of)  
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics  
Yugoslavia (Socialist Federal Republic of)

### Region D—Africa (11 seats, 9 previously)

Algeria (Algerian Democratic and Popular Republic)  
Benin (People's Republic of)  
Cameroon (United Republic of)  
Egypt (Arab Republic of)  
Ethiopia  
Kenya (Republic of)  
Morocco (Kingdom of)  
Nigeria (Federal Republic of)  
Senegal (Republic of the)  
Tanzania (United Republic of)  
Zambia (Republic of)

### Region E—Asia and Australasia (11 seats, 9 previously)

Saudi Arabia (Kingdom of)  
Australia  
China (People's Republic of)  
India (Republic of)  
Indonesia (Republic of)  
Japan  
Kuwait (State of)  
Lebanon  
Pakistan (Islamic Republic of)  
Philippines (Republic of)  
Thailand

Mr. Richard E. Butler (Australia), Deputy Secretary-General of the ITU since 1968, was elected Secretary-General\* and will take up his office on 1 January 1983.

Mr. Jean Jipguep (Cameroon) was elected Deputy Secretary-General\* and will also take up his duties on 1 January 1983.

The following candidates were elected or re-elected as members of the IFRB with due regard to the principle of distribution among the regions of the world (A, B, C, D and E):

Mr. G. C. Brooks (Canada)—elected

Mr. W. H. Bellchambers  
(United Kingdom)—elected

Mr. P. S. Kurakov (USSR)—re-elected

Mr. A. Berrada (Morocco)—re-elected

Mr. Y. Kurihara (Japan)—re-elected

A report on the work and results of this Conference will be published in the January issue of the "Telecommunication Journal".



*Voting at the Plenipotentiary Conference*

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\*See *Telecommunication Journal*, November 1982, pages 740-742.